

PHYSICAL ASPECT OF THE NORTH WEST.
(From Hunt's Merchant's Magazine.)

In the natural resources of the land, it spreads out, to say the least, as rich a field for human enterprise as is developed by any tract of country of the same extent on the face of the globe. Ohio, with a very large domain, which is now in its greater part in a forward state of cultivation, presents in its dense forests a soil that is in almost its entire portion favourable to agriculture, producing bountiful crops of all those harvests that are found in the same latitude at the east; showing in its granaries, stock, husbandry, and general improvement, an amount of wealth that is extraordinary when we consider that this wealth has been reaped from the soil in a period, less than a half a century. The new state of Michigan, although far behind Ohio in the amount of its population and general improvement, unfolds in the enterprise which has already been exerted upon its forests, prairies and lake besprinkled oaklands, an energy no less remarkable. Indiana, with equal agricultural advantages; Wisconsin, with its forest-crowded hills and mineral wealth, and Illinois with its unmeasured prairies, extending her rich mould towards the horizon like the sea—stretch out a land capable of producing crops adequate to the support of ten times the present population of the United States. The land thus favourable to the production of the various kinds of grain, fruit, and vegetables, abounds in mineral resources. In its recesses are found coal, salt, sulphur, lead, zinc, copper, iron, and other metals in sufficient abundance for its own consumption, and even for exportation! when a sufficient amount of enterprise shall have been concentrated to work them with effect. Besides these agricultural and mineral resources, that are always essential to the comfort of a local population, it possesses natural channels of navigation, by which the surplus of its products may be exported abroad. A chain of lakes, the largest on the globe, stretches from the shores of New York, and waters its coast for thousands of miles. The Mississippi, which is much the longest although not the broadest river upon the earth, taking its rise in the remote north, opens a highway to the ocean through the Gulf of Mexico, for the distance of about three thousand miles, and will be conjoined with the whole line of the lakes, when the projected ship canal to connect the Fox River of Green Bay with the Wisconsin, and that at the Sault de Sainte Marie shall have been constructed; thus affording a continuous line of coast navigation from New Orleans to Buffalo, or to the remotest shores of Lake Superior. Besides this line of coast navigation, the territory is variegated with inland lakes and streams, (the largest of which is the Ohio,) that connect its remotest parts, and furnish communications with the principal waters, channels for steamships, flat boats, rafts, or hydraulic power for the propulsion of machinery; and, it is not the least remarkable feature of this territory, that within fifty years, under American auspices, it has increased from a comparative solitude to a population of nearly three millions, according to the latest estimate.

FIRST EXPLORER.

La Salle may be justly regarded as *The Columbus of Western Discovery*. Constructing a vessel upon the shore of Lake Erie, when there was stretched around him a chain of unknown seas and forests, inhabited by Indians whose temper towards the French had not been clearly ascertained, with here and there, perhaps, a jesuit missionary, who had erected his cross in the woods, we find him on the 7th August, 1673, first ploughing the billows of that animal was carved upon her bow. This was the first vessel that had ever adventured upon the north-western waters. Louis Hennepin, a Flemish Recollect, was his spiritual adviser, and a small body of Frenchmen constituted his crew. They sounded as they went, because no ship had ever crossed these lakes before. Having succeeded in navigating this lake, they arrived on the 10th of that month near the cluster of islands that is grouped at the mouth of the Detroit River, where they anchored.

History has scarcely done justice to the merits of the heroic La Salle, although a monument to his memory has been erected at Washington, in the rotunda of the Capitol, by the side of those of William Penn and John Smith.

EARLY FRENCH SETTLERS.

