

tinually discovered. The geological map of Newfoundland shews that the Serpentine rocks, with which the ore is associated, have a spread of 5,000 square miles—enough to furnish scope for any amount of mining enterprise in the future. It is now put beyond a doubt that our island is destined to become one of the world's great mining regions. Here then is another great stride in advance. Mining means employment for our people,—the improvement of our revenue—the extension of our trade and the increase of our population. Even in agriculture we are advancing. The Solicitor General told us last year that the annual value of our agricultural produce is at present over \$612,000. Mr. Murray has calculated that there are nearly three millions of acres of land suitable for settlement on our eastern and western shores, all at present unoccupied. When with such slight efforts now put forth in the cultivation of the soil we raise produce valued at £153,000 per annum our whole population being only 161,000 what may we not anticipate when our present antiquated laws which impede settlement are repealed, the country thrown open to enterprise in lumbering and farming; the districts surveyed and made accessible; information regarding their soil, climate and capabilities widely circulated, and means taken to attract emigrants to our shores, as is the case in all the other provinces!

A word or two now about our fisheries. Fears are entertained by many that they are failing and may become exhausted. Believe me such fears are utterly unfounded. Of course they are now, as they have always been, subject to considerable fluctuations; and as we all know last year's results were unfavourable. But so long as the great Arctic Current, laden with the germs of fish life and furnishing the true home for the Commercial fishes, continues to wash our shores, no one need dread an exhaustion of our fisheries. Their increase in value has been steady up to the present hour, and with the aid of science they are capable of indefinite expansion. Within a dozen years the value of codfish, our grand staple has doubled. Where is the country in the world of whose staple production a similar tale could be told! The more railways are extended in those countries which consume our fish,—such as Spain, Portugal, Italy and