

cially, politically, or in a military point of view if we consider the limited area of the islands and the vast territory of the Dominion coterminous with our own to be inhabited by people sprung from ourselves or, like ourselves, from the foremost nations of the Old World and whose number will be computed by hundreds of millions.

ENCOURAGEMENTS TO SMUGGLING.

While the moderate rates of duty exacted by the Canadian tariff enable us to make large exports of manufactures, they also permit goods from other countries to be imported on the same terms. Silks, broad-cloth, plate, watches, jewelry, &c., are charged with a duty of only 17½ per cent. The boundary between the two countries not only extends across the continent, but the shore-line is increased for thousands of miles by innumerable bays, affording great facilities for defrauding the revenue. At other places a smuggler can go in the day or night from one side of the frontier to the other laden with jewelry, laces, or other expensive goods literally as easily and with as much security as a traveler can pass from one farm to another or through the unbroken forest. It is stated that stores, kept by enterprising merchants, are built on the imaginary or mathematical line separating the two countries, and that goods bought in each are sold freely to all customers; the merchandise itself changing places from the shelves on one side to those on the other at those hours and opportunities when it is impossible for a custom-house officer, however vigilant, to watch what may be done inside the building. No wonder then that the Secretary of the Treasury should have found "the difficulty attending a proper surveillance of our northern frontier" of sufficient importance as to direct special attention to it in his last report as being "under existing circumstances very great, if not in some respects insurmountable." To guard these lines with moderate security an enormous increase of the revenue service would even now be absolutely indispensable. In the four collection districts of Vermont, Champlain, Oswegatchie, and Cape Vincent, having a frontier line of more than three hundred miles, after deducting for a few officers employed in permanent service at the principal ports and minor stations, "there remain," says the Secretary of the Treasury, "but fourteen as a preventive force, or less than one man for every twenty-one miles of frontier."

As the frontier regions become more populous and goods brought from one country to the other meet with readier sales, these difficulties will be incalculably increased and it will be absolutely impossible to prevent immense quantities of valuable goods from being illicitly brought across the line without payment of any duty.

In addition to these suggestive facts it is to be remembered that some of the most liberal and advanced statesmen in Great Britain, not content with the present anomalous relations of the mother-coun-