

to views far extended into the future, yet we feel, that to consider any thing like a permanent settlement for Canadian politics, we must look more into the future than the past ; for the very plain reason, that the circumstances which governed past important events exist no longer, and calculations made upon a supposition, that these circumstances continue the same, must be founded in error. We shall, therefore, in the first place, shew, that we are right in speculating upon the capabilities of the country, and we shall afterwards give our speculations for what they are worth.

The most important point to which we can turn the attention of our readers, is the state of the Mother Country. The time has not long past when so far from regarding the increasing numbers of the population as an evil, foreigners were encouraged to settle in England, foreign troops were employed in the service of the Government, and foreign citizens were called upon to fill up the ranks of the manufacturing population, which did not in itself increase in proportion to the increasing enterprise which British industry and accumulated capital called into existence. In this state of affairs, England acquired possessions in many parts of the world, but the emigration to those possessions consisted of those who, discontented at home, sought in America the freedom of conscience which, at the time, was denied them in their own country, the rapid acquirement of wealth which the steady progress of affairs at home did not afford, or the enormous advantages which enterprising men of the British race had, when as conquerors they overran the rich and almost boundless Eastern Empire. The emigration to Continental America was almost the only one made with a view to permanent settlement,—and this, as we before observed, more from a desire to escape from institutions disliked by the emigrants, but which were nevertheless sustained by the people of England for the time, and in a manner which made the attainment of political objects, which those who became emigrants had in view, wholly impossible at home. These men settled in the New England States, and to the steadfast and determined English character brought with them is undeniably owing the foundation of the great American republic. In the West Indies, and in the Southern States, the mercantile spirit prevailed, and because these countries produced luxuries very

valuable in the European markets, they were occupied by merchants, and principally inhabited by slaves.

We repeat, therefore, that the British immigration into the country now forming the Eastern States, was almost the only one made for the purpose of actual settlement.

Yet even in that country for a great many years manual labour was so difficult to be procured, that the convicts furnished from England were deemed an acquisition, and the most unjustifiable means were used to induce destitute and desperate men to sell themselves into a kind of slavery called apprenticeship.

The American revolution caused the Emigration of the Loyalists to the remaining Colonies. They left the United States, however, not because they wanted room, or from any special inducements held out in the Colonies, but because they retained their loyalty, and sought in the British Provinces the peaceable enjoyment of their political principles. Thus we see a certain and most remarkable affinity between the early settlement of the Eastern States, and that of Upper Canada,—namely, that neither took place because of redundant population in the country from whence the emigrants came, but, on the contrary, from other ascertainable moving causes.

For some years past, though of comparatively modern date, emigrants have in increasing ratio, as time advanced, come from Europe to the United States, and some settled in the British Provinces. In the latter, the settlers principally consisted of retired officers and soldiers, who chose to remain in the country when the war was over. The immigration into the United States from Britain was composed to a considerable extent of mechanics, who were induced to leave their own country by the prospects of high rates of wages, and the great scarcity of artizans on the American Continent. This, however, was so much opposed to English policy, that until a very few years back mechanics were not permitted by law to emigrate to America.

In short, it was not until some years after the conclusion of the last American war, and in consequence of the uncertainty caused by the sudden change from war to peace, and of the cessation of the enormous outlay of the Government, that people in some parts of the British Islands began to feel that they were too