

and the exchange of products be now removed, and who can doubt that in the course of one or two decades, (and what are ten or twenty years in the life of a nation?), there will be gathered in what is now Ontario the material for several great and prospering States—States whose population, originating mainly in the United States, connected with them by ties of blood, kindred and similarity of thought (which free intercourse will annually strengthen and not weaken), will be American rather than provincial; States whose people, under the representative government now enjoyed in Ontario, will largely determine the policy of the whole Dominion."

#### RELATIONS, RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES.

An admirable photograph of the natural relations, resources, and capabilities of Canada, as connected with the United States, is presented in a report to the government, in 1871, by MR. J. A. LARNED, the excellent superintendent of the Public Library at Buffalo, from which the following is an extract:

"Here, then, are about four and a quarter millions of people, not only living in the utmost nearness of neighborhood to us, but with such interjections of territory, and such an interlacing of natural communications and connections between their country and ours, that the geographical unity of the two is a more conspicuous fact than their political separation. Their numbers exceed by more than half a million the people of the six New England States, and about equal the number in the great State of New York. In the magnitude and value of the industrial and commercial interchanges that are carried on between the New England States and the other parts of this Union, we may find no unfair measure of the kindred commerce that would have existed, under natural circumstances, between those people and ourselves. Such equal conditions, indeed, would undoubtedly have given to the provinces in question a weight in the commerce of the North America continent considerably exceeding the present weight of the New England States. The average capabilities of their soil and climate are not inferior to the capabilities of the six States with which I compare them, while their general resources are greater and more varied. Ontario possesses a fertility with which no part of New England can at all compare, and that peninsular section of it around which the circle of the great lakes is swept, forces itself upon the notice of any student of the American map as one of the favored spots of the whole continent—as one of the appointed living places of industry, where population ought to breed with almost Belgian fecundity. A large section of Quebec is at least equal, in soil and climate, to its New England neighbors, while it rivals them in the possession of water power, which is furnished by every stream, and while it commands easier and cheaper access to the markets of the western interior. As for the Maritime Provinces, their possession of abundant coal gives them one of the prime advantages of industry over the contiguous States. Along with this parity, to say the least, in all that is essential to a vigorous development, the provinces forming the Dominion—even if we exclude that vast seat of future empire in the basin of Lake Winnipeg, which lies waiting for civilization to reach it—occupy a territorial area within which the population of New England or New York might be several times multiplied without increase of density."

These expressions and numerous others that could be quoted go to show that a territory of most inviting character lies awaiting settlement by Americans, and those who come through the United States, who, if they had