

productive activities of a people is a blessing, and those of the Canadian people, now numbering about four millions, would be vastly quickened could they have access to our markets, while we should not fail to receive some slight advantage from freer access to their more limited markets; but the contrast between the markets of four millions of people, whose rivers are ice-bound nearly half the year, during which they have no commercial outlet except through our territory by rail, and those of forty millions of more active and prosperous people, whose rivers are never obstructed by ice, are by no means reciprocal. But will we derive no advantages from the widening and deepening of the Welland Canal, and the improvement of the channel of the St. Lawrence? Yes, the people of our country inhabiting certain comparatively limited sections would be greatly benefited by this; but it is a privilege they need not purchase. They must get it. The very existence of the Dominion demands the speedy completion of these works. Without them all their interests languish, and an ample answer to the sophistical memorandum of commercial relations prepared by Sir Edward Thornton and Mr. George Brown, by which they show such marvellously favorable results to the United States from reciprocity, are answered by the indisputable fact that during the existence of the treaty few or no Canadians emigrated to the United States, but that with the cessation of the treaty there began a flow of Canadian immigration into this country which has been so steady and so large that Canadian-French is found to be the prevailing language in many of the new manufacturing towns of New England, and Canadians are found in large numbers in all the Western States and Territories of our country. Indeed, so great has been the immigration of French Canadians to this country, that a public effort has recently been set on foot to induce them to return from their more prosperous homes in the United States to the land of their nativity upon our northern borders. It will not be easy for Sir Edward Thornton and Mr. George Brown to persuade the American people that the Canadians adhered to their native land with French tenacity for twelve years, during which the people of the United States were absorbing their wealth, and that when the cause of their suffering had been removed by the rescinding of the treaty of 1854, they emigrated from their then more prosperous country by hundreds of thousands.

On this point one of the daily newspapers of Montreal said in October, 1870: "Statistics tell us, and any one who has travelled in the United States will confirm the fact, that we annually suffer heavier losses from native persons leaving the country than the