The character of the early French Canadian settlers was of that cast the least adapted to advance the solid growth of any nation. Originally imported to Canada from the peasantry of the French Provinces, or taken from the transient and unsettled population of the frontier towns of that empire, a class never distinguished for morals or intelligence, they were introduced into this part of the west by the members of the old French trading companies, in order to carry out the interests of their royal and chartered monopolies, in a traffic that was necessarily confined to the line of the lakes. We find them scattered around the frontier posts of the lake waters, at Detroit, Michilimackinac, the Sault de Sainte Marie, Green Bay, and other interior posts, extending to Lake Superior and the borders of the Mississippi. They were a class of men, mild, affable, contented so long as they could obtain a cup of "hominee" or a haunch of venison, willing to embark in their canoes and sweep the whole extent of the lake waters, to traverse the uttermost depths of the woods, to wear the dress of demi-savages, the capote, the blanket coat, the crimson sash, the leggins of deer skin, the embroidered moccasins, and the scalping knife, to lodge with the Indians in their wigwams, to take to themselves Indian wives or concubines, to rear up a swarm of half-bred children, to further the interests of their employers, and to regard their seigneurs with a reverence which belonged to the most aristocratic period of the French monarchy. A small portion of these French settlers devoted themselves to husbandry, planted fruit trees which are now to be seen, and raised corn and wheat within the picket fences that enclosed their narrow farms, that stood for protection under the shadow of the French forts; but, they also wore the deer-skin leggins, the red sash, the Indian turban, and the moccasins; their husbandry was marked by no thrift, and the rich soil was made to yield scarcely sufficient to supply their necessary wants. They pursued just such a course of alternate indolence and exertion in the fur trade as might have been expected from the elements of which they were composed, demi-civilized in their habitudes of thought, surrounded as they were by savage associations, incorporated in intercourse and in blood with the Indians, and looking up with a blind reverence to the seigniorial system of Canada, which had been originally imported from France, and handed down from their fathers."

MEETING OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

At an early hour on Tuesday the 21st July, the great mass of persons drawn hither from all parts of England by the approaching festivities, were up and on the *qui vive* to join the throng, which, in

vehicles of all sorts, from the carriage-in-four to the humble chaise-cart, were crowded to witness the trial of agricultural implements in Mr. Grain's field, on the Hill's Road. By ten o'clock there was neither horse nor any machine on two wheels left in the town. The roads leading to the different places where the trials were to take place, presented a most attractive sight. At a little past ten the trial of agricultural implements commenced. Near the field where this was going on, thrashing and dressing machines, &c., were at work, and at a little distance, in a large field (also the property of Mr. Grain), a most interesting spectacle presented itself in the ploughing match; 50 ploughs started, and, as the object was not to reach the goal soonest, but to reach it by the shortest and most even line, the individual interest excited by each competitor was maintained throughout. The multitude of people on this spot was so very large, and the number of horsemen galloping to and fro, the carriages filled with ladies and gentlemen, and the cheerful influence of an unusually fine day, created a scene which we have seldom seen surpassed.

On the following day, the great dinner of this Society took place at Cambridge, in the immense and truly beautiful pavilion erected for the purpose, on the lawn of Downing College. There could not have been less than 2500 persons present. The great majority of the tables were laid out in a circular or amphitheatrical form, each raised above the other in an inclined plane. Parallel with the entrance were the two principal tables, on a raised platform, at which sat the President and the distinguished persons present, to the number of about 150. The whole presented a splendid *coup-d'oeil*.

After the usual loyal toasts, which were received with the most rapturous applause, the Noble Chairman, his Grace the Duke of Richmond, called on Sir Robert Peel to propose the next toast—"Success to the English Agricultural Society."

