

This Colony, formerly called St. John's, is situated in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; having Nova Scotia to the South, Cape Breton to the East, New Brunswick to the West, with the Magdalen Islands and the Gulf on the North; containing more than 1,300,000 acres; and, by the census of 1827, about 24,600 inhabitants, now greatly increased. The climate is very salubrious; many British Settlers declaring that they are without ailment, although they never knew what continued health was in their native land: and I have heard one gentleman say, he could kill, in the way of exertion and fatigue, a hundred such puny creatures as he was when he arrived in the country.

The air is dry, which renders the severe cold of winter more bearable than the raw damp cold of England, which occasions shivering and chattering of the teeth, very unusual here. The temperature is less severe than in some parts of Canada; and although the Winter is long, it much assists the farmer, fertilizing the earth, probably equal to half a dressing of manure, and enabling it to produce tolerable crops under very indifferent management.

The soil is a deep sound loamy sand; the general subsoil clay, as appears by its being met with in almost every cellar, and also by the abundance of fine water every where thrown up to the surface in Springs and Brooks. It is wrought by two horses, and is admirably adapted to the climate. A more clayey surface would too long delay putting in the crops at Spring. This inconvenience is partially felt in some parts, where there is a considerable portion of argil in the soil. It is somewhat singular that while the Winter wheat of Britain thrives best in a heavy soil, the Spring wheat sown in the Colony delights in the lighter lands. Vegetation is far more rapid than in Bri-