

admission to the larger market more than he would lose by the competition. But in the press, as among the people, the movement appears decidedly to advance. The *Globe*, of course, continues to prove in one column that Free Trade is the only road to wealth, and in the next that Free Trade with our neighbours would be the road to ruin. When the commercial union of Scotland with England was proposed, the great Scotch orator of the day, Lord Belhaven, described with apocalyptic eloquence the woe which was sure to come—the Scotch artizan “drinking water instead of ale, and eating his saltless porridge,” the Scotch ploughman “seeing his grain spoil upon his lands, cursing the day of his birth, and dreading the expense of his burial.” The orator even asked the leave of the House to pause in his speech while he dropped a tear over his ruined country. It is a pity the tear could not be preserved, as a memorial of political foresight, at Glasgow or Dundee.

Public attention continues to be attracted to these subjects by the exodus to the States. This, according to some writers, arises purely from the action of a mysterious tide of population, swayed by the influence of some commercial moon. The tide of population, however, unlike the ocean tide, appears to ebb without flowing; at least, we have not recently heard of people rushing by tens of thousands from the United States into Canada. Besides, what power causes the waters to observe so closely a certain political line, which corresponds with no commercial boundary, for Sir Leonard Tilley finds it necessary to impose a protective coal tax, in order to create an artificial privy of interest between the Maritime Provinces and Ontario. To say that the N. P. has driven all the people out of the country, is preposterous: the N. P., a mere adjustment of new taxes in themselves unavoidable, cannot have produced a very great effect one way or other, and perfectly trustworthy judges are of opinion that on the whole the effect has been good. The cause is the atrophy which would be produced if a tenth part of England or France were cut off by a Customs' line from the rest; and this Commerce and the people are beginning to see, though