

them. Their yellow green surfaces are sometimes uninterrupted by either tree, shrub, rocks, or any inequality, for more than ten miles. They are chequered everywhere upon the surface by deep beaten deer paths, and are, in reality, magnificent natural deer parks, adorned by woods and water. The deer herd on them, in countless numbers, to graze. It is impossible to describe the grandeur and richness of the scenery, which will probably remain long undefaced by the hand of man.

It took the traveller nearly a month to cross this great savanna country, on which but one solitary mountain rises, named after his Indian, Mount Sylvester. Throughout the whole extent innumerable deer paths were observed, the only species of deer being the caribou, a variety of the reindeer, but much finer than that which Norway or Lapland can boast. Some were brought down by their guns, weighing six or seven hundred pounds, the venison being excellent and the fat on the haunches two inches in thickness. Many thousands of these noble deer were met on their periodical migration. In the spring they disperse over the mountains and barren tracts in the west and north-west division of the interior, to bring forth and rear their young amidst the profusion of lichens and mountain herbage; and when the first frosts of October nip the mountain herbage they turn toward the south and east. And so these countless herds of reindeer have, for thousands of years, traversed the interior, undisturbed by the sight of man. . . . Cormack's account presents us with the picture of a country very similar to the condition of Britain in the days of the Romans, and equally capable of being reclaimed and cultivated, and of having its climate ameliorated by drainage and the operations of the lumberer.

. . . When the richer lands of Canada and the United States are occupied, we may reasonably hope that the tide of emigration will take a new direction, and that the untenanted wilds we have been describing will be transformed into the busy haunts of men.¹

¹ There are other portions of this interesting article that we have not space for here — the difficulties and dangers of the cod fishery on the Banks, so well illustrated in Kipling's "Captains Courageous;" the advantages to the Island of a confederation with Canada; its commanding position as an international highway. Enough has been given to arouse an interest in this oldest of English colonies in America. We hope to present other articles on some of the subjects opened up in this number.

Rev. Moses Harvey, LL.D., F.G.S., F.R.S.C., has been a resident of the island for nearly fifty years, and during that time has, by his writings and lectures, done more than any other man to draw attention to the resources and capabilities of Newfoundland.

— EDITOR.