

and to occupy their places with the various roots and cereals which they had brought with them, which in the newly cleared and naturally fertile soil sprung up and grew rapidly, cheering them with a hope of an abundant reward for their labors; but their fond anticipations were doomed to suffer a most bitter disappointment. An early frost cut down the growing crop before it was sufficiently ripe to be of much value; and as the country afforded no supplies of food except fish from the river, and the uncertain productions of the chase, in which the new comers were but little skilled, the infant colony was reduced to great straits before the arrival, late in the following summer, of a little trading vessel from Massachusetts, which came just in time to save them from actual starvation. But early frosts and want of provisions were not the only difficulties the new colony had to encounter. The Indians who had lived on friendly terms with the French settlers, who like themselves professed allegiance to the Church of Rome, were not at all disposed to be on such friendly terms with the descendants of the Pilgrim fathers. Fearing that the new comers might interfere with their hunting grounds and possibly eventually drive them from them, taking advantage of their helpless condition, they did not scruple to rob them of their property and especially of their guns and ammunition, thus depriving them of their only means of killing the bears and moose, with which the forests abounded, and on which they mainly depended for their daily food.

In 1764 was put up on Bartlett's Millstream, now included in the Parish of Sheffield, the first flour mill erected in the Province, which continued for a great number of years to grind all the grain grown in the surrounding country.

In November, 1776, a number of the new colonists, fired by the revolutionary spirit which had lately broken out in Massachusetts, joined a party of revolutionists from that country in attacking Fort Cumberland, and captured and carried off, during the night, a small schooner which the retreating tide had left on the flats. Their success however did not eventually turn out very profitable.

In 1783 the small colony, which had struggled on through many difficulties, was recruited by a large reinforcement of Loyalists, who, on the conclusion of peace between Great Britain and the United States, left their homes and all their property except what little they could carry with them, that they might enjoy, what was denied them in their native country, in the wilds of New Brunswick, the happiness of being under the British Constitution. A large number of these settled in the County of Sunbury, whose descendants now form a principal part of its population: and inheriting, as they generally do, the spirit that animated that noble band of unflinching adherents to the British Crown, are distinguished for their devoted attachment to British institutions.

With respect to our markets, I may observe, that the different lumbering parties in this and the adjoining Counties of Queen's and York, buy up a large portion of the surplus produce, for which they pay in the following summer, after the lumber has reached St. John. The remainder is sent to Fredericton and St. John, for the conveyance of which the daily steam boats in summer and fine roads on the ice in winter, afford abundant facilities. In this way every article of surplus produce meets a ready sale, and generally at highly remunerating prices.

Our farming statistics are not what they should be when we consider the rapidly improving condition of the country. Whilst in the United States labor-saving machines are used in every department of farm work, here the

hand hoe, rather than the plow, honors our manures as to the work of thrashing machines is but slowly gaining ground, however, as to the use of the *toil and sweat*.

The system of operations of improvement, with these operations, with equally practised.

crops but a was deeply would thus excessive m valuable h saturated w any thing of

With this our average farmer in B good seasons wheat, 30 of peas are not somewhat h 40, turnips, of the soil, in eious treatment allow that th the treatment fertility. A to say, "that well," said h eheat you." returning a as food for s every thing of the soil to crops. Und formerly yie quantity; an entertained this principle speaks of som they contin tobacco; but supplies were the labour o