

THE RESOURCES OF UPPER CANADA:  
AND THE VALUE OF THAT PROVINCE TO ENGLAND.

**THE** British North American provinces are at length receiving that attention in Great Britain which their vast national importance requires. When the multifarious interests, maritime, commercial, and manufacturing, are considered in connexion with these colonies, it must be admitted, that the ignorance of their value which has heretofore existed has been as unaccountable as it is criminal. The thrilling scenes which have occurred in Canada during the last three years have tended to draw much public attention to the subject, and, although much blood has been spilt, and much treasure expended, to maintain the honour and rights of the crown, and to prevent the dismemberment of the empire, it has not been without its good,-

“ And like a toad, ugly and venomous,  
Yet wears a precious jewel in its head.”

Of the whole North American provinces, Canada, from the circumstances referred to, obviously commands the greatest interest. Its climate, geographical position, and other incidental peculiarities, comparing them both with the old world, and with those countries recently colonized, fully justifies the assertion, that it is inferior to none. Extensive enough to become a powerful empire-productive enough to export agricultural produce to an immense amount-highly favourable for the breeding of the best description and varieties of stock-containing less wild animals of prey, venomous reptiles, or noxious insects, than is found to have been the case in any new country on **record**—extremely salubrious-affording opportunity for out-door **labour** equal to any portion of Europe-capable of producing in abundance all useful vegetable productions—possessing a clear, bright, transparent atmosphere, exempt from fogs, pestilence, and every disease not common in all new countries, and even totally free from these in many of its settled as well as unsettled **tracts**,—with all these admirable combinations, it has besides the extraordinary advantage of an extent of water **communication** almost incalculable ; so great, indeed, that it would be difficult to select any one spot fifty miles distant from a navigable lake or river. Whilst the clearness and brilliancy of the air gives it a decided preference to Great Britain, it is far beyond the more northern nations of Europe in its freedom from storms, in its vast **productive-**

ness, in its scarcity of useless lands, its abundant and excellent water, and the goodness and variety of its fruits.

On looking at the interesting continent of America, democracy is beheld, at least in the United States, everywhere in the ascendant—everywhere are beheld the symbols of a nominal republicanism—the emblematical **fascēs** of the Roman lictor—the eagle, or the stars, the latter varying in number according to the subordinate divisions of each nation. Canada alone holds to monarchical government. Thus isolated in her political system, notwithstanding the contagion of neighbouring example, she holds a peculiar position, both in relation to the American continent, and the future destinies of Great Britain. If she should continue to resist these external influences of democracy—if no finesse of American diplomacy serves to blind the eyes of the people of England to the value of their **jewel**—if neither plausible inventions nor force of arms are able to wrest these colonies from England, then indeed may we hope to see Canada become a breakwater to the vast encroaching waves of democracy, a nucleus round which all the scattered lovers of order and good government will rally in the hour of anarchy and civil discord, which, we regret to think, is now evidently brooding over the leviathan republic.

Looking at this question again as a maritime question ; of what inconceivable importance to British naval supremacy is it, that Great **Britain** should possess the sole control of that vast estuary the St. Lawrence, the mighty discharge of all the waters of the North—the grand highway from the ocean to the sources of the Mississippi ! Again, whilst so powerful a feeling exists on the subject of the corn **laws**—the landlord dreading, on the one hand, an influx of foreign corn, which would inundate the country were the corn laws repealed, totally precluding the possibility of rents, and throwing large districts of country out of cultivation ; and, on the other hand, the industrious mechanic and manufacturer having all his **labour** exhausted and his wages sucked up, to procure him **bread**,—how natural to look to a district like Canada, that would prevent the infliction of either extreme, and enable both the landlord and labourer to remain uninjured, if the grain or agricultural produce of our North American colonies were permitted to be received in Great Britain at a nominal duty.

