

Canadian Pacific Railway is estimated at 8,000 square miles. But the land is thinly settled and unsuitable for cultivation, except along the Aroostook river.

The population of Maine is 700,000, but seven-eighths of it lie below this line, and of this population ten per cent. is Canadian born; only one-third of the State is composed of land fit for cultivation, and of this only one-third, or one-ninth of the whole, is improved; but only one-sixth of the improved land, or less than two per cent. of the whole, is under crop other than hay and forage. The average size of the farms is 106 acres, and of these there are only 60,000 in the whole State.

Two complementary methods suggest themselves:—

1. That the matter should be referred by the American Government, after exhaustive investigation, to the occupants of the area concerned with a recommendation that they should elect to constitute themselves a Province of Canada with all the privileges, securities, and guarantees of such a province. The nature of these privileges, securities, and guarantees, would be a fitting subject of public education to convince the people that their liberties would be as well conserved under the proposed arrangement as at present.
2. That those objecting to the transfer should have their property expropriated and equitably paid for out of Federal funds. This process is familiar to all governments which require private property for public use.

An exhaustive survey of the area involved, its population, properties, and resources, would be necessary, but much of this information is easily available in the Census Returns. To enumerate them in detail would be indelicate: it would be like making an inventory of another man's property.

Will the Americans give back to us this area which they took from us by force at a time when we were fighting alone in Europe against a tyranny which was of much the same kind as that against which we fought yesterday in their company? The case is now laid before them inofficially, and by way of suggestion. If it were reinforced, it is highly probable that