

that done, their clearing has gone on extending year after year (the hut being replaced by a commodious frame house), until now it counts a goodly number of broad acres, whose fertility enables their owners to live in plenty, oblivious of the trials that surrounded his early life, and rejoicing in the prosperity Providence has bestowed upon him through his own exertions.

Although the soils vary, and one kind of land may be better suited for growing the valuable cereals than another, yet everywhere, except on the barrens or in the swamps, fair crops of these may be raised. But no matter where the farmer settles down, if he is careful, industrious, and persevering, he will meet with an ample return for his labour. If the district in which he resides does not produce wheat as abundantly as he may wish, it will yield a good crop of corn; or failing this, buckwheat may be the most remunerative; if neither of these, it will produce potatoes or turnips, or vegetables of some kind in such quantities as will leave him no cause for complaint. In many places crops of all kinds may be raised to great advantage.

With reference to agriculture, there is one thing that, in justice to the soil of North America, or its climate, or both, should not fail to be mentioned. In no matter what part of the country a piece of land may be situated, or how poor it may be, it is capable by a little labour judiciously disposed, of being brought to a high state of agricultural perfection. As an example, the State of New Hampshire may be cited, justly termed the "Granite State," in consequence of the predominance of granite, which seems to cover its entire surface. Here, upon the solid rock, as it were, are farms that in appearance and productiveness can compare admirably with those of more favored climes. The "hanging gardens" of Eastern Rome are not more marvellous than those apparently bare rocks teeming with vegetable life. This productive power, which the most barren soil in America seems to possess, may be due more to the skill of man than either the causes mentioned above. It is certain, however, if it does not really exist in the soil, it is capable of being introduced into it.

The province of Nova Scotia, which makes its first appearance in European competition this year, has spared no expense whatever in bringing its resources and products before the general public. Its court, looking at the extent and resource of the colony, contains one of the finest colonial collections in the Exhibition Building, every article being well displayed and arranged. The fish, the wood, the minerals, the horticultural produce, the animals, are all beautifully shown, and the great moose standing at the entrance is an indication of its whereabouts. Its gold fields have lately brought the colony into more prominent notice; and with regard to expense in exhibiting, the provincial govern-

ment have given Messrs. Baring Brothers, official agents of the colony, *carte blanche*. Nova Scotia is peculiarly adapted for an agricultural country. The best lands are alluvial or "dyked marsh," and "intervale." The former are formed by the deposit left by the rapid tide of the Bay of Fundy, which rises in some places to a height of sixty feet.

The fertility of the "dyked marsh" is, it is believed, quite unparalleled. Some of it, such as Grand Pré (the scene of Longfellow's "Evangeline"), was reclaimed by the Acadian French about two hundred years ago; and there are instances of this species of land having been cultivated a century without any manure. Lands top-dressed with this alluvial deposit can be cultivated for twenty years without any manure. "Intervale" land is formed by the deposit of fresh-water rivers, &c., and is exceedingly productive.

Potatoes in Nova Scotia will yield, on average, about 230 bushels per acre, and have yielded as much as 450 bushels per acre of very superior quality. This crop is not so much affected by the potato disease as in other countries. 3,284,864 bushels were raised here in 1875. Twenty-two samples are shown by different exhibitors. Wheat, under very inferior cultivation, will yield from 25 to 30 bushels per acre. Specimens sent weigh 62 to 64 lbs. per bush. The competitors in this department were few, and the specimens sent are much inferior to those exhibited at the Provincial Exhibition in 1854.

The following is an extract from the official report—

"Every person who has any real knowledge of agriculture, and saw the specimens of grain entered at our exhibition, will readily admit that it was almost all of first-rate quality, scarcely, if at all, inferior to any equal number of samples either in the mother country or United States. The *Dumfries Courier* states that 60 lbs. per bushel for wheat, 50 lbs. per bushel for barley, and 40 lbs. per bushel for oats have generally been considered a kind of standard or medium weight between the heavier and lighter quality; and it mentions, as a specimen of the present crop, that at last week's Edinburgh market samples of new grain were: of the following extraordinary weights: Wheat 65 lbs. per bushel, barley 58½ lbs. per bushel, and oats 48 lbs. per bushel.

"Now the grain at our Exhibition comes very favourably with this statement, as of fifty-four parcels of wheat of various kinds, two were below 60 lbs. per bushel, and to exceed this, 16 parcels were above 64 lbs. per bushel, while two parcels were above 66 lbs. per bushel. In barley they exceed us in one parcel per bushel, our heaviest being only 47½ lbs. 14 ounces per bushel; but we equal the white oats, as ours is 49 lbs. as well as the