

The importation of Molasses and Syrup in 1853 was 1,406,525 gallons ; value \$213,480 ; in 1857 (including that manufactured by Messrs. Redpath) it was 1,540,073 gallons, valued at \$400,000 ; the disproportion between the relative quantities and prices in these years respectively being due to the increasing demand for a higher grade or better quality of the article, as well as to the rise in price. At the rate of 300 gallons produce of Syrup to the acre, it would require a breadth of about 6000 acres of the Sorgho crop, exclusively devoted to the Syrup manufacture, to supply the present demand. The field of commercial enterprise thus opened up seems well worthy the immediate attention of enterprising capitalists.

It would be premature to speak in the same terms with regard to the manufacture of Sugar on an extensive scale ; but it may be relied on as an undoubted fact, that whatever measure of success or good results may be achieved by the manufacture on a small scale, after the process I have described, would be augmented by at least twenty per cent. in quantity, and indefinitely in quality, in the event of its being taken up as a separate branch of business, and with all proper appliances. The beet-root contains only ten per cent of saccharine matter ; yet France by bringing her unbounded scientific resources to bear upon it, has been enabled to produce 150,000,000 pounds of sugar from that root ; a quantity equal to one half of what is consumed by her entire population of 30,000,000. By applying the same skill, energy and judgment in the cultivation and utilization of the new Sugar Plants, which contain from thirteen to sixteen per cent. I shall not surely be condemned as an enthusiast for expressing the hope and expectation of similar great results.

While the demand for sugar is, as I have shown, increasing from year to year, the supplies from the ordinary sources are continually undergoing reduction. In the British West Indies (with some exceptions) the liberated negroes find employment more congenial to their tastes than the drudgery of the cane field and sugar-mill. In France, the beet root has of late years been to a considerable extent withdrawn from the manufacture of sugar to that of alcohol. In Louisiana the planters have latterly found it more profitable to grow cotton than sugar ; and generally throughout the sugar-producing countries, the soils are exhausted, and the canes deteriorated from being propagated exclusively from slips or cuttings. In all these circumstances it is to be hoped, as there is also good grounds for believing, that whether experience will prove the possibility of producing sugar in Canada profitably and economically, or