

settlement or improvement under the monopoly of the Company ; while on the American side, numerous towns, mills, churches, steamers, newspapers, prove what an active population can do when left to themselves.

To know this, look north and south of 49°.

The whole Indian population is about 110,000. Lake Superior opens early in May, closing in December ; Red River and Lake Winnipeg about the same time. Lake Superior, by the Sault Marie, Welland, and St. Lawrence canals, has direct communication with the ocean. Sailing vessels would reach England in fifty days ; screws in half that time. Population of cities near the territory in 1857 :—Toronto, 57,000 ; Chicago, 110,000 ; Milwaukee, 50,000 ; Dubuque, 30,000 ; St. Paul, 20,000 ; St. Louis, 140,000. In 1830, the population of all these did not exceed 25,000. Where are the towns in the Hudson's Bay territory ?

The British Government have sent out Captain Palliser with a scientific party, under the Geographical Society (not by Hudson's Bay), to explore the country between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains. It would have tended much to the interests of shipping, trade, and agriculture, if gentlemen connected with these had accompanied the expedition to report on the soil, minerals, and navigation. The Canadian Parliament, as well as the Imperial, have committees sitting on the Hudson's Bay Company. When their reports are published, much information will be learned of a territory so little known ; few, except the Company's servants, visiting it, and none before 1855 trading with the Red River.

The Chambers of Commerce, City Corporations, and other public bodies, should follow the example of those in Canada, by memorialising the House of Commons against a renewal of the Company's lease or charter. In 1749, London and the other commercial cities and towns of Great Britain did so—though the monopoly of the Company then extended only round Hudson's Bay, a locality comparatively unfit for cultivation.

The great Lakes shipped last season (nine-tenths by canal to New York) $6\frac{1}{2}$ millions quarters of grain—this does not include the railway returns. When the prairie lands round Lake Winnipeg, connected by a ship canal with the lakes, are brought into cultivation, with free trade and no monopoly, how much greater will be the supplies of wheat, beef, and bread-stuffs ; and how different from them when under the Company, employing only four ships annually in the commerce of a country having 360,000 square miles of land as good naturally as Great Britain.

In 1856, the Canadas imported from the States produce &c. to the amount of £4,542,905, their total imports being £10,896,096, and exports