

successful, we would then have in the Hewson route our truly Imperial and National location, with all its future incalculable advantages.

That we have been discounting the future with prodigality; that we have, since some years, been accumulating immense liabilities with alarming rapidity; and that we have about reached the limit, beyond which it would be perilous to venture, may be seen from an examination of the following table of the Census Returns, and the annual returns of revenue, expenditure and of the Public Debt.

	Population.	Revenue.	Expenditure	Debt.	
1862...	1,842,265	\$ 2,582,504	\$ 2,604,500	\$ 18,661,772	Ont. and Quebec.
1861...	2,506,765	7,841,311	9,318,180	58,326,478	do.
1871.....		13,779,529	12,213,286	88,444,890	do.
1876...	3,485,761	19,335,560	15,623,081	115,492,682	Dominion.
1878.....		22,445,655	23,573,802	158,449,356	do.

This attempt to force the ordinary course of nature, regardless of consequences, is dangerous in the extreme, and, if it be persisted in, it will shake and derange our social fabric in its very foundations. Do we not already see an exodus of alarming proportions from the older Provinces? Can this exodus arise from the excessive cost of living, the result, in this early stage of our existence, of an undue load of taxation—Federal, Local and Municipal? The Government, surely, in their enormous outlays in the West, cannot be simply aiming at transplanting our people from the older Provinces to the Prairie Region! On the contrary, a care for the future, must lead us to retain, and to develop, by all means possible, the population and the resources of our older Provinces, whilst we are endeavoring to fill up our North-West territory with European emigration.

The signs of this forcing—this hot house process—are already visible in the desire of the Government to tamper

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