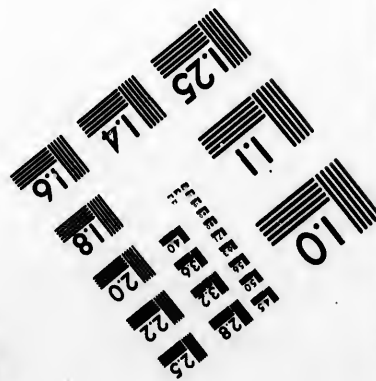
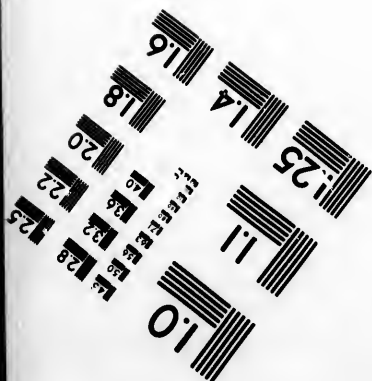
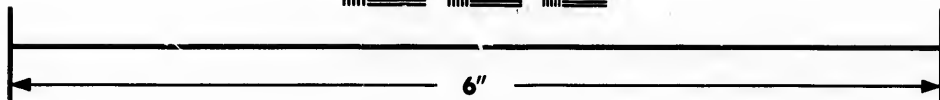
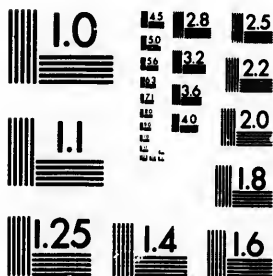


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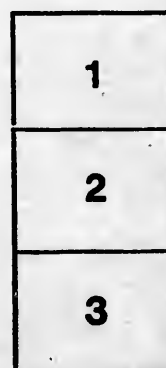
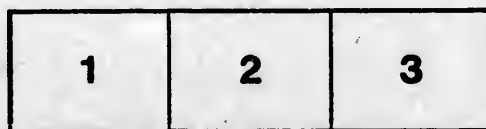
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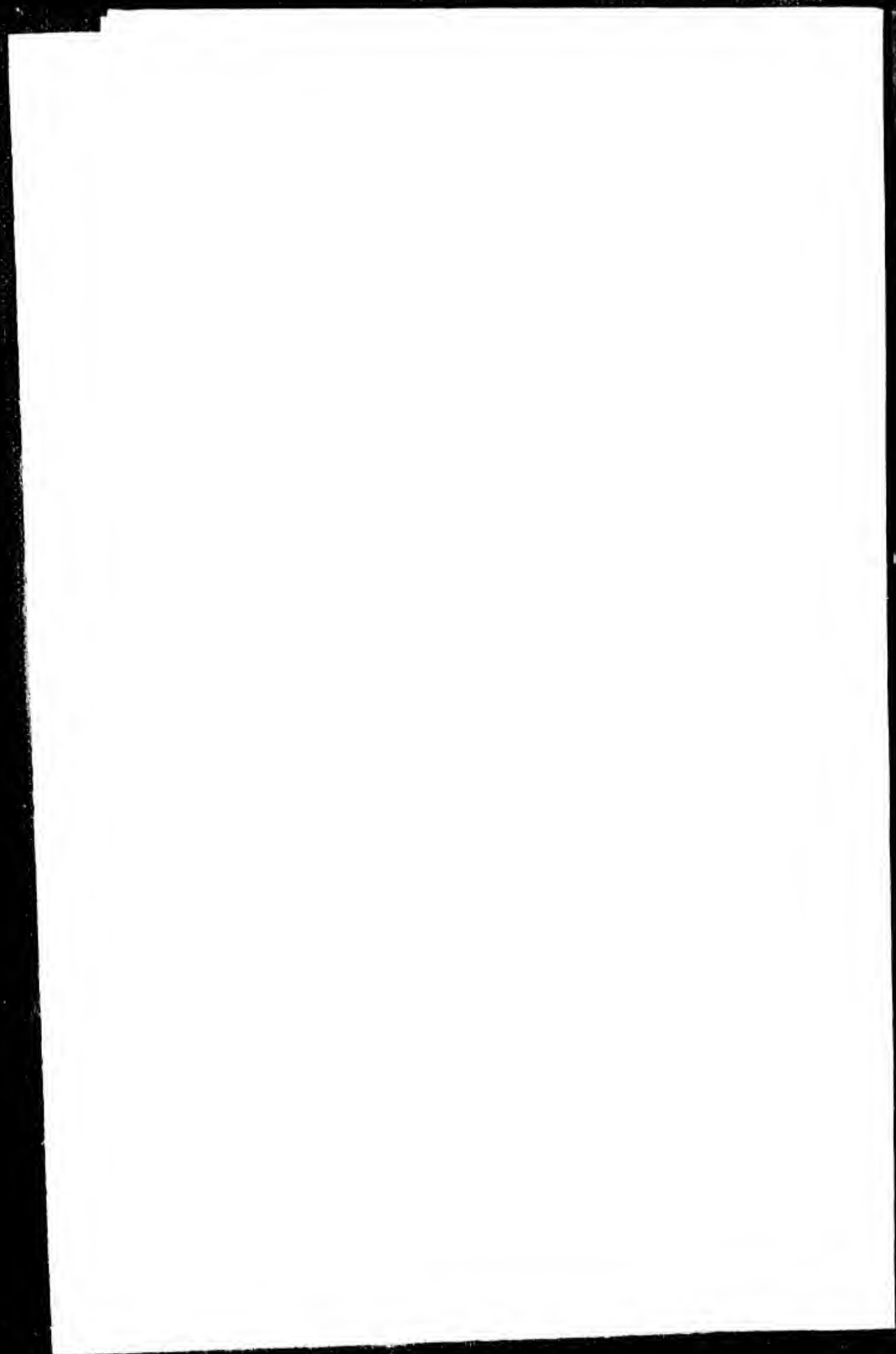
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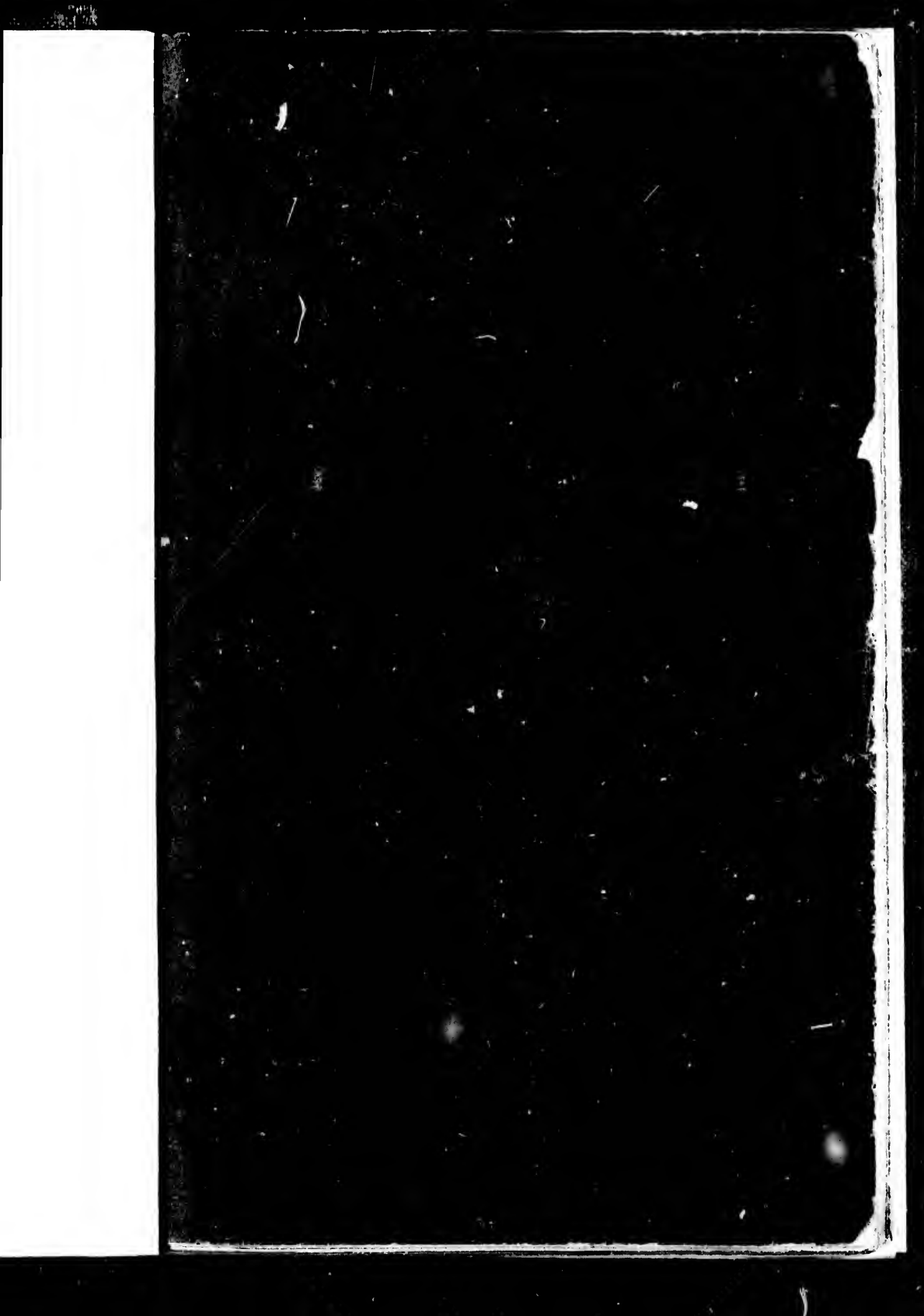
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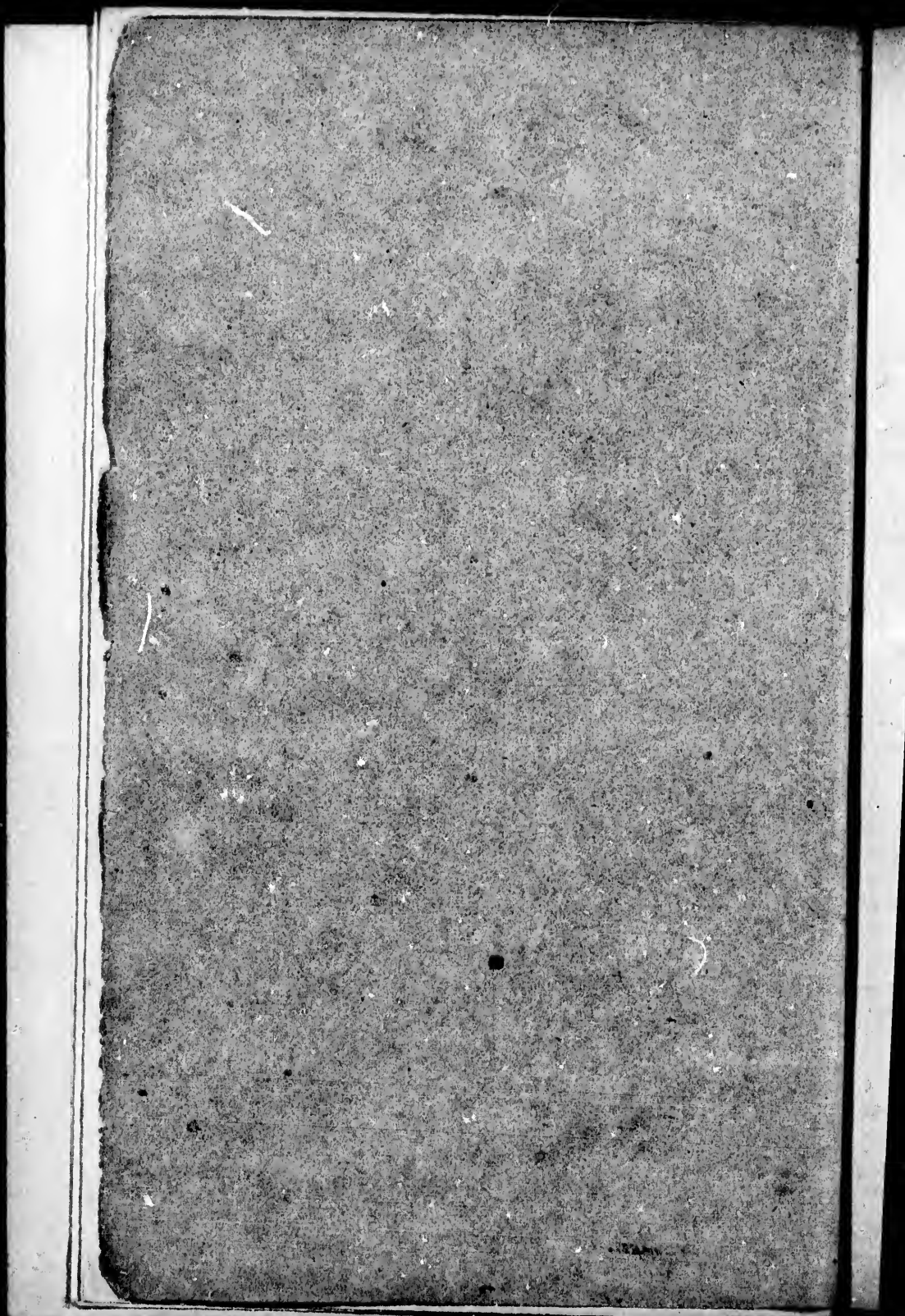
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# CANADA:

