

the Soudan proper, which embraces Nubia, Kordofan, Sennaar, and other provinces on both sides of the Nile. It is estimated by Sir Samuel Baker to contain about a million of inhabitants, mostly Arab tribes, brave, warlike and fierce, who live by raising flocks and selling slaves. These Arabs are the people who are now making all the trouble in the Soudan. The Soudan proper was conquered by Egypt under Mahomet Ali in 1821, and has since been ruled by unscrupulous men, who robbed the inhabitants and protected the slave-trade. The people did not contest the nominal rule of Egypt as long as it did not interfere with this trade, but in 1874 Sir Samuel Baker and General Gordon were sent by the then Khedive (Ismail Pasha) to break it up, and, after great efforts, succeeded in making it dangerous and unprofitable for a time. On their withdrawal the Arabs resumed the traffic in slaves as before; they now fear that if the English control the Soudan they must return to their old occupation of tending flocks and robbing caravans.

The horrors of the slave trade in the Soudan are beyond description: there is such an immense country to draw from. Khartoum is the great slave market; the French missionaries there estimate that a million of people are captured, and sold from that city every year. As many as 50 per cent die on the long desert marches. It is said that the Mahdi has accumulated great wealth by slave barter.

CANADA.

A HIGH authority on Canadian affairs, in referring recently in England to our timber resources, states: 'That the forests of Canada, for England, and for the world, present as inviting a field as is to be found anywhere. From the Province of Nova Scotia on the Atlantic, to

the Province of British Columbia on the Pacific—some 4,000 miles apart—there are in every section of that wide domain, vast forests containing valuable and important woods of various kinds. When the Chief Engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway was in British Columbia he found an order there from China for six sticks 120 feet long and measuring six feet square at the small end. We have in addition to other kinds an unlimited supply of the famous Oregon timber. The exports of the forests of Canada in 1883 were £5,000,000 sterling.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The climate of Nova Scotia, owing to the tempering influence of the sea breezes, is milder than any other portion of Eastern Canada, the mean temperature being about 45°, and is also correspondingly healthy.

KINGSTON.

A quarry of valuable granite has recently been opened in the neighbourhood of Kingston. The quality of the granite improves in colour and texture below the surface, and compares favourably with the best Peterhead and Bay of Fundy granite.

THE BALDOON SETTLEMENT.

Among the very early settlers in Ontario was a colony from the Islands and western coast of Scotland brought out by Lord Selkirk ten years before his famous attempt at colonization in the Red River Country. A correspondent of the *Globe*, at Collingwood recently, gives some interesting particulars about this colony:

They left Scotland in 1804, and after crossing the Atlantic made their journey by way of the St. Lawrence, and Lakes Ontario and Erie to the Detroit River. Crossing Lake St. Clair and up the St. Clair River they entered a small stream known as the