

government must also be a question of all-engrossing interest to men about to embark on a venture, where they risk all in a new world. Some may associate lawlessness and peril with new homes in the vast districts which Canada is now opening up to the world, and may be in doubt whether a mere dependency is equal to the task of assuring their comfort and security in the Western wilderness. Others, again, will enquire, with much curiosity, into the social characteristics of the country. Among the emigrants who come yearly into America there is always a proportion of persons with pecuniary means and social tendencies, who desire to live in the vicinity of the towns and older settlements, and who must be more or less prepossessed in favour of a country which offers them educational facilities not surpassed in any country as well as many luxuries and comforts not attainable except by the rich in older lands. No doubt the man who has no other alternative before him than to go at once into the forest with his axe, and build a log hut—and such a person represents the mass of emigrants—thinks little for the time being of educational or social advantages. But as time slips by, and the sunlight dances over his broadening clearings, and his neighbours crowd upon his farm, he begins to be animated by the ambition natural to his improved condition, and to think at last of the education and future of his children. Then, as he looks around, he will soon learn that the public men of the country where he has made his home have perfected a system which enables the people of every section of the Dominion to educate their children. In this, as in all other respects conducive to the happiness and prosperity of a people, we shall see that Canada compares most favorably with her powerful neighbours, notwithstanding that they have succeeded, by their remarkable energy and enterprise, in leaving her far behind in the competition for the wealth and population of the old world.

Nearly all the natural advantages possessed by the United States exist in a greater or less measure in the Dominion. We may leave out of consideration the Southern States, where the population that yearly flocks into America hardly ventures; for the tropical heats of those regions repel the northern races, who make up the great majority of emigrants. It is to the north and west that the hopes of Europeans are directed, and it is certain that the Dominion has a soil and climate no way inferior for the sustenance of life and the growth of all those valuable products which are most in demand the world over.