ITS GEOGRAPHY, SCENERY, PRODUCE, POPULATIONS,  
INSTITUTIONS, AND CONDITION.

BY

THE REV. JOHN G. MANLY.

LONDON: WARD & CO., PATERNOSTER-ROW:

DUBLIN: W. ROBERTSON, SACKVILLE-ST.

1860.



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*Reprinted from the "Weekly Agricultural Review."*



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# CANADA.

BY THE REV. JOHN G. MANLY.

THE author of the following paper knows and loves Canada. He has sailed, or steamed, or boated, or paddled, over its magnificent waters, from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the falls of Niagara; he has explored some of its oldest and its newest settlements, between the city of Quebec and the town of London; for fourteen years he has resided by turns in some of its principal towns and cities, and familiarised himself with its many-phased life; and it can never be forgotten by him while life endures and the golden chain of memory binds the past and the present.

Canada is about three times the size of England, Scotland, and Ireland; more than three times as large as Prussia; one-third larger than France; or about 1,600 miles long, and 250 miles broad; extending from the coast of Labrador, on the east, to the head of Lake Superior, on the west, and from the Hudson's Bay Territory on the north, to the great boundary line on the south, which consists of the great lakes, the river St. Lawrence, and the United States of America. Independently of its north-western possessions, it comprehends about 350,000 square miles of territory. The inhabited or settled portion comprises about 40,000 square miles.

Let us look for a moment at the physical features and dimensions of this great country, in order that we may more adequately appreciate it. The river St. Lawrence is about ninety miles wide at its mouth, and about 1,800 miles long. Near the mouth of the St. Lawrence is the island of Anticosti, 125 miles long and thirty wide. Three hundred miles from the outlet of the St. Lawrence is the mouth of one of its tributaries, the Saguenay, a deep and noble river, navigable for the larger vessels for seventy miles. Three hundred miles along the St.

Lawrence, from the Saguenay, is the mouth of the Ottawa or Grand River, which drains a valley of 80,000 square miles in area, and is upwards of 600 miles long. More than twenty of the streams that feed the Ottawa are from 200 to 300 miles in length. Ascending the St. Lawrence from the ocean, 756 miles, we enter Lake Ontario, which is 234 feet above the ocean, 180 miles long, from 50 to 60 miles wide, and 500 feet deep. The Niagara river, with its peerless falls, unites Lake Ontario to Lake Erie, which is 1,041 miles from the sea and 564 feet above it, 250 miles long, 80 miles greatest breadth, and 200 feet deep. Lake Erie is united to Lake Huron by Lake St. Clair and the river St. Clair; and Lake Huron is 1,355 miles from the sea, 200 miles long, 160 miles wide, 300 feet deep, and 574 feet above the sea-level. The river St. Mary joins Lake Erie to Lake Superior, a fresh-water sea that is 355 miles long, 160 miles wide, 988 feet deep, 627 feet above the level of the sea, and distant 2,000 miles from it. Lake Michigan, which joins Lake Huron, is altogether in the United States of America, and is 360 miles long, and 108 miles wide. These five great lakes cover an area of 90,000 square miles, and are 1,534 miles long. It is in the contemplation of such lakes and rivers as these, with immense territories, settled and unsettled, magnificent prairies, boundless forests, and great chains of lofty mountains, the American is impelled to exclaim:—

"No pent-up Utica contracts our powers,  
For the whole boundless continent is ours."

But, it may be said, is not this water-line of 2,000 miles interrupted, for purposes of navigation, by the rapids of the St. Lawrence below Lake Ontario, by the falls of Niagara between Lakes Ontario and Erie, and by the falls of the St. Mary between Lake Huron and Lake Superior? I answer, it is naturally; but skill, energy, and enterprize, chiefly of Canada, have overcome these difficulties by noble canals—seven of them on the St. Lawrence, comprising about forty miles; and also the Welland canal past the falls of Niagara, sixty and a-half miles long, and a short but gigantic canal, on the St. Mary's river, constructed by the people of the United States. Vessels from England, Ireland, or Scotland may now ascend to the head of Lake Superior. "In 1856, the American vessel, Dean Richmond, laden with produce at Chicago (on Lake Michigan), passed the Canadian canals and waters, and excited unbounded astonish-

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ment at Liverpool; but the year previous the Canadian vessel Reindeer, built at the same water-level, and traversing the same route, excited no further curiosity at London than a hopeless inquiry of 'Where is Lake Huron?' Since the Paris Exhibition, however, all is changed. Canada begins to be known and demands attention. The triumph attained by Canada at that exhibition, for her splendid display of minerals of all descriptions, tells its own tale. The grand medal of honor, awarded to Sir Wm. Logan, the Canadian provincial geologist, was a prize won in a strife where all were strong, and tells of rare industry and success, in bringing to light the hidden wealth of Canadian rocks."

Canada has her railways, as well as lakes, rivers, and canals. "The Grand Trunk Railway, consisting of 858 miles of line, the longest railway in the world, is open throughout from Portland, on the sea coast, in the State of Maine, and from Quebec, in Lower Canada, and forms a direct and continuous route from these ports to all parts in the Canadas and to the leading cities in the United States, as far west as the Mississippi; and now passengers can be booked through by one payment, including the ocean passage, from all the principal emigration ports in the United Kingdom, at the lowest current rates of fare. Of railways in Canada, built and in progress, there are about 1,850 miles which have cost, or will have cost, between seventeen and eighteen millions of pounds sterling."

