

descriptive, historical, and statistic. I consider the word "Life" to apply to all that relates to the Social and Political condition of the Provincials. Their social peculiarities will be best judged of after persuing the chapters that contain Travel and Adventure. While in refering to their Political state, I do not mean by that expression what has so happily been designated by the late lamented Earl of Durham as "the petty objects of Colonial faction," but their political views, as they affect the governmental policy of the British Empire, and have a tendency to the permanent retention or the dismemberment of those Provinces from Great Britain,

I have introduced a lengthy chapter on travel in the United States, and the "impressions" made on my mind, as to the progress of the people of the American Union in wealth and all that constitutes a high state of civilization. It will be seen that this chapter is important, as affording a means of comparing the state of the British Provinces adjoining.

The military incidents narrated occurred during my service in Canada and the Maritime Provinces in 1846: and incidents of travel over the same country in 1852 are added, thereby exhibiting both the present state of the Provinces, and the progress made by them in the interval. So much for the title of this Volume.

It is but natural, when a new Work

is announced on a Colonial or other topic of general interest, to inquire what sources the information is derived which an author professes to convey to the public. The opinions I have expressed in the following pages, and the conclusions I have arrived at, are the result of personal observation, made after a rather lengthened sojourn at different periods on the American continent. During two separate epochs of early life I have resided in the British American Provinces. For four years, on that continent, I was the school-fellow and college chum of many men who have since achieved a position and standing in their country. My first breath was drawn on the shores of the mighty St. Lawrence. I may perhaps, therefore, claim the right of feeling and expressing a deep interest in Canadian affairs.

During my service in the military profession, I was quartered as an officer in the army, in Nova Scotia, Cape Breton and Lower Canada. I then had many opportunities of hearing the political sentiments of all classes in the different Provinces. The extended circle of society presented, and the well-known hospitality of the Colonists to military men, likewise rendered me familiar with their social state. Afterwards, and at a comparatively recent period, I again resided in the British North American Provinces, and during that time I travelled over a large extent of country in Nova Scotia, New Bruns-