

past, and on that Account admits of a long Improvement without any Manuring.

Whenever it happens that any of their Dykes are casually broke down, the Overflowing of the Tide renders the Marsh incapable of bearing any Corn for *three* Years, but alterwards, by Means of the new Recruit of Salts, which are incorporated with the Mold, the Soil is renewed, and produces as fine Crops as ever; thus Nature seems by Accident to have pointed out a Process, whereby its Fertility is restored without any Expence to the Owner: These Lands, after some Years Improvement, produce several Kinds of Grass, and serve all the several Uses of Husbandry.

The Inhabitants make a joint Business of Dyking in several large Tracts, which serve first as common Fields, and being afterwards sub-divided into smaller Allotments are capable of the various Improvements before-mentioned: Their Dykes are made of large Sods of Marsh cut up in square Pieces, and raised about *five* Feet higher than the common Surface, of a competent Thickness to withstand the Force of the Tides, and soon grow very firm and durable, being overspread with Grass, and have commonly Foot paths on their Summit, which are both convenient and delightful.

On the different Branches of *Minas* Bay are scattered several other Towns and Villages, whose Inhabitants pursue the same Methods of improving their Lands.

There is one Thing peculiar to these People which has secured their Allegiance during the present War, that is, the Dread of having their Dykes cut down, and their Estates by that Means ruined by the *English*: this Practice they felt the severe Effects of about *forty* Years ago, when their Lands were thus exposed by the *New-England* Forces, the Remembrance of which is pretty strongly impressed on the old Inhabitants, and has had a very good Effect on their Posterity.

Minas is so situated, as to have a short and easy Communication with the extreme Parts of the Province, being
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