The Victoria bridge, now in progress, from the city of Montreal to the south bank of the St. Lawrence, will be nearly two miles long, and, considering the engineering difficulties which have to be surmounted, is held to be the greatest undertaking of modern times. It is calculated to cost £2,000,000, which will be well expended.

There are other canals in Canada besides the frontier ones already mentioned. There is the Rideau canal, the finest stone-built canal in the world, including 47 locks, each 142 feet long, 33 feet wide, with 5 feet of water, together with 20 river dams, extending, along with lakes and rivers, about 135 miles from the city of Ottawa, on the river Ottawa, across the country to Kingston, at the foot of Lake Ontario. This canal was constructed by the Board of Ordnance, chiefly for military purposes, at a cost of about a million sterling, and is navigated by

small steamboats. There is also the Grenville canal on the Ottawa ; the Chambly canal, which opens the navigation of the river Richelieu, from Lake Champlain to the river St. Lawrence ; and there is the Trent canal in Canada West, which connects Ricelake with Lake Ontario.

Let us now look at the principal towns and cities of Canada, and at the population generally. Canada, east of the river Ottawa, was formerly called Lower Canada, but is now called Canada East ; and west of the Ottawa, formerly called Upper Canada, is now called Canada West. The cities of Canada East are Quebec and Montreal. The cities of Canada West are Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, and London, with the towns of Prescott, Brockville, Belleville, Picton, Cobourg, Peterborough, Port Hope, Brantford. Quebec is the great sea-port of Canada, 410 miles from the ocean, with a population of 55,000, and is the second for size in the whole province. Montreal is built on an island at the confluence of the Ottawa and the St. Lawrence, and is 168 miles above Quebec. It is the largest city in Canada, having a population of about 75,000 inhabitants. About 173 miles above Montreal, at the foot of Lake Ontario, is the city of Kingston, with a population of about 20,000. Toronto is situate on the shore of Lake Ontario, about 160 miles above Kingston, with a population of about 42,000, and is the third city for size in united Canada. Hamilton, 39 miles from Toronto, at the head of Lake Ontario, has a population of about 22,000 inhabitants. London lies inland about 76 miles west-south-west from Hamilton, and has a population of about 15,000. The city of Ottawa is situated on the Ottawa river, 168 miles above Montreal. These cities are the great centres of urban population, and of trade and commerce in Canada, and to understand their positions, along with the lakes and rivers, will greatly facilitate acquaintance with everything Canadian. The people of Eastern Canada are chiefly of French extraction ; of Western, chiefly British. The population of the whole province now exceeds 2,500,000. According to the last census of 1851—when the population was much smaller than it now is—the Canadians of French origin were 795,945, of other origin, 651,679 ; that is, Irish, 277,766 ; English and Welsh, 93,929 ; Scotch, 90,376 ; natives of the United States, 56,214 ; Dutch or German, 10,116 ; natives of other British North

American colonies, 7,373. According to the last religious census, the church of Rome is 914,561; church of England, 268,592; Presbyterians, 237,683; Methodists, 234,681; Baptists and Independents, 61,520; Lutherans, 12,107; Quakers or Friends, 7,423; besides some smaller denominations.

According to the last agricultural census there are 194,309 landholders, of whom 85,912 hold from 50 to 100 acres, and 37,029 hold from 100 to 200 acres. The whole quantity of land held in Canada was 17,937,148 acres, of which 7,303,241 acres are cultivated, and the remainder consists of woodland, either reserved for fuel or unoccupied. The average produce of wheat in some townships is more than 22 bushels per acre, and with good farming rises to 30 and often to 40 bushels. Canadian wheat won a first prize at the Paris Exhibition. "In Canada West, in 1856, the yield of wheat considerably exceeded 20,000,000 bushels; and the quality of Canadian wheat is so superior that American millers buy it for the purpose of mixing with United States' grain, in order to improve the quality of their flour, and in some instances to render it fit for exportation."

The general revenue of the province is derived from customs, government land sales, proceeds of public works, and minor sources of income. Government or provincial taxation never reaches the Canadian in a direct manner; and if he choose to limit his wants to the simple necessaries of life, and clothe himself, as tens of thousands do, in homespun—the stamp of domestic industry and frugality—indirect taxation will meet him only in the articles of tea or coffee, each of which costs about one-half what it costs in Britain. The only taxes he is called upon to pay he has the opportunity of voting for or against; in other words, his opinion is taken as to whether the tax is just or necessary. Such are the taxes for school purposes, and for road-making and bridge-building in the township in which he lives, and by which he benefits to a degree often one hundred-fold greater than the amount of money or labor he is required to contribute.

"The commerce of a producing country like Canada, drawing its wealth from its agriculture, forests, mines, and seas, is fairly represented by statistical tables of exports and imports. The following tables, compiled from official returns, will show the direction in which the industry of the province exerts itself. The exports for 1855 are thus classified:—

	£ currency.*
Agricultural products, . . . . .	3,257,599
Produce of the forest, . . . . .	1,986,980
Animals and their products, . . . . .	398,796
Manufactures, . . . . .	119,019
Produce of the sea, . . . . .	114,980
"    "    mines, . . . . .	31,458
Other articles, . . . . .	17,140
	<hr/>
	5,925,972

Estimated short returns from inland ports, 816,253  
 In addition to these items, we have the  
 value of ships built at Quebec, . 304,886

Grand total of exports for 1855, £7,047,111

The tonnage employed in the transatlantic commerce of Canada, and with the sister provinces, amounted, in 1855, to 419,553 tons inwards, and 451,241 tons outwards."

Canada is one of our colonies, but is eminently free, or self-governing. The governor is appointed by the crown, but the two legislative bodies, called the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council, are elected by the people. The elective franchise is nearly universal. Every man paying an annual household rental of £6 in the cities and towns, and £4 in the rural districts, is entitled to a vote. And while Canada is thus free, she enjoys the prestige of connexion with Great Britain, and is protected by our fleets and armies. "It is no exaggeration to say that Canada enjoys more thorough rational freedom than any country on the globe. Upper Canada is divided into 42 counties; each county into townships; so that, on an average, each township is about ten miles square. Each township is divided into twelve concessions or ranges, and each concession is divided into lots of 200 acres each. The inhabitants of a township elect five 'councillors;' the councillors elect, out of this number, a presiding officer, who is designated the 'town reeve;' the town reeves of the different townships form the 'county council,' and this council elect their presiding officer, who is styled the 'Warden.' The town council and county council are municipal corporations, possessing the power to raise money for municipal

\* £1 sterling is £1 4s. 4d. currency.

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purposes, such as making public improvements, opening and repairing roads and bridges. Repayment is secured by a tax on all the property in the township or county where the debt is incurred; but no bye-law for raising money can be enforced unless it has been previously submitted to the electors, or people. Each corporation possesses the power of suing, and is liable to be sued, and their bye-laws, if illegal, are subject to be annulled by the superior courts of the province, at the instance of any elector.

"Each township council has the power to provide for the support of common schools, under the provisions of the school law; to construct roads, bridges, watercourses, &c., to appoint pathmasters or road inspectors, &c. The county councils are charged with the construction and repairs of goals and courthouses, roads, and bridges, houses of correction, and grammar schools, under the provisions of the school law; to grant moneys by loan to public works, tending to the improvement of the country, and to levy taxes for the redemption of the debts incurred, subject to the vote of the people. Villages not having a population over 1,000 are governed by a board of police, and are styled police villages; possessing over 1,000 inhabitants, they become incorporated villages, and are governed by a council of five, whose reeve is a member of the county council *ex officio*; as soon as a village acquires a population exceeding 3,000 it becomes a town, governed by a mayor and council, and is represented in the county council by a town reeve, and a deputy town reeve. When the number of inhabitants exceeds 10,000, it may be created a city, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen and councilmen. All town Reeves, wardens, mayors and aldermen, are *ex officio* justices of the peace.

"Upper and lower Canada enjoy separate school laws, adapted to the religious elements prevailing in either. Each township in Upper Canada is divided into several school sections, according to the requirements of its inhabitants. The common schools are supported, partly by government and partly by local self-imposed taxation, and occasionally by the payment of a small monthly fee from each scholar. The total amount expended on common schools in Upper Canada in 1855 exceeded £180,000 sterling. In 1857, the total expenditure for teachers' salaries was £215,057 16s., consisting of a legislative grant of £32,951 13s. 4d., and an



amount raised by local efforts of £182,106 2s. 8d. In long settled rural districts, each school section is now distinguished by a handsome brick school-house, furnished with maps, authorised school books, and elementary philosophical apparatus. The salaries of teachers vary from £130 to £40 sterling, in country parts, and from £280 sterling to £75 sterling, in cities and towns. All common school teachers must pass an examination before a county board of education, or receive a license from the provincial normal school, empowering them to teach, before they can claim the government allowance.

“The provincial Normal school is a highly effective and useful Institution for the training of teachers, and annually sends forth from 100 to 150 young men and women.

“In 1842, the number of common schools in Upper Canada was 1,721, attended by 65,978 children; in 1855 the number of schools was 3,325, attended by 227,864 children; and the average time during which the schools were open was nine months and twenty days. This increase speaks volumes for the condition and progress of elementary education in Upper Canada. Each school section is governed by an elective corporation, styled school trustees, and is supplied, partly at government expense, with a small library of selected literature. The number of volumes already distributed for this purpose is 120,000.

