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EDUCATION AND PROSPERITY IN UPPER CANADA.

(Continued from last No.)

II. FROM AN ENGLISH POINT OF VIEW.

It is no less gratifying than complimentary to Canada, to observe the testimony borne both by the press of England and by intelligent travellers—English and American—to the prosperous activity of the Province, and to her growing greatness. Her municipal system, her educational system, her system of responsible government, and the vastness of her yet undeveloped resources are now referred to with satisfaction, no less in the eloquent and impromptu speech than in the grave and comprehensive essay. The Elgin era will long be memorable in the history of Canada for the true “uprising of the nationalities”—the English, Irish, Scotch and French colonists—to the dignity of a people conscious of their strength, and self-reliant in their attempts to promote public prosperity and to secure all the inestimable blessings conferred by the dissemination of Religion, Education and Liberty: “Religio, Scientia, Libertas—tria juncta in uno.”

In this number of the *Journal* we insert one of the “leaders” of the *London Times* upon Canada, as represented at the Industrial Exhibition at Paris, indicative not only of the favorable impression which Canada has made upon the public mind of Europe in regard to her capabilities and resources, but also of the growing interest felt in England in Canadian affairs. We also insert the following extracts from a very recent book of travels, published in London, by the Honorable Henry A. Murray, R. N., relating to his visit to the

Normal School in 1853. Captain Murray thus refers to Toronto and its public buildings:—

“Toronto is prettily situated, and looks flourishing and prosperous. . . . The position of the town is admirably adapted for a great commercial city; it possesses a secure harbor; it is situated on a lake about 190 miles long by 50 broad; thence the St. Lawrence carries its produce to the ocean, and the Rideau Canal connects it with the lumberer’s home on the Ottawa. . . . Some of the buildings are very fine. . . . The Lunatic Asylum is one of the best. . . . Trinity College is one of the finest edifices in the neighborhood; at present it only contains thirty-five students, but it is to be hoped its sphere of usefulness may be extended as its funds increase. It has the foundation of a very good library, which is rapidly extending; the University of Cambridge sent them out a magnificent addition of 3000 volumes. The last building I shall mention is the Normal School, to visit which was one of my chief objects in stopping at Toronto.

“The ceremony of laying the foundation stone of this building was inaugurated with all due solemnity, and under the auspices of the able representative of our gracious Queen, on the 2nd of July 1851. In his eloquent speech on that memorable occasion, when referring to the difficulties on the question of religious instruction, the following beautiful passage occurs:—“Sir, I understand from your statements—and I come to the same conclusion from my own investigation and observation—that it is the principle of our Common School educational system, that its foundation is laid deep in the firm rock of our common Christianity. I understand, sir, that while the varying views and opinions of a mixed religious society are scrupulously respected, while every semblance of dictation is carefully avoided, it is desired, it is earnestly recommended, it is confidently expected and hoped, that every child who attends our Common Schools shall learn there that he is a being who has an interest in eternity as well as in time (applause); that he has a Father towards whom he stands in a closer, more affecting and more endearing relationship than to any earthly father, and that Father is in heaven (applause); that he has a hope far transcending every earthly hope—a hope full of immortality—the hope, namely, that that Father’s kingdom may come; that he has a duty which, like the sun in our celestial system, stands in the centre of his moral obligations, shedding upon them a hallowing light which they in their turn reflect and absorb,—the duty of striving to prove by his life and conversation the sincerity of his prayer, that that Father’s will may be done upon earth as it is done in heaven. (Applause.) I understand, sir, that upon the broad and