

No. 6.

The superficies of what before the union of the two provinces was termed Lower (now Eastern) Canada has no defined limits to the north; * but it has been estimated by Mr. Evans and Mr. Montgomery Martin to contain, exclusively of the surface of the river and part of the Gulph of St. Lawrence, 132,000,000 of acres. The surveyed portion is divided into seignories and townships. The land comprised in the former is upwards of 8,000,000 of acres, and has been all granted by the Crown.† It is occupied chiefly by the French portion of the population. From a Return made by the Surveyor-general of Canada, dated Kingston, 5th March, 1842, it appears that the quantity of land remaining unsurveyed in Eastern Canada may be estimated at 118,980,000 acres; that the surveyed land amounts to 2,734,735 acres; and that the quantity available for settlement is estimated at from 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 acres.

The whole area of the upper (or Western) division of Canada has been estimated at about 64,000,000 of acres;‡ and it appears from the Return above alluded to that the amount of land unsurveyed is 3,180,000 acres; that the amount surveyed is 1,326,343 acres;§ and that the quantity available for settlement may be estimated at 3,754,000 acres.

The area of land in Nova Scotia may be estimated at 8,000,000 of acres; of which about 5,750,000 acres have been granted, and of the remaining 2,225,000 not more than about 280,000 are supposed to be fit for cultivation.||

The area of New Brunswick is about 16½,000,000 of acres.¶ 13,817,573 remain ungranted.** About 11,000,000 are supposed to be fit for cultivation.

The area of Prince Edward's Island contains about 1,360,000 acres of land,†† of which, however, only 6,000 acres now remain at the disposal of the Crown.‡‡

The area of Newfoundland has been estimated at about 23,000,000 of acres,§§ of which nearly 23,000 acres have been appropriated; but there exists no official return of the surveyed and accessible land which still remains at the disposal of the Crown.||||

* App. B to Lord Durham's Report, p. 4.

† Ibid. p. 4.

‡ Evans's Treatise, and Montgomery Martin.

§ This quantity does not include the land returned to the Commissioners of Crown lands for sale, and which may not have been disposed of.

|| App. B. Lord Durham's Report, p. 12.

¶ Ibid. p. 13.

** Blue Book for 1841.

†† Montgomery Martin, vol. iii., p. 423.

‡‡ Blue Book for 1841.

§§ Montgomery Martin.

|||| Blue Book for 1840.