“The free school system is gaining ground in many parts of Canada; the principle it involves is the support of common schools, open to all by a general tax, and the non-exaction of fees. Any school section may adopt it by the vote of the majority of its inhabitants. Separate schools for Roman Catholics are sanctioned under certain regulations.

“The grammar schools are 65 in number, with 3,726 pupils. They are intended to form a connecting link between the common schools and the universities. Teachers must be graduates of some university; they receive an allowance from government in addition to fees. The amount raised for grammar school purposes in 1855 was £12,000 sterling.

“Besides a richly endowed provincial university, supplied with a complete staff of highly competent professors and lecturers, there are several other universities and colleges, in Upper Canada, in connection with different religious denominations. All the expenses of a full university course need not exceed £60 ster-

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 versity, and to the university of Trinity college, in connection  
 with the Church of England, scholarships are attached, which  
 vary in value from £18 sterling to £40 sterling per annum.

“The educational statistics of Upper Canada may be thus  
 summed up. In 1855, there were in actual operation 4 univer-  
 sities, 6 colleges, 65 grammar schools, 29 private academies, 278  
 private schools, and 3,325 common schools; making in the aggre-  
 gate 3,710 educational institutions, teaching 240,817 pupils and  
 students, and costing the country, in great part by self-imposed  
 taxation, £230,000 sterling.

“In Lower Canada a system of education in some respects  
 similar to that which has just been described exists, and is  
 rapidly obtaining favor among the people. The superior schools  
 there, however, are of a very high order, and many of the semina-  
 ries attached to religious houses are well endowed, and amply  
 provided with efficient professors and teachers.”

It may not be uninteresting to compare the government  
 education of Upper Canada with that of Ireland. There are  
 points of agreement and points of difference. Three features  
 of the Irish national system have been adopted in Upper  
 Canada, namely, first, the series of school text-books and maps,  
 except the two books of the series which have been the subject of  
 dispute in Ireland. Second, the system of normal and model  
 schools, in the management and exercise of both of which im-  
 portant improvements are said to have been made in Upper Canada.  
 Third, the principle and method of protecting parental authority,  
 and the rights of conscience in regard to religious books, ex-  
 ercises, and instruction in the schools. And in these, too, real  
 improvements have been made in Canada. Between the two  
 systems there are several points of difference. In Ireland the  
 National Board of Commissioners enacts the school-laws, in  
 Upper Canada the legislature enacts the school-laws. In the  
 Irish system there are local patrons who possess the whole power  
 of local control, as respects pupils' fees, appointment of master  
 (under veto of the central board), the master's absolute dismissal,  
 religious exercises of the school, &c. The people in Ireland have  
 nothing to do but send their children to the school or keep  
 them at home. In Upper Canada the schools are controlled  
 by a council of public instruction, the office of chief superinten-

dent, and by the extensive and independent power of municipalities and school sections, without patronage. In Canada the people control the schools, in Ireland the schools are controlled by commissioners and patrons. The teachers in Canada are much better paid than in Ireland. In Ireland the schools are maintained chiefly by a parliamentary grant per annum of £300,000; in Upper Canada, in 1857, the legislative grant was not quite £45,000, and upwards of £258,000 was provided by the people themselves in the municipalities. In Ireland, in 1854, in the 4,602 national schools, the patrons were 154 clergymen and 452 laymen of the church of England, Presbyterian clergymen 494 and laymen 193, Roman-catholic priests, 2,800 and laymen 277. In Ireland grants are made by the National Board to upwards of 100 convent and monastic schools. In Upper Canada all the 3,731 schools are non-denominational, except 100. In Upper Canada the school system is generally acceptable and satisfactory; there has not been a single public meeting held, or even attempted to be held, to condemn the system, nor has one of the 400 elected municipal councils condemned it. In Ireland the schools are supported, not by the people themselves, but by an imperial grant; and so much are they opposed, that only about 150 of the 2,000 church of England clergy support them, and by the English church upwards of £40,000 per annum is raised, and about 1,700 schools are established and supported; the synod of Thurles has condemned the mixed schools, and the prelates of the Roman-catholic church are demanding further concessions.\* The expense of the education office in Dublin is £15,636 sterling; of the education office in Toronto, £3,513 currency, or about £2,800 sterling. The national system of education in Ireland has been in operation twice as long as that in Upper Canada, yet the number of national schools in Ireland is but 5,245, while in Upper Canada there are 3,731 national schools; the number of pupils in Upper Canada is 272,000, and in Ireland 620,000. With only one-eighth of the Irish parliamentary aid, and one-sixth of the Irish population, nearly one-half as many pupils in Canada are taught, more than one-half as many schools are established, not to mention the superiority of Canadian

\* Since the above was written, they have resolved to demand, like the established clergy, a separate grant.

school-houses to Irish. In Upper Canada more than four-fifths of the population are in the national schools; in Ireland, not one-third of the school population is yet in the national schools.\*

Canada is rich in minerals and deposits, and in vegetable and animal life. The forest trees are excellent and of various kinds. Oaks are numerous, but not equal to the British. The pine tribe is both valuable and various, including balsams, fir, spruce, pitch-pine, black and red larch, and others. There are also white and red elms, maple, hickory, chesnut, cherry, butternut, walnut, birch, beech, cedar, poplar, &c. The bark of a small shrub called moose wood is extremely tough, and is used by the farmers, instead of cords, for tying. The zoology of Canada comprehends the bear, the deer, otter, racoon, badger, ermine, fisher, beaver, marmots, squirrels, Canada lynx, wolves and foxes, besides the domesticated species. The deer is the principal game. Bears are not seen in the old settlements, and will not attack man, but will defend themselves. Their flesh is considered good food. Of birds, there are eagles, hawks, grouse, owls, the Canada and short-billed jays, immense numbers of water-fowl and wading tribes; as the Canada geese, ducks, and widgeons, besides numerous small migratory birds in summer. Wild pigeons are very numerous, and so are woodcocks and snipes, in spring and autumn, particularly the latter. The salmon abounds in Ontario; the whitefish, superior to the herring, is plentiful. There are also trout, mullet, pike, pickerel, bass, black and white rock, and masquinonge.

Unlike Nova Scotia, Canada is free from fog; and though the winter is considered severe, it is much less disagreeable than the damp and drizzle, the fog and mist, and the clammy, chilly atmosphere of Great Britain and Ireland. The summer is usually very hot, the winter very cold and bracing. Upper Canada is milder than Lower, and the soil more fertile. On the shores of the great lakes less snow falls, and melts much sooner, than in the backwoods.

The climate, in many particulars, exhibits a striking dissimilarity to Europe. In the first place, the temperature is much lower under the same latitude; and this remark applies to the whole of North America. Thus, Quebec in  $46^{\circ} 49' N.$  has almost the same latitude with Nantes in  $47^{\circ} 13'$ ; yet the

\* See Rev. Dr. Ryerson's Education Report for 1857.

mean annual temperature of the two places exhibits a difference of nearly  $13^{\circ}$ . Edinburgh and Copenhagen, though more than  $9^{\circ}$  further north than Quebec, exceed it in mean annual heat, the one by  $6^{\circ}$ , the other by  $4^{\circ}$ .

“The next distinction is the great difference in the temperature of winter and summer, which is much more intense than in European countries of the same annual mean. While the medium temperature of winter at Nantes is about  $40-46^{\circ}$ , at Quebec it is  $14-18^{\circ}$ ; but that of summer is nearly identical; at the first,  $68^{\circ}-54$ , at the second,  $68^{\circ}$ . Even in London the heat rarely attains  $83^{\circ}$ ; whereas in Canada, during July, it rises occasionally  $20^{\circ}$  higher. These great heats, however, leave the average still much lower than in the same latitude in Europe.”

The chief causes assigned for so remarkable a difference are the influence of the winds, which blow chiefly from the north-west, over a vast expanse of frozen continent; the position of the adjacent ocean, filled with fields and islands of ice, detached from the arctic shores; the uncultivated state of the soil, covered with vast forests and swamps; but chiefly the effect of the gulf stream on European climates.

The Indian summer in November, (when frost is about to set in,) with its hazy atmosphere, is not easily accounted for. It has been suggested that “the abundant waters are then undergoing the process of conversion from a fluid into a solid form; in the course of which they must necessarily give out in large quantities the caloric which held them in a state of fluidity. Heat thus developed will naturally be accompanied with thin mist, which is, in fact, usually seen rising from the surface of a newly-frozen stream.”

“It might have been expected that the rigour of the climate, more especially in its extreme and sudden changes, would have been peculiarly trying to the human constitution. Experience, on the contrary, has established its decided salubrity.” Brilliant skies and bracing cold are more congenial to health than sleet and fog.