The surface of Canada, rich with accumulated soil of the **decayed** forests of centuries, offers both to the judicious capitalist, the **'sturdy** yeoman, and the industrious labourer, every inducement to invest skill, enterprise, capital, and **labour**, with a certainty of reward. From the first sound of the axe, fifty years ago, in the forests of Upper **Canada**,

**not** one unremunerated stroke has been dealt to its huge and dense forests, which have regularly undergone a course of subjugation, until it is now estimated that that noble province **has** about two millions of acres of cleared lands, as fertile as any under the sun, and never failing to recompense the cultivator who combines both knowledge and judgment with his labours. From the statistics of the province, recently collected by Mr. Fothergill, it appears that Upper Canada now owns as many horses as were to be found in England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who ordered a census to be taken, on the prospect of invasion by the Spanish Armada, when all that could be mustered were stated at 56,000, a number much less than Upper Canada can now furnish. This too, it must be remembered, was several hundreds of years after the **first** struggle of our ancestors; and Upper Canada scarcely can lay claim to half **a** century's existence. So that in the short space of fifty years, that infant province, a very giant in its cradle, has an accumulation of agricultural wealth, equal, if not surpassing that of our ancestors, after the toil of some four hundred years, without either famine, pestilence, or murrain amongst cattle, so frequent in the first settlement of England. The field then that this vast, extensive, fertile, near domain, offers for British emigrants is unsurpassed ; and the success which has already followed but a partial colonization is abundant security, how glorious and glowing the results would be from an extensive, well-arranged, judicious, and continued emigration. Many parts of the Newcastle, the Home, the London, and the Western **districts**, were peopled by the deserving indigent population of the United Kingdom, who, having drawn forth the dormant resources of a noble country, are themselves participators of the blessings they called into existence. In the year 1832, the immigration of Upper Canada was nearly 52,000 persons ; and **180,000** acres of land were sold, principally, to actual settlers. **The** rise of property was very considerable in consequence. More shipping was employed from the parent **state**—more schooners and steam-boats plied on the lakes and rivers—and the whole country seemed animated with enterprise and occupied with business.

And when it is remembered that from the Gulf of the St. Lawrence there **is** nearly **2000** miles of internal navigation, and 6000 miles of frontier—that there are fisheries of incredible value, minerals of every **description**—the finest arable and grazing land, all courting the skill, enterprise, and industry of Great Britain, it is time that both the government and the people turned their attention more decidedly to this interesting continent, The march of **agrarianism** is fearfully on

the increase in the republic of America ; and Canada, if **not** attended to by England, may be the ground of antagonist principles. If the monarchy of Great Britain be vanquished in the inevitable struggle—"farewell, a long farewell to all its greatness"—and if ever the emblem **of** republicanism should wave from the minarets of Quebec, instead of that proud and glorious banner which now floats triumphantly and majestically on its battlements, the knell of England's glory will ring across the wide Atlantic, and the desolating progress of anarchy may not be stayed till civilization be again driven from the face of the earth. It is hazarding **nothing**—it is the veritable, undeniable fact, that on the maintenance of her colonial empire depends the perpetuation of Great Britain's existence as a nation of the first rank ; and it is but too evident that it is only by the immediate adoption of a vigorous system of colonization that the integrity of our empire in the western hemisphere can be much longer maintained. It is neither the fleets nor the armies of the neighbouring republic that are to be dreaded—it is the insidious infusion of its peculiar political principle of government, to which the only, and certainly the most legitimate and potent barrier, that can now be irriterposed, is the moral influence of British loyalty, which emigration from the parent state would transfuse into the social system of the American colonies.\* These cursory observations shall form the subject of an extended communication in a future number.

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#### CHINA; ITS AREA, POPULATION, GEOGRAPHY, &c.

