

United States, yet the Returns indicate a gradually growing disposition to encourage our home manufactures. Perhaps this may, to a considerable extent, be owing to the cheapness of many articles of this description produced in the Provincial Penitentiary. Within a short period of time a considerable quantity of new Machinery has been erected in that establishment, and the prisoners are now employed in the manufacture of several descriptions of Agricultural Implements and Wooden Wares for family use, not heretofore made by them. The sales of those articles, coupled with the productions of several private establishments recently erected, will, without doubt, materially decrease the future importation of Wooden Wares. The value of goods of those descriptions manufactured within the Province during the past year exceeds the value given in 1851 by over 81 per cent.

The introduction of Steam as a motive power in the various Manufactories, and the supplying Rolling Stock for our Railways, have, probably, been the main causes for the extraordinary increase in the value of Iron Castings and Machinery produced during the past year. As compared with 1851 the returns now before us show an increased value in the productions of 1861 of over 393 per cent.

#### AGRICULTURE.

There can be no doubt that there is a growing disposition on the part of a very large proportion of our people, to engage in Agricultural pursuits. As evidence of this we find that the number of persons now reported as Farmers or Farm Labourers exceeds the number similarly engaged in 1851 by 88.16 per cent., and that there is now 37.44 per cent. more land cleared and improved than there was in 1851. A proportionable increase will also be observed in the quantities of Live Stock, and the products of the farms.

We would call the attention of persons engaging in Agriculture to the information contained in the Comparison Sheet.

It will be observed that the quantity of Hay out, exceeds that of 1851 by 44 per cent.; the smallest ratio of increase — 14.26 per cent. — being in Kent County, and the largest — 89.50 per cent. — in Carleton County. King's County produced the greatest quantity.

The quantity of Wheat raised exceeds that of the former Returns by 35.39 per cent., although in six Counties there was a decrease. In the County of Gloucester the increase was 141.45 per cent., and in Kent and Victoria nearly 100 per cent., while in King's and Sunbury Counties there was a decrease of over 54 per cent. Gloucester produced more than any other County.

There was 27.42 per cent. more Barley raised than in 1851, although in nine Counties the quantities did not equal the former returns. The greatest ratio of increase — 113 per cent. — is in Westmorland, and the greatest ratio of decrease — 49.95 per cent. — in King's. The largest quantity was raised in Westmorland.

There were 2,656,883 bushels of Oats raised in 1861, being an advance of 88.27 per cent. over the quantity produced in 1851. The greatest ratio of increase — 160.39 per cent. — was in Albert County, and the smallest — 58.46 per cent. — in York. The largest yield was in Carleton County.

There was an advance in the Buckwheat crop over the former Returns of 31.25 per cent. although in three Counties there was a considerable falling off. The greatest ratio of decrease — 45 per cent. — was in Gloucester, while in Westmorland there was an increase of 73.59 per cent. King's County produced the greatest quantity.

The quantity of Indian Corn raised during the past year is 73 per cent. less than the produce of 1851. The falling off has been general in every County in the Province. The largest quantity was raised in York County.

There were 57,504 bushels of Rye raised during the past year. No statement of this crop appears in the Returns of 1851. Carleton County produced the largest crop.

There was a falling off in the quantities of Turnips raised in five Counties, and an increase in nine Counties. The excess of 1861 over 1851 was 17.51 per cent. The greatest ratio of increase — 127.35 per cent. — was in Kent County, and the greatest ratio of decrease — 25.70 per cent. — in St. John. The largest crop of Turnips was raised in York County.