

circles the earth with one continuous and unbroken strain of the martial airs of England."

But those memorable words were spoken many years ago. Indeed, nowadays, such an idea would hardly recur to the mind of either English or American statesmen standing on the same historic ground. The British garrison has been withdrawn long since from the citadel of the ancient capital, and the martial airs of England are no longer heard in "one continuous and unbroken strain" in the Dominion of Canada. Yet no one can say that this fact is a matter of regret, save to the old inhabitants, who have pleasant memories of the times when society found its greatest charm in the presence of English regiments. The withdrawal of the troops from all the cities except Halifax—and here only one regiment is kept—is in itself an acknowledgment of the progress of Canada in wealth and population, and of her ability to depend on herself entirely in times of peace, and in a great measure in times of war. We now see a city far more busy and prosperous than the Quebec of the days of Daniel Webster—a Quebec which the rough hand of improvement has not, however, been able to divest of its ancient Norman character. On the Atlantic seaboard, on the banks of the St. Lawrence and great lakes, in the interior of a region which was a wilderness a few years ago, in the midst of the prairies of the North-west, cities and towns have sprung up with the rapidity so characteristic of American colonisation; and though several of them already surpass the old French capital in size and population, not one possesses the same interest for the European or American traveller. From the lakes to the sea a large fleet is constantly employed in carrying the wealth of

the flourishing communities which have grown up in the West and by the side of the St. Lawrence. Railways are stretching across the continent itself, carrying capital and population along with them into the prairie-lands of a region larger than France, whose bold explorers were the first to venture centuries ago into the Western wilderness. In the prosperity, wealth, and contentment of several millions of people, we recognise the results of that wise colonial policy which has given self-government to Canada, and established in that dependency, as in other parts of the colonial empire of England, free parliaments, which follow closely the practice and usages of that great body which has been heretofore the prototype of all deliberative assemblies throughout the world.

It has long been the belief in the parent State that the progress of the Dominion of Canada has been very slow compared with that of the United States, and that the opportunities which it offers for the investment of capital and the acquisition of wealth are very inferior to those of the enterprising rich country to the south. The geographical expression "America," to many Englishmen and Scotchmen still conveys the idea of the United States, though Canada, in reality, occupies the greater part of the continent. I now propose to show, that though Canada is overshadowed in many respects by the great Republic, though her wealth and population are very much inferior, yet she has fairly held her own in certain branches of industrial activity, and can now offer to agriculturists a far larger area of profitable wheat-lands than any actually possessed by her neighbours.

The settlement of Canada was contemporaneous with the colonisation of New England. During the

seventeenth century, a struggle for the banks of the St. Lawrence succeeded. Montreal encountered all the difficulties of the country, the presence of the Indians arising from the presence of the Indians. The settlement of the country was a public matter for the time being, they were sovereigns, they participated in the liberal principles of the time, the total population of the province was 70,000, the war of 1812 that the Cession of the known territory, sons in the provinces. Upper Canada, a decade of migration, small, natural population, the number of the population was some two or three hundred thousand, sponsored by the North American Company for the time being, and with the territory, the population was in the east in