

Monro confines his attention to what are called the "lower provinces," consisting of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. To show the extent of the inquiry instituted by Mr. Monro into the condition and attributes of these provinces it might suffice to quote from his title-page that the work professes to detail "their history, civil divisions, geography, and productions; with statistics of the several counties; affording views of the resources and capabilities of the provinces, and intended to convey useful information, as well to their inhabitants, as to emigrants, strangers, and travellers, and for the use of schools." This, it will be admitted, is a pretty wide field, and a rather comprehensive programme; but, when we state that the work extends to nearly 400 octavo pages, it will be allowed that the author has amply fulfilled its conditions. Mr. Monro is the author of a previous treatise on theoretical and practical land surveying, and his antecedents, therefore, qualify him for the kind of research required for a work of this description. The volume, indeed, contains the most minute particulars, under the heads above enumerated, respecting these countries which the most curious inquirer could desire to know; whether it were his object to trade with the country, or to settle in it, or simply to gratify a general thirst for information. In each of these respects our author literally exhausts the subject, and leaves nothing whatever for the future statist except to dig in the mine he has here laid open, or to record those changes which the lapse of time may produce. These, indeed, it is impossible to predict. The progress of these countries has already been so extraordinary, their boundaries are so vast, and their resources so exhaustless, that to trace their future career would baffle the foresight of any prophet who was not endowed with the gift of inspiration. In the meantime the object of Mr. Monro's work is to aid this development and stimulate

this progress by disclosing to the world the capabilities and advantages of these infant colonies; and thus to draw within their borders and interest in their prosperity the hearts and hands of those who are capable of cultivating the soil, extending the fisheries, increasing the trade, and consolidating the liberties of these outlying bulwarks of the British crown.

The exports from these and other infant colonies, of course, consist of the rude productions of the soil, or the no less valuable treasures of the deep. The character of these cannot greatly be varied, within any definite period of time, because they are furnished by the hand of nature rather than by the art of man. True, even these may be greatly modified, in the course of time, by human ingenuity and the requirements of commerce. But the *quantity* of the natural productions of a country may be indefinitely enlarged by the increase of its population, and the ever growing demands of its trade. A certain proportion must always exist between the exports and imports of any country which hopes to enjoy a fair share of material prosperity. The "balance of trade" is as important an element in commercial greatness as "the balance of power" in the political relations of states. * * * * We consider it a valuable contribution to the stock of our information respecting these important provinces of the British empire, whose ultimate importance no man can estimate, but which in the meantime are in some danger of being altogether overlooked. Mr. Monro has done for New Brunswick and its lesser neighbors what was done by Mr. Montgomery Martin many years ago for more extensive regions of our colonial empire. He has collected and arranged data valuable to the statesman, the merchant, the emigrant, and the philosopher; and the realization of his hopes in the adequate peopling and cultivation of these fair provinces will materially contribute to the prosperity and happiness of a con-