

numberless persons are seeking in every direction the fullest information as to the price of land, the best locality in which to settle, and other knowledge it is important they should obtain before making such a thoroughly fresh start in life.

On my recent visit to England, as soon as it was known I was from Canada, I became a sort of enquiry and intelligence office; and a good deal of my time was thus taken up in answering enquiries and furnishing information.

Of course, all who go from the Lower Provinces patriotically style themselves Canadians; but to most people in England Canada still means the two Upper Provinces; and I could almost always discern in my enquiries a feeling of disappointment when, in reply to their question how far I lived from Toronto, I explained that Nova Scotia, where I came from, was more than a thousand miles away. It was of little use to assure them that we also had a grand farming country; that our seasons were less extreme; our summers cooler; our winters milder; they had heard of Nova Zembla, and were not that place and Nova Scotia almost if not quite identical? To Ontario and the eastern townships most would go, and if they were prejudiced against Nova Scotia, it was at any rate a good thing that they should come to Canada, so I made a point of giving all such every encouragement.

MACAULAY,

in describing the state of agriculture in England at the close of the seventeenth century, says: "The rotation of crops was very imperfectly understood; it was known, indeed, that some vegetables lately introduced, particularly the turnip, afforded excellent nutriment in winter to sheep and oxen, but it was not yet the practice to feed cattle in this manner. It was, therefore, by no means easy to keep them alive during the season when the grass was scanty. They were killed and salted in great numbers at the beginning of the cold weather, during several months, even the gentry tasted scarcely any animal food except game and river fish, which were consequently much more important articles in housekeeping than at present; and about the beginning of November families laid in their stock of salt provisions, then called Martias beef."

Upland, if laid down to hay, must be regularly manured; the produce of about twelve acres of hay when fed to cattle will furnish manure enough to top-dress one acre of grass land; that is to say, grass land depending on itself for support can be manured over in every twelve years; every farmer knows that, under such conditions, the land will soon run out.

I have always believed and urged on our farmers that they should devote their energies to stock rather than to grain growing, and I still hold to that view, but to do this successfully they must raise and feed roots on a much larger scale than heretofore, and to raise roots means to expend a much larger amount on labor than our old style of farming required; all this labor must be paid for; some crop must therefore be raised that can be converted into cash to meet this outlay, whilst at the same time a cheaper food than hay is required, which will give body and bulk to the roots and grains fed to the cattle. I can find no other solution to this problem than to grow grain, the grain itself being turned into money, and the straw cut and steamed, and mixed with the richer food, given to the stock. Our present system, or the want of it, offers no inducement to the capitalist to invest money in farming; there is no cash return commensurate with the outlay; by adopting a regular rotation such as we find in the old country, our upland farmers will require a larger capital, but by making a business of farming they will, I feel sure, obtain a large return. We find the farmers of Ontario are able, with disadvantage of a warmer, drier summer, which must tell against their pasturage, to raise and sell beef which can be shipped to our market and sold below the price at which we can afford to sell. I believe it is to a large extent because we have continued making beef from hay, whilst they have long since practised feeding the straw; from their climate they have the advantage in growing grain, we in raising cattle. We must not be left behind in the race, but must find out the weak points in our system and must amend them, and I am now free to confess that to raise stock profitably we must grow grain.

With us I believe the opposite system to be necessary; we must have the grain to bring on the cattle, and to farm profitably I hardly see how we can feed the one without raising the other; holding these views, at which I have not arrived

without much thought, and somewhat of a departure from my preconceived views, I am especially glad to see that the subject for discussion at the general meeting to-morrow evening is "Grain-Growing." There is yet one point on which I may remark: It is often asked why Nova Scotia does not take her share in the export of live cattle to England, which has already attained such extensive proportions; and it is asked are there no live men amongst us to take hold of this; I have already given as a very strong reason that we do not make our meat as cheaply as is done in Ontario, and this, I trust, we shall soon alter; but there is still a better opening which I still hope may be taken advantage of when our produce justifies it.

New Brunswick.

SILVER ISLAND, ST. GEORGE, N. B.—At St. George, that place of marvels, a discovery which may be of much importance has lately been made. A short distance below the village there is an island in the river in which there was found a vein said to carry copper, lead and silver—of the latter metal a notable amount, sufficient to induce some intelligent citizens of the United States to secure it. They have been at work for some time, and have got out probably two tons of ore, each barrel of which is said to be worth \$500 for the silver which it contains. A short time, however, will demonstrate the fact as to the paying qualities of the lode. The people of St. George are getting excited over the discovery, and the neighboring country is being thoroughly searched for the precious metal.—*St. John Telegraph.*

Capt. Whittier and Mr. D. F. George shipped from Gibson recently for South Carolina a schooner load of potatoes, which were raised in Arrostook County. An impression is gaining ground among the Arrostook people that the market for their produce is in the Southern States and the West Indies, and consequently Fredericton, or rather Gibson, the proper outpost.

