


PREFACE.

HEN one considers the energy with which during past years the various provinces of the Dominion of Canada, both collectively and individually, have advocated their interests among the emigrating classes and the capitalists of this country, it is perhaps not a matter for surprise that the material, but unsupported, claims of Anticosti for recognition, should have been passed by. This inaction has been principally due to the circumstances surrounding the ownership of the island, which was vested, until recently, in the hands of absentees, who also for many other reasons were unable to cope with the magnitude of the operations necessary for its proper and full development. With the transfer of the island to the present energetic and far sighted proprietors, who have thus become perhaps the largest private landholders in the Empire, an era of progress is at length about to dawn in the history of Anticosti, and the *raison d'être* for this *brochure*, the first of the kind that has appeared, is to remove the ignorant and false impressions which exist in regard to the resources of that island, and by means of an impartial record of actual ascertained facts respecting those resources, to permit of a comparison, on its merits, of the economic position of the Island of Anticosti, with the other and better known portions of the Dominion of Canada.

London, April, 1885.