

for emigration to settle its new lands, or if it is offering better terms than we are offering. The fact will confront the Government at this stage that there is a competitor for emigrants from Europe for its great waste of unoccupied lands, desiring to secure settlers upon those lands and pushing westward its settlements which has already reached far beyond the Mississippi. The Government will next enquire what are the inducements which this competing Government offers, and if the Government of Canada wishes to be a successful competitor reason will teach them at a glance that it will be at least necessary that they will offer equal inducements to those, and probably even greater, because the United States territory is more accessible. I hold that our policy hitherto has not been of such a character as to secure a large amount of immigration, because it has not been as liberal in its provisions as

THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.

When the United States Census was taken early in 1880—almost two years ago—the Canadian population of the State of Minnesota was 29,631, and that of the Territory of Dakota was 10,678, or a total Canadian population in that State and Territory of 40,309. If we add to this the number of those of English, Scotch and Irish nativity who had emigrated from Canada to these States, I have no doubt that the population drawn from Canada would exceed 50,000 souls. One year later our own Census was taken, and that Census gives a population in Manitoba of 65,000. I presume to say that one year later the Canadian population of Dakota and Minnesota was at least equal to the total population of the Province of Manitoba. This shows, I think, conclusively that the United States had offered superior inducements, and through the operation of these superior inducements they had secured a much greater volume of immigration than we had. I propose to examine briefly what these superior inducements are, and why it is that the United States land regulations are preferred to our own. In the first place, all unappropriated lands in the country are open to homestead and pre-emption. There is no exception to this rule. There is no certain number of sections or townships set apart for special purposes, but wherever the settler can find suitable land he can homestead and pre-empt upon it. Then, in the United States outside of the railway belt, public lands are sold at \$1.25 per acre uniformly, and in all parts of the country. While in our own case, outside of the railway belt south of the Canadian Pacific Railway, we sell our land at \$2.50 per acre, or twice the price, and north of the railway belt at \$2 per acre, or 75 cents per acre higher