

men when they have once broken through the trammels of custom and made a settlement in Canada. A farmer in England, through losses, or misfortunes unforeseen, and possibly such as no moderate prudence would have guarded against, finds his capital reduced, and his lease (if he has one) expiring; or if he has no lease he finds his remaining capital too small for the land he has been used to occupy. He must either descend in the scale of farmers among his immediate friends and take a lower station than he has been used to occupy, (which is one of the most galling afflictions which can befall such a man), or he must move to a distance where he is unknown, and will therefore feel the down grade less distressing, or he must pull up stakes and emigrate. If he decides on the last named course he has his choice between Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Intending emigrants will do well to ponder the following considerations:—

Canada is within ten days steaming of their old homes. The voyage is very cheap in the steerage, and only moderately expensive in the cabin classes of passage. They come to a healthy climate, as nearly similar, in summer, as possible to what they have been used to, with delightful spring and autumn weather, and winters, though cold, all that can be desired. They come among people of their own class, and to a country well populated, and to land which can carry a dense population. They are welcomed by every-day friends and neighbours from home—are so situated that all the benefits of civilization are within their reach. They have a grand national scheme of education, whereby they can give their children a far better schooling than they could hope to do in England. Such capital as they may bring at once gives them a standing amongst others, who, as a rule, do not possess much. If they are disposed to take part in public affairs, all the municipal honours of the country are open to them. They will find the same classes of religionists to which they themselves have belonged within reach in every part of the Province. They will find cheap land, plenty of all the necessities of life, the means of manufacturing their own wool and flax (if they raise those articles) into their own clothing, a farm of their own, freehold instead of leasehold, and every social advantage which they can wish for. All old country people who can prove their skill, and show that they are able to take care of themselves and of their capital, are looked on in Canada with consideration. Nationalities are in a great measure sunk out of sight, social distinctions are of the most liberal type while honours are open to all if they look for them.

AGRICULTURAL CAPABILITIES OF THE SOIL.

A reference to the display of cereals and other agricultural productions made by Canada, at the Exhibitions of London and Paris, might be considered sufficient to illustrate the remarkable adaptation of the soil to their growth and cultivation; but so limited a notice would leave

the question of permanent fertility still unanswered. When, however, it is known that the area in which the astonishing crops of wheat are raised, for which the Province of Ontario is so justly distinguished, extends over three-fourths of the present inhabited parts of the country, and that the prevailing soils consist of rich clays of great depth, the question of permanent fertility resolves itself into one of husbandry.

In the valleys of some of the largest rivers of Upper Canada, wheat has been grown after wheat for twenty years; the first crops yielded an average of 40 bushels to the acre, but under the thoughtless system of husbandry then pursued, the yield diminished to 12 bushels to the acre, and compelled a change of system, which soon had the effect of restoring the land to its original fertility. This system of exhaustion has effected its own cure, and led to the introduction of a more rational method of cultivating the soil. Years ago, when roads were bad and facilities for communicating with markets few and far between, wheat was the only saleable produce of the farm, so that no effort was spared to cultivate that cereal to the utmost extent. Now, since railroads, macadamized roads, and plank roads have opened up the country, and Agricultural Societies have succeeded in disseminating much useful instruction and information, husbandry has improved in all directions, and the natural fertility of the soil of the old settlements is in great part restored.

The average yield of wheat in some townships exceeds 22 bushels to the acre, and where an approach to good farming prevails, the yield rises to thirty and often forty bushels to the acre. On new land fifty bushels is not very uncommon; and it must not be forgotten that Canadian wheat, grown near the city of Toronto, won a first prize at the Paris Exhibition. It may truly be said that the soil of what may be termed the agricultural portion of Canada, which comprises four-fifths of the inhabited portion, and a vast area still in the hands of the Government and now open to settlement, is unexceptionable; and when deterioration takes place, it is the fault of the farmer and not of the soil.

THE AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS OF CANADA AS COMPARED WITH THAT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The maxim "comparisons are odious" is not always true. Without doubt they may sometimes be very properly instituted. In such cases, they should of course, be conducted with scrupulous fairness. When thus made between parties engaged in honourable competition, and only asking from one another "a fair field and no favour," the results can hardly fail to be of the most encouraging and stimulating character.

Taking as the basis of calculation the official volume which contains the agricultural results of the last census of the United States; and the similar census returns for Canada, re-