

THE INSTRUCTOR,

FOR
**NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK,
AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.**

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The Preservation of Hay.

THE observing traveller, in passing through Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, must be astonished at the vast extent of alluvial hay land with which the country is interspersed; there is no country of equal extent on the American side of the Atlantic, that possesses such a vast area of rich alluvial lands. There is not one of the scores of rivers that everywhere penetrate the country, but what has more or less of these valuable lands skirting their borders. On some of these rivers the eye alone, by a mere bird's eye survey, may measure thousands of acres, especially on the various arms that form the head waters of the Bay of Fundy; where a deposit of marine matter has been for centuries enriching the flat lands irrigated by its high tides. In proof of the fertility of these lands, it is only necessary to state, that some of them have been producing hay for upwards

of a century, without any appliances whatever. However, it is generally believed that the properties in the soil that has given rise to such vast quantities of excellent hay, and for so long a time, are nearly exhausted; there is an evident decline in their productiveness. But the means of giving fresh life and fertility to the soil are at hand; the rivers passing through these marshes still hold abundance of the fertilizing properties in solution, and all that is necessary is, to remove the artificial abutments erected across their mouths, and let them be again covered by the muddy waters of the Bay of Fundy for a short time.—And the expenditure of as many pounds in digging tide canals, as there are acres of (now useless) bog, at the head of some of the rivers emptying into Cumberland Bay, would make thousands of acres of marsh that would, in a short time, be worth ten times the expenditure.