PREFACE.

and wholesomeness of the atmosphere, atones, on the one hand, for its severity, whilst the abundance of snow that falls in winter, contributes, on the other, to the vigour of vegetation in summer.

The general features of the country are bold and imposing. The St. Lawrence, in its greatest amplitude, flows majestically through the heart of the province, receiving, on both its banks, the ample waters of many a fine river, opening convenient natural avenues to the collateral parts of the country. Upon a rocky and commanding eminence, 400 miles from the Gulf and about 650 from the sea, stands Quebec, the capital of those colonies and the key of the country, with a seaport calculated to harbour first-rate line-of-battle ships; 180 miles further up the St. Lawrence is the flourishing city of Montreal, which yields to Quebec in the strength of position, only. It enjoys an excellent seaport, also, and, being the emporium of the American and Upper Canada trade with the province, is rapidly increasing in commercial opulence and population. The following statement of the recent imports and exports at Quebec, much of the latter of which had passed through Montreal, will convey some idea of the activity of commercial business at the principal seaport in the province.

Imports for 1830 and 1831.

	Funcheous.		tillids. Muscovado sugar, P			Pans	us Coffee.		Bags	Coals.		Hbds.	Fons.		
Date.	kum.	Gat.	Braidy.	Refined sugar.	Bogsheads.	Barrels.	Tierces.	Molasses.	Casks.	Bags.	E. I. sugar.	Tons.	Chaldrons.	Tobacco.	Pig iron.
August 12, 1830 August 9, 1831						$\frac{1055}{3237}$				18 34	- 8 16		$\frac{3936}{3433}$		160 447
Increase .	-	219		311	642	2182	124			16	8	513		55	287
Decrease .	1554		255					134					503		

Exports for 1830 and 1831.

			Pot and	pearl ash	·».			Flour.		Beet.	Pork.	Wheat.
Date.	Liverpool.	London.	Glasgow.	treland.	Out-ports.	Total.	England.	W. Indies.	other ports.	Barrels.	Barrely	Mitots.
August 12, 1830 August 9, 1831	$12552 \\ 6288$	5506 5734	2332 3078	2020 811	3428 4157	25838 20068	24648 27305	6108 2869	49167 15554	2634 1713	8062 7445	325763 1387003
Increase .		228	746		729		2657					1561245
Decrease .	6264			1209		5770		3239	33613	921	617	

To agriculture and commerce, by which the importance of the province may be estimated, emigration may be superadded as a consideration of no insignificant moment, when we reflect that nearly 50,000 emigrants from the United Kingdom were, in the course of this year (1831), landed on the wharfs at Quebec. Pre-

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