

a tone of 'acerbity.' I entertained no such feeling against Mr. Caird, but I felt that some decisive mode of expression was called for to counteract the possible effects of a work published by a person of his agricultural reputation, and written in a tone of such confidence.

"I might, however, have saved myself the trouble, for when it was known that Mr. Caird was a mere land-agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, and well paid by them to puff the prairies, his influence ceased, and the few who went from England or Canada to see this wretched district—this treeless, waterless, unhealthy place—returned in disgust.

"The publication of Mr. Caird has evoked many statements from anonymous writers, the insertion of which I avoid. Too many of them are written from a selfish, personal, and purely Upper Canadian point of view, and in their zeal to advocate their own interests and puff their own localities, they have overstated the advantages of this country, and also the disadvantages under which even American authorities admit the Illinois Central District to labour.

"I shall also avoid naming any one particular district or province of Canada, in preference to another, as suitable fields for European settlement. Each province has its peculiar advantages and wants, and having visited all parts of it, I come to the conclusion that the choice of a future home must depend upon the requirements, the tastes, the former pursuits, and the stamina, physical and intellectual, of the intending settler.

"If I were called upon to state shortly the difference between the Upper and Lower Provinces, I should say Upper Canada was a wheat-growing, lower Canada a grazing and dairy country. But you must not understand from this that Upper Canadians cannot raise stock and keep dairies, but that they don't.* Neither do I mean to say that Lower Canada cannot produce wheat. For many years that part of the United Provinces was visited with the midge or weevil, and wheat culture almost ceased. Now they are free from this pest, and Lower Canada this year has splendid crops of wheat, and continues to excel in root crops. Mr. Price, the Member for Chicoutimi, 200 miles below Quebec, assures me that he shall have upwards of 30 bushels an acre of fine wheat on his farm there. The accounts from the Eastern Townships are equally encouraging. In Upper Canada all the crops, except hay, exceed by 33½ per cent. the average of either of the two last years, and 20 per cent. above that of the last seven years. Wheat, wheat, wheat, year after year, seems to have been the summum bonum to which Upper Canadians aspired. There is no agricultural production which they are not able to raise quite as well, if not better, than our American friends on the other side of the noble lake, lying in light and beauty at my very feet. Cousin Jonathan must chuckle over the fact that his Upper Canadian near neighbours on the frontier allowed him in 1857, and there is no doubt in the

*Seven first-class prizes for cattle were taken by Upper Canadians at the great United States Fair held last week at Chicago.