

increased until it is now estimated at five and a half millions, and of this Ontario has over two millions.

But the increase in population during the last ten years by no means corresponds to the marvellous growth of Canadian trade, commerce, manufacturing, mining, and agricultural industries. It is estimated that our imports and exports now reach \$400,000,000, a sum more than double of what the total volume of trade amounted to twenty-five years ago. This marvellous expansion is partly due to the development of the rich agricultural resources of our North-West, and the discovery of rich gold and silver mines in British Columbia, north-western Ontario, and the Klondike. Mention, too, should be made of the development of iron and steel industries in western Ontario and along the Atlantic sea-board, the establishment of pulp mills in several parts of the country, the growth and manufacture of tobacco, the development of fruit farming and cheese industries. These are but illustrations of the varied industries which now give employment to our people. The tide of emigration to the United States has at last been checked, and it has become clear to the world that Canada has in her fertile prairies, her gold, silver, copper, iron, and other mines, resources ample for the support of a large population—resources which will require all the best energies of her people to develop for many years to come.

9. Literary and Social Progress.—Perhaps it is because the energies of the Canadian people have been directed so largely towards overcoming the difficulties met with in settling a new country that we have so few great writers of prose or verse. Our Public and High Schools are efficient, and our Universities, with their too small endowments, are doing a good work; yet of native Canadian authors there are none who rank with the great writers of the Mother Country. Nevertheless, there are many good writers of verse, some clever journalists and essayists, and not a few historians who have done good and faithful work. Every year the number of those who seek literary and scientific fame is increasing, and with greater wealth and leisure, the growth of higher and nobler ideals, and the development of a stronger national sentiment, Canada may hope yet to have among her sons and daughters,