

are kept upon it. Thus driven from the soil, the hardy inhabitants of the island resort to fishing as their chief employment. But this remark cannot be applied, as it unjustly has been, to many other parts of the Province, which, as respects soil and climate, are not surpassed, we believe, by any section of New England.

The columnar or basaltiform structure of the trap is exhibited in greater perfection and to a much greater extent, on this island than upon the opposite; but this is owing in a great degree to its being more exposed to the ravages of the ocean, which have developed the columns to a greater extent, and probably not so much to any intrinsic deficiency of the rock itself in exhibiting, externally, all its characteristic marks. They usually present five or seven sides, very smooth and perfect, and are very variable in their length and proportions, no less than in their internal characters; but as far as we traced them, they did not exhibit in their superposition, the depressions and corresponding convexities, so common to the trap of some regions. It is merely for the want of these characters, and a greater compactness in the mechanical arrangement of its particles, that this trap comes short of the genuine basalt of the most noted European localities. Indeed, the difference in respect to *internal* characters, on comparison with masses of basalt from the Hebrides, is found too slight to be made a point of distinction between them. No minerals were observed on this island, excepting a few narrow veins of red jasper occasionally encircling the columns; the amygdaloid, their usual gangue, not appearing along the coast so far as we followed it. We regret that foggy weather prevented us from passing round to the opposite shore of the island, where, as we were informed by the inhabitants, the cliffs rise to a more remark-