

Now assuming the number of heads of families in the province who subsist upon the produce of their lands to be	90,000
Of this number, suppose one-half only are disposed to cultivate hemp	45,000 farms.
And granting they devote two acres of their farms to the growth of hemp, and that each acre produce only half a ton of prepared hemp, then we have	45,000 tons
	Multiply by £40, 15 0
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	£1,883,750 0 0 sterling.

the probable extent of the Lower Canada hemp-trade, after it shall have been carried on for two or three years.

The provinces of Upper Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the islands of Newfoundland, Cape Breton and Prince Edward Island, all more or less adapted to the production of that plant, would considerably swell the magnitude of the trade in process of time; and I have no doubt that, under proper encouragement and management by the company, and the fostering protection of the trade by the enlightened and liberal policy of the government of the mother country, the British North American colonies, by flourishing as hemp-countries, would become an additional bulwark to the parent state, to which they would be powerfully linked by great commercial ties, and a source of national and individual wealth.

As relates to Lower Canada, it may be proper to observe, that in order to innovate as little as possible from the customs of the people in the seigniorial settlements, it would be advisable to allow the inhabitants to dispose of their hemp in the bundle or cheaf weighing 15 lbs, and 553½ bundles would amount to 4 tons of hemp, in its natural state—equal, as before stated, to one ton of the prepared article. Thus the Canadian farmer would receive 2*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* for every 100 sheaves of his approved hemp; and the process of buying and selling being carried on in a measure with which he is familiar, he will be the better enabled to estimate his gains, and the more readily come into market. From the knowledge I possess of the people, I am satisfied that meeting at first their little prejudices so far would materially promote the object.

It has been remarked by Mr. Grace, whose experiments in the culture of hemp have been before mentioned, that the native hemp-seed produces better crops than that imported; and if this be so, it might be found expedient, immediately on the formation of a company, to purchase all the seed that may be offered for sale, to distribute it afterwards, under particular conditions and restrictions, to Canadian farmers at half price, to operate as an encouragement.

From the interest the subject of hemp has lately excited in Quebec and Montreal, the consideration and importance attached to it by the Society of Arts and Sciences in Lower Canada, now joined with the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, and by the agricultural societies of the province, it