**CHINA**, from the force of **circumstances**, which in England take the place of principles, is become an object of great importance to England, not merely by reason of the extent of trade which we carry on with that populous and fertile portion of the globe, but also on account of **the** international relations arising out of the stoppage of the opium trade, to which we adverted in our preceding number. Fortunately, several valuable publications have recently appeared respecting the history and actual condition of China; at present we may briefly advert to three works, which we would strenuously advise our readers

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\* The writer of this article entertains those strong feelings which are characteristic of a loyal British colonist : every sensible citizen of the United States will equally deplore with him the dangerous state of the American Union.—Ed.

to Consult, - those of the Rev. Charles Gutzlaff,\* of W. H. Medhurst,† a clerical gentleman, sent out to China by the London Missionary Society, and the Life of the late good and able Dr. Morrison.‡ As we shall have occasion to advert frequently to these valuable records, derived from personal experience, we pass on to offer a *coup d'œil* of the territory to which our remarks refer.

China Proper is situated between the 18th and 41st parallel of north lat., and the 98th and 123d degree of east long. By some the length of China has been estimated at 2,000 miles, and the breadth at 1,500 miles. It contains, according to Mr. Gutzlaff, 1,298,000 square miles. On the north, it is separated from Mongolia and Mantchooria by the great wall ; on the south, it is bounded by the China sea, Tonkin, Birmah, and Laos ; on the east, by the gulf of Pichelee and the eastern ocean ; and on the west, by Tibet, Little Bukharia, and Turkestan.

China is divided into fourteen, or, according to Mr. Gutzlaff, into eighteen provinces, which are again subdivided into Foos, Choos, Tings, and Heens, or counties, districts, hundreds, &c. We know but little of the topography of this vast country ; a large part is represented as mountainous and sterile, with vast alluvial plains towards the *debouchements* of the great rivers Kianesi, (Blue river,) Hwang, or Hoan Ho, (Yellow river,) Ta, (Canton river,) &c., and along the borders of extensive lakes, and in the neighbourhood of creeks, bays, and harbours.

In a despotic government, we have generally better means of ascertaining the progress of population than in free countries. The following shows the progress of population in China since A.D. 1393.—  
 A.D. 1393, population 60,545,811, (authority, Kang-keen-e-chu ; )  
 1743, population 157,301,755, (Amiot-Pekin documents ; )  
 1762, population 198,214,553, (Grossier and Pekin documents ; )  
 1792, population 307,467,200, (Anglo - Chinese College Report ; )  
 1813, population 361,693,879, (census taken in the 18th year of Keaking, including the population of Tartary and the dependent provinces.)

The justly celebrated Dr. Morrison quotes, with approbation and conviction of its veracity, the following census of the provinces of China from an official work, called the Ta-tsing, published by authority

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\* A Sketch of Chinese History, Ancient and Modern, containing a Retrospect of the Foreign Intercourse and Trade with China. Illustrated by a new and corrected Map of the Empire. 2 vols. 8vo. Smith, Elder, & Co.

† China, its State and Prospects, with especial Reference to the Spread of the Gospel. By W. H. Medhurst, of the London Missionary Society. 1 vol. 8vo. pp. 592. John Snow, Paternoster-row.

‡ Memoirs of the Life and Labours of Dr. Morrison. By his Widow. 2 vols. 8vo. Longman & Co.

in 1825. This table gives the population at 352,866,012, which, in proportion to the square mile, is about 288,—equal to the number of inhabitants in England, but inferior to that of Ireland and to the Netherlands, where there are more than 300 mouths to the square mile.

Population, &c. of China Proper, exclusive of Tartary, the Dependent Provinces, and the Colonies.

