

ving their talents, and must confess that I have found them much more respectable than I formerly believed them to be. They will quickly build an ark of very considerable burden, without a particle of iron or an inch of cordage; and in the time of a freshet, when the waters are pouring down our rivers and creeks with astonishing velocity, they will with great dexterity and intrepidity, conduct this vessel through waterfalls. They will patiently encounter a long and fatiguing journey back on foot, heavily laden with necessaries for their families. Thus they become travellers; and as rubbing through the world generally sharpens a man's wit, they return home much better informed, having seen and heard much by the way: likewise become well versed in barter, purchase and sale. These men, with no other tools than a common axe, auger, and pocket knife, will, with astonishing expedition, build a light and comfortable dwelling house, or convenient barn, without a single nail or a particle of iron. The floors strong and well formed, the doors conveniently hung; and decent sashes for the windows, first roughed out with the axe, and then finished with the pocket knife. Such household furniture as answers their purposes is also made with the same tools. So are their implements for husbandry, except the iron work, which is also made by some of them, and there are but few who cannot make the shoes worn by their family. The dexterous use of the rifle furnishes most of the meat that is eaten by them. They dress the skins of the deer, and often, without either needle, silk or thread, make well looking pantaloons of them, and when money is scarce, some other parts of their dress is also formed of them. They will scald and clean a hog without either pot, kettle, or any other fireproof utensil. In fact these men generally come into the backwoods exceedingly poor. They seldom have more money than will pay their expenses on the road, and often do not bring more than a horse and cow with them; therefore are commonly much better stocked with young helpless children, than they are with cattle: consequently they are compelled to exercise those talents which nature distributes without partiality, or starve."—*Lorain*.

A number of Novascotians have lately started to hunt for fortune on the Prairies of the far West, the land of cheap bread, meat, and furs. We would recommend to those who feel disposed to follow them, to reflect a little on their own ability of living where they must supply all their wants by the labour of their own hands, as they will generally find that all the money that they can procure will be absorbed by taxes, salt, and iron work. No man who has his living to earn by his labour should remove to a country where he must raise Pork for 7s. 6d. the hundredweight, and Indian Corn for 7½d. the bushel, unless he is able and willing to live like the Backwoods men described by Mr. Lorrain: as otherwise when plagued for his taxes, he will be turning a longing look towards the country where a poor labourer gets 2s 6d or 3s in hard cash for his day's work, and heartily wishing he had never left it. Implicit faith should not be placed in letters written by acquaintances who have removed to new countries; they are sometimes dictated by the same spirit that leads the young recruit to endeavour to enlist his old friends,—the wish to convince himself that he is not the greatest fool on earth. There are men who rather court than fear danger, difficulty, and privations; they are the proper persons to settle in these remote districts; but most men, in such situations, would be discontented and miserable.

#### HOW VERY FREQUENTLY IN DRY WEATHER.

In very dry weather the soil should be very often stirred, and as deeply as the plants can bear. Some who have had but little ex-

perience assert that stirring the soil, by bringing the moist earth to the surface will increase the dryness; but this theory, although plausible, is perfectly false when applied to land under a crop. Indian Corn which had the leaves curled with drought, has been made to thrive again by ploughing deeply between the rows, notwithstanding that a number of roots must have been cut by the ploughing. Plants can take water from the air when it is allowed to reach their roots by keeping the soil very loose. In a very dry season a piece of dry gravelly ground from which a crop of early peas had been taken, was broken up fourteen inches deep, early in August, and sowed with turnips which were several times hoed, and produced a good crop, not appearing at all affected by the drought which continued for several weeks after they were sowed, and checked the growth of every thing near them; but the ground being kept mellow between the drills was always moister than the hard ground about it, even close to the surface, while the looseness of the soil enabled the roots of the turnips to strike deep. We have seen an observation of the celebrated Mr. Coke, (Earl of Leicester) "That the more frequently he stirred the soil among his turnips in dry weather, the better they grew." And it is well known that the great farm which he rendered so very fertile, was when he commenced upon it, a dry barren sand.

From the Farmer's Gazette.

Josiah Quincy, President of Harvard College, has one of the finest farms in the vicinity of Boston. It is extensive and surrounded by a flourishing hawthorn hedge, but there is not an interior fence on the premises; the whole presents a single field devoted to the various purposes of agriculture. No part of it is allotted to pasture, properly speaking, as his cattle are fed in their stalls and never suffered to roam over the fields—and the advantages of his system are thus given: formerly there were seven miles of interior fences to be kept in repair, but by keeping his cattle up the whole of this expense is saved. Formerly sixty acres of this farm were devoted to pasture; but now a greater number of cattle by one third are kept on the products of twenty acres, and the cattle are in the best condition.

The saving by these means is enormous, and the immense advantages arising from it are too apparent to need to be dwelt upon. During the summer the cattle are fed upon grass, green oats or barley, cut the day before and suffered to wilt in the sun, but the manure which is thus saved will more than pay the extra expense and trouble. The farm is most highly cultivated, and every kind of grain and vegetable has a place.

ROYAL AG. SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.—This Society has now 7,270 members, of which 101 are denominated life governors, who pay \$250 each—206 annual governors, who pay \$25 annually—399 life members who pay \$50 each—6 551 annual members, who pay \$5 per annum. Its receipts in the three years of its existence have so far exceeded its expenses that the Society has invested about \$35,000, the interest of which now forms a part of its permanent income. The Fair of this Society, for this year, is to be held at Derby, commencing on the 11th of this month.—*Cult.*

IRISH AG. SOCIETY.—Following the example of England, a National Ag. Society was formed in Ireland in 1841, since which no less than 83 auxiliary or district Societies have been organized, all of which appear to be in a prosperous condition, and exerting a highly salutary influence upon the agricultural interest of that country.—*Id.*