Anteriorly to 1748 so little had been done towards the local improvement of the colony, that the whole province exhibited at that late date but a dense forest; and although the proportion of land still unreclaimed from its wilds is indeed very considerable, yet there are districts in which the arts of agriculture, guided by industry, have effected extensive ameliorations in the condition of the country. Some tracts of the province consist of extensive barrens, interspersed here and there among the forests, which forests are generally composed of large and lofty timber.