“In the action of the climate on agricultural produce the upper province nearly coincides with the health of England; yet the grape, the peach, and the melon come to as much perfection as in their native soil. Even rice is found growing wild. In this respect, British America seems not to fall much short of Euro-

pean countries under the same latitude. Its winter-cold at the same time enables it to combine the products of the northern with those of the southern temperate climates. By the side of the fruits above-mentioned, flourish the strawberry, the cranberry, and the raspberry ; while the evergreen pines are copiously intermingled with the oak, the elm, and others of ampler foliage. Autumn wheat, or fall wheat, as it is always called in Canada, has not yet succeeded in Lower Canada, though it succeeds well in Upper Canada, where, in fact, it is the chief wheat."\*

The dwelling-houses, in winter, are warmed with stoves, and in Lower Canada, protected, as in Russia, by double windows. Every house has a cellar, and sometimes also a root-house, to preserve various kinds of food from the severe frost. A root-house is formed near the dwelling-house by making a large excavation, surrounded with double walls of logs, between which clay is rammed ; covered with a very close, thick roof, and protected by double doors and other means of excluding cold.

Large framed barns are erected to receive the grain when it is drawn from the field, and sheds are constructed to shelter the cattle during the winter. Horned cattle are liable to a disease which frequently causes the total loss of the horns. The chief provender for cattle in the winter is timothy hay, or timothy and clover mixed. In the severest winter the timothy never perishes. In the second year the roots of clover are often destroyed by frost.

Though a great part of Canada is flat, it is not wholly so, and is by no means wanting in commanding positions and noble views. The approach to Quebec, up the St. Lawrence, past the beautiful island of Orleans, affords a peculiarly noble view. The elevation of the city ; its famous defences ; its tin-clad roofs and spires, glittering in the sun ; its spacious harbour or river-basin, about two miles wide and nearly four miles long, thronged with shipping ; the beautiful landscapes on both sides of the stream ; the recollections of Wolfe's cave and Abraham's plains, and of the triumphs of British arms, render this city one of the most interesting and attractive in America.

The summit of Belœil mountain, on the south side of the St. Lawrence, affords very fine views. On the noble river Richelieu,

\* Bouchette and Murray.

below Lake Champlain, and connected with Laprairie by a railroad, the town of St. John, or Dorchester, is situated, which was long the outlet and inlet between Montreal and the United States; twelve miles lower down, on the Richelieu, is the village of Chambly, in a peculiarly fine agricultural valley. About twelve miles from Chambly, on the eastern side of the Richelieu, is Belœil or Rouville mountain. Standing on the pinnacle of this insulated mountain, about 1,000 feet high, the country, interspersed with towns and villages, stretches away in the distance in every direction, laid out in regular farms, which, at that height, resemble gardens; and studded with the white and picturesque dwellings of the *habitans*; while, in one direction, the distant hills bound and beautify the scene. Viewed from the mountain-top, the sheep and cattle and human beings seem very diminutive things, and remind us how much our judgment of others is affected by our own position. In every direction tin-clad church spires glisten in the sun, about forty of which can be counted in the various parishes on a clear day; the windings of the Richelieu and the meanderings of the Huron, which falls into the Richelieu near Chambly, can be distinctly traced, as well as the bendings and swellings of the mightier and more majestic St. Lawrence. Montreal is easily seen, and even, on a clear day, the country behind its mountain. On every hand the scene is extensive, highly picturesque, and noble.

Often, at the door of a well-remembered friend, whose house stands a good way up a beautiful slope of the mountain and beside a gurgling stream, have we stood, and with peculiar pleasure "viewed the landscape o'er." No repetition of gaze has lessened its interest or beauty, or degraded it to the level of vulgar and familiar things. Fancy and feeling still linger about that enchanting mountain and the friends we left behind, or rather above; and often, in imagination, have we retraced our course along the Richelieu and the Huron, and across the intervening country, till we gained the heights of Belœil. On this elevated spot, how low and insignificant have the wealth, pleasures, honors, and turmoil of the world appeared, and how delightfully has the heart instinctively sympathized with the majesty, and beauty, and purity of nature! Who, in such a place, would not feel that it was good to be there, and desire to set up his tabernacle? "Purest of crystal and brightest of green" are

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there ; calm and peace are there, combined with "soft magic of streamlet and hill ;" and the heart, unpolluted and uninflated, can there inhale balm from the breeze, and find joy in the works of God.

The eastern townships of Lower Canada, which adjoin the United States, and are not occupied on the French feudal tenure, abound in fine scenery. The surface of the country is undulating, the hills in some places are lofty, the soil is fertile, and the inhabitants are chiefly emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland.

The summit of Montreal mountain, which is 550 feet high, commands very extensive and noble views. Just below is the city itself, the great depôt and centre of Canadian commerce ; past the city pours the St. Lawrence, including a highly-cultivated and beautiful island ; beyond the St. Lawrence is the extensive country drained by the Huron and the Richelieu, and skirted by Lake Champlain, on which are the towns of St. John, Chambly, and others ; to the right is the confluence of the Ottawa river with the St. Lawrence ; and to the left we trace the majestic flow of the St. Lawrence and the scenes of cultivation and comfort on either side. Montreal itself is a large city, and along with its magnificent wharves contains several fine buildings. The Roman Catholic cathedral particularly deserves attention. It was begun in 1834, and is a species of gothic, 255½ feet long, 134½ wide, and 61 feet high, from the flagging to the eaves. It has three front towers, each 220 feet high, and three other towers of less height. It has twelve entrances, nine spacious aisles, and seven chapels, and is seated for 10,000 persons. The exterior is faced with excellent hewn stone ; the roof is covered with tin ; the principal window is 64 feet high and 32 broad ; the high altar resembles St. Peter's at Rome, and the pulpit that of the cathedral at Strasbourg. A promenade, commanding a most delightful view, has been formed on the roof, and is 76 feet by 30, and at an elevation of 120 feet.

Entering Canada West by the St. Lawrence, the traveller will find much to gratify the eye, especially after leaving Dickenson's Landing. On both the British and American sides of the river there are picturesque and well-cultivated farms, good dwellings, and flourishing towns and villages. There are the towns of Prescott, on the British side, and Ogdensburgh on the American ; and higher up, with a remarkably fine and long-settled country, the



very beautiful town of Brockville on the formerside, and Morris-town on the latter. But it is after ascending the river above Brockville that one of the most romantic and attractive regions of Canada is entered. This is what is called the Lake of the Thousand Islands, lying between Brockville and the foot of Lake Ontario. The islands have been actually counted and found to number 1,692. "They are of every imaginable size, shape, and appearance." Some of the islands are so small as to sustain only a single shrub or tree; others comprise seven acres, and generally they are "picturesque combinations of wood and rock." The channel between them, in some places, is so narrow and serpentine that the steam-boat almost touches.

Lake Ontario is navigated in all directions by large, swift, and well-furnished steamers, both Canadian and American. A very large arm of the lake, called the Bay of Quinty, about fifty miles long, and from nine to twelve miles wide, runs up very tortuously from the town of Bath, ten miles above Kingston, and forms the peninsula of the Prince Edward's district, which is one of the finest and most flourishing districts in Canada, and which produced the Canadian prize-wheat in our Great Industrial Exhibition. On this bay are the central and flourishing towns of Picton and Belleville; and from the head of the bay there is water communication with Rice Lake, and from Rice Lake there is communication up the serpentine Otonabee river with the prosperous town of Peterboro'. Above Peterboro' there are cascades and rapids on the Otonabee, at intervals of about a mile, for about eight miles, through a limestone country. "Beyond this angry portion of the river," says Sir J. Bonnycastle, "is a scene which cannot be adequately described, as the waters spread out into every variety of form which islands, lakes, and rivers can present. Lakes incessantly follow each other, some not more than a mile, others ten miles long, whose banks consist of a rolling outline covered down to the pure margin of the water with the most rich, luxuriant, and magnificent forest scenery, in a fertile and rich soil. For nearly a hundred miles the traveller passes through scenes which awaken all the most splendid conceptions of the grandeur with which forest and fell combine in the scenery of the new world; and here, sailing along or paddling at his ease, nothing disturbs the reign of nature but the solitary cry of the loon, the sharp note of the kingfisher, the

tapping of the great woodpecker, the screams of the wild geese, and the noisy wing of the splashing-duck, or the occasional dart of a maskanonge, a huge species of pike, from his deep abode. Now and then you see the red Indian, as silent as his native woods, engaged in hunting or fishing; but in general, with the exception of some solitary clearings at long distances, all is solemnly still and in magnificent repose. At the end of his journey on these beautiful waters, after passing along a deep, black, placid stream, whose frowning cliffs bound the prospect, a beautiful little Niagara is reached, and the river pitches over a regular parabolic curve, about thirty feet in height. So regular is the descent, and so smooth the edge of this horse-shoe fall, that a curious visitor may, it is said, pass entirely across under it, from shore to shore, behind a magnificent liquid curtain, without danger, and without being wetted by its spray."\*

A sketch of Canada without Niagara is like the play of Hamlet with Hamlet's part omitted. But who shall describe the leap of the lake, the cataract of the earth! I have seen it thrice—thrice have I listened to its "eternal roar"—but I cannot pour-tray it. I well recollect an excursion from Toronto to the falls. The weather was singularly favorable; not a drop of rain fell during the day, and the sun shone out brightly, while a delightful breeze cooled the atmosphere and rendered the voyage particularly pleasant. The time on board was spent in conversation, the participation of appropriate refreshments, and the survey of the beautiful scenery of Niagara river. It was refreshing to the eye after the monotony of the lake, to view the sloping banks of the river, clad with verdure and crowned with forest foliage, and to look upon a gradation of hills and slopes, terminating in the heights at Queenstown. The Niagara district is singularly mild and fertile, producing peaches, nectarines, and other fine fruit. One object that arrested and fixed the eye was the monument on the heights to the memory of the brave BROCK, "the hero of Upper Canada," and the gallant soldiers he commanded and the brilliant victory they achieved. The monument contained at the base the ashes of Brock, was ascended by 170 spiral steps, and commanded a truly noble view. During the border troubles an enemy attempted to destroy this monument of

\* Bonnycastle's Canada, vol. ii. pp. 259, 260.

