

and suggestive. The total numbers of these returns were 30,554, and these figures are an exact registration, name by name being taken down, together with a statement of the nationality of the immigrants or returned Canadians on their own declarations. Of this total number, 20,857 were returned Canadians, and 3,411 citizens of the United States. The numbers of immigrants as shown by this particular registration were about double those of the preceding year, the figures of which were 15,404, against 10,961 in 1880, and 9,775 in 1879.

The numbers, however, which are obtained from this particular kind of registration, by no means represent the whole immigration; and I think as many come without making entries of settler's effects, as of those who do. This inward movement, therefore, from the United States, is assuming proportions of great significance; and when it is coupled with the consideration of the vast areas of land now being opened up in the Canadian North-West, and the large amounts of capital employed in its development—both facts very largely necessitating and stimulating manufacturing industry to supply the wants created—there is reason to believe that the considerable immigration movement into Canada from the United States, which has set in, will, in the near future, become of sufficient importance to redress the balance of the comparatively large figures of emigration to which I have referred.

And this position is much strengthened by the analogy of facts which have been accomplished in the United States. When the western United States prairie lands were being settled, during the last twenty years, it was found that the migration from the Eastern States to the Western, not only prevented a rapid increase of population within their borders, but actually caused a decline in that of the States of New Hampshire and Maine, in the decennial period between 1860 and 1880. The State of Vermont showed almost no increase between those years. But in the same period Dakota gained in its population 193 per cent.; Kansas, 239; Minnesota, 155, and Illinois, 48. On the other hand, the manufacturing State of Massachusetts, while it suffered the same drain in its agricultural population, still made a total gain of 18 per cent., its manufactures having found both a stimulant and a market in the wealth produced by the development of prairie agriculture and commerce in the Western States. In the Canadian North-West we have already similar percentages. The population of Manitoba, in the ten years ended 1881, increased 439 per cent., while in the two last years the increase has been still more rapid, having been, in fact, nearly equal to that of the preceding ten years, the causes having been precisely the same as those which produced the enormous percentages of increase in the Western States; and the effect in stimulating the manufactures and commerce of the Eastern Provinces precisely the same; causing also the remarkable features of immigration to Canada from the United States during the year, which I have noticed; and reducing the balance at the point of Port Huron to figures scarcely worth consideration; while in the Province of New Brunswick, as shown by Mr. Gardner, the Agent of the