

such as the Xanthus and the Simois. Almost all of these tributaries form beautiful cascades, which, were they not thrown into the shade by the Falls of Niagara, would not long remain unknown. The climate is also extraordinary, in winter the cold being sometimes as severe as it is in Siberia, and the heat in summer as oppressive as in the Torrid Zone; the beloved season of the poets,—spring—does not visit the country, as the most luxuriant vegetation succeeds the ice and snow after a few days of sunshine. The inhabitants struggle bravely against the natural disadvantages which they have to encounter; and although there are many dissensions among them, caused by political and religious factions and rivalry between the different races,—although Protestantism is directly opposed to Catholicism, the French element contending with the English element, monarchical institutions assailed by democratic tendencies—they have succeeded in laying the foundation of great national prosperity, which will be materially supported by the finest system of canals in the world, an inland navigation extending from the western limits of the great lakes to the ocean, and 2000 miles of railroads already opened to traffic. This prosperity will also derive solidity and strength from the final settlement of important political questions which had long agitated the country—among these are, the abolition of the feudal tenure in Lower Canada, with indemnification of seigniors, and the secularization of the Clergy Reserves in Upper Canada,—and from a well-organized system for the administration of justice, the constitution of municipal authorities, the establishment of public schools and a general plan of popular education, and the codification of the laws. The genius of the French and the genius of the English, with the resources, advantages and defects of each, are continually brought face to face in the Parliament by the two languages, in the judicature by two codes of laws and in the public journals by two literatures. The old prediction that one race would absorb the other does not appear to have been fulfilled. The tide of British immigration has incessantly rolled towards Upper Canada and the West, while the inhabitants of French descent have not only greatly increased in number in the old settlements, but have without the aid of immigrants formed many new establishments, extending from the St. Lawrence to the interior, on the banks of the Saguenay, the St. Maurice, the Ottawa, in the Eastern Townships, the United States, and in Upper Canada; indeed there are few tracts on the continent so remote or so wild that they cannot venture to settle there, and sometimes they form groups considerable enough to maintain a distinct nationality.

The population of Canada is estimated at about 2,600,000 inhabitants, of whom 1,400,000 are in Western Canada, and 1,200,000 in Canada East. The population of French origin numbers about 900,000 in Lower, and 50,000 in Upper Canada. There was a time when persons of French descent only were called Canadians; those of other origins looked upon the appellation with a feeling something akin to contempt, but now the descendants of all races have openly adopted our common country,—certainly this is a step toward the national existence of Canada. It must not be supposed that all races can be assimilated by fictitious means; rather leave our destinies in the hands of Providence, and to time, one of the most powerful instruments which it employs. For us a noble work remains, that of improving and opening to the husbandman our vast territory, which is twice as large as that of the United Kingdom; and of turning to account the almost unlimited resources it offers,—a work which of itself should be sufficient to put an end to all jealousy between races where there is room for all.

The divers sources of prosperity which we have indicated as belonging to each of the Lower Provinces here unite to make of Canada a great country. The fisheries of the Gulf and of the lower St. Lawrence embrace 1000 miles of coast, and comprise the porpoise, seal, cod, herring, mackerel, salmon, and other fish; and the whale fishery is carried on by vessels fitted out in the Port of Gaspé. Salmon is found in upwards of seventy rivers falling into the St. Lawrence, and thanks to the recently introduced art of pisciculture, many other streams will soon be stocked with this delicious fish. Oysters, which are found only in the fisheries of New-Brunswick and the other provinces at the entrance of the Gulf, are now to be propagated in the waters of Canada. The value of all products drawn from the sea by this country is about \$950,000 annually; but its fisheries afford a greater source of profit to others, as will be readily seen when it is stated that for about 100 vessels and 1,200 to 1,500 small boats which Canada employs, Nova Scotia and the other provinces have 250 to 300 vessels, and the United States over 300 vessels. Within a few years the Government has turned its attention to this important subject, a superintendent of the fisheries has been appointed, and laws en-

acted for their protection, the art of pisciculture has been encouraged, and an armed vessel under the command of Capt. Fortin cruises in the Gulf, and protects the different establishments. It is said that a separate section of the Crown Lands Department will soon be formed to take charge of this branch. In addition to this inexhaustible wealth of the ocean the great lakes also possess considerable fisheries.

