

idea of the vast resources of our country, or the energy and productive industry of the Canadian people; and we ourselves are not perhaps altogether aware of the many natural advantages we possess. A brief consideration of our resources will therefore not be uninteresting.

First the mineral wealth of Canada is immense, needing only capital to develop it and render it a great resource of national wealth. The Lake Superior copper has already become famous for its extent and value, and the Acton Copper Mine, in Lower Canada is one of the richest in the world. The iron deposits in the neighborhood of Lake Superior seem to be practically inexhaustible.

In the vicinity of the Gilbert and Chaudiere Rivers, in Lower Canada, have been found large deposits of gold, which seem likely to conduce largely to the wealth and prosperity of the Provinces.

With the Oil Wells of Upper Canada we are all more familiar, but probably few among us have any adequate idea of their importance. The section of country embraced by them is over ten thousand miles.

The quantity of grain produced by Canada annually seems almost fabulous. —Of Wheat last year over 25,000,000 bushels was grown; 12,000,000 bushels of peas; 40,000,000 bushels of oats; over 1,500,000 tons of hay; 13,000,000 bushels of buckwheat; 28,000,000 bushels of potatoes, and 10,000,000 bushels of turnips. We also produced 30,000,000 pounds of beef, sheared 5,500,000 pounds of wool, and made 45,000,000 pounds of butter. The number of milch cows, horses, sheep and pigs is considerably over two millions.

Turning to our manufactories we find them by no means insignificant. Lower Canada alone contains over 2,000 saw mills, and in one year cut nearly 800,000,000 feet of lumber.

Our coast line from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Lake Superior is over 2,000 miles, and besides our magnificent system of water communication, we have over 2,000 miles of railroad traversing the country in all directions.

The population of Canada liable to military duty is about half a million, the embodied militia 90,000 men, the volunteers alone numbering some 30,000.

There are nearly 300 newspapers in the two Canadas, employing 2,000 persons; 8,000 schools educating 60,000 boys and girls.

Let us hope that the people of Canada will have sufficient energy of purpose and industry to benefit by the many advantages they possess, and by loyalty and patriotism strive to preserve to their children the blessings they themselves enjoy. —*Hamilton Spectator*.

3. THE CANADIAN CONFERENCES WITH THE QUEEN'S CABINET.

The *Halifax Express* is permitted to make the following extract from a private letter written from London recently:—

"The affairs of the British American Provinces are said to be arranged with the Canadians now here, and although I, of course, have no personal knowledge of the details, I am inclined to attach importance to what every well-informed man in London asserts to be the case. Everything that an outside observer could see, gives additional countenance to the rumours referred to. At a late Queen's Concert, of which half-a-dozen are usually given at Buckingham Palace toward the end of the season, the Canadians were presented immediately after the Foreign Ministers, and Her Majesty, in the most marked manner, stepped from her place, walked over to where they stood, and conversed with them for several moments with great animation. Every other official attention which could be paid them, from the Prince and the Duke of Cambridge downwards, has been dictated by the same considerate spirit. From all which I think this inference is clear, that the Government of this country have not the remotest intention of throwing off your neighbours, or yourselves, just at present. The points agreed upon between the Canadian Ministers and the Queen's Cabinet were yesterday reported to Parliament, of whom all the colonists speak with enthusiasm. The papers are not yet printed, but you will probably have them by next mail. A member of the House, who had a rapid glance at the manuscripts, informs me that the agreement includes these four main points: I. A complete system of Colonial Defence; II. The Intercolonial Railway; III. The Hudson's Bay Company to be turned over to Canada to settle with Canada alone; IV. Every effort to be made at Washington for the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty. There may be some other things included, but I believe I am correct in saying that these four are the main features of the new convention. Should this turn out to be the case, then the six weeks spent here by the Canadian Ministers will have proved the best "investment" Canada has ever yet made in the Metropolitan market of the world. Everything has conspired, as it were, to help them. The very uncertainty and anxiety felt about the policy of the new American President greatly enhanced the importance of their mission. Then it is only justice

