

over American routes to Upper Canada, so that she is exporting and importing through her inland ports at such a rate as threatens to reduce your City to the position of a country town, a mere trading point for a few miles of surrounding territory.

Again, it is but yesterday that the Green Mountains were an impassable barrier to the southern valley of the St. Lawrence, and the products of the industry of this thickly settled district were concentrated in Montreal. Now, faith in science has removed mountains, and numerous Railroads made and making are gathering where they did not sow, and probably another winter will see the whole surplus of the South shore carried off to Portland, Boston and New York, leaving nothing for shipment on the opening of the navigation.

The mere superiority of New York, as a seaport, over Montreal and Quebec, immediately upon the cessation of all protection in favor of the latter, was sufficient to turn the western tide through the diminutive channels of the New York Canals, in preference to the more capacious St. Lawrence. This result took place whilst you were competing upon equal terms, *i. e.* when transport by both routes was confined to water communications, equally influenced by frost, commencing and suspending navigation at the same time: but now a more formidable rival has appeared, one whose operation is not impeded by frost, whose path is not restricted to vallies of rivers where water navigation may be made, and who for nearly five months in the year has no competitor. The Ogdensburgh Railroad has run past you on the St. Lawrence, has turned your flank, and intercepted your supplies. This road passes disdainfully by us, preferring to climb over 1000 feet of elevation, in order to reach a village west of Montreal. It was natural to suppose that New York would seek the Western States without calling here, but when Boston also prefers a western point to this, when she attaches so little importance to us, and so much to Western trade, is it not time for us to value that Western