

and Venice. We all know why St. Petersburg was built on a marsh ; and the history of this century is replete with the evidence of the desire of Russia to establish herself within the Golden Horn. France has fed her navy from the hardy Bretons and Normans who have served a rude apprenticeship on the Banks of Newfoundland. Canada, as yet with a population of about five million souls, already possesses a marine greater than that of Russia, Germany, Italy, or France. Prosperous as may be hereafter her commerce in manufactures or in agricultural products, it is on her rich fisheries must always rest in a large measure her maritime greatness. These fisheries must in the nature of things continue to be the most prolific in the world. The icy currents that come from the North bring with them a vast collection of minute organisms, which form the food of the myriads of fish that annually frequent the waters of British North America. The industries that depend on the products of these waters are expanding with the increase of capital and enterprise, and there is no limit apparently to their influence on the prosperity of the provinces by the sea, and indeed of the whole Dominion. As long as the fisheries of Canada are prosecuted with vigour, they must form no inconsiderable element of the wealth of the country, and at the same time continue to give employment to a large class of hardy men, whose courage and endurance will be found invaluable in the defence of the Empire, with which the people of Canada hope always to remain connected.