

# THE PROVINCIAL.

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## WHAT WILL WE DO FOR OUR COUNTRY ?

WE live in an age of improvement and progression ! Such the assertion reiterated again and again, through the Press, at the Bar, in the Senate. We have heard it so frequently that we are beginning to regard it as a trite axiom, a truth that has been told too often. It is the groundwork of all the facts brought forward to prove that the nineteenth century is far before its predecessors, in intelligence, activity and industry. It is laid down as it were at the threshold of prophecy. An assertion preparing for any amount of discovery and benefit, however extraordinary or as yet unapproachable. And trite as is the remark, it is equally truthful. The chronicles of the present age record many a marvel first brought to light under its auspices which has proved a benefit and blessing to mankind. Men have been awakened to the importance of existence, and the necessity of improving the talents committed to their charge, and deep research with invaluable discoveries have been the result. And thus small hamlets, by the aid of gigantic enterprise owing its origin to the master minds of our own day, have expanded into powerful cities, sheltering in their midst a vast treasury of wealth, intellect and power. To say nothing of what yet may follow to benefit and improve the world, we have enough, already developed, to guide civilized nations in their path of progress, and by due application to elevate the smallest province to an important place among the cities of the earth. The discoveries of science when applied to the resources of the soil, drawing forth the buried wealth from its bosom, and again manufacturing those materials into the thousand shapes and forms which confer utility and eventually wealth upon the land which possesses them, are within the reach of every community under Britain's protection and government ; and her Colonies and Dependencies are probably endowed to a greater degree with rich natural deposits and extensive resources than any other places within our knowledge. The earth has treasured within her hold an almost inexhaustible store of mineral wealth, awaiting the appliances of labor and skill to draw forth and perfect the substance for the uses of mankind—and these