Besides the inland trade and navigation of the lakes and canals there is great activity in the sea-ports; the number of vessels registered within the province in 1860, was 130 with an aggregate tonnage of 36,207; the total number of sea-going vessels visiting the ports was 1,992 with an aggregate tonnage of 114,411. Among the countries from which these vessels sailed Great Britain stands first, then come the British colonies, United States, Norway, Sweden, Prussia and the Hanse Towns. France, Portugal, and Italy scarcely occupy a place in the list.

Upper and Lower Canada contain in abundance the useful metals and minerals. Iron, copper, lead, manganese, marble, gypsum and many other materials are found in different parts and are already successfully worked. Iron mines, near the River St. Maurice, and copper mines, on the shores of Lake Superior, have been long wrought, and copper has been recently found in abundance in the Eastern Townships, and lead in the District of Gaspé.

Wheat and other cereals, and all the garden vegetables of Europe are grown throughout the country; the sugar maple, and flax and hemp might be rendered more available if cultivated on a more extensive scale; and the trade in ginseng which formed so important an item in the exports under the French rule might also be renewed. Lumber and ashes are the staple article of export. The richest and most useful materials for ship building and for cabinet work are found in abundance, here as in the Lower Provinces; specimens sent to the great exhibitions of London and Paris were much admired by good judges in these matters. The products of the mines exported in 1860 amounted to \$558,306, lumber and ashes \$11,012,353, beef, pork, provisions, &c., \$1,221,257, products of fisheries \$832,616, and agricultural products \$14,259,225. Of the last mentioned, it may be added, that besides the amount of grain used for food 1,275,288 bushels were consumed by distilleries and breweries in the course of the year. These great resources will be further developed by immigration which every year brings to our shores thousands of active and enterprising men, and by the natural growth of our population.

The greatest possible efforts have been made by the Government during the past few years to diffuse education among all classes of society. We saw with what interest the Prince, during the visit, inspected our educational institutions; and by the details which we have given in the preceding chapters an opinion may easily be formed of the intellectual advancement of the country. In 1859 Upper Canada contained 13 universities and colleges with 1,373 students, 81 grammar schools with 4,381 pupils; 321 academies and private schools with 6,182 pupils; 1 normal school with 158 pupils, 3 model schools with 500 pupils; 3,953 common schools controlled by Government, with 301,592 pupils; total number of educational institutions 4,372 with 314,246 pupils. Lower Canada contained in 1860, three universities, and apart from these, a school of Law, a school of medicine and five schools of theology—number of students 552; 13 classical colleges with 2,781 students, 14 industrial colleges with 2,333 pupils; 66 academies for boys and mixed, with 6,210 pupils; 64 convents and academies for girls, with 14,817 pupils; 3 normal schools with 223 pupils, and 5 model schools with 682 pupils; 3,076 elementary schools both independent and under control, with 141,905 pupils; 1 school of arts and manufactures; 2 schools of agriculture, and 2 schools for the deaf and dumb; total number of educational institutions 3,264 with 172,155 pupils. The progress made by this section of the province will be at once appreciated when it is stated that in 1853 the total number of schools in operation was 2,352 with 108,284 pupils, and that the amount of contribution for elementary schools had risen, from \$165,519 to \$503,859 in 1860. We may here remark that the difference in the total number of pupils in favor of Upper Canada is due to the greater population and to its density in the old settlements, to the little towns and villages which are more numerous, the advantage of a milder climate and to the time during which the school laws have been in full operation. The amount expended by the Government in Upper Canada during 1860 was \$238,719, and in Lower Canada \$240,145.

There are many public libraries,—that belonging to Parliament now in Quebec, contains 50,000 volumes and is not sur-