

simple and commonplace kind. Lime, in its primitive state, is a stone. From it the carbon is driven off by artificial heat, until nothing but the oxide remains. This, when mixed with moist silicious matter, slowly hardens by the absorption of carbonic-acid gas from the atmosphere, changing the oxide into a carbonate of lime. Marble, it is well known, is pure carbonite of lime; hence mixing the granulated particles with lime is only re-uniting the burnt and unburnt marble together: the plating being a real marble, formed on scientific principles.

"To these chemical affinities is superadded a heavy pressure, which brings all the particles together into close contact, thus promoting the cohesive attraction: it being a fundamental principle in philosophy, that attraction increases inversely as the square of the distance diminishes."

Already, we are told, buildings of this material have been erected in the United States, and its value is likely to be thoroughly tested in Canada during the coming Summer. Should these experiments go to prove the genuineness of this invention, a valuable addition will be made to our stock of building materials.

#### AMERICAN ENTERPRISE IN CANADA.

We find in a late number of the *Quebec Mercury* the following notice of an enterprising American firm who have lately established themselves in the eastern section of this province. We wish them every success in their enterprise:—

"It is gratifying to perceive that our Canadian resources are so manifestly and frequently attracting the attention of our energetic neighbours on the other side of the line. Nearly all that was valuable in the way of lumber on their own domain in the New England States, have fallen under the axe, and they now turn with confidence for supplies to our virgin forests. Hitherto their operations have been confined to the Ottawa and some portions of the Upper Province as affording facilities of transit by canal and lake navigation. It will, however, be perceived by our advertising columns of to-day, that our Yankee cousins have selected, in the eastern province, another field for the exercise of their characteristic enterprise.

"A company of capitalists in Hartford, Connecticut, have purchased from the Crown the extensive Seigniories of Metis and Matapediac in the county of Rimouski, both possessing ample water facilities for driving lumber, one to the St. Lawrence at Metis, and the other by the Rivers Matapediac and Restigouche into the Bay of Chaleur.

"Mr. Joseph Bouchette, Surveyer General of Canada, in speaking of this tract says, 'This spacious lake is in the highlands that separate the waters running into the St. Lawrence from those that run to the Bay of Chaleur. A grant of this lake and one league of land around it was made May 26, 1694, to Sieur N. J. Damour.'

"The Seigniorv was ceded to the Crown in 1839, and conveyed by deeds to the holders in 1855. He further says:

"The lake is from fifteen to sixteen miles long, and not above one league in its greatest breadth; it is about twenty-one miles from the St. Lawrence, and lies S. S. E. of the Seigniorv of Metis. The surrounding lands form a