

If we reduce the wages paid in the United States to their equivalent in the currency with which Canadian workmen were paid, by calculation of the current premium on gold in 1869, (which averaged about 32 per cent., we shall find that wages in New York average 25 per cent. more in the gold value than wages in Ontario, and 80 per cent. more than in the city of Quebec, and that the gold value of wages in Maine is 35 per cent. greater than in New Brunswick.

But the fairer comparison of the earnings of labor in the two countries is to ascertain the purchasing value of each, or their ratio in each country to the cost of living. This we do in the table subjoined, which exhibits the prices of the principal articles of common consumption and the ordinary rates of board and house rent, in the same localities that are cited in the foregoing table, and for the same periods of time:

*Prices in Ontario, in New Brunswick, and in the city of Quebec, during the summer of 1870, compared with prices in New York and in Maine during the year 1869.*