

the Hudson's-Bay Charter as a measure rendered necessary by the wants and interests of Canada, no less than by the claims of the Indian race. This journal states—

“Had it not been for the monopoly of the Hudson's-Bay Company, Canada might have extended as far west as the territories of the Union do now; nay, more, since the valley of the Lakes and the St. Lawrence is the natural outlet of the trade of the West, and that trade must, through its natural channel, centre in Montreal, there would be nothing to prevent that city having now the same commercial pre-eminence which she enjoyed in the days when even the wealth and pertinacity of John Jacob Astor succumbed before the power of the north-western traders. It is time for Canada to speak out, and say that she must no longer be fettered by obsolete charters and unconstitutional grants; but again be permitted that freedom and power of extension westward which she originally enjoyed. She may be sure the time is gone by when it could be thought necessary to carry such objects up the back stairs of the Colonial Office. So far from the people of England having any jealousy of the progress of Canada, they know that her developement is their gain, and they will gladly further it; but she must be prepared herself to take the initiative.”

A writer in the *Record*, whom we believe to be highly qualified to state the facts of the case, presents a deplorable picture of the condition of Rupert's Land, in that journal of the 17th September. We extract a portion of his statement of the grievances to which the Red-River colonists are subjected under the Company's rule—

“I leave the reader to draw his conclusions; but if, after all, the Company would still assert that they do all they can to improve the land, we would not only advert to the foregoing, but would also ask the following questions:— 1st. Why is this colony still in its infancy, and will not bear a comparison with the progress of colonies elsewhere? And why is it that there are no good roads in it, or leading from it, in any direction? 2dly. Why is it that at this moment it is denied the advantages of a market and an export trade? 3dly. Why is it that the Judge of the colony does not administer the civil and criminal laws upon the principles of equity and justice? 4thly. Why is it that the settlers cannot rely upon getting their supplies from the Company's ports for ready cash, unless he should be a wild man, hunting wild animals, and bringing skins and furs in exchange? 5thly. Why is it, that if perchance, at times, supplies are obtained, they are sold at such high prices; for example, sugar, one shilling per pound; rice, one shilling per pound; and salt, one shilling per quart? 6thly. Why is it that the settlers are restricted to a certain class of articles in their orders for goods to England, and that they are charged for freight at the rate of seventy per cent.? 7thly. And why are their arrangements such this moment in this colony as to drive the settlers to the extremity of arming themselves, and marching together in a body across the Indian plains to St. Paul and back, a journey of 1200 miles, exposing themselves to great peril and loss, for the purpose of getting supplies for the colony at a reasonable price? And why thus throw the resources of the country into the American market, instead of arranging more wisely to have expended in the British market moneys to the amount of several thousand pounds? And, lastly, why did a gentleman recently endeavour, and succeed to some extent, in draining off this settlement, by inducing some of the settlers to follow him to the Oregon Territory, under the countenance of the Company, who actually guaranteed to afford supplies for himself and party on the route, and afterwards promoted this gentleman to