

CANADIANS IN THE UNITED STATES

TWO centuries ago, when the United States was not yet a dream of the future, the pioneers of the American West, the French Canadian *coureurs de bois*, opened up the western trade routes from Hudson's Bay to Louisiana and laid the first foundations of a line of great cities. Among these may be named Detroit, Sault Ste Marie, Chicago, St. Paul, Pittsburgh and New Orleans. That chapter is, however, long since closed except for the faint traces of race occasionally still noticeable on the Mississippi. As regards population, the debt was more than repaid after the peace of 1783, when Loyalists founded Upper Canada and New Brunswick and settled the eastern townships of Quebec. For the subject in hand we come down to much nearer years, of which we have more or less exact information, and run our eye not further back than a few years before British North America became the Dominion of Canada.

During the half century ending in 1900, then, one finds that at least one million eight hundred thousand Canadians moved across the border into the United States. This exodus is one of the notable facts in Canada's history. For a time it dismayed a large section of the Canadian people, bringing them almost to despair of their political future. But the country is now attracting population alike from Europe and the United States. Its progress is one of the important events in the recent history of the new world. Accordingly it will be of interest to look back and review briefly the great Canadian exodus, the localities the emigrants have selected for their new homes, the occupations they are following, and their intermarriage with citizens of the United States.

The whole topic of the movement of populations is, indeed, instructive. It tells the life-story of a people. It is history in a nut-shell, an epitome of conditions. Migrations reflect in a measure the course of affairs at home and in some respects rela-