

"Nor had we much inducement or opportunity there to study with the attention which they undoubtedly deserved the contributions of those new States just rising into form and consistency in fresh regions of the world and mould'd from the overflowing materials of European civilization. Of all the subjects of interests which the Paris Exhibition presents to an enquiring mind this last is certainly one of the most striking. What can be more delightful than to be able to watch the first stages of progress in infant communities—how hardily and industriously, applying every resource of modern science and skill, they hew out wealth and independence for themselves from primeval wilds—how they subjugated nature with a rapidity and completeness unknown in any past age of the world, and self-governed and self-relying tread with confidence, in the force of the nations, the path of greatness to which their destiny manifestly calls them! That is the touching and sublime spectacle which, with pride in his heart, every Englishman will scan, and making the round of this Exhibition his steps lead him to where our colonies unfold their young resources. Let us take our readers with us through the Canadian department as a specimen of the rest; and invite them to ponder well over the significance of a display possessing little external beauty, but not the less pregnant with that moral and intellectual interest which we have endeavoured thus faintly to indicate. On entering the department, the first object that attracts attention is a great timber trophy occupying the centre, and in which are collected specimens of all the more important results that our adventurous emigrants have won with their axes and strong arms from the "backwoods" or the "far West." There are sections, sound to the core, of the trunks of all the most useful timbers of commerce, including oak, yellow pine, black walnut, maple, beech, birch, cherry tree, and hickory, and close beside the wood itself, its manufactured products, turned out by machinery at a price which even to Englishmen, with their wealth of mechanical appliances, as compared with other countries, appears fabulously low. There are window frames complete, with jealousy blinds on the French pattern, for 7s., and doors with their framing, ready for use, for 16s., and mouldings, 8 inches wide and 100 feet long, at the same price, and capital oak wheel spokes for 5d each, and beautifully shaped handles for axes in the best material for 6d. and oak flooring, ready made, at 20s. per 10 square feet. Even the waste of this branch of manufacture has, in a careful spirit of industry which cannot be too highly commended, been overhauled, and among the objects to which the attention of the European markets is thus invited, gigantic shavings, which give some idea of the scale of the operations in wood, are included. In other portions of the space are exhibited a number of objects further illustrating the advanced state and capabilities of this branch of colonial industry, and among them may be specially mentioned a good strong wooden bridge of 150 feet span, costing only £600, and the parts of a strong box for packing sugar, which go into the smallest possible space when in pieces, can be put together when required at once, and are much better for stowage and in every other way than hogsheads, and cost only 2s.

Following up this subject of manufacturing in wood, we find the Canadians exhibiting, at the opposite end of the Annexe, some excellent and ingenious machines for working in this material. One of these, shown by Mr. Munro, is capable of performing seven different operations in planing, tonguing and

grooving. Another, for heavy ship carpenter's work, by Mr. Rodde, besides its special merits, points to what the colony is doing in the formation of a commercial marine; and besides these there is an ingenious nail making machine and other interesting objects so much for the results which Canadian enterprise has extracted from the forests which it has to vanquish that these vast provinces of the British empire may be subjected to the full dominion of civilized man. Now let us see what Canada has done in agriculture, next stage in the great progress of such young communities. She has not carried away the prize for the finest cereals but her display of agricultural produce upon the whole superior to any other in the cleanliness of the different kind of seeds, the evenness of their quality, the compactness with which large samples in proper bulk are exhibited, and the admirable variety in which the most useful fruits of the earth for human use are shown. Not only is the abundant and varied fertility of the soil perfectly illustrated by the actual produce in its unmanufactured state, but the collection includes wheat of the finest colour and grain—biscuit still, after the lapse of months, fresh and palatable to the taste, for 4½d per lb.—and, more important still, a mode of preserving and economizing without salt or other expensive processes the vast supplies of animal food which are at present lost for the want of some simple methods by which they can be brought into the great markets of the world. This preserved meat is exhibited in powder and not in cakes, as was the case with Jael Border's biscuit which attracted so much attention in 1851. It appears, however, in other respects to be manufactured much in the same way, and it is said to possess the same remarkable quality of swelling into bulk when combined with hot water. We must not forget to notice among other striking features of the Canadian display, some excellent specimens of oil-cake, the use of which in the colony, apart altogether from the question of commercial profit in exporting it, marks significantly the advanced state of agriculture there.

It was hardly to be expected that these provinces no yet emerged from the first labours of settlement should, nevertheless, in a rough way have taken count of their mineral resources. Yet such is the case. In this Exhibition the Canadian Commissioner, Mr. Logan, himself the surveyor of the geological structure of the colony, and a man of rare scientific attainments, has arranged a magnificent collection of all that in this field of industry the provinces may be expected to yield. Here are fine building stones, and slate and marbles, masses of phosphate of lime imbedded in calcareous rock, mica and whetstones, and sandstone so pure as to be considered well fitted for use in glass manufacture. Here, also, is a good display of copper ore, rich enough to promise fairly for the future, and great blocks of magnetic iron, containing 65 per cent. of the metal, being in itself a natural loadstone, and extracted from a bed 500 feet thick. Unfortunately, there is no coal. The American fields terminate just beyond the verge of the southern frontier, and this great source of wealth is withheld from the colonists—who shall say for what wise purpose? Perhaps, to stimulate their industry in clearing away those interminable forests interposed between western civilization and the Rocky Mountains. Certainly we may hope to enable Canada to compete with Sweden in supplying our iron trade with an abundance of the finest quality of iron smelted with wood charcoal. Like Australia Canada has her goldfields, and Mr. Logan exhibits numerous specimens of nuggets collected there, but, with ex-