

With this digression from the main object of our remarks, we turn to the hay producing qualities of these Provinces:—

Nova Scotia, in 1851, produced 287,837 tons; and New Brunswick, in the same year produced 225,093 tons; amounting to 512,930 tons.—Probably over one-half of this quantity is placed in stacks, varying from one-and-a-half to three tons each.—Some of these marshes, on a fine November day, present an imposing spectacle.

Notwithstanding the large quantities of hay annually raised, the price is generally high, and well repay the labour expended on its production.

Looking at this subject in an economical point of view, and allowing that *one-sixth* of the value of hay placed in stacks, and exposed from three to six months in open fields, during the most stormy part of the year, is lost as an article of food,—we are presented with the astounding fact, that not less than 43,000 tons is annually lost to the country, for the want of sufficient barn room to hold the hay. Now, if we average the price of the various kinds of hay raised in the country, at six dollars per ton, a low price, we have a money value of £64,000 annual loss.

The cost of erecting barns for the purpose of holding hay is not very great; they only require to be shells, with floors, which should be raised a foot at least from the ground, to lay the hay on; and without stalls for cattle, or stands for horses. The hay floors should be raised sufficiently

high to allow the air to pass freely under the hay; indeed, if this precaution was taken in the erection of hay stacks, the loss would not be so great as at present. There can be little doubt but many of the diseases affecting cattle in the spring of the year, arise from the use of musty hay, (stack bottoms) and other damaged hay, which had been exposed to storms for months.

The cost of erecting a hay barn that would hold fifty tons, would not be more than twenty-five pounds; consequently the hay lost in two years would pay for the erection of sufficient barn-room for all the hay that is annually "stacked out." Besides, not unfrequently, hundreds of tons of hay are allowed to remain on the marshes for two years, which becomes generally speaking, useless as an article of food, which, if it had been put in barns, would have been good fodder.

In further illustration of this subject, if we take, for example, the Counties of Westmorland and Cumberland, at the head of the Northerly arm of the Bay of Fundy, where the largest quantity of marsh land exists, and where, at least, two-thirds of the hay raised is placed in stacks; we have two counties containing 60,000 acres of marsh and bog land, worth £370,000. Of this large quantity, thirty thousand acres produce from one-and-a-half to two tons of hay to the acre; some portions of the remaining thirty-thousand acres are also producing hay. The quantity of hay annually made in these two counties is not less than 54,000 tons, including