British prowess and American defeat, by introducing and igniting a quantity of gunpowder, and but too well succeeded. Around the riven and crumbling column was held one of the largest and most enthusiastic gatherings that Canada ever witnessed, consisting of about 5,000 persons, headed by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir George Arthur, for the purpose of re-erecting Brock's monument. A large sum of money was speedily realized, and at the time of this excursion preliminary steps had been taken for restoring the column.

From Queenstown, on the British side, opposite Lewiston, on the American side, we proceeded by railway to the Falls, catching, as we advanced, "the muffled thunder" of the cataract, which resembles the roar of old ocean, as its surges everlastingly beat upon the shore. Arrived at the falls, we see Erie's leap of 160 feet down Niagara's cliff; we feel, or seem to feel, the earth trembling beneath us; we gaze on clouds of mist and the beautiful rainbow above, and below on the seething cauldron; we listen to God's voice and see God's hand, and reverentially exclaim, "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God of hosts!"

Words cannot delineate the scenery of the Niagara. One susceptible friend of ours found vent for his emotions, as he gazed upon the falls, only in a flood of tears; and another declared that he could sit and gaze for a month, if he had only Elijah's raven to bring him bread. But the effect of nature's noblest scenery depends upon the heart which we bring to its contemplation. A cool, calculating, utilitarian Yankee looked at the cataract and pronounced it "an almighty fine water privilege." He thought only of its power to propel, the mills it would move, and the grists it would grind. Surely there is but a step between the sublime and the ridiculous!

In estimating the population of Canada, we must always carefully distinguish the French Canadians of Canada East. The feudal land tenure and kindred customs long contributed to keep this race stationary and depressed. Every tenant must grind his grist at his seigneur's mill, on whatever terms, at whatever distance, and with whatever results, and must never dare to act in opposition to his seigneur's pleasure. It is almost superfluous to declare that, in these circumstances, Jean Baptiste, as the French Canadian is sometimes called, persisted in doing as his

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fathers did, and refused to participate in the enlightenment and progress of his day. He might see an English farmer settle beside him, and convert an exhausted soil into fertile and teeming fields; but he would not profit by the example or desist from his exhaustive process of cultivation. Remonstrance and counsel only made him shrug his shoulders, and elicited the avowal that he did and would do as his forefathers did. But, perhaps, nothing will better serve to illustrate his character than his indomitable obstinacy in spoiling his winter roads. In consequence of the French Canadian's method of yoking his shafts under the front beam of his sleigh, berlin, or cariole, the snow of the roads becomes formed into a constant succession of hills and hollows, called cahots, which makes travelling exceedingly disagreeable, though no kind of travelling is pleasanter than sleighing on good level roads. One can easily imagine how unpleasant it is to be continually rising up a hill and then pitching violently into a hollow, instead of going smoothly forward. When Lord Sydenham governed Canada, by a council, he issued an ordinance against the Canadian style of sleigh, and required, under penalty, the use of such sleighs as are used in Canada and the United States of America; and, to facilitate the change, he had model sleighs exhibited at the principal central places in all the parishes. It so happened that I travelled in Lower Canada, in winter, both before this ordinance and during its operation, and I found its effects most delightful. Instead of a sleigh-ride being a wearisome task or a virtual emetic, it became, as elsewhere, a great pleasure; but it will scarcely seem credible, and yet it is a fact, that as soon as the United Parliament came into operation, and the French Canadians, with the Upper Canada Obstructives, acquired an ascendancy, this ordinance was repealed; and notwithstanding a whole winter's observation and experience, Jean Baptiste returned to his old, absurd, and disagreeable method of yoking his shafts and spoiling his roads.

Let us rejoice, however, that in their union with Upper Canada, the French Canadians are gradually awakening and amending. They are a remarkably quiet, kind, and polite people; and, but for designing and mischievous men, would never have thought of insurrection and rebellion. In conversation they are remarkably animated and voluble, and abound in gesticulation.

No one is merrier or more light-hearted than Jean Baptiste, in the depth of winter wearing his *bonnet rouge*, or conical red woollen cap, his *capote*, or coat, of grey homespun cloth, with a hood to draw over his head, like the old-fashioned hoods of the ladies' mantles; his handsome red sash round his waist, and his feet encased in easy leather mocassins; and no one is more courteous and attentive in pointing out the way or supplying information.

Nothing can parallel the cahots of Lower Canada roads so much as the corduroy roads of the back settlements. When swampy or very soft ground occurs, the trunks of trees are laid in lines along the sides of the road, and in a longitudinal line through the centre, as string pieces, or as they are commonly called "sleepers"; across these string pieces, round logs are laid in contact with each other, so as to make a corduroy bridge over the soft ground. The snow in winter makes these formations, as well as the roughest roads, pleasantly passable, but for a vehicle in summer they are anything but a treat. As the land becomes more fully occupied the roads become improved, for the law requires every man to work so many days annually upon the roads, or provide an equivalent in labor or money.

The woods of Canada are invariably called "the bush." *Life in the bush* is rough, but healthful and happy. Hard working is requisite in order to clear the ground of the heavy timber, and fence and cultivate it; and this land-clearing is certainly the most exhausting kind of toil in Canada, except the similar toil of the shanty-men in preparing pine timber for the market. Land-clearing is worth about £2 10s. per acre. The stumps (about hip-high) remain in the ground for about eight or ten years, till the roots become so decayed that a yoke of oxen, with a chain, can drag them out. And till this decay begins the chief implement of agriculture is the hoe, with which both potatoes and Indian corn are planted in hills. The ground is scratched for wheat with a small harrow, and a peculiarly short and handy plough is soon introduced among the stumps. Rail fences are made by splitting the soft wood of the cedar, pine, or basswood tree, into lengths called rails, which are joined together in zig-zag form, and laid one above the other till the requisite height is obtained. The appearance of a back township or new settlement, to a European, is very strange. At first the path

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through the woods is denoted by blazing the trees in the proper direction, that is, hewing the bark off a spot about breast-high, so as to let the white appear, and at such intervals that the tree-mark or blaze is always discerned a-head. A space cleared of timber is called a clearing or a clearance; and the endless succession of clearing and bush, as well as the circumscribed view within a small clearing, are certainly rather monotonous and unpleasant; but the prose of an emigrant's life leaves little space for poetry; fact overbears fancy; and the delightful consciousness of freehold independence and of growing possessions, together with the prospect of future competence, are sufficient to cheer the heart and nerve the arms of the emigrant family.

The first habitation is a shanty or small cottage, formed of layers of unhewn logs, fastened at the four corners by notching. The shed-like roof is formed of wooden troughs, the first row of troughs being covered with another row of inverted or overlapping troughs. It is surprising with what dexterity and rapidity the inexperienced emigrant soon learns to wield his axe in felling trees, cutting them into lengths, splitting them into rails, or hewing them into troughs. The chinks between the logs of the shanty are first filled with pieces of wood driven in, then stuffed with moss, and plastered with the most tenacious clay that can be found. Canada is so well watered that the emigrant has never far to go till he finds a brook, or “creek,” as it is universally called in Canada West. He has fuel in abundance, for his greatest enemy is wood; the moose-wood shrub of the forest supplies him with abundance of strings; and as limestone everywhere abounds, there is no difficulty in obtaining abundance of good lime.

In Canada, as elsewhere, union is found to be strength. What the emigrant could never achieve alone he accomplishes by the co-operation of his neighbours; in other words, he makes a “bee,” by going about to invite his neighbours to come and work for him on an appointed day, to erect his shanty, or to pile his logs in large heaps for burning. The first gathering is called a “raising-bee,” the second a “logging-bee.” The older and better-furnished settlers bring yokes of oxen to draw the logs; the others equip themselves with handspikes. A substantial meal of home-made bread (for every housewife is

her own baker), of pork and of tea, perhaps without milk but sweetened with maple-sugar, and seasoned with that imperial sauce called hunger, regales the men at mid-day and also in the evening; and when the day closes, the shanty, or at a more advanced stage of the settlement, the wooden frame, is reared, or the scattered logs are all piled up, to be ignited at no distant day.

The commencement of winter, before the snow falls, is spent in "brushing" a portion of the forest, that is, cutting down the underwood, or, as it is invariably called "the brush," and piling it into heaps; then felling the trees, piling the boughs on the brush heaps, and cutting the trunks into manageable lengths of ten to twelve feet. When the snow disappears, the brush heaps are burned, after which the logging takes place, and then the fencing, to be followed by planting.

As the settlement advances, a large shanty displaces the original one, and, after a time, even a large log-house is found to be not quite the thing; and then nothing can satisfy the growing wants and tastes but a handsome framed house, clinker boarded, or, as it is called there, clap-boarded and painted, or else a good substantial stone dwelling.

