

has its million of inhabitants, and Philadelphia its six hundred thousand.

"If we look to the radial lines of Chicago, we find that they are limited on the south by the competition of St. Louis, and on the north by Milwaukee. Yet Chicago, at the southern end of Lake Michigan, has risen to be a large city by a sudden and extraordinary growth, arising from the rich, though limited country about it. Apply these radial lines to Mackinaw, and we find that they naturally include all of Michigan, a large part of Wisconsin, and a large part of Canada West; *but in reference to water navigation, no interior site in America is equal to that of Mackinaw. Here concentrate the navigation of eighty thousand square miles of water surface, which has no common center but that of the Straits of Mackinaw.* Two facts must be observed: that a commercial point which concentrates the trade of Lakes Superior and Michigan, *must* lie within the circuit of their coasts; *but there is no such point but Mackinaw.* The other is, that the point of commerce which offers the shortest distance, and therefore the cheapest, to the great markets of the Atlantic, will be preferred. Mackinaw is five hundred miles nearer to Buffalo than is Fond du Lac, and three hundred miles near than Chicago. So it is the same distance nearer to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or the city of New York. It is on the south side only, through the peninsula of Michigan, and toward the States of Indiana and Ohio, that the position of Mackinaw seems deficient in communications. But we no sooner see this than we see also two great lines of railroad, progressing from the south through the peninsula toward Mackinaw. The one passes on the west side from Fort Wayne (Indiana) through Grand Rapids and Traverse Bay. The other through Lansing and Amboy; both terminating on the north at Mackinaw, and both, by connection with Indiana and Ohio roads, at Cincinnati on the south, thence they will soon be carried to the orange-growing shores of Florida. Thus may some future traveler be borne in a few hours from the soft air of the south-