

Manitoba wheat with advantage; and, naturally desiring further benefits, they requested to be allowed to grind Canadian wheat in bond. This was granted, and Canadian wheat was thus imported at a net duty of 1 per cent. into the United States when intended for export as flour, while the full duty still remained upon wheat intended for consumption in that country.

This provision was shortly withdrawn. It did not continue for a sufficient length of time to influence materially the quantity of wheat exported from Canada. From the close of the fiscal year in June 30th, 1904, until November 30th, the quantity of wheat exported to the United States was considerably in excess of the amount exported in the 12 months prior to June 30th, 1904; but it does not yet approach the quantity exported to that country in 1903.

It is not possible at present to predict what the effect of the present shortage of wheat in the United States may lead to in the near future. Probably, among other results, it may lead to the utilisation in the United States, perhaps by means of State aid, of lands at present outside the area of cultivation on account of their marshy character (as in the State of Minnesota), or on account of their aridity, as in the States in the arid region. The probable fall in the value of land which may be produced in some States by emigration to Canada may result in drawing migrants from the Eastern to the Western States, and to a renewed activity in the cultivation of wheat.

VIII.—General Conclusions.

It is obvious that the period over which observations can extend in a recently organised country is very short, and that conditions change with great rapidity.

Conclusions must therefore in all cases be provisional.

The following may be suggested as springing out of the foregoing data:—

1. Regarding the area susceptible of colonisation as being fairly set forth in the estimates quoted above, it seems admissible to infer that this area will in time be colonised in such a way as to offer the probability of its being occupied at least to the same extent, and in the same general way, as the corresponding States of the North Central Division of the United States.

2. The addition to the existing population which such a colonisation would involve may be regarded as coming necessarily—

(a) from the Eastern Provinces of Canada,

(b) from the United States,

(c) from Continental Europe, or

(d) from Great Britain.

(a.) *From the Eastern Provinces.*—While the pressure of population in the settled areas of the Province of Quebec may result in migrations of French Canadians to the west, there are at present large tracts of unsettled land remaining in the Province of Quebec which may be regarded as more likely to absorb the agricultural migrant than the western plains. Those who leave that province go, as a rule, into the manufacturing towns of the United States, and do not wish to farm. As regards Ontario, while the sons of Ontario farmers may find it to be to their advantage to go to the west, it would appear as though this migration did not at present form a very considerable part of the total migration.

(b.) *From the United States.*—Of late years there has been a considerable migration, alike of re-patriating Canadians, of native-born Americans, and of foreigners who have lived in the United States for varying periods. The conditions in the United States which have promoted this migration seem likely to cause it to continue.

(c.) *From Continental Europe.*—The Austrian and Russian immigrations have been for some time the most conspicuous features of continental immigration. Again, conditions seem likely to promote this movement indefinitely.