

New England States are to the Western States, and the stimulus would, produce an unprecedented development in all the Provinces. The products of the Imperial colony would not be offered in the local markets, and could not therefore depress them. The fruit of this new industry would of course meet the colonial exporter at all British ports; but he would then have only to compete with Imperial wheat, as he now does with American and Russian grain; while on every cental of the former his country would make an indirect profit, and the Empire to which it is his pride to belong would become independent of the foreign wheat fields of the world.

The Canadian Liberal press and its leaders predict an early reversal of the protective policy. This is not likely to be realized. Following the precedent of the United States, the manufacturing interests will acquire increased political influence; and the agricultural majority are, for the most part, indifferent to questions of this nature while they themselves enjoy moderate prosperity. If the Imperial colonization scheme were carried out, the dominant province would soon be neither Ontario nor Quebec, but Manitoba, or provinces to the west of it. These would be largely peopled by men of British training, and of British trade ideas; colonial manufacturers would therefore soon have to compete with British goods without regard to tariff, for the wheat and cattle growers of the West would never consent to the artificial exclusion of the better value products of the mother country by a protective tariff.

This view might tend to prejudice the present dominant Canadian party against the scheme; but their necessities, and probably their patriotism, would assure their concurrence.

Beyond all mere questions of trade policy, I advocate the speedy settlement of British America with a people loyal to the British constitutional system, as a counterpoise to the Republicanism of the United States.

One hundred years ago the population of the revolted American colonies numbered about four millions. North of the lakes and the St. Lawrence was almost unbroken forest; the population, including the French colonists, hardly numbered five per cent. of the successful revolutionists. To-day, after the lapse of a century, during which