

South of the Tobique, commencing at a point a short distance below the Gulgnae and extending southerly to the head of one of the branches of the Becaguinee river in the rear of Knowleaville, is also to be found another large extent of forest covered lands owned also chiefly by the above named Company, much of which is also good land for farming purposes, while they also own another tract of fertile land on the south branch of the Becaguinee.

These valuable lands chiefly rest on rocks of Upper Silurian age. The red marls and sandstones, however, of the Lower Carboniferous period, are also to be met with south of the Tobique as well as on the Becaguinee. Both of these formations here carry with them a considerable portion of Carbonate of lime.

The well known county of Aroostook, in the State of Maine, lies in the extension to the west, of this fertile territory; that, however, to the west being much less than that to the east.

As the character, therefore, of the land, on either side of the Saint John, is here similar; the future of the forest lands of this district may be judged of by what has already been done on those which have been cleared and cultivated.

The population of the State of Maine, in 1880-81, was 618,639; of New Brunswick, at the same period, it was 321,233. The population of Maine had increased in ten years, 21,880; of New Brunswick, 35,639. Now, while more than one-half of the increase in the whole population of the State of Maine was due to that of the County of Aroostook, more than one-fifth of the increase in that of New Brunswick was in the population of that district on the Saint John which lies north of Eel River which is situated 50 miles or more to the north of Fredericton.

That the increase, at least in New Brunswick, was among agriculturists, appears from the following facts: The butter yield of the County of Carleton, when in 1880-81 was 1,003,359 lbs., represented nearly the double of what it had been ten years previously. While the crop of apples in that county, 68,788 bushels of 1880-81, exceeded more than thrice, that of 1870-71.

In order to determine the future possibilities of the vast tract of fertile, forest-covered land above mentioned and described, whose position is well marked chiefly by two ranges of high hills and elevated lands, one lying south of the Tobique, the other to the north of the Siegas between which it lies, the writer has, at various times during the present winter, visited some of the most reliable farmers residing on the fertile belt in the Counties of Carleton and Victoria, and obtained from them information which he now places before the public. No regularity, either of subject or of composition, has been observed, and he gives the conversations just as they took place. The narrators, who are well known in their various localities, can be appealed to at any time.

Mr. Amos Hartley, who resides not far from Centreville, twenty miles north of Woodstock, says: We have a large number of sheep in this part of Carleton, indeed, I know of no better country for sheep raising. They are generally free from disease here.

The average clip of our sheep is about 5 lbs. of washed and carded wool. Among the varieties of sheep, which are to be found here, are the Leicester, South Down, Cotswold and Lincolnshire. We prefer the Cotswold, they shear well and their lambs dress well.

An average spring lamb will weigh, when dressed, 40 lbs. They are turned out to pasture and no attention is paid to them until winter sets in. The usual winter feed of sheep is hay. When they are having lambs a little buckwheat is given them. Two tons of hay or about that quantity will winter half a dozen sheep. Ours almost always go to the market of the United States. Buyers come and take them and pay the duty of 20 per cent. We never have exported any mutton from this district to Great Britain. Each farmer winters about 20 sheep, some have more and some less, but this number is about the average. Any wool which is exported goes to the United States.

Mutton and lamb vary in price but little here. The average price of a live lamb from August until winter commences is \$2.50. We often get \$3.

Ewes are worth from \$3 to \$5. There is no special care taken of sheep during winter. There are thousands of them which remain out of doors in the barn yard all winter without shelter. Occasionally, a shed is provided for them.

I trade a good deal in cattle. Young cattle are usually fed on straw in the winter without anything else until they calve, when they are fed on hay. When it is intended to fatten cattle for the market we begin in November or December, giving them potatoes, turnips and buckwheat bran, this is continued until the cattle are killed and taken to market which is from January to March. Our market for cattle is usually in the United States. They are driven off and transported by rail to their destination.

A large number of milk cows are sold from this neighborhood which go to the United States. A great deal of hay has also been exported from this part of the country to the United States. The average price of a full-grown cow is \$20, of yearlings from \$8 to \$10.