

working together the descendants of Puritans and habitants, who in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries never met but to cut each other's throat! All hope of bringing back these voluntary exiles has been given up. They have gone across the line to stay. American mill-owners prize their services very much, as they dislike labour disputes and are steady and reliable workers.

The habitant also long ago invaded Upper Canada. The first French Canadian settlements were established opposite Detroit and then all through Essex County, where the number of French-speaking people is large in proportion to the total population. Later on this emigration penetrated into the counties of Glengarry, Stormont, Carleton, Russell and Prescott, until the French Canadians have become the majority in several of these constituencies. Some years ago, when the Canadian Pacific Railway was being built, many labourers employed in the construction of the line settled in Northern Ontario. Now the new counties of Nipissing and Sturgeon Falls return French-Canadian members to the Ontario legislature.

Many times throughout the last fifty years the urgent question has arisen in Quebec: How shall we stem this tide of emigration? There seemed to be but one course open—colonization within the province. Both government and private organizations put forth every effort to retain in Lower Canada the would-be deserters. They had but little success, and year after year large contingents of French Canadians bade adieu to their native land to swell the numbers of their countrymen already settled in the manufacturing centres of New England, of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire and Michigan.

What were the causes of this disastrous emigration? Some people were inclined to attribute the exodus to those influences which have governed old-world displacements of population and which sent masses of population from Northern Europe to Italy, Spain and France. This explanation seems far-fetched. That the habitant is moving away from his native land from purely economic reasons is more probable. During the second half of the last century