

capital is nearing its end, and our golden North-West and great mineral resources are bound to be the coming centre of attraction for the British settler and capitalist. As Lord Dufferin so eloquently remarked some years ago in words which may be applied to-day with even greater force and directness :—

“It was hence that, counting her past achievements as but the preface and prelude to her future exertions and expanding destinies, she took a fresh departure, received the afflatus of a more imperial inspiration, and felt herself no longer a mere settler along the banks of a single river, but the owner of half a continent, and, in the magnitude of her possession, in the wealth of her resources, in the sinews of her material might, the peer of any power on earth.”

It is, however, asserted by those who have but little faith in the future of the Dominion, excepting as an adjunct to the United States, and who have no sympathy with the national and imperial aspirations of statesmen like the late Sir John Macdonald, that this progress has only been made and this position attained by a vast and improper expenditure of public money, with the consequent undue taxation of the people. The following table will reveal the comparative position of Canada and the Australian colonies, which, it must be remembered, have nearly two millions less population and not nearly so great natural resources as has the Dominion :—

PUBLIC INDEBTEDNESS.

<i>Country.</i>	<i>1880.</i>	<i>1890.</i>	<i>Per Capita. 1890.</i>
New South Wales...\$	74,519,595	\$253,289,245	\$214.87
New Zealand	123,085,565	181,898,305	298.01
Queensland	66,245,430	129,204,750	333.46
South Australia.....	49,330,000	102,177,500	321.00
Tasmania	8,683,848	22,335,345	147.46
Victoria.....	102,538,500	179,614,005	161.63
Western Australia...	1,692,161	6,509,736	150.23
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$431,095,099	\$858,028,886	\$ 47.51
Canada.....	175,194,000	237,533,212	

Of course in Australasia the railways are largely owned by the State, and in Canada this is not the case, excepting in one or two instances. The amount, however, of \$110,-