

tracts of land on easy terms of payment and within easy access of our great lines of railway, which secures to them at all seasons, a profitable market. Apart from these, there are always, from misfortunes, a desire to remove to some other locality, and many other causes, a large number of farms in the market; and although the prices asked are comparatively high, yet when the quality of the soil and the advantages of the situation are taken into account, they are probably not higher than circumstances warrant. But apart altogether from the introduction of settlers into the country, ought not Canada to be able to supply her home market with almost every kind of agricultural produce? Possessing a climate capable of growing the very best description of fruit, we are yet large importers of a *very inferior kind* from the neighbouring States. While our green pastures and rich meadows are capable of sustaining a much greater number of cattle, we yet import largely of the same, as well as butter and cheese, from a foreign country. While vegetables infinitely superior can be raised at home, we are yet content to depend upon our neighbours for a supply.

How is this state of things to be remedied? The Canadian farmer is perfectly satisfied with his condition, and will make no further exertion merely to gratify Canadian patriots with the pleasure of living on home-grown food. Emigrant farmers will doubtless be of some service, but what Canada now requires, is that many of her enterprising sons should engage in agriculture, and leaving the crowded resorts of business, where success is ten to one against them, seek in the great storehouse of nature, the ample reward of well-directed industry which is sure to crown their efforts.

THE ST. MAURICE TERRITORY.*

As nearly as can be at present estimated, the River St. Maurice drains an area of twenty-one thousand superficial miles, an extent about one-tenth greater than the mainland of Scotland, with which the comparison again becomes convenient, as its valley probably contains about as much arable land of all kinds as that kingdom.

Limiting the estimate, however, to land not merely arable, but also of such a quality as is at present, in this country, considered good land for settlement, as far as at present known, it probably contains about three and a-half millions of acres.

Till within a few years past the value of this great territory was utterly unknown to the public. It was commonly considered as destined for ever to be the abode of the Indian and the muskrat; for even the lumberers in any degree acquainted with it were of opinion that its lumber could never be taken to market.

Recently, however, the demand for saw-logs to supply the exportation of sawn lumber to the United States and Great Britain, turned the attention of those engaged in that branch of trade to the pine forests of the St. Maurice. At their instance an immense slide was built to overcome the obstruction presented by the great Shawenegan Falls of the St. Maurice, and bombs and other works were constructed on it to facilitate the descent of saw-logs. The

* We abridge the account of this Territory from the report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands.—ED. M. M.