The women have their bees as well as the men, such as sewing bees or quilting bees. A quilt is thus completed in a day that would otherwise be unfinished for months. The beverage of every meal, even of dinner, is tea; and how much better it is than whiskey or beer I need not say. I have heard, indeed, that naughty things are said of the absent over the tea-cup, and I fear that sewing and quilting bees are not altogether innocent; but I am sure that a little female tea-cup scandal is infinitely less than the evils of beer drinking and whiskey drinking. It may be necessary for me to hint that a ladies' bee includes, of course, something nicer in the dietetic department than an out-door bee. If you order dinner in some of the American taverns, "down east," you will be asked whether you wish for "chicken fixings" or "common doings." Now, though common doings will answer for the men's bee, there must be something like "chicken fixings" for the women's. The long-handled pan is set up before the fire, fastened by a string from the top of the handle to a nail over the fire-place; and in this the favorite short cake, or some other nice cake, is getting itself ready for the company of quilters.

Since the men and women have their bees, it seems only fair that boys and girls, young men and maidens, should have their bees too. And so they have, especially husking or corn-shelling bees, in the long winter evenings, preceded and followed by pleasant long walks, over the hard-beaten smooth snow roads, and in the fine bright moonlight. What they talk about, or why it is that they exchange glances and throw corn-cobs at each other, or on what principle they pair off for walking home, I, of course, cannot pretend to know.

Winter is the period of highest life and greatest gaiety in Canada. Every one is braced by the pure, dry cold; there is considerable leisure; the evenings are long, the large wood-fire blazes on the hearth, the crickets chirp, and very pleasant gatherings of the neighbours and friends take place. The houses are well secured against the cold, in Lower Canada, as in Russia, by double windows, and warmed with stoves. The atmosphere is perfectly clear and dry; the stars sparkle beautifully by night in the deep azure of the heavens; the dry snow creaks beneath the foot-falls or under the pressure of the steel-shod sleigh; the bells of the sleigh-horses make a cheerful noise, besides warning the approaching foot passengers or sleigh; the occupants of the sleighs are warmly clad and protected by handsome buffalo robes, made of the skins of the buffalo, and ornamented perchance with claws, tails, and faces of various wild animals. There is no mode of travelling so truly delightful as sleighing; the horses go forward with a will to the merry jingle of the bells; the vehicle glides smoothly over the beaten snow, and the travellers or pleasure-takers in the sleigh beguile the time with looks of love or words of mirth and friendship, as the case may be. Even an upset in the snow can break no bones, and is merely the variety that is the very charm and spice of life. The backwoodsman waits for the snow to make his roads, and then sets off with his sleigh-load of wheat, flour, corn, peas, or potash, to the nearest village or store, to exchange with the trader or storekeeper for whatever his family requires. Life puts on its finest garments in winter, for then produce is sold and goods are purchased; distant friends are visited; special religious services, among some denominations, are held; an evening school for music is "got up," and is attended by the young of both sexes; long sleigh-rides are undertaken, and



important questions are "popped" and answered, to the great delight of both parties.

Potash and maple sugar are manufactured by the Canadian farmers. In the backwoods or newest settlements nothing commands ready money from the trader or storekeeper so surely as potash, and therefore every settler carefully collects the ashes from his log-heaps, and either purchases a potash kettle for the preparation of potash, or else pays a neighbour for the use of his potash works. The ashes are thrown into large wooden frames, vats, or tubs, shaped like the letter V; and the water that is poured upon them extracts the alkaline salt as it percolates from top to bottom, where it falls into troughs. This ash-water or lixivium is called lye, and is boiled in the large boiler or potash-kettle till it is reduced to the hard and heavy substance called potash. Potash dissolved in water and crystallized is called pearlash. Potash and pearlash are put up in barrels and exported to England.

Sugar is made in Canada from the sap or juice of the maple tree, whose wood is known in this country in articles of furniture. The curled maple and the bird's eye maple are particularly esteemed by cabinet-makers. A good soil is always indicated by the prevalence of maple and beech. The prevalence of beech only, or of fir only, denotes a light sandy soil; but the combination of maple and beech is a never-failing evidence of a soil that is neither light nor stiff, but rich and productive. Every settler carefully examines his lot of land, usually 100 acres, in order to ascertain where maple most abounds, and this part is reserved as the sugar-bush. In the spring of the year, usually in April, when the snow is disappearing, and the sap is beginning to ascend in the trees, the farmer begins the manufacture of sugar. The tree is either notched with an axe or bored with an augur, about breast high, so as to pierce through the bark and sever the sap vessels. Just under this notch or augur-hole an incision is made with a gouge, and into this incision a small wooden spout, or spoil, as it is called, is driven, to catch the sap as it trickles down from the wound first made. The sap is caught in a wooden trough at the bottom of the tree, and is collected from the troughs in buckets, and carried to a central place for boiling. The boiling apparatus is very cheap and simple. Two strong stakes, with bifurcated tops, are driven into the ground, and the kettles or boilers are suspended from the strong pole that is laid

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from fork to fork of those upright posts. By careful boiling and skimming, the sap, which at first is slightly sweet, is reduced to the consistence of syrup, then to molasses, and then to sugar. It is usually poured into tin shapes, from which it comes out in hard masses, and is cut or scraped for use as it is wanted. Well-made maple molasses is almost equal to honey, and is generally eaten with bread. Whatever molasses remains in the sugar is easily drained off by simply setting the cakes on edge. Sometimes the maple sugar is granulated, in the manufacture, like the sugar made from cane juice, especially among the Indians; but the European settlers generally make the maple sugar in solid masses. The flavor of maple sugar is different from that of cane sugar, and is not so agreeable at first to European palates; but in this, as in everything else, custom is second nature. The quality of maple sugar depends mainly upon the method of making, and is sometimes scarcely excelled by good Muscovada sugar. Good vinegar, too, is made from the maple juice.

A good deal has been written about life in the bush, but *THE LIFE OF A SHANTY-MAN* is not often depicted. It is, in many respects, a life of great hardship and privations, but to some it has great attractions, on account of its novelty and freedom, while others are lured to it by good wages. The employer resides in some distant town, but occasionally visits the men during the winter, and employs a competent person to conduct and oversee the work. Far up on the Ottawa, or one of its tributaries, or on some other river, often beyond the bounds of settlers and squatters, he has several men congregated in the commencement of winter, to fell and hew the lofty pine trees, white or red. The stock of provisions consists chiefly of barrels of flour and pork, tea, and sugar. Water is obtained from a "creek," or river, or by melting the snow. A shanty is soon constructed out of the trunks of trees, roofed with wooden troughs, alternately inverted, and over-lapping. Rude wooden berths, resembling those in the steerage of an emigrant ship, are constructed for sleeping, and blankets constitute the bedding. In the day time, the forest around rings with the sound of the axe. One of the men is chosen to cook; some fell the trees and sever the branches, some score the sides of the trunks, the broad-axe men smooth the surfaces, and at the proper time the timber is drawn over the snow to the lake or river ice by horses or oxen.

Several pieces of timber are united together to form a "crib," and several cribs joined together make a raft, whose size depends upon the number of men employed and the abundance of timber within their reach. On the disappearance of the ice, and the floating of the timber in the spring, the raft is formed. Some of the shanty-men now return home to cultivate their own land, and others are engaged as "raftsmen," at high wages, to take the raft to market. A small shanty is constructed on the raft, for cooking and sleeping; and now commences the tedious progress of the great mass of timber, first, we shall suppose, down the Ottawa to its junction with the St. Lawrence, and thence to Montreal or Quebec. The latter city is the great rendezvous and market for Canadian lumber. The raft is governed by large oars and is carried down by the force of the current. Considerable difficulty and delay are occasioned by rapids and falls. Formerly, in order to descend a fall, it was necessary to take the cribs in pieces, and then re-construct the cribs and raft below the falls; but since the construction of wooden slides on the principal falls, such as the slide on the Madawaska river, which is a tributary of the Ottawa, and the slide of the Chandiere falls, on the Ottawa itself, at Ottawa city, the complete cribs are successively shot down the slides and re-united below. When Sir Francis Bond Head was Lieut.-Governor of Upper Canada and on a visit to Ottawa, then called Bytown, he descended the Chandiere falls by the slide, on a crib of timber, with a few raftsmen. Much timber was formerly lost in the great vortex or whirlpool below the Chandiere falls, but the transit now is safe and easy. On lake St. Peter, between Montreal and Quebec, which is wide and shallow, great difficulty and danger sometimes accrue to the managers of the unwieldy rafts, from the fierce storms that occasionally sweep the lake.

The Indian tribes of North America are, in many respects, a noble race. Their chiefs are elective, and are not dictators but leaders; their affairs are discussed and determined in council, in which their achievements are rehearsed, the scalps of their enemies are exhibited as proofs of their prowess, their imaginations become enkindled, and they give utterance to strains of genuine eloquence, embodying their conceptions in apt and striking figures. They send round the wampum belt, smoke the calumet of peace, and bury the hatchet, to denote the cessation of hostilities

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and the resumption or initiation of friendship. Their unflinching and uncomplaining endurance of pain is extraordinary. An Indian would suffer the flesh to be torn off his bones without shedding a tear or uttering a groan, for he thinks that nobody but old women shed tears. A Christianized Indian, describing the kindness with which he had been treated in Europe, and relating how the people in Dublin pressed to shake hands with him and bid him an affectionate farewell, said—"Oh, how I cried! I cried like an old woman." The Indians believe in the Great Spirit, but they think he has favorite localities, especially the Great Manitoulin island in Lake Huron, 75 miles long, and also the cataract of Niagara. Some of them think that the thunder is the noise which a great bird makes with its wings, and say that their fathers have been in the far west and seen the place where the young thunders are hatched. The inland Indians, between Lake Huron and Hudson's Bay, are very ignorant. The first time they went to the trader to exchange their furs for other articles they were quite surprised at what they saw. One of the Indians took a fancy to a large kettle for cooking, bought it, and was very proud of it, exhibiting it on his head. One of the Indians said to him, "O, my friend, you very great fool. What will you do with that great big thing in a few years? It will grow so big you won't be able to handle it. I'll go and buy one." So he went and bought one that would hold about a quart. "Here," said he, "I've got one just proper size. I shall keep it good many years, and then it will grow proper size." Those Indians thought that kettles grew like trees. The Indian women are called "squaws," and the children "papooses."

