

and then they admit it to be an extraordinary weight in Haddington, one of the greatest grain market is the South of Scotland, more especially for oats. Then we have twenty samples of Indian corn, mostly all very excellent, some of it weighing 53½ lbs. per bushel, and twenty-two samples of buckwheat all verging upon, and some of it quite 58 lbs. per bushel."

Barley is a sure and heavy crop; the bald barley will yield about 40 bushels per acre, specimens sent weighing 54 and 56 lbs. per bushel. Indian corn in the western counties prove a most profitable crop, yielding 60 to 65 bushels per acre; specimens sent weighing 60 lbs. per bushel. The climate of Nova Scotia is particularly suited for the growth of buckwheat, specimens sent weighing as much as 56 lbs. per bushel. All kinds of garden and field seeds grow remarkably well in Nova Scotia, producing excellent and profitable returns.

Prince Edward Island shows an interesting collection of its grain, dairy produce, and implements; and these are the most attractive, because, although an agricultural colony of some local notoriety, it is not much heard of here. The climate of the Island is highly favourable to the pursuits of agriculture and the health of the inhabitant. The main difficulty that has stood in the way of its progress and settlement has been the centralization of the land in the hands of absentee proprietors. A short notice of the history of the colonization and the land question difficulties may here be advantageously given.

The allotment of lands in the island was rather haphazard—the plan of settlement by grants in August, 1767, being as follows: The island was divided into sixty-seven townships or parts of townships, with certain reservation to individuals having claims upon the Government, and others upon certain conditions of settlement and the payment of quit rents of 2s., 4s., or 6s. annually per hundred acres, commencing five years after the grant, and only half being required the subsequent ten years. The granters were to settle upon each lot one person for every 200 acres, within ten years. If one third of the land in that proportion was not settled in four years, the land was to be forfeited to the Crown. When the ten years had passed however, no attempt had been made to settle 48 out of the 67 townships. Repeated and complicated difficulties arose. Lands were sold for the quit-rents, unoccupied lands were expropriated, a composition of quit-rents was attempted. But difficulties continued to exist, even after the reduction in the price of quit rents to 2s. per hundred acres announced in 1817. About ten years after, public improvements were pushed forward with great vigour; roads were widened and improved all over the country, bridges were built, agriculture was encouraged, improved stock was imported, and, to stimulate others, the Governor became a farmer.

In 1828 the Home Government sent out orders to enforce the arrears of quit rent due for five years, and stated to amount to £10,000. The House of Assembly and the colonists generally petitioned the King to relinquish the arrears, and in reply it was stated that the rents might be commuted for £1,000 a-year.

In August, 1861, the then commissioners appointed by Royal mandate to inquire into and adjudicate upon the subjects of dispute in respect to the tenure of lands on this island, brought their labours to a termination. The parties represented in the Commission were the Crown, certain large proprietors of lands on the island, and the tenantry acting through their Government. The claims of each party were minutely and patiently investigated—the grand design of converting on fair and equitable terms the leaseholds of the whole island into freeholds. The Commissioners recommended for this purpose the borrowing of £100,000 by the Local Government, with the guarantee of interest by the Imperial Government. Twenty year's purchase is the maximum price to be paid; but the land is to be valued by arbitrators.

According to the census of 1861, the population of the island was 80,556. The crops of 1860 yielded 346,125 bushels of wheat, 223,195 of barley, 2,218,578 of oats, 50,127 of buckwheat, 2,972,335 of potatoes, 348,784 of turnips, and 31,100 tons of hay. The live stock owned in the island consisted of 18,765 horses, 60,015 neat cattle, 107,242 sheep, and 71,535 hogs. 711,485 lbs. of butter were made in the year, and 109,233 lbs of cheese.

From Newfoundland much was not to be expected in the shape of agricultural produce—the fisheries being its main stay. But that it is not the bleak and inhospitable country supposed, is shown by the specimens of wheat, barley, and oats sent to the Exhibition by the Hon. L. O'Brien. That this island could greatly benefit agricultural interests by the manufacture of fish manure to take the place of Peruvian guano, which is now again running up in price, specimens of seal and cod manure deodorized are shown. There could be obtained from the refuse of the cod fishing alone, about 25,000 tons of manure in a perfectly dried state, and from the seal fishing, with dogfish and other refuse, two or three times as much."

Our Forests—Their Importance.

The preservation of timber in the United States is becoming a subject of vast importance as affecting climate, agricultural products and the mechanic arts. In some portions of the Eastern States, which were originally covered with dense forests of valuable trees, timber is already quite scarce, and every year becoming more so. It is still abundant in the North-western States; but there, the same management