

monts, and excuses, for and against the prevailing mining inaction, we are still driven back to the refuge of some general motive, as all particular ones seem inadequate to have originated the whole tranquil condition. An inactivity is certainly present, but wherefore? We must be content to call it merely a lull, and meanwhile assure the world that many fortunes lie at this moment hidden in the soil of this Province, both in new mines unexplored, and in the farther working of the older claims and leads. And these older neighbourhoods seem to be likely to uphold their reputations for value over time, if not over all the newer districts. One may form some idea of what is yet to be expected with confidence when the magnificent results of Tangier, Sherbrooke, Waverley, Ronfrew, and more lately of Uvacko, are borne in mind. Some of the specimens, both of earlier and later work, in these older diggings have never, we believe, been surpassed in size and beauty and a comparison of the returns is generally favorable to the spots first discovered. The worth of this gold mining business may be shown to any inquiring into the matter, when he reflects that, in spite of the small means at first involved in the transactions, and the limited number of mills even yet grinding, there were dug from the quartz veins and alluvial deposits, in the eight years up to 31st of December last, 100,000 ounces of gold, equal, on an average to \$3,200,000, and the chief leads promise as well, if not better than ever.

We press this point upon all interested (or likely to be) in Nova Scotia gold, that no good reason can be produced for the temporary stagnation at present witnessed. It appears more as the ordinary ebb of that tide which is so frequently needed guiding the current of affairs and which, though subject to unaccountable fluctuations, needs but a little patience to abide its turn. Prudent men taught this by experience, after making sure that no permanently deteriorating cause is at work, count so confidently upon this coming rush, that they always anticipate it, and take advantage of the calm, either to secure for themselves at moderate rates a profitable property, or merely as a speculation, calculate on the day of future demand, and "buy for the rise." There will also probably occur before long an extraordinary agency to stimulate the desire of investors from the other Provinces, from Great Britain, and from the United States, besides the things which as we have said, may be looked for as natural. It requires no spirit of prophecy to foretell that from all the elections in Hants, Richmond, and Yarmouth, an unmistakable voice will be heard, warning the Local Government of its approaching demise, and as its political death means renewed life and vigour to Nova Scotia, the beginning of more prosperous days will open, and the flood of capital be fairly turned on to our mining industry. We think that perhaps those on the spot, and those outside but well informed, may take time by the forelock, and a word in anticipation, founded upon our own conclusions, may be of some service. — *Halifax Express*.

IMMIGRATION.

THE question as to whether the tide of immigration from Europe to the United States has reached its highest point, and is now subsiding permanently is one of much interest. It is certain that it has been decreasing for several years, and that the current during the same period has been materially changed, though it seems to have risen in 1863. It has been calculated that the amount of foreign emigration which reached this country between the years 1784 and 1860, was about five millions in round numbers, and out of this number, Great Britain and Ireland contributed 2,600,000, and Germany 1,600,000. From 1845 to 1854, the immigration from Europe increased greatly, as will be seen from the following figures:

Year.	Emigration
1841	78,015
1845	114,571
1851	439,442
1854	427,833

This increase was mainly due to the famine in Ireland, and since 1854 the rate has been steadily decreasing, with the exception of a temporary rise during the war and the Fenian excitement. Thus we find that in 1855 it was 200,877, and in 1858 it had dropped to 144,852. This decrease has been attributed to various causes, among others the violent reaction against foreign immigration, which took form in the Know Nothing party, and the financial crisis of 1857. The distribution of the immigration which took place between 1784 and 1860 was as follows: Great Britain and Ireland, 2,600,000; Germany, (including the whole of Austria and Prussia), 1,600,000; France, 200,000; British America, 300,000; Sweden and Norway, 50,000; China, 50,000; Switzerland, 15,000; Mexico, 16,000; Italy, 8,000; Belgium, 7,000; South America, 5,000; Portugal, 2,000; Azores, 1,300; Russia, 1,000.

The turning point in the numerical proportion of the immigration was 1854. In 1853 the figures stood: Ireland, 141,000; Germany, 141,948. In 1854 Ireland gave 103,000, while Germany sent forth 210,000, in 1855 Ireland stood at 50,000 to 71,938 from Germany.

Nevertheless the greatest proportion of the immigration between 1843 and 1858 came from Great Britain and Ireland, which gave 2,160,000, to 1,200,000 from Germany since 1854, however Germany was being steadily gaining, and in 1858 her emigration was 101,000 to 47,600 from Ireland.

