

THE MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

A few years ago our cousins to the south celebrated the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by the Spaniards. Since that time the continent has been rediscovered by various nations, one of these discoveries, that of Canada, having occurred in 1884 when the British Association met in Montreal. The intrepid explorers found that instead of a howling wilderness of Arctic climate, peopled by pioneers living in log cabins and constantly armed against marauding Indians, the fair Dominion could boast of many of the advantages of a high state of civilization, including educational institutions that compared favorably with those of the mother country. The travellers on returning disseminated the knowledge thus obtained, and did much to convert Canada into one of the (Britishally) known parts of the globe. However, judging from many remarks made by various members of two expeditions which came here during the last summer to rediscover us again (the expression is used advisedly), a thorough knowledge of our country had not, up to the time of the sailing of these expeditions, percolated through all the strata of the population of the British Isles. We must not, however, be too ready to lay all the blame upon the old-country folk; we are far too prone in descanting upon the beauties of the Dominion to lay stress upon our winter scenery, our snow-shoeing, our boundless prairies, stupendous mountains, mighty lakes and rivers, etc., etc., and are we not fond of sending across the seas samples of Indian work, purporting to have come from the wigwam of the feathered and untutored savage, but probably manufactured in a very modern style of dwelling by the light of the sun coming through glass windows or the soft effulgence of an up-to-date kerosene lamp!