Provinces.	Square miles.	Mouths.	Fixed Revenue.	Military force.	Mouths per sq. mile.	Latitude of provincial capitals(N)	English miles from Peking.	English acres in each province.	
			£			° /			
East	Canton . . . .	79,456	19,174,030	424,567	99,600	241	23 10	2,720	50,851,840
	Fokien . . . .	53,480	14,777,410	377,507	76,000	275	26 2	2,202	34,227,200
	Tchekiang . .	39,150	26,256,784	1,357,593	59,000	670	30 20	1,185	25,056,000
	Riannang . . .	92,961	72,011,560	2,458,476	132,000	774	32 4	862	59,495,040
	Shankong . . .	65,104	28,958,764	1,231,807	35,000	444	36 44	287	41,666,560
Midi	Ptcheli . . . .	58,949	27,990,871	923,931	241,000	478	39 55	Peking	37,727,360
	Quangsi . . . .	78,250	23,046,999	981,374	39,000	319	25 13	2,680	50,080,000
	Houquang . .	144,770	46,022,605	738,123	88,000	311	30 34	1,183	92,652,800
	Honan . . . .	65,104	23,037,171	1,052,823	24,000	353	34 52	553	41,666,560
	Shansi . . . .	55,268	14,004,210	1,061,916	35,000	267	37 53	421	353,7 15,200
West	Yunnan . . . .	107,969	5,561,320	165,306	53,000	58	25 6	2,946	69,100,160
	Kmeichom . . .	64,554	5,288,219	36,764	70,000	82	26 30	2,745	41,314,560
	Tzeecheun . .	166,800	21,435,678	195,484	85,000	128	30 40	2,048	106,752,000
	Shensi . . . .	154,008	25,300,381	497,610	104,000	164	34 15	952	98,565,120
Total and Average	1,225,823	352,866,012	11,513,281	1,139,000	288				784,526,120

In order to convey an idea of the locality and condition of each province, we quote according to Mr. Gutzlaff, the aspect of several of the principal provinces.

Pih-chih-le, or Chih-le, (in which Peking is situated) according to Gutzlaff, contains 50,700 square miles, and by the latest census 27,990,871 inhabitants. The soil is sandy, and by no means fertile—the coast flat, destitute of any good harbours, and bordered by extensive shoals. The only emporium, Teentzin, on the Pih-ho, is a large trading place.

Keeang-sco and Gan-hwuy, forming Keang-nan provinces, contains 81,500 square miles and 72,011,560 inhabitants. The declination towards the sea is a fine plain, containing many thousand villages and cities, densely peopled by men, whose skill, industry, and literary talents, are celebrated all over the empire. The inland navigation is extensive, but the coast has few harbours, the chief of which is Shanghai.

Keang-see is 27,000 square miles in extent, with 30,426,999 inhabitants, the principal cities being Nanchang-foo and Iao-choo-fou.

Fuh-keen provinces, containing 57,150 square miles and 14,777,410 inhabitants, with Formosa or Taewan island under its jurisdiction, is

flat on the western coast. Amoy, Tseuen-choo, or Chin-choo, and Fuh-choo-foo, the capital of the province, are the most important ports. The southern parts are barren, and the people (who are enterprising and commercial) are supplied with grain from the rich island of Formosa, which is the granary of this part of China.

Che-Këang, containing 57,200 square miles, and 26,256,784 inhabitants, is celebrated for its beauty and romantic scenery, particularly the capital, named Hang-choo. The harbours of Ningpo, Chapo, Wanchoo, and Taechoo, are in this province. Che-Keang is colloquially called the land of green teas and silks.

Hoopih and Hoonan, forming Hookwang, are highly extolled for their fertility.

Honan province is one of the finest tracts of land in China, the greater part being a plain swelling towards the Winto mountains.

Shantung has fertile vallies with a rocky coast, jutting promontories, and many good harbours, the principal emporiums being Ting-choo-foo and Kaou-choo-foo. Shense is supposed to be fertile, as famines rarely occur.

Sze-chuen province comprises 175,600 square miles, with 21,435,678 inhabitants, or 122 mouths to the square mile. It is said to be extensively cultivated, but it contains many mountain ridges and sand flats. Yunnan is stated to be very mountainous, and the inhabitants little better than savages.

Kwan-tung, or Canton, as it is called by Europeans, contains, according to Mr. Gutzlaff, 97,100 square miles, with 19,174,030 inhabitants. It possesses several good harbours, of which Canton is the principal.