I shall never forget some visits I paid to two settlements or villages of civilized and Christianized Indians in Canada, near Rice Lake, particularly to Alnwick, on the south side of Rice Lake. This lake is about 25 miles long and 4 or 5 miles wide, and lies about 15 miles north of Lake Ontario; and the drive to the Indian village, from Cobourg, is first through a beautiful undulating country and then over some sandy prairie land. The Indian settlement lies on both sides of a central road, and is laid out in farms of 50 acres each, with a comfortable cottage for each Indian family. I put up at the house of the venerable missionary, the late Rev. W. Case, who had devoted the best part of his life to the religious instruction and temporal improvement of the Canada Indians.

He was assisted by the chief, Shawun-dais, who was very ingenious and shrewd, and of a fertile imagination. I visited the day school, which was conducted by an Indian teacher; I entered some of the cottages and saw the signs of order and comfort; I attended some of their religious services and witnessed the most unmistakeable tokens of Christian sincerity and earnestness. There were evidences on every hand of the benefits of civilization and Christianity. These Indians, thus comfortably settled, instructed, and civilized, were once savages in the woods, subsisting on fish and game, and often reduced to the greatest extremities by scarcity of food. They were once intemperate, scantily clad, ignorant, and superstitious; now they are settled in quiet habitations, on productive farms, and under eminently kind and beneficial supervision. Drunkenness is one of the most degrading and destructive of all vices, and prevails extensively among the unchristianized Indians. In their savage state they call whiskey their great mother's milk, meaning by their great mother the Queen of England; but in their civilized state, they call it, with great truth and justice, "fire-water." Till they become Christians, they delight in whiskey above everything. "O," said one of them, after a draught of whiskey, "I wish my throat was a mile long, that I might taste it all the way down." But, as Christians, they evince great firmness in their abstinence from the fire-waters. A whiskey trader, near an Indian settlement, called Muncey-town, was sorely vexed and disappointed because the Indians would not deal with him, and he resolved to tempt and seduce them by placing a keg of whiskey in their path. On placing the keg, he hid himself among the trees to watch the result. Very soon a party of Indians came up, in what is called Indian file, that is, one after the other, which is their invariable method of travelling, and is, indeed, necessitated by their narrow paths through the woods. As soon as the first Indian came up to the keg he stopped, looked at it, and said—"Ha! the devil's here," and then passed on. The next stooped down and smelled the keg: "Yes," said he, "I smell him." The next shook the keg, with ear inclined, and said, "I hear him." And the next gave the keg a kick and sent it rolling down the hill, to the great dismay and defeat of the trader. It is due to the Methodists of Canada to say that they have been the chief means of converting and civilizing the Indians of British North America.

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The Indian trail through the forest consists of slight axe-marks on the stems of the trees, or the pressure of the fallen leaves by the foot, or the broken ends of the minute branches of trees and shrubs, indicating the rapid pace of the Indian through the woods. The predominance of moss on the northern side of the trees is a guide to the Indians, and so is the comparative absence of branches towards the most stormy quarter. The Indians possess wonderful acuteness of sight and hearing. They see at a glance marks of human presence and progress in the woods, which would never be observed by any European; and on placing their ear to the ground, they can detect the sounds of persons approaching, though a European can hear nothing at all. Their senses are highly educated and carefully exercised, while their minds are totally neglected, and hence their superiority in sight and hearing. Though we cannot alter the nature or number of our organs and faculties, we can indefinitely improve them by study and use.

As an emigrant's home, Western Canada is greatly to be preferred to eastern. It is less cold in winter, more favorable to agriculture, not Franco-feudal like Eastern Canada, more enterprising, and better educated. It affords a great variety of soil and climate, from the most southerly point on Lake Erie, which is 42° north latitude, or the latitude of the city of Rome, to the most northerly point of exploration and settlement. The emigrant farmer, with capital, can easily obtain a fine farm and a comfortable home, if he chooses, in the older and frontier settlements, where beauty of landscape is combined with productiveness of soil. The poorer emigrant should press onwards, without fearing or halting, to the new townships, where land is cheap, and social life is in its birth and bud. It is the sad mistake of many emigrants to linger about the frontier towns, lured, perhaps, by good summer wages, or by some old-country acquaintance, and when employment fails, and the rigours of winter begin, they are as dependant and destitute as in the land they left, and perhaps more so. It is better to stay at home than to go abroad for the uncertainties and hardships of a town struggle. But in the backwoods of Canada the emigrant can begin at once to lay the foundation and rear the superstructure of personal independence and family comfort. Every blow of his axe is for himself, and not for another; every tree he fells widens his

farm ; the annual instalments of five shillings per acre, during a few years, are not hard to pay ; and if the first year or two be rough and hard, every succeeding year is an advance to ease and comfort, till the position of a freeholder, with a deed from the crown, is obtained ; till the battle of emigrant life is fairly fought and won ; and then the parents, without want or anxiety, see a healthy progeny growing up around them, with every prospect and promise of sufficiency and respectability. The freehold farmers of Western Canada may be advantageously compared with those of any other country in the world. They are very lightly taxed, free from rent and from poor laws and pauperism, cultivating a virgin and productive soil, breathing continually a clear pure atmosphere, annually braced and invigorated by the pure dry cold of winter, and approaching self-support and self-sufficiency as closely as is anywhere practicable. At the neighbouring saw-mill the settler has his own timber sawn into boards or planks ; and he has never very far to go to get his wool carded, or his yarn woven into cloth, or his cloth fullled and fitted to make warm comfortable raiment, or his wheat or corn ground for the supply of his table. He cultivates melons and cucumbers in the open air, plucks fine apples and pears from his own orchard, raises his own beef and pork, warms his house with his own wood, and can appropriate to himself the well-known lines :—

"I eat my own ham,  
My own chicken and lamb ;  
I shear my own sheep and I wear it."

In the new settlements crime is scarcely known, and serious illness is of rare occurrence, till it comes in the fatal and final form ; the greatest harmony and confidence obtain ; the doors are either merely latched or but slightly fastened at night ; and sometimes the farmer, returning home in the winter, late at night, from mill or market, fastens his oxen and sleigh at the roadside, and hearing a hearty "Come in," in response to his knock, lifts the latch of some wayside dwelling, warms himself at the large wood fire that is blazing on the hearth, chats awhile with the goodman of the house, who is snugly ensconced in his blankets, bids a kind "Good night," and resumes his journey. No one in the backwoods thinks of robbing or fears to be robbed ; every man is in circumstances to provide for his family ; and should adversity overtake a household, from an accident to its

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head or from severe and protracted sickness, a sympathetic kindness and a helping hand are never wanting among the neighbours; something effectual is done by a "bee"—to log his chopping, to plant his corn, to gather in his crops, or to raise his house. In the towns it is of course different; in the older settlements, the progress of society presents modified features, but the country generally is distinguished by great harmony, kindness, and hospitality. The population is rapidly increasing, the forests are falling beneath the skilful and vigorous blows of the emigrant's axe, railroads and canals are uniting the most distant places, steamboats are plying on the lakes and rivers, the multiplication of schools and the ministrations of religion keep pace with the westerly and northerly advance of the tide of emigration and adventure, and there is everything to indicate the permanent prosperity and future greatness of this noble province.

Canada is indeed a magnificent country, desiring neither independence nor annexation to the United States, but warmly attached to the mother country. It is the North American land of liberty to which the slaves of the neighbouring country are often repairing by the "underground railroad," or by other means. Canada is free from all the evils and perils of that slavery which John Wesley described as "the vilest that ever saw the sun," and as the "sum of all villainies." Canada enjoys the *prestige* of connexion with Great Britain, and is protected by our fleets and armies, and enjoys also perfect self-control. She has nothing to gain by political revolution, but much to lose, and is eminently tranquil and loyal. Recent commercial difficulties are disappearing before this year's abundant harvest. Her banks stood firm when those of the United States were falling with a terrible crash. Before the introduction of responsible government, Canadian stagnancy and inferiority were always pointed at, in contrast with the enterprise and progress of the neighbouring republic; but that contrast exists no longer; and now Canada is the fairest field to which the emigrant can repair, who has money to invest or ability to work. It is the best poor man's country I ever saw. Here the poor man must struggle all his days for a bare subsistence; there, the man of bone and sinew can become an independent and comfortable freeholder, and if he has children, he is so much the richer and more likely to succeed. Although I would not advise any man



to go abroad who can do well at home, I would strongly advise agricultural laborers and struggling small farmers to avail themselves of the scope for energy and the facilities for secular independence which Canada affords. A little capital or large labor is what befits Canada; not delicate hands or luxurious habits. Canada is destined to become a great country. May her destiny be speedily realized.

THE END.

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