

witnessed in a single day in the city of Toronto, with its 60,000 inhabitants, than can be seen in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, with its population of 100,000, in a month.

The question may be asked, Is there any portion of the Dominion of Canada capable of absorbing the great mass of the surplus population of the mother country now out of employment? Any one practically conversant with the question can give but one honest answer—viz., "In the present state of the Dominion and its trade relations with the United States there is not." Yes, but I may be told there is the great fertile belt of the Hudson's Bay territory about to be thrown open for settlement. My answer would be, The only practical route from England or Canada to the Red River Settlement is through the United States by way of St. Paul, a distance from Toronto of 1,800 miles, and I should then be 600 miles from the fertile belt, but in a country where the mercury freezes in winter. I can go from Toronto across the United States to San Francisco, or to the great cattle plains of Texas, or from Maine to Mexico, in half the time and at half the expense at which I could reach the Red River Settlement. But let us suppose an emigrant from England, or a native Canadian, setting out from Toronto for a journey to the fertile belt. If he went by railway he would pass through the State of Michigan, Illinois, and the city of Chicago and the State of Wisconsin, to St. Paul in Minnesota; here his steam transit would end, and his pilgrimage of 1,400 miles to the fertile belt, in true Mormon fashion, would begin—"ox-cart in summer and dog-sleigh in winter." But at this point of his journey the emigrant would be met with the following inducement to stay where he was, "for by going further he might fare worse:"—By the laws of the State of Minnesota every able-bodied man is entitled to select a homestead of 80 acres of Government land—unsurpassed for agricultural purposes. These homesteads are a free gift, and cannot be subjected to any attachment, levy, or sale, or other process of law. This exemption protects not only the