

Chignecto Post.

Sackville, N. B., January 9, 1879.
Exportation of Beef from Westmorland to England.

At the Farmers' League Meeting on Thursday, the capabilities of this County to raise beef of a quality adapted to the English markets were discussed, and though no formal resolutions were passed, the fullest confidence was expressed in the resources of this district of country to produce beef of a character to suit the palates of the beef-eaters of old England. Already the preliminary steps have been taken that may lead to a shipment from Halifax next Spring.

At the head of the Bay of Fundy there are not less than two hundred and fifty square miles of marshes, reclaimed from the sea by dykes, built up through the ages by deposits from the tides. For purposes of grazing and of producing clover and various kinds of upland and salt grasses this soil has no superior on this continent. Its fertility is not only surpassingly great, but is also practically inexhaustible.

The constant attrition of the rocky bed and shores of the Bay by the rapid movement of the tides, results in the disintegration and solution or mixing of vast masses of earthy and mineral matter, to which is added the washings of the hills, and the total product is a fertilizer embracing not only mineral ingredients but vegetable matter, forming a compound of boundless productive powers.

Considering that our marshes are built up by layer after layer of this deposit formed throughout the ages, there can be but little exaggeration in saying the soil of the whole marsh district is an agricultural fertilizer. That the soil possesses this quality is so well understood that our best farmers constantly use it to enrich their uplands with the most beneficial effects.

The hay crops gathered on this marsh district is enormous. By the census of 1871, (including upland hay) they were as follows:

	Tons.
Sackville	11,200
Dorchester	10,012
Westmorland	8,888
Hillsborough	5,148
Hopewell	4,494
Harvey	4,880
Amherst	11,347
Amherst Road	4,785
Murray	2,115
Robt. Robert	8,422
	67,808

The above would about represent the yield of marsh hay at the present time, which is largely beyond the requirements of the country, because from seven to ten thousand tons are pressed and sent away annually.

The productivity of this sea alluvium is being yearly improved by ditching, draining and flowing, so that 80,000 tons is but a percentage of its possible yield, under better conditions of farming.

Thus possessing the staple food required in stock raising, what can possibly prevent our people producing as large a fine and well conditioned cattle as any agricultural district in the world possessing similar climatic influences? There is nothing. Our people have already obtained a singular success in the business. While, no doubt, all farmers turn off numbers of very ordinary cattle that would never do to export, yet our better class of cattle are well up to the English standard, though inferior to the very best. The prodigious amount of Canadian cattle has nearly ceased to exist in England—for even quality it brings even prices. As a matter of fact, the average quality of the English beef, and the market price is about twenty-five per cent. less than any attending our fall shows and noting the fine array of young cattle, might well conclude that we could furnish Britain with a million head of weight three-year-olds, by the best of the country.

To give some idea of the dimensions of the cattle trade of these farming districts, we give the following figures as the approximate shipments from the following places during 1878. They are within the mark:

	500 head	400 head	300 head	200 head	100 head
Sackville	1,000	800	600	400	200
Amherst	800	600	400	200	100
Amherst Road	600	400	200	100	50
Harvey	400	200	100	50	25
Hopewell, etc.	200	100	50	25	10
Total	8,000	6,000	4,000	2,000	1,000

Thus, only 15 per cent. of the present production will be sufficient for two cargoes each 260 head.

The successful exportation of beef will not only make our farmers richer by the higher prices paid for the product, but in reducing the home supply will tend to render the prices better all around. The English market can never be glutted. The enormous, ever-increasing population of that land must be fed and beef is a staple food. England imports yearly £10,000,000 worth of food supplies. The demand for beef there is practically unlimited as to render the price independent of any supplies that Canada is capable of sending. The Toronto Mail assures us that the prospect of next year's season are excellent. For fat beefers and steers, contracts are being entered into for the next three months at five cents per pound live weight, and Canadian farmers will have no difficulty in disposing of animals of this class. Good beef is estimated to be worth 50 per cent. more for exportation than can be obtained for home consumption.

A great advantage possessed by this country for the trade in its marine position. Cattle from Texas and the prairies of the South are driven to Omaha, Cheyenne and other stations on the Great Pacific, where they are caroused, and then shipped. A long railway journey wears out and gives them the most becoming hard and shrunken. Some of the cattle dealers at Omaha, Denver and Cheyenne own herds containing as many as 15,000 head and they now make sales either to the Chicago market or for direct shipment to England about two-thirds of the beef shipped from Ontario is obtained in Chicago, where extensive stock sales enable the English dealer to obtain a cheap and save him the trouble of going into farming districts and picking up isolated carloads.

The Permissive Act.

Enthusiastic Meeting at Sackville.
On Tuesday afternoon a large and very respectable gathering from all parts of the County took place at the Methodist Chapel.

All the parishes were well represented, Moncton sending about 25 delegates. Probably 200 were present.

After J. J. Anderson, Esq., was appointed Chairman, and H. Trueman, Esq., Secretary, the minutes of the meeting held on 17th December, were read.

The first resolution, proposed by Dr. Moore and seconded by S. Sharpe, Esq., was as follows:

Resolved, That the late session of the Dominion Parliament in which was passed the "Canada Temperance Act," be read.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that all proper steps should be taken to put into force the said Act in this County.

The second resolution, proposed by W. J. Robinson, Esq., and seconded by H. J. McGowan, Esq., was as follows:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed for each parish with power to add to their number, and a central committee composed of two members of each parish committee.

The following parish committees were then appointed:

Sackville: Alfred Rayworth, P. Riley, Wm. A. J. Robinson, Wm. Dunlop, Wm. A. J. Robinson, Esq., and H. J. McGowan, Esq.

Dorchester: C. E. Knapp, Hon. P. A. Dandridge, R. A. Chapman, J. A. McFarlane, J. C. Bishop.

Westmorland: D. R. Lindsay, J. A. Harris, W. W. Keith, D. A. Bourgeois, Hugh Hamilton.

Hillsborough: Robt. Kay, John Little, John Goodwin, Alex. Wright, Abram Allen.