

ticles, the proximity of the country producing them, the course of the waters, and the force of gravity, render this inevitable.

If natural causes which human agency cannot control give the carrying trade to British vessels on the homeward voyage, natural causes will also give the return trade to American vessels; for the St. Lawrence being closed by ice until May, must of necessity send all the Spring importations to New York and Boston in March and April, from whence they will be transmitted by railroad and steamboat to the far west, and reach their destination before any vessel can penetrate to Quebec.

The importance of this trade is not sufficiently estimated by the American merchant; nor do we believe that it is sufficiently understood at Washington. If the American exports to the provinces amount to six million dollars annually, now that the trade is in its infancy, what will it be when it has ripened or advanced further to maturity? Without undertaking to say whether American wheat, which passes over the lines, goes to England under the denomination of Canada wheat, or whether it be eaten on the spot, and the Canada article exported—it is sufficient to know that the American farmer finds a sale for his produce, to the amount stated. The population of Canada is about one million of souls, making the imports of American bread stuffs equal to four dollars each per annum. It is the policy of the Mother Country to augment the population of those provinces by emigration; and we should not be surprised to see the number of inhabitants doubled in a few years, and creating a demand of *twelve* million dollars worth of American produce. Can any merchant or politician look upon such a prospect unmoved? And ought it not to convince him of the urgent necessity of preserving peace between the two countries?

Let us look at the subject in another point of view. Of what do the croakers of American prosperity chiefly complain? Why, that the balance of trade with England is against this country; and hence the high rate of exchange. "We have nothing," say they, "but cotton, tobacco, and the other staples of the South to pay our enormous annual debt to England; the North has nothing she can export, to pay her bills in Manchester, Birmingham, &c." Admitting this to have been true heretofore, the complaint no longer exists, for the wheat of the lake countries does now actually constitute a *staple export of the North* amounting to six millions of dollars annually, and will, ere long, double, and perhaps treble that amount.