It would be unnecessary to particularize any of the other provinces, of which indeed we know little more than the name.

The country is intersected by noble rivers ; that of Yang-tsze-reang is described as perhaps the largest river in the world. The Hwang-ho, or Yellow River, is also a vast stream, its course from its source to the sea is about 2000 miles. There are several large lakes, but their positive extent is unknown.

Two chains of mountains run s. e. and n. w. ; but Kwang-se and Kwei-chow, and other provinces, are mountainous, while Chih-le and Keang-soo, are alluvial plains like Holland, or Bengal.

The Chinese are supposed to be branches of the tribe of Mongols, who, as population extended, spread themselves over the vast regions now distinguished by the name of China. From an early period they carried on intercourse with foreign nations.

It is recorded in their annals, that 2000 years **B. c.** islanders brought, *as* tribute, (so all presents or gifts are termed,) flowered garments ; 1700 B.C. there came from the E. to China, the *Yeu-gow*, whose hair was cut short, their bodies decorated, and who brought with them cases made of fish-skins, sharp swords, and shields, 1000 **B.C.** China held during the *Chow* dynasty, intercourse with eight barbarous nations of *Teen-chu* (India.) 200 B.C. (Han dynasty) nations came from the S., the nearest being ten days' journey, and the most remote five months ; their territories possessed' many rare commodities. 121 years B.C. the **emperor of China sent able ambassadors lo the different mercantile countries,\*** where they obtained bright pearls, gems and precious stones, yellow gold, and various other commodities. **A.D. 176,** *Teen-chuh* (India) and *Ta-tsin*, (Egypt or Arabia,) and other foreigners, came by southern sea to Canton with tribute and for trade ; **A.D. 600,** during the *Suy* dynasty, ambassadors were sent from China to the surrounding nations. Similar statements to the foregoing are continued up to the arrival of the Portuguese, Dutch, and French, &c. and they prove, 1st, that China has maintained foreign intercourse for a long period ; and, 2d, that foreign commerce is of more consequence to China than the government will admit.<sup>7</sup>

It may be valuable in the present state of affairs to know the actual relation in which foreigners have hitherto stood in China, and the position of Canton and Macao—we therefore subjoin the following details, for which we are indebted to the late accurate Dr. Morrison :—

**CANTON**, the name given by Europeans to the city of *Kwang-chow-foo*, is a corruption of *Kwangtung*, the Chinese name of the province. The Chinese themselves never apply the name of the province to the city, but commonly call it Sang-thing, the provincial city or capital. The province of Canton was known, under various names, at an early period of Chinese history, as a barbarous and uncivilized country; but it was not till about 220 **years before the Christian era**, that the Chinese monarchs began to turn their attention and their arms towards it. *Tsin-che-hwang*, the founder of the *Tsin* dynasty, and the first universal monarch of China, pushed his conquests to the south of the **Mei-ling** chain, which bounds Canton province on the

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\* These statements are given by the late excellent and lamented Dr. Morrison in the Chinese Repository for January, 1833.

† **A.D. '700,** Canton was first made a regular commercial port of the Chinese empire by the appointment of an officer to receive part of the profits of trade for the government. **A.D. 1400,** the Chinese compelled foreigners to **bring** tribute every third year to Canton, and one hundred and twenty houses were built for their accommodation.

