WHAT CAN WE DO FOR OUR COUNTRY ?

Scotia will be unattended with success, if perseveringly pursued in the right spirit, and with the amount of interest necessary to the accomplishment of every undertaking. The province abounds in mineral wealth: its iron mines are believed to be almost inexhaustible, and no better proof of the superiority of the ore need be adduced, than the fact that at the last year's Great Exhibition of the industry of ALL NATIONS, in London, Nova Scotia iron bore off the prize from a vast array of competitors; these mines only require capital and labour, to make them the most flourishing and productive in the world. A number of natural advantages will render the process of digging and smelting the ore comparatively easy, and it only requires organization and determination on the part of the inhabitants, to make such valuable minerals an immense source of profit, and a means whereby remunerative occupation may be found for an unemployed but necessitous population. The deposits of coal are also very valuable and extensive, and are destined to be made a much greater source of prosperity than at present.

When the earth abounds in so much mineral wealth, there ought surely to be employment for the masses, and affluence for the few. Is it not from the lack of enterprise and regard for the interests of the country, in those who should desire to forward them, that so many of our natural advantages are rendered comparatively valueless? Is there not some better organization, some comprehensive scheme, which our capitalists may devise, that will serve at least to keep our young men at home, and give them the support they are prone to seek in an exile to California, and Australia.

There are our fisheries, again. The waters of our coasts are well stocked with finny inhabitants, waiting but the activity of the fisherman to be secured. This interest has been, but recently, much canvassed, and we are glad to see that our Merchants and others are at last becoming sensible to the magnitude of this important branch of our Trade, and are stirring themselves in defence of their own rights. These already offer the means of support to a large number of our inhabitants, but were such abundant fishing grounds as ours, the property of our enterprising neighbours of the republic, what a boundless source of profit would they soon become ; and why is it that we cannot emulate their enterprise and success? We are in no way inferior to them in the means, but we lack the energy or determination to make these resources productive of prosperity to our country.

With the many advantages we have enumerated, and others that we need not dwell upon, such as our forests, our harbours, and ship-building advantages, why is it that we have reaped so little benefit? Why, when the world beside us has taken progression for its watchword, should we fold our hands and be left in the rear? We have hardy, resolute men among our inhabitants—men who would peril life and limb for their fellow-man—hearts of oak, beating with all the best impulses of humanity. There is not a purer, more salubrious

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