to say that these men themselves were found fully up to their work. Mr. Cartier's Anglo-French political principles, always courteously but firmly maintained in all companies; Mr. Macdonald's mingled frankness and *finesse*; Mr. Galt's *suaviter in modo*, combined with Mr. Brown's *fortiter in re*; these several qualities of the different men, each had its uses in bringing about the general result. Mr. McGee's speech at Wexford, and his subsequent remarks at a most respectable and influential meeting in "the city," have also had a very happy effect in disposing the public mind most favourably to the Provinces. For the encouragement of Ministers about to enter on a new Colonial policy, on the eve of a general election, some such indications of public opinion were absolutely necessary; and it is admitted that nothing could have been more judiciously done. I send you, from the *Morning Advertiser*, the best condensed report I have seen of the city speech of Mr. McGee, but no report will give you any adequate idea of the impression made on the minds of the audience, of whom I had the honour to be one. I may say that this numerous delegation proved not one man too many, nor did they arrive one day too soon. Anti-colonial prejudices and opinions had made great headway the last few months in all circles and among all classes. Statements like Mr. Lowe's, and writings like Dr. Goldwin Smith's, were uncontradicted, silently doing their work of undermining every colonial interest, financial and political. The Canadian Ministers, however, by mingling freely with all parties and classes, Derbyites and Palmerstonians, Lords and Commons, editors and capitalists, by enlisting even the ladies on their side, by interesting Oxford dons and London club-men—have given a tone and direction, in all matters colonial, to the public mind, which, as a friend of the colonies, I sincerely hope may be carefully husbanded and "utilised." We are glad to hear that some of the statesmen of the Maritime Provinces are to be here shortly. They could not come at a better or more favourable time. But for one thing they must be prepared, viz.: that the continued maintenance of the connection on our part depends on your union among yourselves."

4. CANADA AT THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION.

A gentleman who recently returned to this city from the Dublin Exhibition speaks very highly of the Canadian collection and states that it is one of the finest and most imposing in the building. A large number of French gentlemen were prominent in their attendance on the collection, and appeared to view the productions of Louis XIV. with deep and regretful interest. The magnificent collection of minerals contributed by the Canada Geological Survey was especially admired and had no rival, the contributions in this department from other countries being few and far between. It attracted the special attention of many gentlemen from the British mining districts, and in several instances led to inquiries, which will probably be followed up by the introduction of British capital for their proper development. The grains made a good show and were pronounced by competent judges to be equal to anything on the ground. The clover seed was said to be the best ever seen in Ireland. Many of the carpenters' tools could not be procured in Dublin, and several were inquired for at any price. It was the general opinion that a good business in these articles could be done in Ireland, particularly in spoke shaves and other small tools. The agricultural implements were very superior, better than any shown. Furs were very good and attracted considerable attention. Many inquiries were made for the skates and snow-shoes, every article of this description having been bought at the opening. The photographic department was deservedly one of the features of the collection, and far surpassed the specimens furnished by the British and French photographers. This was particularly the case of Mr. Henderson's views of the Eastern Townships, and Mr. Notman's splendid book of copies from engravings and paintings. The atmosphere of Canada is peculiarly favorable to the photographer; but apart from this, these gentlemen have brought great natural abilities to bear upon the development of the art; and, favoured by a correct artistic taste, have succeeded in utterly distancing their European rivals. Mr. Duncanson's two paintings, "The Lotos Eaters," and "The Falls of the Chaudiere," were also greatly admired. The latter composition was sold to an Irish nobleman soon after the opening of the exhibition, for \$400. Much surprise was manifested at the beauty and solidity of the specimens of book binding contributed by Mr. George E. Desbarats of Quebec. A good many contributions had been sent into this department, but Mr. Desbarats' handiwork far exceeded them all. A host of works, well designed not only to show the elaborateness of the book binders' art, but also to illustrate the growing literature of the province. Mr. Lovell's collection of school books came in for its due share of praise in this connection, and for cheapness and high tone and character was pronounced by many dominies and learned professors