

ingly rich, some of the veins measuring a thickness of 36 feet. The coal mines are only partially developed just around the shipping ports of Pictou and New Glasgow, to which there is also railway communication direct to Halifax, and around the port of Sydney in the island of Cape Pecton, a part of the province of Nova Scotia. There are also within a short distance of the coal extensive deposits of valuable iron ore. The coal area of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick is said to be equal to that of the whole of Europe, and it is the only coal on the Atlantic shores of North America, so that should the United States see fit to enter into a treaty with the Dominion of Canada for a free interchange of commodities, Portland, Boston, and New York would draw their supplies of bituminous coal exclusively from Nova Scotia, and the demand would be equal to millions of tons per annum. Iron would also be manufactured in large quantities, in which case Nova Scotia could absorb an addition to its population of 20,000 a year for many years to come.

The area of Nova Scotia devoted to agriculture is but of limited extent, and confined to the growth of oats, barley, and potatoes, and the grazing of cattle; this occupation would be profitable had they free access to the markets of the United States for the sale of their produce; the same may be said of the fisheries, shipbuilding, and coasting trades, which are the most important industries of the country.

Its population is about 400,000, and they own about 400,000 tons of shipping, but owing to the present state of the Dominion trade relations with the United States, Nova Scotia is not capable of absorbing any important increase to its population. The Intercolonial Railway is being constructed for about 100 miles through the North-West portion of the province, but where the lands are of any value they are already settled.

The adjoining province of New Brunswick, in form nearly a square, is bounded on one side by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and on another by the Bay of Fundy. For all practical