

the "great London nation" to inhale, is no criterion, of course, of the air and sky of the rest of England; but still in point of climate, it is a matter long since decided that, notwithstanding even the objectionable heat of our summers, there is no part of the British Isles but must yield the palm both to Canada and the States. We were very strongly persuaded of this at the time to which we allude. The sun was shining in a cloudless sky; the bright green waves were sparkling in the rays, and dancing about right merrily before a fresh northerly breeze, which brought the glow of health even to the faded cheek of the only invalid amongst the three hundred passengers on board. All eyes were fixed intently on the rapid approach of a tiny sail on the horizon,—the welcome pilot-boat, so anxiously longed for as the pleasant harbinger of land. Her mission was soon accomplished (for the little sea-bird, though our ship was a good sailer, could have darted round and round her with ease, in a few minutes), and the pilot deposited on our deck. We had then time to examine at our leisure the swift and graceful little craft which he had left, and the first glance sufficed to enforce our tacit assent to the complacent observation of a gratified American at our side,—“They have no boats like that in the English Channel. She is not inferior to some gentlemen’s yachts I have seen in England.” The remark, if not expressed with the very best possible grace and taste, was at all events just: and, after all, the wound it inflicted on our national vanity, caused but a transient smart. “Why”—we agreed with ourselves—“should we feel annoyed at this, or any other effort of the ardent and praiseworthy competition kept up in the United States with Great Britain. The rivalry will be reciprocated, and will lead to perfection in the arts in both countries, whilst we have good hopes that it will confirm indissolubly those ties of a common origin and interest which now exists between them, and would make war, on either side, at once an immense sacrifice of commercial wealth and an unnatural feeding on one’s own flesh. What is there in this to mortify, or to have any other effect than that of spurring on our countrymen. We are able to maintain vigorously the competition, and we have a fair prospect, quite enough to keep us in good heart, of ob-

taining the superiority in the end, if only a determination not to be beaten accompany our equal intelligence and at least, equal resources. Their ships, it is true, at the present moment, those admirable clipper-ships which have all but attained the certain speed of steam,—are frequently preferred—as we have heard—by British merchants in the China trade, their wonderful sailing properties having now become proverbial. But what of this? fast vessels of the clipper build have left our dockyards in Scotland,* and faster still, if need be, can be dispatched, to match if not outstrip such vessels as you will see New York and other principal seaports of the States send forth, with the aspiring, but considering their extraordinary fleetness, not extravagant appellations of “Flying Cloud,” “Water-witch,” “Sovereign of the Seas,” &c., &c. The child, after all,—though it is true she has the advantage of the experience of both countries—has no more than the parent’s spirit, the genuine Anglo-Saxon spirit, to which Providence seems to have awarded the destiny of reaching the loftiest heights of human achievements, and in all that is noble, useful and good, taking the lead of the world.”

At our late Provincial Exhibition, competitors from the United States carried off a very fair proportion of prizes. We hope they were as well satisfied with their reception, success, and the appearance of our thriving city, as we were to see them thronging our streets, surveying our public buildings, and observing, evidently with earnest interest, the products of the Province displayed in the Exhibition. At the renowned Hyde Park Exhibition (to ascend immensely from small to great,) they made, it is well known, a show far from choice or creditable, not in consequence of inadequate means,—that seems incredible,—but owing to indifferent taste and bad management. We wish them better success next year at their intended “World’s Fair,” on their own soil. They will not reach the magnificence of the London Crystal Palace,—on that prediction we might safely stake our reputation,—and when they come to experience the difficulty of rivalling England’s celebrated achievement, they will be the more ready, we hope, to appreciate the resources, the perseverance, and the honour-

* Aberdeen.