

to make the population mainly fishermen and lumbermen, and looking upon the land as only necessary to be worked to an extent sufficient to supply them with potatoes, a little corn, and such like. Farming has consequently been neglected, but there is no part of the Dominion where potatoes, barley, oats, coarse grain of all kinds, root crops, and grain in certain localities, can be grown better or cheaper than in the valley of the Restigouche, the north shore of the Bay of Chaleurs, and the country between Dalhousie and Bathurst, and in the Miramichi district. We saw many farms where the crops were most excellent, the cultivation exceedingly good, and the soil naturally very productive. There is a very large area of country of which this description is perfectly correct, and there can be no doubt, that after the Intercolonial Railway has been opened a few years, and it has brought the country into notice, and provided a market for its surplus productions, that a great change will be seen, and that the local traffic upon the railway will be very much greater than any one hitherto has ventured to suppose.

#### PROBABLE TRAFFIC OF THE LINE.

The traffic in fish, upon which I shall have something to say in my next letter, will also be very large, although, of course, its weight cannot be great. The lumber business on many parts of the line will also be very considerable, and I am bound to add that, having formed a poor opinion of the prospects of the business on the Intercolonial line, before I had seen the country in summer, I shall return with the conviction forced upon me by the logic of facts, that the country has been underrated, and that it has a much greater capacity for the support of a large and thriving population, than I had ever supposed possible.

#### A NEW BRUNSWICK FARM.

At Bathurst, the Hon. John Ferguson has a farm of 350 acres, in a high state of cultivation, which would not fear to stand a comparison with some of the best farms in Ontario. It is thoroughly well cleared; has about 50 miles of cedar fence upon it, and shows as fine a crop of oats, barley, coarse grains, potatoes, and about 70 acres of spring wheat, as any one would wish to see. He raises about 200 tons of hay, has 20 acres of potatoes, about 60 acres of oats, and a large number of acres with a fine show of turnips. This shows what the land is capable of by proper cultivation, and there can be no doubt that proper energy and skill will, in a few years, make a splendid farming country, extending over a very large area.