NEW BRUNSWICK POTATOES FOR ENGLAND.—The Bathurst notes of a St. John paper has this item, which will be interesting to our farmers and exporters:—

"Mr. O'Brien is now loading his new vessel with potatoes for Liverpool. Up to Tuesday evening over three thousand barrels had been put on board, and it is expected that the full cargo of nine thousand barrels will all be on board by the end of next week. The prices paid are from 70 to 80 cents per barrel, and the farmers of the district are much pleased to find a cash customer at those prices. Two of the great drawbacks in this part of the province are that the farmers have not a market where they can dispose of their produce at once and in any quantity, and that payments are seldom made in cash. In no part of the province is the potato crop more abundant or are the potatoes of a better quality. It will probably pay well to send potatoes to England this year, as the English crop has been almost a total failure. Great care has been taken to provide sufficient ventilation. The vessel is divided into compartments, between which are open spaces from top to bottom. A floor was laid over the keelson and an air chamber constructed next the ceiling. These precautions will probably ensure the landing of the potatoes in England in good condition."

Quebec.

Mr. Cleveland, of Barnston, has gathered from one crab-apple tree 14 bushels of apples.

Mr. O'Brien, of Vitsey, laid on the table of the Sherbrooke News fully-grown and ripe delicious raspberries, fresh pulled from his place. The News hears of ripe apples and blossoms on the same bough and an unlimited growth and ripening of tomatoes.

PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS OF THE LOWER OTTAWA.—Valuable discoveries of extensive deposits of phosphate of lime have recently been made in Ottawa county, Quebec. The extent of these phosphate deposits, says Mr. H. G. Vennor of the Dominion Geological Survey, is far beyond that of any other of the same mineral ever known in the world. Between the Gatineau river in the western part of the country, and the Livre river on the eastern side, is a vast belt of apatite, which at its outer edges lies close to the surface and can be easily and cheaply got to market. The value mineral phosphate as a fertilizer makes this discovery one of vast importance in an economic point of view. In England the demand for phosphate is fast increasing every year, owing to the pressing requirements of high farming. In Prussia, it is true a valuable

discovery of "kaolin," or fertilizing clay, has been made by an English company; but, in order to produce one of the most valuable fertilizers of the present day, phosphate must be obtained to mix with the kaolin.

OUR EXPORT TRADE IN PHOSPHATES. In the Merchant's Exchange Court are several large specimens of phosphates from the Ottawa District, about to be sent to the Paris Exhibition by our enterprising citizen, Mr. F. W. Henshaw. They were excavated from the Mines of Messrs. Millar and Henshaw at Templeton; these with the mines of the Buckingham Mining Company turning out the largest quantities in the North Ottawa district. The point from which the phosphates are shipped is Gatineau Point, which is fourteen miles from the mines. Mr. Henshaw has shipped this year no less than 2,050 tons, or more than the total exports for the country during last year, and next season he expects to ship at least three times this quantity. Reports of the wealth of the mines here have reached European trade centres, and we learn that several English capitalists, and one from Germany as well, will shortly engage in the export trade. This year the exports will amount to about 4,000 tons at an average value at this port of from \$15 to \$16 per ton, and next year the exports will at least amount to twice as much. The quality of Canadian phosphates is decidedly superior to any found outside of this country, 90 per cent. of pure phosphate of lime from the mineral being little if anything above the average yield. To produce the pure phosphate prepared for agricultural purposes the mineral is ground to powder and then mixed with sulphuric acid in equal parts, when it is reduced to a very little powder like flower in appearance. The three specimens to be sent to Paris were taken out in one block, weighing 2½ tons, but has it was found impossible to bring it over the rough roads to Gatineau Point it was broken into the three pieces. After a while a tramway will be built to the Gatineau, which will facilitate operations very much.—*Witness.*

The Proposed Beet-Sugar Factory.

A largely attended meeting of those interested in the establishment of a beet-sugar factory in Quebec, was held at the Board of Trade rooms. The Mayor of Quebec occupied the chair. He explained the object of the meeting, and also the many advantages that must accrue from the projected factory. He also alluded to the bonus of \$70,000, offered by the Government to the first factory that is successfully established in this Province, and argued the desirability of securing that amount for Quebec. The enterprise would also be free of excise duty for seven years, in accordance with an agreement made by the Dominion Government. Mr. Barnard made a practical and good speech in favor of the proposed undertaking, explaining its work, and also gave his experience of beet-sugar factories. He then went through the analysis of the beet raised in this Province, and showed that there was more saccharine matter in them than in the beet raised in European countries. In the County of Quebec alone, Mr. Barnard was convinced that enough beet-root might be raised to supply ten factories. Several other gentlemen addressed the meeting, including Hon. P. Garneau, who stated that the Government was loyal to the enterprise of manufacturing sugar from beet. A good deal of discussion took place, all the speakers warmly supporting the project. The desirability of obtaining the Government grant of \$70,000 at the commencement of the enterprise, instead of at the rate of \$10,000 per annum, was discussed, and three resolutions adopted by the meeting. The first one sets forth the advantages to Quebec of a beet-sugar factory, and the second looks to the presentation to Government of a petition asking at once for the payment of the bonus of \$70,000. Copies of this petition were produced and extensively signed at the meeting, and are now in circulation for signatures. The third and last resolution adopted by the meeting, appointed a Provisional Committee, to attend to and ensure the success of the enterprise, and make arrangements for receiving subscriptions to the capital stock of the undertaking. This committee consists of Major Murphy, Mr. Barnard, Sir Narcisse Belleau, Hon. I. Thibaudeau, and Messrs. James G. Ross, John L. Gibb, Beaudet, S. Lessage, P. V. Valin, Joseph Whitehead, David Bell, etc. We understand that this committee will at once print and distribute prospectuses giving information on the matter, and soliciting stock subscriptions. It is hoped that the first beet factory in the city of Quebec will be in active operation before the commencing of another winter.—*Quebec Chronicle.*