

nising only as law that which was announced from their altars; devoid of education, except such as their priestly teachers thought fit to give them; taught only the *patois* which passes current there for French, so that they should be unable to read English papers; and only just sufficiently well off in that fertile land to enable them to lead a lazy, idle life. In fine, both Company and priesthood were determined to oppose an immigration which would be destructive to the trading monopoly of the one, and to the unquestioned authority of the other. Both combined in describing the country as unfit for settlement; and quite recently a Roman Catholic bishop, who has long resided in the north-west, published an interesting work upon that country, but full of startling statements as to the fearful severity of its climate, and of its general unsuitability for farming purposes. He endeavoured as far as possible to depreciate its value politically, so as to have deterred the Government of Canada from taking steps towards opening out communication with it.

Canada, a thickly-wooded country, only affords a home to settlers after years of toil spent in clearing the land. The western province, now known as Ontario, has long been the go-ahead portion of British North America, whilst that to the east, now called Quebec, was always lethargic, progress being neither known nor desired there.

The inhabitants of these two provinces lying side