Whether we can expect a steady flow of immigration from Europe hereafter is another question. The fact that the immigration from Ireland has been increasing for some years is no proof that the causes which produce immigration have ceased to exist in that country. It is true that during the last twenty years the prosperity of Ireland has increased greatly, but swarms of pauper peasantry have vanished, that

land has been opened to a better husbandry; that a new race of prosperous agriculturists have taken possession of considerable tracts of country, and that the Encumbered Estates Court has swept away a large number of insolvent proprietors. The wealth of the country has increased immensely, agrarian crimes are less frequent, and on the whole a better relation exists between land-owners and tenants. But the landed system is still in a bad state, and many evils remain in existence. A very considerable extent of land is still held by small farmers, under precarious tenures, competition is still excessive, the rates of rent are still often too high to live under, the charge of improving the soil is still forced upon the tenant, who has no security for his improvement, and there are no provisions to insure him any return for his outlay upon the farm. Then the relations between landlord and tenant are still often complicated and unfriendly, and even now rack-rents, evictions and levies may be heard of in the Emerald Isle, so long will emigration be produced in a greater or lesser proportion, but in a constant stream. The revision of the landed system of Ireland is even of more importance to her than the disestablishment of the English Church within her borders, though, from England's point of view, the latter measure is perhaps the first necessity.

The increased immigration from Germany is doubtless due in a great measure to the increased protection afforded to naturalized citizens by the treaties which our government has recently made with the German countries. The fact that previously to the signing of these treaties naturalized citizens of the United States, returning to their fatherland, were liable to compulsory service in the army, etc., no doubt acted as a check upon emigration. It is, however, a mistake to suppose that emigration is produced by over-population, necessarily. This may be the case, perhaps, in some of the provinces of China, but in Europe it would seem that emigration was in an inverse ratio to the population, that is to say, that the largest number of emigrants came from the most thinly populated agricultural districts. The emigration from Russian Russia and Westphalia may be taken as an illustration of this.

The records of the immigration to this country by way of New York, which is the principal focus of distribution show that the tide is again rising. The following table gives the nationalities of the immigrants arriving at that port during the past year:

Germany	101,989	Russia	145
Ireland	47,571	South America	131
England	29,635	Nova Scotia	54
Sweden	14,620	China	49
Scotland	7,390	Mexico	34
Switzerland	3,342	Canada	33
France	2,811	Australia	26
Holland	1,265	Turkey	22
Denmark	1,087	Central America	21
Norway	1,008	Portugal	13
Italy	933	Greece	11
Wales	659	Africa	10
Poland	268	Sicily	3
Spain	210	Japan	3
West Indies	171	East Indies	2
Belgium	143	Sardinia	1
Grand total			213,686

It will be seen that Germany furnished nearly one-half of the entire number, that Ireland was second, England third, and Sweden fourth, and that, in spite of the discount supposed to exist in France, less than three thousand of her citizens cared to change their allegiance.

The records of the Castle Garden Bureau for 1863, furnish some interesting information as to the distribution of the immigrants in the States. The following table exhibits this fully:

Maine	293	Alabama	114
New Hampshire	411	Florida	84
Vermont	123	Mississippi	84
Massachusetts	7,644	Louisiana	567
Rhode Island	2,270	Mo	7,010
Connecticut	3,453	Oregon	31
New York	60,714	Texas	260
New Jersey	6,016	Wisconsin	16,537
Pennsylvania	6,926	California	3,989
Delaware	469	Nebraska	1,410
Maryland	1,604	Utah	8,115
Ohio	11,123	New Mexico	6
Indiana	3,552	Montana	14
Illinois	24,625	Nevada	18
Kentucky	1,342	Dacotah	33
Michigan	7,824	Colorado	33
Missouri	6,517	Idaho	16
Kansas	1,085	Central America	21
Arkansas	78	Cuba	14
Minnesota	5,891	British Columbia	66
District Columbia	873	Canada	2,723
West Virginia	22	Nova Scotia	150
Virginia	731	New Brunswick	118
Tennessee	519	Mexico	14
North Carolina	114	West Indies	14
South Carolina	148	South America	183
Georgia	147		

It appears from these figures that New York absorbs the lion's share of immigration, and that the Western States come next, Illinois being at the head, followed by Wisconsin, Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota and Michigan. The direct immigration to California is comparatively small, but we draw our supplies from all the States, and of course these figures afford no criterion of the increase of our population. It is noticeable that the immigration to Utah is nearly as large as that of this State, and very much larger than that of most of the Southern States.

It is probable that a large portion of the Celtic immigration is absorbed by New York and other great cities and that a majority of the Teutonic immigrants strike out to the Western States. Hereafter we may hope to see an increase in the immigration to the Southern States, which, under the new admin-

istration, which will afford guarantees for peace and security of life and property in those sections, will become a splendid field for the enterprise and industry of the Old World. — *American Exchange*.

