

lands of the temperate zone, one portion of which, 200,000,000 acres in extent, produces an average of twenty-seven bushels of wheat against twelve bushels per average American acre. Into this the straitened population of old Europe are swiftly making their way; presently a vast exodus of the races will drift west along the 49th parallel of north latitude, alike the boundary of the Canadian Hinterland and the approximate southern limit of the home of the Anglo-Saxon race. It is evident to me, as a resident in Europe, that the advantages of the Old must presently give place to the attractions of the New World. Populations in Great Britain are vastly disproportioned to the area of the land, and owing to the rise of manufactures as a branch of that civilization which has penetrated even the remotest portions of the earth, British markets are on the down grade. What is the consequence? Let the inquirers penetrate the homes of Great Britain from cottage to mansion and remark the impoverishment of an important section of the race. Furthermore, I have observed that a dim perception of Canada as the theatre of their talent, aims and effort is entering the mind of the democracy. That democracy never hesitates when once the truth dawns upon it. With energy and precision it sweeps every obstacle before it and the exodus of the overpressed, urged on by this irresistible force, will stream, within the span of this generation, into the fertile plains of Western Canada, north of the 49th, where wealth, commerce and dominion are predestined by the laws of the economy of nations to prevail. In this manner and with comparative ease Canada can expand her population, dominion and wealth, but another important factor in her supremacy must be noted, viz, the attitude of the American farmer towards her agricul-

tural reserves. Quite recently a writer in the Nineteenth Century practically declared that the American agriculturist was almost ruined, and there is sufficient truth in the statement to materially affect Canada. In a country where the farmer is prevented on the one hand by the extortion of monopolies or over capitalized companies from refreshing his land with a cheap phosphate, and plundered on every other hand by the combines, tariffs and "corners" of the hour, it is not surprising that in seven agricultural States at least, viz: Alabama, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Tennessee, Nebraska, and Missouri, mortgages have increased \$260,000,000 in nine (heavy tariff) years, and that the private indebtedness of the people of the entire Republic should have reached \$6,000,000,000, secured in real estate alone. This burden is bearing its natural fruits, and emigration to a free farm district is the sole relief for the struggling farmer. There is no longer an empty American West into which the Eastern agriculturist can enter, and he must in consequence cross the frontier and aid in the task of empire construction in Canada. This process is now in operation, and ere long American and British will shake hands in the prairies of Canada and put a mutual shoulder to the wheel. Under such circumstances trade will converge into the St. Lawrence, all or the chief points of exportation will cluster along the headwaters of the river, and the American, driven by the exigencies of commerce to deal with a people who can give him a clearer margin of profit, owing to cheaper exportation and importation facilities than New York, per Erie Canal, Boston, or Portland can offer, will abandon the idea of inviting that people to join him politically, in favor of obtaining privileges of participation in the new volume of trade.