

WHY THEY COME TO CANADA.

(Wall Street Journal.)

With an annual revenue of \$7,551,907, exported from a scant population of little more than a million, the State of Washington is scarcely entitled to the luxury of a public debt. But it is not satisfied with expending substantially the whole of this income (annual "cash disbursements" \$7,511,907), but has run into debt, and so far as the report shows, is afraid to face the fact.

This is not all. To the State taxes must be added the county and municipal burden. Ten years ago the annual State revenues were \$2,376,982; counties, \$1,868,555; municipalities, etc., \$6,620,597; total, \$12,889,134. The relation between State and local taxation is such that they both rise and fall together. Applying the same rate at which the State revenues have increased, to the local revenues, the latter should now be about \$21,000,000. Add this sum to the State burden and the total becomes \$31,500,000; equal to say \$30 per capita, or \$15 per family.

With one-third of Washington's farm homes mortgaged for an average debt of \$2,000 each, it is no wonder that this agricultural population, except in the more fruitful regions of Walla Walla, Yakima, King and Chelan are finding their way to Canada to escape the burden. The exiles are native Americans; and those that remain are made up increasingly of the inferior foreigners who work one-third of the 50,000 home and tenant farms of the State.