

man has frequent opportunities of meeting with countrymen, and so, of enjoying in grateful converse his recollections of the past, and of lessening whatever may be disagreeable in his present lot by the interchange of common sympathies and mutual encouragements. Wherever he chooses a home for himself he generally finds a considerate disposition to welcome and assist him, on the part of those whose experience qualifies them to act as advisers ; and it gratifies him to see the readiness with which colonists of every origin strive to make common cause with him, in the novelty and strangeness of his situation. Another alleviation is the actual proximity of Canada to Britain. We are really not far away from home—not farther, in point of travelling time, than some parts of Scotland were, not very long ago, from one another. Such is the efficiency and frequency of our postal communication by various lines, that we can have letters from friends and acquaintances much oftener than we have the time or care to answer them ; such is the practical application of that most marvellous of modern discoveries, the electric telegraph, that we receive all public news of any interest when only a few days old ; and such the enterprize, energy, and capital devoted to the provision of an inexpensive and comfortable sailing accommodation across the ocean, that it is fast becoming as much an affair of pleasure as of business to pass from shore to shore, and there are few but feel that, whether to gratify a desire or obey a call of duty, we might easily and speedily revisit Scotia's strand. These are facilities which have a powerful effect in reconciling us to separation, whensoever we may be tempted to regard it as a hardship ; and as we reflect upon the amazing progress with which in recent years they have been furnished, we are prepared to consider them as but the beginning of manifold greater achievements with which the future is pregnant.

There are some respects in which our separation is a positive gain. With the vast multitudes who annually