Sir ROBERT PEEL rose, in the midst of a tumult of applause, which continued for some minutes, on the subsiding of which, he said, that it would be affectation in him to mistake those demonstrations of esteem and personal good will with which he had been received. He appealed to them that the Society had no connection with public opinion; there they came in conflict with no party, but this was the temple of peace, where they could come and deposit all their objections. It would be superfluous in him to dilate on the benefits of agriculture, as that noble science did not require his advocacy. Could any one have attended that meeting, or been within those walls, and say when they saw that large assemblage of the farmers of England, that a thousand prejudices had not been abandoned. Science could bestow further benefit on agriculture, and farmers found that the resources and implements of their forefathers would not now do. He saw in the operations of the Society a beautiful combination of moral and physical principles. It was not merely contributing to the divine command to increase and multiply; it was not its scattering plenty over a splendid land; but it was cultivating and extending minds. It was ploughing up the subsoil of their affections; its timely influence was affecting social converse, and it was sowing the seeds of peace and good-will amongst mankind. It had a tendency to give the landowner a noble and dignified relaxation, and to advance his own interest and benefit—it taught him the value of science, and that by knowledge the influence of rank and birth was extended; but, above all, it had a tendency to keep him at home, and remain the centre of the small community in which he lived; it would keep him from the temptations of removal, which were so much increased by the additional and increasing means of locomotion—it would keep together the landed proprietor, the yeomanry, and the labouring classes, for it would convince all that the hand that labours, and the mind that conceives, are united for common relations and common interests. He might be excused for making some observations on the place which had been selected for the meeting the ensuing year, and perhaps, more so as he was a native of Lancashire. He was proud that they were going to visit the great outlet of the manufactures of the country, and this was, perhaps, not unnatural, as he was the son of a manufacturer. He rejoiced in the prospects of seeing these two great interests brought face to face, as it would confirm the natural connection which exists between them. It was impossible but that manufactures should shed a kindly feeling upon agriculture, and that the converse should be the case, for if one were to decline the other would fail. He could not overlook another advantage, for the proximity of Manchester to the western coast would give the greatest facility for communication with Ireland, and inviting its competition. It was impossible but that its meeting in that town would be attended with great moral and social effects. They would invite Scotland there, to show how they had followed her example, and they would encourage Ireland to induce her to follow their example. There was no narrow principle, but a natural tie which united them; there could be no selfish feeling, for an unsuccessful competitor would rejoice in the success of his neighbour. The meeting cannot take place without confirming the friendly relations of all interests. It would call into effect the resources and improve the agriculture, not only of this country, nor even of Europe, but of the whole world. Its benefits were not restricted to England, for the whole world would participate in them. Sir Robert Peel concluded a most eloquent speech by proposing, "Success to the English Agricultural Society," and he hoped that it would be drank with just so much enthusiasm as not to endanger the walls of the building. (Tremendous cheering.)

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM proposed "Commerce, manufactures, and agriculture." With a firm union of the three, the country must prosper, under the blessing of Divine Providence, in spite of every effort against her. (Loud cheers.)

The noble President, in proposing the next toast, which was the health of a distinguished individual present, the Honourable A. Stevenson, Minister of the United States, and an honorary member of the Society, said that he well knew the farmers of England, and they would all warrant him in saying that they wished, one and all, for peace and tranquillity. (Cheers.)

Mr. STEVENSON, the American Minister, then rose, and was received very warmly by the meeting. He said, it would be affectation in him to say that the scene before him was unexampled by all he had ever witnessed before. From such an assembly the kindness which he had received he felt deeply, and it was rendered doubly grateful by the flattering manner in which his name and his country had been mentioned by the noble President. The motives, too, were as delightful as the manner of the toast. They did not bear so much personally—he was not the personal object of the toast, but his fellow-countrymen, whom he had the honour to represent. Most truly had the Noble Duke said that it was the wish of the American people to cultivate peace and good will with England; and when he

looked on that vast and influential assembly, representing, as it did, the interests, not only of English agriculture, but the agriculture of the United Kingdom, he knew, and he felt that there was much to be done by it to strengthen those ties of peace and concord which happily subsisted between the two countries. (Cheers.) This was not an age of war, thank God; and the time was gone by when it was considered the natural state of man, and peace was looked upon as a difficult and dangerous experiment. The soldier and the sword were no longer the security for humane and peaceful nations—the schoolmaster and not the warrior, was now abroad; and the rulers of the earth were already beginning to be taught, by the stability of their thrones and power, to trust not so much to the terrors of war as to the milder influence and moral force of a virtuous, enlightened, and religious people. (Loud cheers.) These were the principles of a new and reforming age, principles which were gaining strength throughout the nations, and which were held sacred by two nations in particular, Britain and America, united as they were by kindred ties and mutual interests, and each under the influence of public opinion. (Cheers.) And in this age, when the love of peace, of knowledge, of Christianity, was overspreading the earth, was there one human being of the most ordinary enlightenment—was there a Christian—above all, was there a descendant of the Anglo-Saxon, who would not look upon any breach between the two countries as the greatest evil which could happen to the cause of humanity and the rising liberties of mankind? (Cheers.) England and America were too wise to go to war with each other, and he trusted much that this would ever be the case, to the virtue, the prudence, and the foresight of those who wielded the destinies of the two countries. (Cheers.) The English Agricultural Society nobly vindicated the feelings of those by whom it was originated for the spread of agriculture, not alone in Great Britain, but all over the world. He felt proud of being deemed worthy to be elected one of its members, and the only regret he entertained was, that, unable to afford it any benefit respecting any agricultural experiment, he could only offer it his homage and the best wishes of his heart. (Loud cheers.)

