

GARDEN OF WESTERN NEWFOUNDLAND.

Prof. Walcott, now head of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, and formerly Director of the United States Geological Survey, says:

"At St. George's Bay the railway enters the finest region in the whole Island, all its natural capabilities being taken into account. Here are numerous valleys of fertile land opening on the bay, well wooded with pine, juniper, tamarack, fine yellow and white birch, spruce and balsams, the soil capable when cleared of yielding excellent crops. It is found to be specially productive of the richest grasses of various kinds, while the climate is very fine. As a farming, lumbering and mining region its capabilities are very great. According to the reports of the Geological Survey there are around the shores of St. George's Bay and the valleys which open into the interior, and are traversed by rivers flowing from the highlands, 16,506 square miles of reclaimable land fit for settlement, a large portion of it containing excellent soil for farming purposes. From St. George's Bay the line passes within a mile of the villages on the coast, and, at Crabb's Brook, runs behind the Anguille Range of mountains down the Codroy valleys to Cape Ray, and thence a distance of nine miles, to Port-aux-Basques. The Anguille hills are too high and steep for ordinary tillage, but contain the finest sheep and cattle runs, where immense flocks and herds might be fed. The Codroy Valleys have long been celebrated for their fertility and are partially settled. They contain at least 70,000 acres, much of it fit for settlement. They are well wooded with spruce, balsam, fir, yellow and white birch, and tamarack. The islands and flats of the lower part of Great Codroy River yield a luxuriant growth of wild grass, affording an ample supply of good fodder for cattle. The cattle and sheep reared on the small farms here produce excellent beef and mutton, and the grass, grain and root-crops testify to the excellence of the soil on which they are grown. The dairy produce is of the best description. If we take the whole tract of country from the Humber Valley (inclusive) to Cape Ray, through which the line passes, we have