

Miscellaneous.

The Resources and Business of Canada.

BY GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA.

I MAY say at the outset that Canada contains about three hundred and sixty thousand square miles of territory; has one hundred and sixty million acres of land, of which forty millions are already granted, and eleven millions are under cultivation; and has a coast line from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Lake Superior of over two thousand miles. Canada now possesses over two thousand miles of railroad, traversing the country in all directions, and adding immensely to the value of water communication and private property. These railways cost one hundred millions of dollars. One bridge alone cost twelve millions. Canada has four thousand miles of telegraph lines, which transmit three quarters of a million of messages every year. Canada has two hundred and fifty miles of canal, which cost sixteen millions of dollars, the first year carried over three million tons of freight, from which the Provincial Government received tolls amounting to nearly four hundred thousand dollars. The rivers of Canada are numbered by thousands; three of them, with their tributaries alone, drain one hundred and fifty thousand square miles of land. Five or six Canadian lakes cover eighty-four thousand square miles of surface. The mail routes of Canada embrace fifteen thousand miles of waggon-roads. On these are two thousand post-offices, which distribute annually eleven millions of letters, to say nothing of newspapers. The cost of maintaining the Post-Office Department is itself three quarters of a million dollars a year; nevertheless the income exceeds the expenditure.

The mineral wealth of Canada is almost fabulous, and only awaits the introduction of British and American capital to astonish the world. The Acton copper mine in Lower Canada is among the richest in existence, although the operations of the present proprietors have been partially paralyzed by attempts to do too much. The Lake Superior copper has already become famous for the extent of the deposit, and the value of the ore, while Lake Superior and St. Maurice iron need only to be mentioned, to arrest the attention of practical miners. The iron deposits of the Lake Superior country are believed to be inexhaustible. The gold diggings of the Chaudiere and Gilbert rivers in the Eastern Townships, have turned out well within the last two years. I have seen the men who handled the precious metal in that region. Americans have taken up immense quantities of land there, and are preparing to invest largely in mining operations next year; some have leased blocks of land from one hundred to two hundred square miles in extent each. A new company has just been formed in New York, with the large capital of five millions of dollars, to operate on the Chaudiere. The capital of companies and private individuals now engaged there, is counted by millions. The trade returns show that the produce of the mines, exported from Canada last year, amounted to nearly one hundred thousand dollars. Probably as much more went out of the country in private hands, besides what was retained by persons belonging to the Province. The oil wells of Upper Canada are still flowing; the region embraced by these is some ten thousand square miles in extent.

The militia number ninety thousand men. The volunteers alone number some thirty thousand. Four hundred thousand pounds of powder have been manufactured at Hamilton for their use this year. They require about one hundred and twenty drill instructors. Three hundred companies received clothing from Government last year, and the payment to Brigade-Majors, and for drill instruction alone, amounted to seventy-five thousand dollars. The cost of the militia last year was nearly half a million. This year military schools have been established at great expense, and company and regimental drill has been more frequent; the whole expense can scarcely fall short of three quarters of a million of dollars. The population of Canada capable of bearing arms numbers nearly half a million.

In Canada there are nearly three hundred newspapers, employing nearly two thousand persons; there are also three thousand clergymen. From 1829 to 1861, one million of emigrants arrived at the ports of Quebec and Montreal alone, one-third of whom took up their residence here. The Government gives a half million of dollars for educational purposes, and municipalities and people raise nearly two millions more. One University in Canada has cost private persons from two to three hundred thousand

dollars. There are over eight thousand schools of all descriptions in the Province, educating nearly six hundred thousand boys and girls. Over two million acres of land are appropriated to the Collegiate Institutions of Lower Canada.

The Manufactories of Canada are completed on a most extensive scale. To commence with the manufacture of Lumber, Canada contains over two thousand saw-mills, and in one year cut nearly eight million feet of lumber! She has over two hundred distilleries and breweries, which last year produced over nine million gallons of spirits and malt liquors, yielding an excise duty of over seven thousand dollars. These breweries and distilleries consumed over one million six hundred thousand bushels of grain and malt. There are at least one thousand flour, grist, and oat mills in this country; two hundred and fifty carding-mills; one hundred and thirty woollen factories, and five hundred tanneries. Other and less important features, are numberless. In speaking of the crops of Canada only millions can be used. Canada produces annually between twenty-five and thirty million bushels of wheat; twelve million bushels of peas; forty million bushels of oats; over a million and a half tons of hay; thirteen million bushels buckwheat; twenty-eight million bushels potatoes; nearly ten million bushels of turnips; kills thirty million pounds of beef; shears five and a half million pounds of wool; kills four million pounds of pork, and makes from forty-two to forty-five million pounds of butter.

