

The Undeveloped Resources of Newfoundland

AGRICULTURAL LANDS

On the Humber River there are about 70,000 acres consisting mainly of interval land, the best agricultural land in the country. On the Codroy Rivers and rivers running into Bay St. George, on the Exploits River and its tributaries, at the mouths of rivers running into Gander Lake and at Gambo Lake there are large areas of good land unoccupied.

THE FISHERIES

Of a population of about 220,000, about 60,000 are engaged in catching and curing fish. The average annual value of the cod-fishery is \$4,500,000; of the seal-fishery, \$600,000; of the herring and salmon fisheries, \$250,000; of the lobster fishery, \$60,000. Total value for 1902, \$8,956,992.

There are still immense possibilities connected with the extension and improvement of the fisheries. Cold storage has yet to be applied to these fisheries so as to secure the exportation of fresh fish to England, the United States and Canada. Here is an immense field for enterprise.

FOREST RESOURCES

Very large areas are covered with forest trees, many of which are as yet practically untouched. The principal varieties of indigenous forest growths are white pine, white and black spruce, fir, tamarac or larch, yellow and white birch. Considerable developments have taken place in the lumber industry in recent years, but a new departure on a large scale was commenced in 1901. Mr. Lewis Miller, of Crief, Scotland, a lumberman who has been operating on an extensive scale in Sweden, has moved all his mills to Newfoundland, and is operating on such a scale that he will be able to export eighty million feet of lumber annually. Other large concerns will operate in 1903.

THE PULP INDUSTRY

Newfoundland presents unrivalled facilities for the prosecution of paper pulp manufacture. There are immense areas covered with spruce; yellow birch of fine grain is especially plentiful at Grand Lake, and also in Avalon Peninsula.

There are splendid water powers in the island at present lying idle. The low temperature causes a large rainfall and a small evaporation. All these circumstances mark out Newfoundland as one that will rank as a pulp-making country. On several of the rivers on the west and east coasts there are eligible sites for prosecuting this industry.