

contains about seventeen millions of acres of land, about ten millions of which are yet ungranted. From a careful enquiry into the resources and capabilities of this Province, instituted ten years ago, it was computed that there were twelve millions of acres of land fit for cultivation, more than half of which is land of superior quality, and that, making due allowance for the growth of wood for fuel, New Brunswick is capable of sustaining three millions of inhabitants. Our present population is less than a quarter of a million, so there is ample room for large additions; and it is very desirable for all of us who are here now, that our number be largely increased. We want more people to help us to clear up and cultivate our vacant Crown Lands, to make our roads and build our bridges, to cut down, haul, prepare, and carry our timber to market; to build and man our ships, work our mines, and help to carry on our productive fisheries.

The first European settlers of the Province were French, and their descendants still remain here. A few adventurers afterwards came from New England, and then a considerable number of disbanded soldiers and loyalists from the revolted colonies, after the close of the American Revolutionary war. Emigrants, chiefly from the British Islands, have since, from time to time, arrived, and a portion of them have remained; so that by immigration and natural increase, our population may be now estimated at two hundred and thirty thousand.

Looking at the various industrial pursuits of our people, it appears that the largest portion of them are employed in tilling the soil, clearing up the wilderness lands, and cutting and preparing for the market the timber in the forests. I have grouped together these three separate branches of industry, because they are now, and must for a long time to come continue to be, pursued by the same persons promiscuously. The other portions of our population are separately employed as fishermen, seamen, merchants, mechanics, labourers, &c. But the farmers and lumberers, taken in a body, outnumber all the others; and the agricultural property exceeds in value the aggregate amount of all other property in the Province.

Of our twelve millions of acres of land fit for cultivation, there are not yet one million cleared. All the rest, with

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