

A good many people attribute to Government the sole cause of our misfortune, others to an overproduction and overstocking of the different merchandises, combined with a rotten credit system, others to the unfavorable climatic situation of Canada, which in the strife of competition throughout the world it evinces more and more difficulties in overcoming. A great many others are satisfied with the sad consolation that business is bad in all parts of the world, and wait for the return of better times in the shape of an exceptional good crop of cereals, which they think, must eventually make up to the people at large all previous losses.

Admitting that Canada has developed, especially so far only the industrial branch of agriculture, it remains to be seen whether any nation qualified in every way to develop most other industries can remain and does right to remain exclusively an agricultural country.

Let us therefore first see what is the industry of a country, what aims has it and what means for development are at her command.

By industry we must understand the task to raise, rear and transform the products of nature into such shapes and forms as human ingenuity adapts for the different purposes the state of culture in a country may require. The requirements of industry are, in the first place the special technical knowledge, secondly capital, to realize such chances as this knowledge may venture to open.