

HALIFAX RAILWAY, AND PUBLIC WORKS IN CANADA. 27

Illinois.

BRITISH
NORTH AMERICA.

	Dollars.
1847.—Total internal improvement debt	8,165,081
Total canal debt	6,009,187
	14,174,268

The population in 1830 was	157,455
„ 1840 was	476,183
Or tripled in 10 years.	

	Acres.
The sales of the public lands during one year (1845) in the United States amounted to	1,843,527
	Dollars.
Producing	2,470,298
Or an average of 5s. 7d. sterling per acre.	

But to show the effect produced by a canal or railway passing through property, the following extract may be quoted from the Report of a Board of Directors of the New York and Erie Railroad Company in February, 1844:—

“ The Board find that they have omitted one description of property, which has heretofore been considered of great value, but the right to most of which has been lost to the company by failure to complete the road within a certain period ; the most valuable of which consisted of 50,000 acres of wild land in Cattaraquas county, near Lake Erie, and one-fourth part of the village of Dinkirk.

“ An offer in writing was made in 1837 by responsible parties to take these donations, and pay further the sum of 400,000 dollars, provided certain portions of the railroad were completed within a specified time.”

That is, about 8 dollars, or 33s. 4d. sterling per acre.

In Michigan 461,000 acres were granted by Congress for the endowment of a university. These lands were selected in sections from the most valuable of the State. The minimum price of these was at one time 20 dollars, or 4l. 6s. 8d. sterling per acre, but became lower afterwards : 17,142 acres, the quantity sold up to 30th November, 1845, brought 2l. 9s. per acre.

69,000 acres, devoted to schools, were sold for 1l. 7s. per acre.

Such, then, are some of the results of making “ war upon the wilderness.”

In New Brunswick there are, according to an official Report of the Surveyor-General, dated 15th December, 1847, 20,000,000 acres, of which about 6,000,000 are either granted or sold, and 3,000,000 may be considered as barren or under water ; leaving, therefore, at the disposal of the Government, 11,000,000 of acres of forest land fit for settlement.

Of the 6,000,000 granted or sold, only 600,000 acres are estimated as being actually under cultivation.

By a statistical table published by W. Spackman, London, there are—

	Acres Cultivated.	Acres Uncultivated.	Acres Unprofitable.	Total Acres.
In England	25,632,000	3,454,000	3,256,400	32,342,000
Wales	3,117,000	530,000	1,105,000	4,752,000
Scotland	5,265,000	5,950,000	8,523,930	19,738,000
Ireland	12,125,280	4,900,000	2,416,664	19,441,944
New Brunswick . . .	600,000	16,400,000	3,000,000	20,000,000

Population of England	14,995,508
„ Wales	911,321
„ Scotland	2,628,957
„ Ireland	8,205,382
„ New Brunswick	208,000

In Ireland there appears to be, from the above table, 17,000,000 acres of ground fit for cultivation, and it has a population of 8,000,000 to support.

In New Brunswick there is an equal amount of ground to cultivate, and it has only a population of 208,000 persons.

If the land yet uncleared and fit for cultivation be added, which remains in the northern section of Nova Scotia, and again between the boundary of New Brunswick and the River St. Lawrence to the east of Quebec, then there would be a quantity of nearly equal to that of England itself, supporting a population of 400,000 souls.

It is not too much then to say, that between the Bay of Fundy and the St. Lawrence, in the country to be traversed by the proposed railway, there is abundant room for all the surplus population of the mother country.

Of the climate, soil, and capabilities of New Brunswick, it is impossible to speak too highly.

There is not a country in the world so beautifully wooded and watered.

An inspection of the map will show that there is scarcely a section of it without its streams,