

coming (may we not say, has it not become?) a Government business? and when it is no longer left to individual caprice, but is conducted on a systematic plan, adapted to benefit both the emigrants and the country, by guiding them in their transit, preparing for their reception, and distributing these new and ever flowing streams of capital and labour through the whole land, according to the wants or capacity of every part, may we not expect still greater results than have ever yet been seen, or ever dreamed of by the cold-blooded croakers who vent their sorrows or their spleen in doleful lamentations about the debt? Yes, if the public works for which that debt has been contracted were to produce nothing, still we say that the country's onward progress would discharge that debt without levying a penny of additional taxes. This is a bold assertion; but we make it with a just confidence in the vast resources of our country, and our countrymen's boundless energy in bringing those resources into play. We do not mean to say, however, that it would be unwise to levy any additional taxes; far from it. We have as much aversion for debt in the abstract as any man, and as little favour for the bungling expedients by which our public debt has been shuffled over from year to year, instead of being fairly met and systematically provided for. Something is requisite to be done immediately, and the country is well able to bear some additional burden. The utmost care and judgment should also be exercised to render our public works productive. In all this we shall be as strict and unbending as any. But we shall not allow any man, or class of men, to possess the public mind with a notion that the country's fortunes are desperate, and that the public debt is a millstone that will sink her to perdition. On the contrary, we maintain that the country possesses such abundant resources as must, under wise and vigorous management, not only extricate her from debt, but also place her in a condition of prosperity far exceeding the most sanguine expectations. "There remains yet much land to be possessed," and tens of thousands are waiting to come up and possess it, and their countrymen, with the Government at their head, are waiting to assist these destined conquerors of the wilderness, who will yet make it bud and blossom as the rose. And when all unite in this determined effort, who can set bounds to the country's rapid advancement? Let those who would do so go to sleep

for ten or twenty years, and then wake up and gaze on the altered scene. Why, unless they heard the thunders of Niagara, or stood on the ramparts of Cape Diamond, they would then hardly believe it was Canada they saw, so changed and improved would the whole land have become. Why, even the broad Ontario could hardly be recognized: for where ten keels cut its waters now, there would then be hundreds.

And when we speak of the country's abundant resources, we do not allude so much to any thing the Government may possess, as to the capacity of the country for sustaining an immense population. The strength of a Government consists in its people, more than in treasures or domains. And there is this vast difference between an old and a new country, that in the former increasing population only increases poverty; but in the latter, to increase the people increases plenty, so great is the difference between having no land on which to place another man, and having an immensity of soil on which to plant a nation. All the elements of immense wealth are dispersed throughout Canada, and only require the wise application of labour to bring them forth; this labour is about to be applied in a manner worthy of its object, and we are content to let the future decide whether we indulge in empty boastings when we declare the country's capacity to multiply ten-fold every department of her productive industry and source of individual and national wealth. A vast extent of unoccupied, fertile soil, is better than mines of gold and silver, because these will be exhausted, and will leave the people in a worse state for having had temporary possession of riches; but a fertile soil, under proper management, is a mine of exhaustless wealth, and it keeps the public mind in a healthy state, accustomed to exertion, trained to deeds of noble daring, either intellectual, moral, or physical, and fitted both to use and bestow freedom, instead of being enervated by luxury, and fitted to be only either tyrants or slaves. Canada is richer than was Mexico or Peru in their most palmy days, when the galleons of Spain were laden with their treasures, and the discoverer of a silver mine made a fortune of several millions, one having had a nett profit of £250,000 per ann., another built a church that cost £37,000, and presented it with a magnificent *custodia* set with diamonds, worth £21,300, and another gave to his Sover-