north, and rendered tributary to the empire the whole country of *Yue* and *Min*, (as *Canton*, *Fuhkeen*, **Cochin china**, and the surrounding kingdoms were then called,) placing therein viceroys of his own appointment. It was this monarch who, with the vain hope of destroying the records of all reigns previous to his own, caused a general conflagration of all the ancient books ; and it was he also who, to ward off the attacks of the Tartar tribes on the north, built the great wall of China. But the dynasty which he had established in conquest and rapine, in tyranny and profusion, did not last long : for his brother having caused his death, and usurped the throne thus left vacant, all the lately subdued states and kingdoms threw off their allegiance, and declared war against the usurper. Amongst the rest *Chaou-to*, an assistant of the aged and dying viceroy of *Canton*, (which then included under its government the provinces of *Kwangse* and *Yunnan*, and the kingdoms of *Cochin-china* and *Tonquin*,) took the regal title, and retired soon after into *Cochin-china*. During his continuance at *Canton*, he is said to have built, as a palace or pleasure house, the remarkable edifice called the seven-storied pagoda, which is still to be seen on the hill at the north of the city. This building is now deserted, and, like the pagodas in general, supposed to have a beneficial influence in keeping away evil spirits from the neighbourhood. When the founder of the *Han* dynasty succeeded, shortly after, in overthrowing the usurper of the imperial throne, and in his turn took the title of emperor, and maintained it by force of arms ; *Chou-to* was compelled to give up the dominion which he had assumed in *Canton* and *Kwangse*, and to acknowledge himself as king of *Cochin-china* and *Tonquin*, a tributary of the Chinese emperors. *Canton* then became the place of banishment for disgraced statesmen ; a punishment which the barbarity and cruelty of the natives, and the insalubrious nature of the country, rendered more terrible than death itself. Even at that early period, however, this city began to show symptoms of the luxury and extravagance which have since characterized it ; so that its inhabitants received a severe reprimand from the emperor for having sent him a present of some *fine* cloth, and a mandate was issued forbidding them to manufacture any more such cloth in future. From this time the trade and importance of *Canton* gradually increased, but little mention of it appears in Chinese history, except as the seat of rebellions, and the refuge of dethroned monarchs. The number of Chinese who first entered this and the neighbouring provinces, to the west and north-west, had driven the natives, who then possessed the country, and were probably the aborigines of it,

into fastnesses in the mountains, where they have ever since remained, under the independent government of their own chieftains, and whence they have often issued to attack their lowland neighbours. These mountaineers are known under the general denomination of *Meaou-tzse* ; but they are likewise distinguished, in various places, by several different epithets, all of which are of a contemptuous nature. The Chinese have frequently carried on destructive wars against them, but have never been able entirely to subdue them. On the island of **Hainan**, these people were not so much confined to their mountains as the other tribes on the main land, till the middle of the seventh century, when that island, then called *Keung-chow*, was colonized by order of the reigning emperor. About the same time, the Chinese annals relate that vessels brought rare commodities to Canton from foreign countries. And soon after, at the commencement of the eighth century, the famous pass through the Meiling mountains was cut, in order to facilitate intercourse between Canton and the more northern provinces of China. It was probably at this period that the Arabians and Moors first began to trade with China, as we find that during this and the following centuries there were, according to the accounts of two Arabian travellers, a very large number of Nohammedan traders, from Shiraz, Bussorah, &c. resident at Canfu (or Kwang-chow-foo.) The descendants of these Mohammedans are still numerous in Canton ; but of the Christians and Jews also mentioned by travellers, no traces have ever, with any degree of certainty, been found. Whilst the *Sung* dynasty occupied the throne of China, from the tenth to the twelfth century, Canton enjoyed much greater prosperity than ever before ; but, after its downfall, it was harassed by internal commotions, and the strifes of contending usurpers. It was in the thirteenth century, when the *Mong u l* dynasty, *Yuen*, had overpowered what remained of the *Sung* dynasty, that the travels of Marco Polo, in the north of China, first brought Europeans to an acquaintance with this country ; but the trade with the East being then in the hands of the Mohammedans, it was very seldom visited by any of the nations of Christendom, until the passage of the Cape of Good Hope by the Portuguese, upwards of two hundred years afterwards, had opened a road for ships from Europe to China. The first Europeans who visited China by sea were the Portuguese. In 1516, a vessel which had been despatched from this country, by Alfonso Albuquerque, Captain-General of Malacca, reached the islands in the front of the Canton river ; and, her voyage being altogether a successful one, she was followed next year by a fleet of eight vessels. But as the trade