

CANADA'S AGGRESSIVE COMMERCIALISM.

An English educationist who passed through Montreal recently on his return home after having visited the other principal cities of Canada, criticized with refreshing candour our educational ideals as he saw them expressed in our universities. The salient feature of our university educational systems he found to be the provision of instruction in the science of the acquisition of money. According to him, the Canadian idea of the function of a university is, that it should be principally occupied in teaching the young men who are enrolled in its register how to make money. And he deplors this fact because, he says, it will inevitably have a too materialistic effect upon their minds.

In this frank criticism there is an element of truth, but it is extremely unjust, in that it not only suggests, but takes for granted, what is by no means true. The critic laboured under the delusion that, because electrical, mining, railway, and other sorts of engineering, architecture, mechanics, etc., occupy the chief positions in the course of instruction imparted in our universities, the higher education, the classics, the "humanities," are neglected, to the moral detriment of the students. Certainly, few Canadian parents desire that their sons should spend several years in the university for the sole purpose of becoming cultured scholars. They want their sons to be practically and thoroughly equipped to engage profitably in mercantile or professional pursuits. Engrossed in the arduous task of building up a new and great nation, Canadians have little time to cultivate higher literature and the arts, proficiency in which certainly brings pure and elevating joys and the general effect of which is to lend an artistic grace and dignity to social life. But Canadians are far from regarding the university as the only place where their sons are trained for the battle of life. They give its just importance to the refining and humanizing influence of the home circle; and, what is of still greater moment, they appreciate at its proper value the religious education obtained by regular attendance at church. A glance at the list of benefactors of our hospitals and and other philanthropic and benevolent institutions will show that in this, the highest of all branches of education, our commercial and financial citizens have attained to a high degree of efficiency.

Canada, with the persistent and aggressive commercialism which is at once the mainstay of its present prosperity and the pledge of its future greatness, may lag behind the mother-country in the standard and quality of its literary and artistic culture; but it occupies a position second to none in the practice of the counsels and virtues which make for the righteousness that exalteth a nation.

PUBLIC DEBT OF CANADA AND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS.

The official statement of the Debt of Canada on 30th June last and in 1901 is as follows:

PUBLIC DEBT JUNE 30.	1901.	1902.
LIABILITIES.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Payable in England.....	227,958,836 88	227,958,836 88
do do Temporary.....		6,083,333 33
Loans.....	8,676,863 18	9,125,583 62
do in Canada.....		
Bank Circulation Redemption Fund.....	2,504,600 74	2,665,907 38
Dominion Notes.....	27,582,331 52	32,723,822 05
Savings Banks.....	54,191,395 04	56,585,308 34
Trust Funds.....	8,614,637 20	8,716,643 05
Province Accounts.....	16,672,686 83	16,672,348 81
Miscellaneous and Banking Accounts.....	4,490,247 09	3,613,004 79
Total Gross Debt 30th June	350,691,598 48	364,144,788 25
ASSETS.		
Investments—Sinking Funds....	47,549,318 81	50,098,502 14
Other Investments.....	7,062,868 35	7,581,077 15
Province Accounts.....	10,718,483 76	10,718,474 04
Miscellaneous and Banking Accounts.....	24,197,426 77	31,576,836 90
Total Assets 30th June	89,528,097 69	99,974,890 23
Total Net Debt 30th June	261,163,500 79	264,169,898 02
do 31st May.....	261,655,558 81	264,027,059 45
Decrease of Debt.....	492,058 02	
Increase of Debt.....		142,838 57

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF CONSOLIDATED FUND.	Total to 30th June, 1901.	Total to 30th June, 1902.
REVENUE.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Customs.....	28,137,999 08	31,945,651 76
Excise.....	10,294,645 10	11,116,790 71
Post Office.....	3,357,096 53	3,737,025 01
Public Works, including Railways	5,702,459 83	6,380,723 25
Miscellaneous.....	3,243,747 37	3,123,503 57
Total	50,735,947 91	56,303,694 30
EXPENDITURE	38,574,508 60	42,255,316 11
EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT, ETC.		
Public Works, Railways and Canals.....	5,917,635 30	8,084,739 23
Dominion Lands.....	237,871 03	312,308 96
Militia, Capital.....	41,186 58	183,424 75
Railway Subsidies.....	2,486,358 86	2,093,939 00
Bounty on Iron and Steel.....		600,180 55
South Africa Contingent.....	874,571 16	258,777 75
Northwest Territories Rebellion.	—1,453 28	—1,214 85
Total	9,556,169 65	11,532,155 39

BRITISH SAILING SHIPS in 1881 had 93,246 masters and seamen aboard; in 1891, 63,357, and in 1901, 38,400; so rapidly were they displaced by steamers. The fatalities recorded show that both sailing vessels and steamers are now navigated very much more safely than in past years.