

and keeps in view nearly all the way to Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion. Here are situated the fine parliament and other government buildings, and, during the months the House is in session, it is a particularly lively city. After leaving Ottawa traces of civilization gradually grow more scarce, and before many hundreds of miles are traversed the country becomes rugged and broken, and unfit for agricultural purposes. It is one continual tangle or brake of pine woods, intersected by innumerable small lakes, which twine in and out of the woods in a most picturesque manner. The pine trees are small, and grow so densely, that it is a common thing to see miles of dead trees, killed by their own growth. North Bay and the shore of Lake Nippising are passed, and the stations of Sturgeon Falls and Sudbury, the latter a rapidly growing place, where copper mines were discovered a few months since. The veins of copper come up to the surface and cross the railway track. All this part, although unfit at present for farming operations, abounds with mineral wealth, and no doubt, when properly opened out, will be a prosperous mining district. Before many years have passed the early settler's hut, and the shanty of the lumber man and beaver trapper, will have given way to the well-to-do farm house of the cultivated lands of Ontario. The few settlers there at present collect in groups about the stations to watch the cars pass—the sturdy lumber man and voyageurs with bronzed faces. To them no doubt this is the event of the day and serves to keep them in touch with the outer world. Several of these men were wearing the ribbon for the Louis Riel campaign in the north-west last year but one. After passing the Vermilion River the train going east is encountered at Straight Lake, and newspapers, &c., from the east are eagerly sought after. As the track is single all the way through, there are sidings arranged for trains to pass each other, and it is a common thing to wait a few hours on a siding for the opposite train to come up, as the train which arrives first has to wait for the other. An Englishman, accustomed to the well laid and splendid order of our railway lines, is astonished to observe the rough and ready way they construct railways