

## EXPLANATORY NOTE.

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Before bringing these remarks to a close, I wish to say a few things in the way of explanation. Perhaps explanatory notes should go in the first part of a book, but I prefer placing them here.

I want to say that these notes were not written or put in book-form for the sake of making money, as the majority of my readers perhaps think. At first it was my intention to publish the whole number in one of the local newspapers, but then half the fishermen and farmers in the colony would not see or hear a word of them. So instead, I have ventured to give them to my countrymen in book-form. If I get enough from the sale of the book to pay the publisher, I will be very well satisfied, and if the placing of these facts regarding Newfoundland and its resources before the country shall be the means of encouraging any of our people to do more towards cultivating the land they own, or means of the opening of one farm in the interior, I will not consider the time spent with this work as lost.

To the critic, I may say I am not educated; I have never been to school or to a graded teacher to learn how to write a book or anything else. I do, however, know how to gangle a fishing-hook, set a cod-trap, and haul a herring-net. I also know a good many things about farm-life that an Oxford man does not. I learned it all in the long ago when I should have been going to school perhaps. Now, I know what a priceless gift learning is, when, alas, it is too late.

With graded teachers, and councils of education of the present time, it is an easy matter for every man to educate his family. Education is the leading subject in every part of the world to-day. It was not so away back in the 70's. At that time Newfoundland did not give much attention to the educational requirements of her people. Then there was a certain element of the popu-