

# MAP I.

## THE PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES OF CANADA.

THE DOMINION OF CANADA embraces all that part of North America between the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic oceans, north of the United States, except Alaska. In this we include all British North America, although Newfoundland, an island having about the area of England and Wales, is not a part of the confederation. From east to west, from Belle-Isle to Vancouver, it is over 3,400 miles. It extends from the 55<sup>d</sup> to the 141<sup>st</sup> meridians, and from the 42<sup>nd</sup> to the 70<sup>th</sup> parallels, or from the latitude of Rome in Italy to the Arctic ocean, 2,000 miles. The superficial area of Canada, without including many islands north and north-east of Hudson Bay is between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 square miles. The climates of the eastern and north-eastern parts north of the St. Lawrence, embraced under the general name—Labrador, are unfavourable for farming purposes from causes stated in the notes on the maps, but the other parts of the Dominion have climates similar to those of Europe from the Mediterranean to the Arctic ocean. The causes referred to—the cold Arctic currents—which depress the temperature of the north-eastern parts of the continent, bring with them abundant compensation for the barrenness of the land in the prolific fisheries, extending over 10,000 to 12,000 miles of sea-coast, from the gulf of St. Lawrence along the shores of Labrador and Hudson Bay, through the Arctic and down the Pacific to Vancouver, over vast sea-coasts studded with innumerable islands. These fishing grounds are prized more highly than an equal area of agricultural land, and as nurseries for hardy seamen are invaluable.

Off the coasts of Labrador and Hudson Bay are the great seal fisheries of March and April, and the cod of summer. The salmon, cod, herring, mackerel, shad, halibut and seal fisheries on the banks of Newfoundland, over the vast gulf and around the islands of the St. Lawrence, along the shores of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and on the Pacific coast, are too well known to need description. Even at the mouth of Mackenzie river, in the Arctic sea, are very valuable fisheries. The furs, too, from the colder regions of the Dominion are another element of compensation; and the minerals may yet be a great source of wealth.

The ports of the Dominion are nearer the markets of Europe than are those of the United States: New York being 3040 nautical miles from Liverpool, Montreal 2783, Quebec 2645, and Port Nelson, on Hudson Bay, only 2941; and Port Nelson is within 300 miles of lake Winnipeg—the centre of the vast river systems, which drain the entire country between the 49<sup>th</sup> and 54<sup>th</sup> parallels from the Rocky Mountains to within less than 100 miles of lake Superior. The Pacific ports of Canada, too, are nearer Japan and China than those of the States. Japan is 4470 nautical miles from San Francisco, but Burrard Inlet, the proposed terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, 4374. The distances also from the Pacific to the Atlantic ports are less through Canada, for although the continent is broader from