

the latter the soil rests on a slaty formation, and in clearing ground the agriculturist encounters large quantities of stones, the removal of which from the surface is indispensable, and can only be accomplished by much hard labour and consequent expense. In the Bay St. George no difficulty of this nature presents itself; there the soil is rich and deep, and when the trees and stumps are removed from it, no further obstacles exist to prevent the land being at once brought under the plough. To clear land near St. John's, and generally on the *eastern* shore, so as to fit it for the reception of a crop, costs from £4 to £15 per acre; to put an equal quantity of ground in a similar state at Bay St. George would not involve an outlay beyond 40s. or 50s.

It would be almost impossible to estimate correctly the number of persons who might secure to themselves a comfortable maintenance; but having reference to the valuable fisheries and to the great extent of cultivable land around and near it, the Bay of St. George would appear capable of supporting many thousand persons. The export of codfish and herrings is to Quebec, Cape Breton, and Halifax, but there is no doubt that a valuable and extensive fishery must follow, as the caplin's annual visitation is never-failing.

Coal exists within a short distance of the southern shore, and on the northern shore, near Port-a-Port, where it is equally certain that valuable minerals are abundant, many fine specimens having been brought from there.

To persons visiting the *western* shores of Newfoundland, after having been acquainted with the *southern* and *eastern*, the difference of climate between those places, and the different effects produced on the weather by the winds, becomes at once apparent. The *southern* shore is frequently enveloped in fog, and the *eastern*, although not subject to that visitation to an equal extent, as the bank of fog more generally keeps at some distance from it, yet when easterly winds prevail they bring cold and disagreeable weather. On the *western* shore, fog is rarely seen, and the climate is much milder in consequence. It follows that Bay St. George is not only a desirable district on account of the goodness of the soil, but also from its geographical position, its occupancy and permanent settlement will be a measure of some natural importance.

N.B.—“It must be remembered that Mr. W. E. Cormack crossed the interior of Newfoundland about the years 1821 and 1822, and at that time no European had done as much. Mr. Cormack was born at St. John's, Newfoundland, in 1796, and died in British Columbia in 1871.