

Quebec apples, pears and similar fruit are abundant. At Montreal these are even yet more luxuriant, but the best fruit country is said to be the shores of Lake Erie and the western portions of Ontario. Here grapes and peaches are cultivated with the greatest ease. In some places hemp, flax and tobacco are successfully produced, especially flax, upwards of sixty scutch mills being in full and profitable operation in Ontario alone. The cultivation of wheat is largely followed, the yield on virgin soil being sometimes as much as 50 bushels per acre. The general crop, however, averages from 20 to 30 bushels, sometimes less, sometimes more, according to the skill and labour bestowed. The average of oats per acre is—Upper Canada, $34\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; Lower Canada, $22\frac{1}{2}$ bushels. The average of barley per acre is—Upper Canada, $27\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; Lower Canada, 23 bushels. In 1860 the total yield of Canada was:—Wheat, 27,274,779 bushels; barley, 5,103,636 bushels; rye, 1,817,373 bushels; oats, 38,772,170 bushels; besides proportionate quantities of other cereal and green produce, yet not one-half the land in private hands is cultivated, to say nothing of the many millions of acres of wild land remaining in the hands of the Canadian Government. For many years to come the preparation of the soil for cultivation must necessarily absorb all the surplus labour which finds its way into Canada.

The principal cities are Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, London, Hamilton, and Kingston, the two former being in Lower Canada. Many others are scattered through the colony. Although Montreal is no less than 580 miles from the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, vessels of 3,500 tons burden can, during the summer time, reach even it more easily than they can the port of London from the entrance to the Thames. The principal cities abound in fine buildings, and contain numerous places of worship. Toronto, situated on the shores of Lake Ontario, contains upwards of 65,000 inhabitants. The rapid increase of population here is illustrated by the fact that although in 1841 it contained only 14,249 souls, in 1851 the number had increased to 30,775, and in 1861 to 44,821. Though there is no State religion, every leading religious denomination in England is fully represented in Canada, the numbers belonging to each creed in Ontario being, according to the census of 1861, as follows:—Wesleyans and other Methodists, 341,572; Church of England, 311,565; Presbyterians, 303,384; Roman Catholics, 258,141; Baptists, 61,559; Lutherans, 24,299; Congregationalists, 9,357; miscellaneous creeds, 60,718; of no religion, 17,373; no creed stated, 8,123: total, 1,396,091. The system of education is wholly unsectarian, and the poor man can procure for his children a far better schooling than they could obtain in England. Out of 4,422 common schools in Ontario, 3,838 are entirely free. In fact, in Canada may be found successfully solved many of the social and political problems which are causing so much discussion here.