

INTRODUCTION.

CANADIANS can well understand the expression of mingled wonder and regret which rose to the lips of Count Jaubert, when surveying the magnificent display of Agricultural Products from Canada, at the Paris Universal Exhibition:—"Now we can form an estimate of the value of those few acres of snow, ceded to England with such culpable carelessness by the government of Louis XV.;"*—for they know, from hard experience, that a name conveys no idea of the real wealth of a country, until that name becomes openly associated with the industry of its inhabitants and the triumphs they have won.

During centuries Canada has been spoken of as a distant and unprofitable waste, and not until the wonderful pageants of London and Paris, in 1851 and 1855, did she take her place among the producing nations of the earth, and acquire the richly deserved descriptive title of "a land of hope not likely to be disappointed. Active, intelligent, enterprising beyond all other distinct nations, which equally abound in the elements of industrial production, she claims and demands our attention."†

In Europe it is usual to speak of "America and Americans" when any part of the Northern half of that great continent is referred to, while the existence of "Canada" as a distinct country is ignored or unknown. The shadow of the great nation of "The United States of America" obscures it. Europeans too often think only of the latter when they give a thought at all to the North American Continent. Let it be our place to undeceive them, and to show that Canada is a country totally distinct from the United States—free from the blight of slavery, and free, too, from many of the faults which have crept into the social and political relations of our Republican neighbours. A glance at a map will show the relative position of Canada and the United States.

* La Botanique à l'Exposition Universelle de 1855.

† M. Tresca.—A visit to the (Paris) Exhibition.