

P R E F A C E .

The fact that Ukraine, which for centuries was terra incognita not only to the Masses of Western Europe and America but to political and intellectual circles, is now one of the most important factors in the affairs of the world. The Ukrainian nation, while under the Moscovy control, has suffered the most inexorable, the most barbarous and damnable process of assimilation which European history will ever be able to record. But all this was in vain, Ukraine has thrown off the Moscovy yoke and is now the largest Democracy in Eastern Europe.

Ukraine has 110,000 square kilometers of exploitable forest lands. Farming land in the Ukraine amounts to more than 45,000,000 hectares or 32% of all the farm land of European Russia, while the total area of the Ukraine in proportion to that of Russia is as one to six. Of the total area of Ukraine, 53% is farmed and the annual production of the Ukraine in wheat, rye and barley amounts to 150,000,000 quintals. Other farm products are just as generously abundant. The sugar beet production of the Ukraine is five-sixth that of all Russia, and of tobacco the Ukraine produces over 700,000 quintals a year. It possesses the largest and finest orchards and vineyards of Russia. As to stock raising, the Ukraine has 30,000,000 head of cattle, 1—3 of all European Russia, and she has 53% of Russia's supply of sheep, goats, pigs and poultry.

She occupies the same relative position to the rest of Russia in iron, coal, oil and other minerals. She furnishes 69% of Russian iron, 32% of manganese, — which incidentally is one-sixth of the world's production of this metal, — invaluable for tempered steel; 99% of Russian anthracite, etc.

Now that the titanic struggle in the old world is over, Canadian and American firms can see before them