

Contributions.

FEDERATION OF THE EMPIRE.*

The various items are as follows :
IMPORTS INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1883, (in Pounds sterling, the last three figures omitted) :

Articles.	From British North America.	From other British Possession.	Total Import.
Alkali.....	41		81
Animals living: horned cattle.....	1,144	60	9,112
Sheep.....	246		2,318
Bacon and Hams.....	463		10,039
Beef fresh.....	94	5	2,290
and pork salted.....	31	2	1,270
Butter.....	253	13	31,772
Cheese.....	1,294	1	4,400
Corn: Wheat.....	198	6,532	31,454
Oats.....	34	28	5,010
Pease.....	270	17	746
Maize or Indian Corn.....	298	16	10,370
Barley and other.....	12	6	3,741
Wheat flour.....	360	54	12,344
Oilseed.....	38	1	190
Dye stuffs: Annatto.....	38		473
Turmeric.....	552	5	2,392
Fruit: apples.....	46	1	353
Lard.....	218		2,247
Leather.....	65	2,498	5,494
Manures: Phosphate of lime and rock.....	61	57	818
Meat, preserved (other than by salting).....	83	534	1,733
Oil: train or blubber.....	190	63	430
Potatoes.....	190	451	1,583
Skins and Furs.....	1,617	24	1,381
Wood and timber: hewn.....	3,912	38	4,597
sawn and split.....	92		10,410
Staves.....	34	46	611
Furniture and house frames.....			835

£11,970 £10,775 £14,154

Of the £11,970,000 Newfoundland's share was £415,000, leaving for Canada proper £11,555,000 besides £209,000 of other articles not enumerated above, which makes the total for Canada proper £11,764,000, total for Newfoundland £519,000, for all British North America £12,283,000. We can see then that Canada's market would, by such a policy as Mr. Bourne's be increased about tenfold. And it is just such a market that we require for the rapid building up of our Northwest. An infinitely better market than the United States can be, because the States have themselves already a large surplus of all we can produce. The best trade is that between countries whose products are dissimilar. It is clear of course that Canada could not all of a sudden produce all this quantity. But India and Australia have already sprung into great wheat growing countries. Australia also produces animals and meat. So all the colonies and free trade countries together could soon supply the English market. Canada however would have an enormous advantage over all the other colonies, being so much nearer the English markets, namely 10 days steam passage, as compared with 28 days to Bombay the nearest port in India, 38 to Calcutta, 50 days to Hongkong in China, and for 30 to 40 days to Australia. What a stupendous effect this would have on our trade, on our riches! It would be untold millions to us. For every dollar of additional taxation we should have to pay, we would have five, ten, twenty dollars to pay it with.

* President's Annual Address to University Literary Society.

But to enable Canada to produce this, she must have more people. And this is another thing that England can supply her with. The surplus population of England would pour rapidly into our North west, if it were no longer a colony, but had become an integral part of the Empire. By the influx of a large number of immigrants, we might in a single year go a long way towards filling up the gap between our capability of production and the requirements of the English markets. Put a hundred thousand English farmers into the north west in the spring, and in the fall they would have abundant crops to ship back to England. Now in the past the English have not been to the extent they should, an emigrating people. Contrary to what is generally supposed, there is a comparatively small number of Englishmen or Scotchmen in the United States. According to the last American Census, the total number of inhabitants who had been born in England and Wales was 745,000 drawn from a population in England of over 25,000,000; 170,000 born in Scotland, drawn from a population of over 3,500,000, making 915,000 from Great Britain. The Irish on the other hand have been more largely an emigrating people; of those in the United States born in Ireland, there were 1,854,000, from a population in Ireland of slightly over 5,000,000.

Even now for the English and Scotch, the attractive force of the colonies is much greater than that of the United States; for while an American population of 50,000,000 has drawn only 915,000, or less than 2 per cent, a Canadian population of 4,500,000 has drawn 284,000, or 6.33 per cent. and a population of 900,000 in Victoria, the most populous of the Australian colonies, has drawn 201,000 or 22 per cent. I have not been able to get the census statistics of the other Australian colonies, but from other sources of information obtained through the kindness of Mr. Macmaster M.P. from the Parliamentary library at Ottawa, I have been able to estimate that the net emigration of English and Scotch to Australia, during the 31 years from 1858 to 1883 has been 25.24 per cent. of their present population. The reverse of this holds true for the Irish emigrants, but let us hope that under the new regime of governing Ireland on the principles of equity and justice, their warm and loyal affections may be united to our great Empire, firmly as those of the English and Scotch. As an emigration plan then Mr. Bourne's is one of the most magnificent that could be devised.

And what policy would be such a mine of wealth to our great Railways? To bring the produce of our North West to the seaboard at Montreal would almost overtax the carrying powers of the Canadian Pacific Railway. They would very soon begin to pay good dividends. Instead of being handicapped by their great transcontinental rivals, they would have the best trade of the country. And if they were wise in not overcharging the farmers, they might retain their trade for many years. Possibly in course of time, so great would be the export, that another outlet would have to be sought; and the Hudson's Bay route would be opened up. For like Sir Richard Temple, I believe that the Hudson's Bay route is a possibility. If the Hudson's Bay Company have been able to navi-