"The health of the Duke of Richmond," which was then proposed by Mr. Stevenson, was received with loud acclamations.

The Duke of Richmond returned thanks. The Marquis of Downshire, the Earl of Hardwicke, Sir James Graham, Professor Buckland, Professor Whewell, the Duke of Rutland, Earl Spencer, Mr. Handley, M. P., and Mr. Pusey, M. P., addressed the meeting, after which the assembly broke up.

PROTEST OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON AGAINST THE THIRD READING OF THE BILL FOR THE RE-UNION OF THE CANADAS.

Dissentient.

1st. Because the union of the two Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada into one Province, to be governed by one Administration and Legislature, is inconsistent with sound policy.

2d. Because the territory contained in the two Provinces is too extensive to be so governed with convenience.

3d. Because the communications from one part of the country to others are very long and difficult; the difficulties whereof vary, not only in different localities and parts of the country, but in the same locality at different seasons of the year.

4th. Because the expense which might be incurred to remedy the inconveniences and to overcome the difficulties of the communications at one season would not only be useless, but might be prejudicial, and render the communications impracticable at other seasons.

5th. Because, even on the hypothesis that a central place is fixed upon as the metropolis and seat of government of the United Province, and for the assembly of the Legislature, still the communication with the distant parts of the United Province would require a journey of from 500 to 1,000 miles by land or by water, and in most cases by both.

6th. Because the inhabitants of these Provinces, having originally emigrated from different parts of the world, talk different languages, and have been governed and have held their lands and possessions under laws and usages various in their principle and regulations as are the countries from which they originally emigrated, and as are their respective languages.

7th. Because portions of this mixed population profess to believe in not less than fifteen different systems or sections of Christian belief or opinion; the clergy of some of these being maintained by establishments, those of others not; the Roman Catholic clergy of French origin being maintained by an establishment, while the Roman Catholic clergy attached to the Roman Catholic population of British origin have no established maintenance; and the system of provision for the clergy of the Churches of England and Scotland is still under discussion in Parliament.

8th. Because these inhabitants of the two Provinces, divided as they are in religious opinions, have no common interest, excepting the navigation of the river St. Lawrence, in the exclusive enjoyment of which they cannot protect themselves, whether internally, within their own territory, or externally; but they must look for protection in the enjoyment of the same to the political influence and naval and military power of the British Empire.

9th. Because the Legislative Union of these Provinces is not necessary in order to render them the source of great influence and power to the Mother country.

10th. Because the operations of the late war, terminated in the year 1815 by the treaty of Ghent, which were carried on with but little assistance from the Mother country in regular troops, have demonstrated that these Provinces are capable of defending themselves against all the efforts of their powerful neighbours the United States.

11th. Because the military operations in the recent insurrection and rebellion have tended to show that the military resources and qualities of the inhabitants of Upper Canada have not deteriorated since the late war in North America.

12th. Because the late Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, Sir Francis Head, having, upon the breaking out of the rebellion in Lower Canada in the year 1837, detached from Upper Canada all the regular forces therein stationed, relied upon the loyalty, gallantry, and exertions of the local troops, militia, and volunteers of the Province of Upper Canada.

13th. Because, with the aid of those, under the command of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada, Colonel Sir Allan M. N. B., he first defeated the rebels in Upper Canada, and then aided in putting down the rebellion in Lower Canada, at the same time that he was carrying on operations in resistance to the invasion of the Province under his government by plunderers, marauders, and robbers from the United States, under the name of Sympathizers in the supposed grievances of the in-

habitants of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada.

14th. Because the legislative union of the two Provinces, although the subject of much literary and other discussion, had never been considered by the Legislature of Upper Canada, excepting on terms which could not be proposed, or by any competent authority in the Lower Province, excepting in the Report of a late Governor General.

15th. Because the Bill introduced into Parliament in the year 1839, having in view a legislative union of the two Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, was withdrawn before it was completed.

16th. Because the Legislature of the Province of Upper Canada, which had co-operated with the Government under Sir Francis Head, and had enabled him, after getting the better of the insurrection in Upper Canada, to assist the Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Forces in 1837 and 1838 to put down the rebellion in the Province of Lower Canada, was not fairly consulted upon the proposed measures for the legislative union of the two Provinces.

