

but who can blame them for seeking thus to turn God's hitherto neglected gifts to some useful purpose? Their own Government, even if it were disposed to do so, could not prevent this process of absorption. Neither can the Hudson's Bay Company. What resource then remains? None, but in the abolition of its monopoly, and the throwing open of the whole of its usurped territories to British and Canadian enterprise, under the protection of British laws.

#### HOW THE COMPANY HAS SOUGHT TO DETER SETTLERS.

It has ever been, and still is, the cue of the Company to represent its dominions as unfit for the habitation of civilized man, or any other purpose than that to which they have been put. This description applies to some part of the country no doubt, but the rest of it presents a magnificent field for colonization. In his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, in February last, Sir George Simpson, the territorial Governor, was pleased to describe the Red River district, and the parts adjacent to the United States territory of Minnesota, as unfit for the dwelling of man, or agricultural occupation. He also spoke of the Company's possessions generally, in terms of great contempt, asserting that nobody would live therein who was not paid for doing so. The Minnesotans entertain a somewhat different opinion; and so, once upon a time, did Sir George Simpson himself. In his "Overland Journey round the world" vol. I. p. 54, he states that there is not upon the face of the earth, a more favourable situation for the employment of agricultural industry, than the Red River Settlement; he speaks in the most glowing terms of the beauty of the country, the fertility of the soil, its rich and varied produce, its beds of coal extending hundreds of miles, its other great mineral wealth, the spread and navigability of its rivers and lakes, and its many other natural advantages. Being reminded of the glaring discrepancies between his spoken and his written opinions, Sir George Simpson had the hardihood to say, that the truth was to be found in his testimony, not in his book! Thus, by his own confession, Sir George must have palmed the grossest falsehoods,