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Her British constitution ensures perfect security to life and property. Her railways and her lakes and rivers; and the shortness of the voyage across, enable her to invite all to come and try her climate; her facilities for retrenchment, without curtailing in any degree the enjoyment of all the necessaries of life, or abandoning anything except positive luxuries. Other colonies may offer greater inducements to those in search of a speedy fortune (although this may be called in question). The adventures of bush life may be far more exciting at the Cape, its difficulties and trials incomparably less, and a profitable return for exertion may perhaps be secured elsewhere in less time; but no colony equally accessible offers the same advantages to those who have no desire to rough it in the bush, on the one hand, nor yet to join in the gaieties and expenses of town life, on the other, but simply to keep the middle course; they can do this by securing any of the innumerable farms within a mile or two of the railways, which now run throughout the entire length and breadth of Canada.

The progress of this Dominion, has indeed been wonderful. In many places, where but a comparatively short time ago small towns existed, we have now large and prosperous cities. And here a few words about the city of Montreal may not be out of place.

Montreal, the largest city in Canada, and the chief seat of commerce and principal port of entry, is situated on an island of about 30 miles in length, and 7 in breadth, at the confluence of the rivers Ottawa & St. Lawrence. It stands at the head of ocean navigation, 160 miles above Quebec, and nearly 1000 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, and lies at the foot of the great chain of river, lake, and canal navigation which extends westward through the great lakes. Montreal is built upon a series of terraces, the former levels of the river, or of a more ancient sea. Behind these rises Mount Royal, from which the city derives its name. From its commanding site, and the wide expanse of the valley of the St. Lawrence, the views on all sides are of great variety and beauty. Two islands, the Nun's and St. Helen's Isles—the latter beautifully wooded, and laid out as a public park—occupy the bed of the river immediately below the Lachine Rapids, and between them the river is spanned by the great Victoria Bridge. This wonderful triumph of engineering skill is a tubular iron bridge supported on twenty-four piers of solid masonry, with the terminal abutments of the same, and measuring 9184 feet in length. The river descends at the rate of seven miles an hour at the point where it is crossed; and the piers are constructed with a view to resist the enormous pressure of the ice in spring. The wharves and docks are crowded with shipping during the season of navigation, for the St. Lawrence is navigable to Montreal by the largest ocean steamers. The fall of water in the canal furnishes water power for saw mills, boiler and engine works, sash, blind, door, edge tools, and other factories established on its banks. Sugar refining has also been carried on here with great profit. Woolen and cotton mills, silk factories, a large rubber factory, rope and cordage works, boot and shoe factories, large clothing, carpet, hardware and furniture warehouses are also organized on an extensive scale.

The commerce of Montreal is well represented by the architectural character of its banking establishments, and many of the large mercantile houses. But the most substantial evidence of its importance as a commercial centre is its harbour. The solidly built basins, wharves, quays and canal locks extend for upwards of a mile and a half along the river side, and here during the season of navigation may be found vessels of every possible description from all quarters of the globe.

Two of Montreal's most influential citizens, Sir Donald Smith and Sir George Stephen, will have their names long held in remembrance for their magnificent jubilee tribute of half a million dollars, to be expended in a Victoria Memorial Hospital to be erected in Mount Royal park, Montreal. So munificent a gift speaks for itself with an eloquence which needs no other encomium.

Our Royal Family have not failed to show interest in our colonies and foreign possessions. Africa, India, Australia, have been visited by our princes; while the Princess Louise resided