17th. Because a despatch, dated the 16th of October, 1839, having for its object the introduction into Upper Canada of new rules for the future administration of the patronage of the Government and for the tenure of office, was made public at Toronto on some days previous to the assembly of the Legislature of Upper Canada, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposed law for the legislative union of the two Provinces; and the members of the two Chambers of the Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada must have had reason to believe that her Majesty's Government were anxious to carry through that particular measure, and that they would be exposed to all the consequences of opposition to the views of her Majesty's Government, as communicated in the said despatch, if they should object to the bill proposed to them.

18th. Because it is well known that there is in Upper Canada a large body of persons eager to obtain the establishment in her Majesty's Colonies in North America of local responsible government, to which they had been encouraged to look by the Report of the late Governor General, the Earl of Durham, recently published.

19th. Because these persons considered that the despatch of the 16th of October, 1839, then published, held out a prospect of the establishment of a local responsible government under the Government of the United Provinces.

20th. Because another despatch, dated 14th October, 1839, appears to have been sent to the Governor General at the same time with that of the 16th October, 1839; in which despatch of the 14th October, 1839, her Majesty's Secretary of State clearly explains the views of her Majesty's Government upon the subject of and against the concession of local responsible government in the Colonies.

21st. Because this despatch was not published, nor its contents made known, in Upper Canada, during the session of the Legislature, for the consideration of the measure of the legislative union, although called for by the Provincial Parliament; upon which call the Governor General answered by the expression of his regret that it was not in his power to communicate to the House of Assembly any despatches upon the subject referred to.

22d. Because the Legislature of Upper Canada must have voted in favour of the measure proposed to them while under the influence of a sense of the intentions of Government declared to be erroneous in relation to the despatch of the 16th October, and in total ignorance of the intentions of her Majesty's Government in respect to local responsible government in the Colonies, as declared in the despatch from the Secretary of State to the Governor General, dated the 14th October, which it appears that his Excellency had in his possession during the discussions in the Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada, on the measure of the legislative union of the two Provinces.

23d. Because it appears the French population of Lower Canada have generally declared against the legislative union of the two Provinces.

24th. Because the bill cannot be considered by any as giving facility to the administration of the Government of the Province of Canada by her Majesty's officers when united by virtue of its provisions, and security in the dominion to the Crown of the United Kingdom.

25th. Because the difficulties existing in the government of the two Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada under the provisions of the Act of the 31st Geo. III, which led to insurrection and rebellion, were the result of party-spirit, excited and fomented by leaders in the Legislative Assembly in each Province, acting in latter times in communication, concert, and co-operation with citizens of the bordering Provinces of the United States.

26th. Because the union into one Legislature of the discontented spirits heretofore existing in two separate Legislatures will not diminish, but will tend to augment the difficulties attending the administration of the government, particularly under the circumstances of the encouragement given to expect the establishment in the United Province of a local responsible administration of government.

27th. Because a spirit had still been manifested in the adjoining Provinces of the United States in recent acts of outrage upon the lives and property of her Majesty's subjects on the frontier, and even within her Majesty's dominions, which must tend to show in what light the spirit of opposition to her Majesty's Administration in the Legislature of the United Province will be viewed in the United States.

(Signed) WELLINGTON.

LONDON, JULY 3.—We observe in the language of the Parisian Ministerial and Court journals of Friday and Saturday a considerable abatement of rancour in relation to the Eastern question; but the official ordinances in the *Moniteur* indicate that the French Government means to do something more than "unpack its heart with words." Be it so. Deficient as our preparations for war may be, owing to the criminal apathy and sluggishness of our MELBOURNES and our MINTOS, the French will find, if they put us to the test, that England is England still. It is certain, at the worst, that there is no Englishman who would not rather fight against the forces of France than scold in competition with her writers.

The Bonapartist journals complain that the Ministry does not go fast enough, and that NAPOLEON would have had already 200,000 men on the Rhine.

The *Quotidienne* and *Gazette de France* approve the military measures taken, but blame the appeal to the revolutionary spirit and classes of Europe, as if France had no allies to look to save these. Were France rightly governed she would not want allies, nor be dependent either upon the rattle bands of democracy, or on the tender mercies of Lord PALMERSTON. Such are the arguments of the Legitimists.

M. THIERS has sent Count VALEWSKI, the son of NAPOLEON, on a secret mission to Egypt and Syria. Count VALEWSKI has taken large sums with him.

The French Court seems even more indignant against the British Secretary of Foreign Affairs