

[From the BOSTON (UNITED STATES) TRANSCRIPT.]

No portion of this country is making more marked and rapid progress at the present time than the western section of Canada. We are surprised at the rapid growth of the Western States and cities of the American Union. And yet since the year 1800 the growth of Canada West has been nearly twice that of the United States. In the last fifty years, the increase of the States, according to the best authorities, has been about 400 per cent. But during forty years, between 1811 and 1851, the increase of Upper Canada was upwards of 1100 per cent. Take even the three great States of the West—Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, and compare them with Canada West, for the past twenty years, and great as has been their growth, our Canadian neighbours exceed their increase during the same period by the large ratio of 55 per cent. This immense increase in Western Canada is not confined either to the cities or the rural districts. It is a general movement, and there are potent causes in operation which will accelerate the growth for the next decade. The increase of the city of Toronto, when compared with cities in the States, is found to exceed that of Boston, New York, St. Louis, and Cincinnati.

COMMERCIAL PROGRESS OF WEST CANADA.

IMPORT DUTIES COLLECTED AT TORONTO, WEST CANADA, FROM 1840 TO 1853.

1840	...	...	...	...	...	£	5,050	7	1
1841	...	...	...	...	...		6,720	9	11
1842	...	...	...	...	...		8,390	3	3
1843	...	...	...	...	...		17,401	3	8
1844	...	...	...	...	...		25,103	13	8
1845	...	...	...	...	...		22,212	7	8
1846	...	...	...	...	...		33,533	16	2
1847	...	...	...	...	...		32,658	7	5
1848	...	...	...	...	...		27,752	13	7
1849	...	...	...	...	...		52,336	11	1
1850	...	...	...	...	...		90,367	0	11
1851	...	...	...	...	...		94,330	5	8
1852	...	...	...	...	...		93,303	19	1
1853	...	...	...	...	...		156,026	10	1

An increase of over 3,000 per cent. in the short space of 13 years.—*Toronto Leader.*

PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Mr. W. Chambers, so well known by his numerous cheap publications, has just commenced, in his 'Journal of Popular Literature,' the record of what he saw and heard on the opposite side of the Atlantic. His observations commence at Halifax, of which he speaks with much admiration, particularly of its fine harbour. 'No one,' he says, 'can see this remarkably beautiful sheet of water without reflecting that it offers a harborage of almost unexceptionable excellence, and will possibly at some future day grace the site of a great emporium of commerce.' His impressions of Nova Scotia were on the whole extremely favourable. It is commonly supposed that the country is rocky and sterile, but, according to Mr. Chambers, this is very far from being the case. Potatoes are exported in large quantities to the United States, and the quality of the wheat is excellent. Large quantities of apples are also produced; and he describes the country about Lower Horton and Wolfville as being 'as beautiful and prolific as a garden.' The mineral resources of the country are very great, coal of excellent quality existing in abundance; but these treasures require a larger population for their development. The farmers complain of the scarcity of labourers, though the remuneration of agricultural labour is 20*l.* per year, with board, in reference to which Mr. Chambers says that a farmer told him that his men lived on the best of everything, and would be discontented if they did not get fruit pies every day as well as meat. Mackerel literally swarm along the coast, and would afford profitable employment for thousands. There are districts in which Mr. Chambers thinks cattle-grazing might be carried on with great advantage; but all these elements of future prosperity must wait for hands to develop them. There is an electric telegraph between Halifax and St. John's, New Brunswick, communicating with all Canada and the United States; and a railway is contemplated to run from Halifax to Amherst (there to join a projected line to St. John's), and another to Quebec.