

from the southward, the soil becomes more argillaceous, and often resembles alluvium. Eastward of the Nepan River, a few scattered boulders begin to appear, and near Chatham they are quite numerous; they are of granite, syenite, and trap, and identical with those rocks where they are found *in situ* on the north side of the Gulph of Saint Lawrence, whence they have evidently been transported; but, whether by ice, or by water under a former condition of the country, it is difficult to decide. There are many good farms in this quarter, but large tracts, capable of affording a due reward to industry, are unoccupied; the settlements being confined to the sea shores and the banks of the rivers.

Northumberland is one of the largest Counties of the Province, and, when considered in reference to its soil, minerals, fisheries, and timber, it is a district of much importance to New Brunswick. The Miramichi, a large and beautiful river, passes directly through this County; while its branches, extending in all directions, afford great facilities of transportation from the interior. This river is nearly two hundred miles in length. Having descended with considerable rapidity from its principal sources, it becomes navigable for large vessels; and finally opens into a spacious bay. The banks of the river are settled to the distance of a hundred miles; the mouths of the principal branches are also thinly inhabited; but, remote from the streams, the country is in its original wilderness state, and thousands of acres of land, capable of cultivation, are covered by dense forests. Upon the main river and many of its branches there are some excellent intervalles; even these, in many situations, remain uncleared. From fifteen to twenty miles above the mouth of the river there are three towns, with a number of handsome villages adjoining. Chatham, Newcastle, and Douglas Town, are places of great trade in timber, ships, and fish, and the country has improved rapidly, notwithstanding a most calamitous fire that destroyed two of its towns and a number of villages only a few years ago. Large sums of money have been expended in the erection of steam and water-mills, for the manufacture of lumber; and a spirit of enterprize has prevailed that is unrivalled in any part of America. Agriculture and mining have, however, been almost altogether neglected, and it is only of late that any advances have been made in those important branches of industry. These few hints are thrown out for the information of persons abroad, into whose hands this Report may fall; and although they may not be con-