

## TERRA NOVA.

Away to the northeast of the North American mainland close by where the mighty St. Lawrence greets mother ocean, reclining on the bosom of the great Atlantic, and fanned by its cool breezes is the stern and rugged island of Newfoundland. Its shores present but a dreary picture to the approaching mariner—immense jagged cliffs rising perpendicularly from the sea, rugged landwashes, an irregular coast line, darksome and inhospitable in appearance, fitted to repel the breakers, which beat with tremendous fury when the storm king rules the deep. But when the stranger enters one of the many land-locked indentures of the Island from the sea he finds an undulating country covered with stately forests and bedecked with nature's richest verdure.

Newfoundland, although the first born of England's colonies is nevertheless, instead of being the most prosperous, happy and populous, the most backward, unhappy and sparsely inhabited of all the provinces of the British Empire. Although the tenth largest island in the world it has the comparatively small population of 200,000, scattered chiefly along the sea-board in numerous hamlets.

The principal city and also the capital of the island is St. John's. Here is the island's emporium, the base of all its commerce. The city possesses all modern improvements, especially the eastern part, which has been remodelled since the fire of '92. A good water system, fire appliances, splendid public buildings, churches and colleges, legislation halls and government offices, a good revenue and a bad system of civic government, are the chief features of the metropolis.

The suburbs abound in beautiful scenery. Within ten miles of the city, situated on the shores of the beautiful Bay of Conception, is Topsail, the local Brighton, a famous watering place, health and pleasure resort. This village may be reached by train, but the carriage drive along either the St. John's valley, the main line or the Black marsh road is interesting and enjoyable. The drives along other routes are equally interesting.

The staple industry of the island is the cod-fishery, the