The cattle, milch cows, horses, sheep and pigs on hand, number considerably over two millions. This is something like farming. Time would fail to give anything more than an outline of the products of this Province. Of her Fisheries, however, I may say that they produce annually one and a half million dollars. Lower Canada alone has two thousand five hundred fishing vessels. The Magdalen Islands, which belong to Canada, own two hundred and seventy fishing craft. The Banking Capital of the chartered banks of Canada is some thirty-three millions—much less, I should judge, than the necessities of her trade require.

The Province paid seven hundred thousand dollars last year to secure the "Administration of Justice" alone; while the cost of Legislation amounted to over six hundred thousand dollars more. The Board of Works has disbursed, on an average for the last ten years, nearly one million and a quarter dollars annually! The Canadian Government has received and disbursed in that period probably one hundred and thirty million dollars of revenue. The income for the present year is probably sixteen millions.

The imports of Canada last year footed up forty-six millions, and her exports forty-two millions. Of her imports (as stated in another of my letters), twenty-three millions were from the United States, and of these, nineteen millions came in free under the Reciprocity treaty. Canada's imports from Great Britain amounted to twenty millions. Of her exports (forty-two millions), seventeen millions went to Great Britain, and twenty millions to the United States. For instance: the States took over three hundred thousand dollars worth of copper, iron ore, scrap iron, stone and earth oil, and one hundred thousand dollars worth of fish and furs; nearly four and a half million dollars worth of plank, boards, and other descriptions of lumber and timber; over four million dollars worth of horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, butter, wool, hides, sheep's pelts, &c.; nearly nine million dollars worth of barley, oats, wheat, flour, meal, peas, &c.; and over half a million dollars worth of tobacco, cotton, hardware, leather, rags, sugar boxes and other manufactures, besides coin, bullion, and other articles, valued at nearly two millions more. Among the larger items of Canadian exports to all parts of the world in 1863, I may mention the following:—three hundred and two million feet of plank and boards; sixty thousand standard of deals; nine hundred and twenty thousand tons of hardwood, pine and tamarac; one hundred and fifty-six thousand cords firewood, &c.; seven million lbs. butter; two and a half million lbs. wool; one million barrels flour; nearly twelve million bushels wheat, oats, peas, barley and rye; over a million lbs. of tobacco; one hundred and fifty thousand head of horses, cattle, swine and sheep; nearly two hundred and fifty thousand cwt. of fish, and about half a million gallons of mineral oil. The receipts of flour and grain at Montreal in '62, equalled twenty-five and a quarter million bushels; the exports were nearly seventeen million bushels. The storage capacity of the Montreal warehouses is over a million bushels of wheat, and a half million barrels of flour. The tonnage of vessels that arrived in Montreal in '62, was over a quarter million, exclusive of river craft. One hundred and seventeen sea-going vessels have been lying in the port of Montreal, and over three hundred in the port of Quebec, at one time. The grain carrying capacity of the crafts connected with the inland trade of Montreal, is equal to two million bushels!

THE gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without adversity.

AN Irishman, whose father had been hanged, was accustomed to say of him, "He died suddenly upon a platform at a large public meeting."

A NEW METHOD OF CLEANING CLOCKS.—A singular method of cleaning brass clocks is reported by a correspondent of the *Scientific American*, being neither more nor less than boiling them as one would their potatoes. "Rough as the treatment may appear," he says, "it works well; and I have for many years past boiled my clocks whenever they stopped from accumulation of dust or a thickening of oil upon the pivots. They should be boiled in pure or rain water, and dried on a warm stove or near the fire."