CORN AND COTTON.

TO corn and cotton have been ascribed regal power by their respective adherents, the amount of each raised in the United States the past year will interest our readers. We learn from the monthly report of the Department of Agriculture that among the corn-raising States, Illinois stands first on the list, having produced the past season 1,465,000 bushels; Indiana next, with 993,320 bushels; Ohio third, with 71,040,000 bushels, and Iowa fourth on the list, 65,832,000 bushels. Rhode Island, on account of the small garden lot accorded her, stands lowest 340,000 bushels. Of the States in rebellion, Tennessee stands highest, having raised 64,772,000 bushels; Mississippi next, 35,619,000 bushels; Arkansas next, 32,440,000 bushels. Alabama next, 31,240,000 bushels. Few of the States show a decline from the previous year, the aggregate increase being over 137,000,000 bushels, and the total amount produced reaching 905,178,000 bushels. Of this amount the 16 States which lately held slaves produced 410,432,000.

The cotton crop, which was threatened in the early part of the season with disaster so far improved under the auspices of favorable fall weather as to warrant the belief that it will be very little below the figures of 1867, and quite equal to half the crop of 1859, and not an equal or greater amount of money to the planters. Among the cotton-raising States, Mississippi stands highest, having raised the past year 408,000 bales. Georgia next, 230,000 bales; Alabama next, 225,000 bales. The aggregate amount reaches 2,850,000 bales, against 2,450,000 bales in 1867, and 1,835,000 in 1860.

Estimating corn at 93 cents per bushel—the inside figure at which it is now selling in the New York market—and cotton at 30 cents per pound and 450 pounds to the bale, we then arrive at the following results as to the value of the two crops for 1867.—Corn, 905,178,000 bushels at 93 cents per bushel, \$841,766,540; cotton, 2,850,000 bales at 30 cents per pound \$321,300,000.

The above exhibit of these two crops are quite flattering to the agriculturalists of the country, and there is no question but they can, with careful culture, be increased one half. It also effectually settles this question of kingship — *U. S. Econ. mist.*

HOUSE OF CALL ON THE OCEAN.

AN extraordinary project has been broached in England for the relief of mariners who are far from havens or anchorages of any kind, or who are hovering about the entrances of channels, unable to make a passage. It is gravely proposed to construct artificial refuges—maritime stations—hulls surmount, by tall masts with conspicuous lights and colors, furnished with provisions, telegraphs communicating with the land, post-offices, tool-houses, water-tanks, coals, and materials for refitting, so that vessels in straits of weather, with short supplies, damaged, detained or otherwise baffled on their voyages, may find houses of call at regular intervals upon their vicious roads. It is urged in its behalf that if it could be made a success we should bear less of "missing ships," of underwriters' litigation, of derelicts, of fatal adventures on rafts, of lonely boats foundering remote from human help, of accidents incapable of repair, of expenses incurred and time wasted in putting into out of the way ports for food and fuel, of short allowances after storm drifts and calms, of those countless incidents of mischief and danger which beset the mariner's existence. The daring inventors claim that it is possible to establish these iron or wooden islands at moderate intervals along the great lines of commercial intercourse. It would be edifying to know the dimensions of the chains, cables and anchors by which they could defy the most desperate efforts of the ocean to cast them adrift. The subject is urged by a leading London journal, which is of opinion that no one can doubt the importance of the project, provided it be practicable, which we dare say is a safe conclusion to arrive at.

THE FUR TRADE OF RED RIVER.

THE St. Paul Press, Minnesota, says that in that city the fur trade is one of the liveliest branches of business. Merrill Ryder has received the last of a single lot, which came from the Red River country, in British America being brought a part of the way by dog train, amounting to \$19,209. The lot came from Wm. Inkster, an individual dealer in the territory a short time ago monopolized by the Hudson Bay Company, the sale being effected by his agent, J. J. Hill. Among the lot are quite a number of the skins of silver foxes, a rare and valuable fur; also sables and others, which are quite valuable.

The lot was shipped in bond to go to London, but the mink skins, numbering 225 have been taken out of bond for American manufacture. Five hundred of the mink skins came from the Norway House district, north of Lake Winnipeg, being the first lot from that region that has come this way. Our fur dealers are now getting more of the British American fur trade than ever before, and the amount of trade hitherto controlled exclusively by the Hudson Bay Company, is being controlled by private dealers, and being brought to this market, is rapidly increasing. Instead of the furs being sent to London by another route, and then shipped back to the United States, they are now brought directly here from a large portion of British America.