

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

This beautiful Province is in itself worthy of a much more extended notice than herein contained. Prof. Sheldon, who is a practical agriculturist, in writing of Prince Edward Island, says:—

"In some respects this is one of the most beautiful provinces of the Dominion, and it has probably the largest proportion of cultivable land. The soil generally is a red sandy loam, of one character throughout, but differing in quality. On the whole, the grass-land of the island and the character of the sward, consisting as it does of indigenous clovers and a variety of the finer grasses, reminded me strongly of some portions of Old England.

Prince Edward Island is covered with a soil that is easy to cultivate, sound and healthy, capable of giving excellent crops of roots, grain, and grass, an honest soil that will not fail to respond to the skill of the husbandman. For sheep, particularly, the island appears to be well adapted, for the soil is light, dry, and sound, growing a thick-set, tender, and nutritious herbage. For cattle, too, it is suitable, though perhaps less so than for sheep. For horses the island has been famous for a long time, and American buyers pick up most of those there are for sale. It is not improbable, in fact, that taking them all in all, the horses of the island are superior to those of any other province; it seems, in fact, to be in a sense the Arabia of Canada. The sheep, as a rule, are fairly good, but open to improvement; the cattle, generally speaking, are inferior.

The island grows very good wheat, and probably better oats than most other parts of the Dominion. Of the former, the crops are from 18 to 30 bushels, and of the latter, 25 to 70 bushels per acre. Barley, too, as may be expected, makes a very nice crop. Wheat at the time of my visit was worth 1s. per bushel of 60 lb., oats 1s. 9d. per bushel of 34 lb., and barley 2s. 6d. to 3s. per bushel of 48 lb.

The island is noted for its large crops of excellent potatoes, which not uncommonly foot up to 250 bushels an acre of fine handsome tubers. Turnips make a fine crop, not uncommonly reaching 750 bushels per acre.

There is not much Crown land to dispose of in the island at the present time, but there are plenty of encumbered farms, more or less improved, which can be bought at 5 dollars to 35 dollars an acre. Taxation on the island is very light; it amounts to from 2 to 8 cents an acre, according to value, or from 15 to 18 cents per 100 dollars valuation.

The educational advantages of the island are on a footing similar to those of the other Provinces. There are good roads, railways, etc., and many excellent harbors around the island. There are also thriving woollen mills, not to mention the lobster fisheries, which are a source of considerable wealth to the Province. There are, however, complaints that too many farmers have been tempted into the fishing business, to the neglect of their farms; that between two stools men have fallen to the ground; and that the land is sometimes blamed for losses which really come of neglecting it. I was assured on the highest authority that farmers who have minded their business, have been steady, and have used a moderate supply of common sense in their dealings, have made farming pay and become independent. It is true that a man is independent on a smaller sum in Prince Edward Island than he would be in England, but at the same time there are numerous evidences of happiness and contentment among the people.

It appears to me that Englishmen of moderate ambition would find homes congenial to their tastes in this beautiful Province, and I have an impression that, with cattle and sheep raising and fattening for the English market, better times are in store for these hospitable and kindly islanders, many of whom I shall always remember with feelings of more than ordinary kindness. For agricultural laborers there is plenty of employment at good rates of pay. A man will get 80 dollars to 150 dollars per annum, plus board and lodging; or, minus board and lodging, but with cottage, keep of a cow, and an acre of land for potatoes, will receive 140 dollars to 200 dollars in cash. Farming, after all, cannot be bad where such wages are paid men, and there is every inducement for the farmer and his family to do all the work they can within themselves."

On the day the last spike was driven in the rails which perfected connection from ocean to ocean, the congratulations of Her Majesty upon the completion of Canada's great undertaking were cabled to the Premier, the Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald, and to George Stephens, President of the Company. The Queen has since been pleased to evince her interest in the completion of the great undertaking by creating Mr. Stephens a Baronet. Contemporaneously with this, Her Majesty's government took into consideration the advisability of their subsidizing a line of ocean steamers to ply between the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway in British Columbia, and Eastern Asia, as a means of rendering the commercial and military movements of Great Britain independent of the Suez Canal. In any case, it is considered certain that a large volume of commerce between Asia and Western Europe will pass over this line at an early day. Although since November last, there has been a change of Government in Britain, the enquiry in relation to this project engages the attention of Her Majesty's present advisers, as it did that of their predecessors.

The leaders of both the great parties in England are at one in their views with regard to the value of the C. P. R. to the mother country, commercially and strategically, and there can now be no doubt that the British Government will lend their aid.

With the completion of this great highway the trade between Great Britain and Canada must steadily increase, and the tide of emigration flow towards the fertile lands through which it runs, while the Company's stockholders may fairly hope to reap a fair return for the money they have invested.

RAILWAY and COLLIERY SUPPLIES.

The following keep a full line of Railway and Colliery Supplies:

Austen Bros.....Halifax, N. S.
S. Waddell & Co.....Montreal, P. Q.

DEALERS IN HATS and CAPS.

The following are among the principal Hatters and Furriers of Eastern Canada:

Chas. A. Briggs.....Montreal, P. Q.
Manks & Co.....St. John, N. B.

TRUNK MANUFACTURERS.

The following firms Manufacture a variety of excellent Trunks:

John J. Munroe.....St. John, N. B.
G. Barrington & Sons.....Montreal, P. Q.

PAINTS, OILS, GLASS and ARTISTS' MATERIALS.

The following are among the principal Wholesale Dealers in Paints, Oils, Glass, and Artist's Materials:

Jesse Joseph, Jr.....Quebec, P. Q.
Baylis Manufacturing Co. (Paints and Varnishes).....Montreal, P. Q.
Ramsay, Dods & Co....."

PRINCIPAL BREWERS.

For many years the Beer and Porter used in this country was imported, but since the establishment of the breweries of the following firms, the home markets have been supplied:

John H. R. Molson & Bros.....Montreal, P. Q.
Dawes & Co....."
S. Jones.....St. John, N. B.
A. Keith & Son, (Established 1817).....Halifax, N. S.
S. Olund, Sons & Co., (Established 1865)....."

WHOLESALE WINE MERCHANTS.

The following are among the principal Wholesale Wine Merchants of Eastern Canada.

Thos. L. Bourke.....St. John, N. B.
W. F. Lewis & Co.....Montreal, P. Q.
John Osborne, Son & Co....."

MANUFACTURERS' AGENTS.

Through Agents our manufacturers extend their business all over the Dominion. The most enterprising of these Agents are:

Tippet, Burditt & Co.....St. John, N. B.
C. K. Adams.....Montreal, P. Q.
Duncan Bell....."
Beuthner Bros....."
Boas, Feodor & Co....."
Geo. A. Cameron....."
Walter Wilson & Co....."