

that, if "G. S.," notwithstanding his exceeding bad taste, should awake in the minds of the timid and unpatriotic a dawn of suspicion that a little more faith, a little more courage, and a little more energy, directed to the good and progress of their country, would better become them than perpetual croaking and belittling it, his suppancy may make for good rather than harm, which latter, indeed, is beyond its little scope.

The dismal groans with which our ears are perpetually assailed; the continual dinning into them of the doleful moanings and whimperings that Canada is a miserable hole, incapable of sustaining her children by reason of the taxation by which she is so ground down, that no poor man can live in her above starvation pitch—assumptions belied by the palpable facts of every-day life—conduce in no small degree to that tendency to "exodus," which the mourners exaggerate, rejoice in, and counterfeit grief for, all at the same time.

Notwithstanding, however, the incessant propagandism of "Les Miserables," the expediency of resorting to the States in search of a livelihood has come to be mooted more and more every month, and more and more as time goes on, and conditions slowly but steadily change, facts and arguments tend to exhibit the doubtful wisdom of the step.

It is true that many have succeeded, but it is equally true that many have failed, and some scarcely able to command the means of return, find they have wasted time which might have availed them at home, some unable to do even this drudge on, homesick, in a country which, after all, lacks the associations of their native land.

It is the duty of the journalist to keep before the public the facts which bear upon this most important national question, and to warn the rising manhood of the Provinces that a hasty decision may often be based on narrow and mistaken views. The advantages and disadvantages of living in the States or remaining at home, are, in reality, tolerably evenly balanced, and either love of adventuring forth, or love of birthplace, would probably turn the scale in many cases if the other conditions were fairly grasped.

These conditions, however, require to be dwelt upon. To many of those who have found lucrative employment abroad, "the States," means a few centres of business; "while outside these centres"—says the *Boston Provincialist*—"there are as many deserted farms and tenantless houses" in New England States as can be found in the Maritime Provinces, in proportion to population. We, indeed, incline to think more.

It should be borne in mind that the Provinces are in the healthful growth of youth, even if the growth be slow. The Eastern States (except in those centres of business) have already many of the wrinkles of age—most notably a worn out soil.

Other features are, intensely close competition in the cities, and "no business in the country," while the decadence of even noted towns is remarkable. What is now the aspect of Fairhaven and Nantucket, "once the greatest whaling-ports in the world?" They are almost unknown; and Gloucester, Provincetown, and other such places are said to be going the same way.

"The great difference in the two countries lies"—says the *Provincialist*—"in the centralization of capital and the enterprise of capitalists. There the capitalists invest their money in manufactures, here they either hoard it or invest it in shipping," which itself leads to depletion of the population of young men in the seaports, as it is said that the large vessels of the Provinces seldom return.

It is safe to say that, but for the fact of having employment, nine-tenths of the Provincials in the United States would rejoice to be back in their old homes. There are reasons for this feeling which appeal to the Canadian, Maritime or otherwise, in the strongest manner, which we have not space to detail in this article, but to which we shall revert in our next issue.

On the other hand, ill-success in the search for employment is frequent enough, and it is a difficulty which will undoubtedly increase with time in a country already shewing some of the signs of decadence in certain directions.

NOVA SCOTIA AS A HEALTH RESORT.

The constantly increasing number of tourists who visit this province during the summer and autumn months in search of health and recreation, is a pleasing indication that the ignorance of our near neighbors in regard to our climate, charming scenery, and other attractions "too numerous to mention," is being slowly but surely dispelled.

Every visitor who has, fortunately for himself, decided for Nova Scotia, returns delighted; and the following year is almost certain to return with a party of friends, and to cases of this kind more than to any energy or enterprise on the part of our own people, the increased influx of excursionists is mainly due. But the process of enlightenment is slow, and it is astonishing how many educated people continue to regard Nova Scotia as an almost unknown land, whose arctic winters, rock bound coast, sterile soil, and generally forbidding aspect, repel all but the hardy fisherman or adventure-some seal hunter. Greenland, Iceland and Nova Scotia, are to them very similar countries, and although our climate is really much milder than their own, they would shudder at the thought of having to winter amidst our "icy mountains." Absurd as it may seem, the world is full of such ignorance, and it is to be found in circles where it would least be expected; if it were generally known that from Yarmouth to Sydney the coast line of the province is dented with the loveliest bays and the snuggest harbors, offering unsurpassed facilities for yachting, fishing and sea bathing; if the rich scenery of the Annapolis Valley, the rugged beauties of Cape Breton, or the superior attractions of Halifax were properly written up, and the cool, bracing weather of our summers and autumns were duly made known, large summer hotels in every city and town would do a thriving business.

