

Immigration from Great Britain would come to a halt, partly because British men would have military occupation, partly because the stoppage of capital and curtailing of British purchases would interfere with employment in Canada.

CANADA'S INTEREST IS THE CONTINUANCE OF PEACE.

In short, Canada has every reason to hope that Great Britain will not become involved in a great European war.

That is one aspect of the case. Another now may be stated.

The scheme of Canadian national development is largely founded upon the sending of Canadian products to Great Britain. Wheat is the staple Canadian produce, and we go to enormous expense and trouble to send it to that market. We have built transcontinental railways. We have spent millions upon seaports, river channels, aids to navigation. We build elevators, and take endless pains to consult the farmers' interests from the time the wheat leaves the farm to the moment that it is on the ocean vessel, outside of a Canadian harbour, fairly out on the blue waters of the ocean.

THE PROTECTION OF CANADIAN TRADE.

It is a very remarkable thing that hitherto we always have assumed that the moment the Canadian wheat, or cheese, or cattle, got on the Atlantic all its troubles were over. Our solicitude ceased at tide-water. But when the wheat leaves a Canadian port it has nearly 3,000 miles further to go. Can no mischance other than the accidents of navigation possibly occur to it? If war broke out, active, determined and ingenious enemies would do their best to see that a great many mischances befell our wheat and other products. If they were to succeed, our ships would be almost entirely unable to sail across the Atlantic. If they were to succeed partially, many of our ships would be captured, and the rest would charge higher freight rates. Prices might rise in Great Britain, but the increase almost certainly would be eaten up by the increased transportation charges.

KEEP THE SEA CLEAR OF HOSTILE SHIPS.

Thus Canada has an enormous interest in keeping the ocean clear of hostile warships. The British navy has been supreme so long that people in this country have come to take it for granted that the ocean will always be safe. The only reason for that safety is that the British navy has been so strong for the last hundred years that no country with any number of warships has ventured to fight the Empire. Thus the real interest of Canada may be put in this manner:—