

THE FIELD AND THE FACTORY

SIDE BY SIDE :

OR

HOW TO ESTABLISH AND DEVELOPE NATIVE INDUSTRIES.

THE most urgent want of a nation is profitable employment for the great mass of the people—work for the million. Canada has broad fields and abundant occupation for the robust, for the mere agricultural laborer ; but little for the less hardy, and for those who may prefer mechanical, manufacturing, or mercantile pursuits. Hence these classes of our population leave us, and artizans from the Old World shun our shores, as they can find no employment for their skilled labor.

In a new country, too, like Canada, essentially agricultural, one of the chief wants is markets ; and good markets mean good profits and good wages ; they stimulate production and lead to wealth. Where all are producers of an article there are no markets. If all, or most, as with us, are farmers, the products of the field find no purchasers—or but few ; profits are poor. To have good markets, we must have consumers who are not producers of what is offered for sale. We must have home markets for a hundred products of the garden and the field too bulky or perishable to bear the transit to foreign countries.

Canada has poor markets, little capital and a sparse population ; England good markets, abundance of capital and a dense population. In Canada—the New Dominion—there are but ten souls to the square mile ; in England and Wales nearly four hundred ; in Belgium four hundred and thirty ; in