HOCHELAGA; OR,

316

ther, from the political and military advantages of the position, Quebec appears preferable.

Many wise and worthy people may suspect a danger in thus strengthening into a nation these detached colonies, and quote with uneasiness the case of the States of America when they met in Congress at Philadelphia. But their case was, in reality, widely different, they had been suffering for years under certain wrongs and injuries inflicted by a despotic and feeble government; the rare and difficult communication between them and England weakened the ties of interest and identity, and increased their chances of success in opposition; the profligate administration of patronage, the careless and contemptuous system of colonial management, stirred up a resistance among them which there were neither energy nor resources to overcome. But now, each day brings England and her North-American children into closer and more familiar relation. English prices raise or depress their markets; the population of England supplies vigorous reinforcements to that of these provinces; her victories spread rejoicing and honest pride among her western people ;- her difficulties fling their shadows even over the sunny banks of the St. Lawrence.