NEW LOCOMOTIVE.—On Saturday a small light locomotive on a new plan was running about Lilsford-road, Camberwell. A little boy about eight years old was the acting engineer and steerer. There was likewise on it a bigger boy, of fourteen or fifteen years of age, to be appealed to as consulting engineer in case of difficulty. The carriage is on four wheels. The boiler is carried in a little cradle in front, and the engine and water supply tank are under the seat. The weight of the carriage, boiler, engine, and water tank included, is about 2 cwt. The power is about half a horse nominal. There was no smoke or steam puff, and the little engineer had the machine under perfect control, and stopped it in its length upon request. The cost of fuel for working is said to be under a half-penny an hour.—*Bell's Messenger*.

THE SECRETS OF THE DEEP.—What has become of the innumerable bones and teeth and scales of fishes, that, for all the years gone by, have died in the broad Atlantic? Where are the remains of the many ships that have been swallowed up by its waves? Where the gravel heaps left behind by the icebergs that have been melted in floating down from the Polar Seas? Where, also, the substances drifted across by the Gulf Stream and other currents that traverse the ocean? Nothing—not one solitary indication of all these; but in their place a fine, impalpable, tenacious mud, everywhere extending, and made up of little particles of carbonate of lime, secreted by countless myriads of animalcules, the food perhaps of whales and fishes of the surface, but more probably the sole inhabitants of those great depths which other animals more highly organized would in vain attempt to penetrate. Truly may we say that the secrets of the great deep are mysterious and grand—and that the search of them amply repays the labour of investigation.—*Professor Ansted*.

Markets.

Toronto Markets.

"CANADA FARMER" Office, June 12, 1863.

The weather has continued exceedingly favourable to the growing crops, and from all quarters we have the most encouraging advices. In many places the fall wheat is in ear. Our market has been quiet this week; a dullness in the English markets, and the large arrivals of Western wheat and flour in Montreal, have checked that active demand that we have had of late so often to chronicle. Fall wheat has kept up to last week's prices. The demand for spring is slow, but with such small stocks, a prejudice against Western wheat flour, and four months' consumption before us, there is not much to fear. Flour has been dull and lower. The warm weather, and consequent danger of souring, make buyers chary about operating. Wool has been in active demand at gradually advancing prices; market closes firm.

Flour market dull with few transactions. No. 1 superfine at \$5 20 to \$5 50 per bushel; extra, \$5 75 to \$6 00, superior extra, at \$6 50; fancy, nominal.

Fall Wheat steady, at \$1 15 to \$1 20, according to quality. Sale of 5,000 bushels is quoted equal to \$1 34.

Spring Wheat—Not much doing, at \$1 10 to \$1 12 per bushel on the street.

Barley quiet and unchanged, at 55c to 65c per bushel.

Oats at 45c to 50c per bushel, from teams and in store.

Rye 60c per bushel.

Peas dull, nothing doing, at 75c to 80c per bushel.

Wool has been in active request, with moderate receipts; prices varying from 42c, 43c to 43 1/2c, according to quality.

Provisions—Butter in large supply, at 14c to 15c per lb. for rolls; dairy, in tubs, 10c to 12c per lb.; re-packed 8c to 12c per lb.

Cheese—very scarce; wholesale 12c to 13c per lb.; retail 14c to 15c per lb.

Eggs—good supply, 12c to 13c per dozen.

Potatoes—in good supply; wholesale 40c to 45c per bushel.

Beef—in good demand; prime cuts 12c to 15c per lb.

Mutton—in small supply; 11c to 12c per lb.

Pork—market firm; very little offering and of ordinary quality, from \$6 50 to \$7 50 per 100 lbs.

Live Stock—1st class cattle from \$5 50 to \$5 75 per 100 lbs., live weight; 2nd class, \$3 50 to \$4; inferior, \$2 75 to \$3 25; dressed weight, 1st class, \$4 50 to \$7; 2nd class, \$5 50 to \$6; inferior, \$4 to \$5; calves, \$4 to \$6 each; large quantity in the market; sheep, \$4 to \$5 each per car load; do. yearlings, \$3 to \$3 50; lambs, \$2 to \$2 50.

Hay—unchanged, with fair supply at from \$12 to \$16 per ton.

Hides—\$2 50 to \$3 per 100 lbs.; trimmed, \$3 to \$3 50.

Shagbark—dull, from \$1 to \$1 50.