

gone by since the erection of houses, without a special license from the Governor, and the cultivation of land were legalized; and that the first roads were laid down but forty-five years ago, the advanced condition of the island, at this date, is something wonderful. Three times within the last fifty years, has St. John's been almost totally destroyed by fire. In 1846 a forest of chimneys alone remained to mark the site of a large and wealthy city that had been, by the conflagration of a single day, laid in ashes. To-day, a much finer city greets the eye, having large and substantial stores, admirable wharves, and wide streets; and though a good part of it is still built of wood, yet the introduction of an abundant supply of water, and the organization of fire companies have rendered the recurrence of an extensive conflagration, such as formerly devastated the city, a very improbable if not impossible event. The irresistible current of events will lead Newfoundland, ere long, to throw in its fortunes with those of the Dominion of Canada. Its increasing population can no longer find a subsistence in the uncertain returns of the fisheries, and will, in developing the ample resources of their fine island, secure remunerative employment and new sources of wealth, at present undreamed of. When we remember all that the people have had to struggle with, and the blind, selfish policy pursued by their rulers, and when we find that, in 1869, the value of the exports was \$6,096,799, while that of the imports reached \$5,254,152, leaving a balance in favour of the colony of \$842,647, we cannot but think highly of the spirit and energy of a people who have so bravely triumphed over difficulties and so patiently endured misfortunes, and injuries, and we are more than justified in cherishing high hopes of their future.

GEOLOGY OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

I am indebted to Alex. Murray, Esq., F. G. S., one of Sir William Logan's able colleagues in the Geological Survey of Canada, for the following valuable sketch of the Geology of Newfoundland. During the last five years, Mr. Murray has been engaged on the geological survey of this island; and the valuable results of his labours I have repeatedly referred to in these articles. His admirable summary of the general geology of the country, embodying the results of the most recent explorations, will be appreciated by the readers of STEWART'S QUARTERLY.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, May 7, 1870.

MY DEAR MR. HARVEY,—

In accordance with your request, I send you the following brief sketch of the general geology of Newfoundland so far as it has been ascertained up to the present time. Our knowledge of the subject as yet, however, is very slender, and much must still be done, before the true structure and distribution of the formations will be properly understood.

All the great ancient rock systems between the Lower Laurentian and the Coal measures inclusive are more or less represented at one