Sufferers from the intermittent fevers of the West Indies, Mexico, Central

and South America, residents of the Western and Southern States, prostrated by the agues of those miasma-cursed lands, would find almost certain cure in the clear bracing air of Nova Scotia. Invalids from liver and kindred diseases, brought on by residence in the tropics, are ordered north by their physician, and get no further than the States. How gladly would they come to Nova Scotia were they aware of the greater benefits to be derived from a stay in our climate. Army and navy statistics are always to be had, proving "the healthfulness of Halifax," and it has always been found that troops prostrated by service in the tropics are quickly restored to health and strength when ordered here. Facts of this kind should be given large publicity, but who ever hears them mentioned? A steamship line will soon connect Halifax with the West Indies, and if the advantages of our climate as an antidote to malarial fevers, were duly advertised, sufferers from the islands would flock to our shores during the summer months, and, after a short stay, would be enabled to return home with renewed health and vigor.

Our cool, bracing climate, where miasmatic winds are unknown, is an almost certain eradicator of elements incidental to long residence in tropical countries, and our medical men should publish the fact far and wide. What is wanted is a brief pamphlet written by one or more of our medicos, setting forth the advantages of Nova Scotia as a sanatorium, and also pointing out the fact that comfort is obtainable at slight expense. A pamphlet of this kind, circulated in all directions and reaching the leading physicians of the tropics, could not but benefit the Province at large, and in time the author or authors would find themselves well repaid for their trouble. Is there no one to undertake the task?

RUSSIA, FRANCE, AND ENGLAND.

Public Opinion, the valuable repertoire of all views of the questions of the day, reproduces, in its issue of 24th June, an editorial note of *THE CRITIC* of June 3rd. It is not the first time *THE CRITIC* has attracted the notice of the English press, but this particular reference is a source of satisfaction to us, as we happen to hold decided opinions on one of the points briefly alluded to in the paragraph in question, i. e., the relations of England with Russia.

The intrinsic value in the policy of nations of traditional or historical views has been frequently enough demonstrated; notably in the continuous lines of action of Russia, Prussia, and France; tho', in the latter case, the policy having, from the time of Louis Quatorze, been almost purely aggressive, has not commanded the steady success achieved by the two former. Great Britain has, to a great extent, ignored historic claim, and, in some instance has notoriously and gratuitously abandoned herself to unsteady and misplaced sympathies.

Her spasmodic fits of generous feeling are too apt to break out at the wrong moment, and to expend themselves upon the wrong subject, as was the case in the Franco-German war. No nation possesses such an unhappy facility of (to use an Americanism) "giving herself away."

The worst instance, and perhaps the most durable in its consequences of a weakness, which seems chronic, if not inherent, was her ignoble acquiescence in the designs of Louis Napoleon, whose catspaw she consented to become in the Crimean war.

Ever since that untoward and unnecessary struggle, she has set herself determinedly in an attitude of insult and suspicion towards a power to which she, in common with all Europe, owes a deep debt of gratitude for her noble stand against Napoleon. To Russia is to be ascribed the collapse of his gigantic power, and, although her peculiar form of government is uncongenial to our ideas, Russia for many years entertained none but friendly feelings for us, and, if reasonably considered, is as firm an ally as she proves a dangerous foe.

That we should for thirty years have undertaken to persistently thwart her in a policy of expansion which, if not legitimate is inevitable, has been the result of the discreditable state of chronic apprehension into which we have diligently worked ourselves. Fear is the parent of suspicion; suspicion, of meddling and insult; and the worst feature of our timid jealousy is that all the mischief it prompts is futile. We cannot prevent the march of the Russian boundaries with those of Asia and Afghanistan, and all Europe will not eventually keep her out of Constantinople. If Europe had had the courage to constitute one great Slav monarchy, and extend the kingdom of Greece, Russia might have been retarded; but she will not be retarded by the mere bolstering up of the Turk. On the other hand, what does England fear from the access of Russian fleets to the Mediterranean? There is even now, "after long years," no deep antagonism to England, and if we frankly ceased to thwart our old ally in Eastern Europe and Asia Minor, we may be very sure she would not care to molest us in India. We ought neither to fear her on the waters of the Mediterranean, or on the plains of India, and the support of the Turk is a stupendous mistake.

England's real and implacable enemy in Europe is France. France, presuming on our Irish trouble and our insensate antagonism to Russia, gives free rein to her natural insolence. All might be changed by a bold policy in the twinkling of an eye. Conciliate Russia by the frank declaration that we abandon the Turk, who has, by the way, never shown much gratitude for our support—and cease to bar her road to Constantinople, and France, ever threatened by Germany, at once stands isolated and powerless to promote the evil she is ever so ready to hatch.

The worst of it is, the Conservative leaders have fallen into the ruts of an anti-Russian tradition, if anything so modern can claim the name, and it is doubtful whether Lord Salisbury has backbone enough to cut a gordian knot; while the Liberals, if they were to come into power, tho' better disposed toward Russia, are hopelessly imbecile in any foreign policy whatever.