

their opinions on the subject ; but it is surprising that Mr. Hugh Fraser, James Hutton, and others, largely engaged in the Import Trade, should have changed their views.

But, again, it is said, there are no objections to the Canal, provided that its outlet be at Longueuil, or, as Mr. Allan says, "not above St. Lambert." So far as the export trade is concerned the western vessel must meet the ocean ship within the harbour of Montreal. The supplying of the New England States with western products is now almost exclusively done through the Erie Canal and by New York Railways. We get almost none of it *now* by Canal, but we do a little by railway, in consequence of the Victoria Bridge. This trade of New England from the West, for New England's consumption, is far greater than all the exports to foreign countries. Now, the position of Montreal is such, that it may be made the seaport of the West, for western exports and imports. This cannot be disputed ; but, besides being the best seaport for the exports of the West, the St. Lawrence can be made the best and cheapest route from the West to New England. What harm then will it do Montreal if the route from the West to New England can be made the best and cheapest through the St. Lawrence, instead of through the Erie Canal? Upwards of \$5,000,000 are now collected annually from the Erie Canal by the State of New York. Would it injure Montreal if Canada could collect \$3,000,000 per annum from her Canals, instead of, as at present, receiving *nothing whatever* ? Would not the people of Montreal, even under this view of the subject, be benefitted alike with the people in all parts of the Province, by the reduced duties on imports which would then be possible ? There was a time when the people of the Western section of the Province did not hesitate to denounce the merchants of Montreal as selfish ; alleging that they cared not how general laws or principles were ignored, so long as Montreal obtained the advantage. It is to be feared that in the rejecting of Mr. Young's resolutions, and opposing a Canal from the St. Lawrence into Lake Champlain, ignoring all considerations of level, and for no better reason than because its outlet is not at Montreal, that this charge of selfishness will be renewed. Montreal is not the whole province of Canada, and the true policy of her people ought to be to find out *what is best*