

THE STATISTICAL YEAR-BOOK OF CANADA

FOR
1892.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

1. The Dominion of Canada has an area of about 3,315,647 square miles, or, including its water surface, 3,456,383 square miles, is about 3,500 miles from east to west and 1,400 miles from north to south, and consists of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec (formerly Upper and Lower Canada), Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island and the North-west Territories, (which latter contain the vast territory formerly under the control of the Hudson's Bay Company). It, therefore, comprises the whole of the northern half of North America, with the exception of the United States Territory of Alaska on the west, and Labrador, which is under the control of the Government of Newfoundland,* on the east. It is bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean, on the west by the Territory of Alaska† and the Pacific Ocean, on the south by the United States and on the east by the Atlantic Ocean.

The Dominion of Canada.

2. The origin of the word Canada is obscure, but the derivation now generally accepted is that from an Indian word, "Kannatha," meaning a village or collection of huts, and it is supposed that Jacques Cartier, hearing this word used by the Indians with reference to their settlements, mistook its meaning, and applied it to the whole country.

Origin of the name "Canada."

3. The principal physical features of Canada are the Rocky Mountains and the Laurentian Range, the plains of the North-west Territories and the great inland lakes.

Physical features.

4. The great inland lakes, which are five in number, and are remarkable for their size, form a complete system of navigation from the head

The great lakes.

*As the question of the admission of Newfoundland into the Confederation has been renewed, some particulars concerning that Island are given on a subsequent page.

†The boundary line between the Dominion and the Territory of Alaska is now the subject of an international survey.