

not given to the shipping concerns of the land. Local shipping all but died out, and that of foreign countries invaded the waters formerly gay with Canada's flag. Among these adventurous states, none seem to have acquired to such an extent this great element of our trade as Norway. Insidiously, the ships of this maritime power entered into our carrying trade; gradually they acquired the mastery of it, until they drove the last, or almost the last, square-rigger from our ports. Then, as it was with sailing craft, so with steam; they were our competitors in the field, bringing over these great, unsightly steamers in the spring, manned with cheap labor, and supplied with the necessities of life of a meaner kind than any Canadian sailor would tolerate. Their skilled labor, too, far outbid ours, engineers, willingly ship on them for a fourth of what our own men exact. Then, their system of surveying and certificating is much less stringent, and enables them to class and re-class, and obtain insurance at a rate so cheap as to beggar any attempt here at competition. Norway, as a nation, profited in this, that everything earned was brought back to the kingdom. So favorable to them, indeed, were our marine laws that all this defective regulation was permitted by special Order-in Council whilst the the strictest regulation was required of domestic shipping. A pretty state of affairs and one favored very largely by the exploiting corporations and fostered monopolies!

Well, unconsciously, almost, did this unhappy change take place, and unconsciously would we still be tolerating it, and asking ourselves how it is that this country has become so little progressive when every place else flourished, unless the bold and subtle spirit of Alex. Baillie were aroused, and thereby a flood of light let in upon the iniquity at a stroke; so much light, indeed, that the government immediately rescinded its Order, giving the foreigner just one year to vacate our waters. This action has given us all new courage. It is easy to see what a new merchant marine of our own may mean to us. The coastwise trade will be restricted now to British shipping. This calls for the services of Canadian captains, engineers and seamen, who, under the present regulations, have had to seek positions abroad. The supplying of these armies of sailors will