

the public records of Canada as illustrative of the substantial progress and real happiness of the community.

That our readers may fully appreciate the value of the heritage which Canada now possesses, we ask them to follow us for a few minutes as we take them through the countries over which her great lines of railway pass. Starting from the East, we see the maritime provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island—Newfoundland still remaining isolated from the rest of British America—with an aggregate population of nearly a million souls, with coasts surrounded by the most valuable fisheries of the world, long the object of the envy of their American neighbours. These provinces possess rich mines of coal and other minerals, while their shipping industry is larger than that of all the New England States. They are indented by noble harbours, and by rivers which enable their people to have communication with the sea-coast in every direction. Proceeding northward through New Brunswick, with its picturesque hills and valleys, and its rivers teeming with salmon, we come to the country watered by the St. Lawrence. First, we pass through the historic province of Quebec, the home of a million and a quarter of people, who are descended from those courageous Frenchmen who followed Champlain into the wilderness more than two centuries and a half ago. A range of mountains, coeval with the earliest ages of the world, stretches from east to west, and dips its slopes in the waters of the great river. A large farming population, chiefly French Canadian, cultivate these Laurentian slopes, and the fertile lands which extend to the southward of the river as far as the American frontier. Valuable mines of phosphate are found in the hills, which add much to the picturesque beauty of a province famous for its rugged scenery, its rapid rivers, its wide lakes, and its impetuous cataracts. Large forests of pine still rise in gloomy grandeur on the heights overlooking the upper waters of the St. Maurice and Ottawa Rivers, and give employment to the many thousands engaged in one of the most profitable industries of Canada. Leaving Quebec, we travel on to the premier province of Ontario, which claims a territory extending from the river Ottawa, the western boundary of Quebec, to beyond the head of Lake Superior, the largest of the inland waters of the Dominion. The greater part of this province illustrates the energy and enterprise of two millions and a half of people by its prosperous cities and towns, its teeming granaries, its well-cultivated farms, its busy factories. This country produces a large surplus crop of wheat, and other agricultural products, besides fruits of every kind that can grow in a temperate