

appliances are all within the reach of the intelligent and enterprising, whose first duty it is to aid in developing the resources of their native land for the interest and benefit of their countrymen.

To these British Provinces of North America such remarks are peculiarly applicable, as they possess to an enlarged extent natural possessions only requiring the labour of the manufacturer to confirm their great importance; and none are more rich in these resources than Nova Scotia. Indeed the '*resources*' of this province have become a standing theme for the politician, the lecturer and the philanthropist. Go where you may, open what newspaper you will, and this subject is ever brought forward, until the intelligent mind naturally asks: If you have them in such abundance, why has not the province benefitted by their development? why are they not things of sight as well as of faith? Why is it that with such vast mineral, agricultural and piscatorial wealth, only awaiting labourers to call them forth and disseminate their benefits throughout the land, the inhabitants of Nova Scotia are leaving her shores by hundreds, and seeking in other lands the employment they do not find in their own? Why is it that the country villages are becoming depopulated, and that Halifax, with her many advantages of land and ocean, has been retrograding in importance and prosperity? We know there are some who dispute those assertions, who tell us that Halifax contains more wealth in her centre than any other city of her size in North America,—that those who have left our shores are only the vicious and idle, who disdained to accept employment at home though glad to procure it in a foreign country. These people will tell us that they see a marked improvement in Nova Scotia during the last twenty years. They may point us to one solitary branch of manufacture, as a proof that our manufactures are encouraged and that there is work for our people. They may shew us a few merchants or tradesmen who by dint of unflagging industry and good fortune, have amassed considerable wealth; and they will tell us with martyr like gravity, that we are injuring our country and endeavouring to draw odium upon the land of our birth, when striving to open the eyes of our countrymen to the ruin that hangs over them, and urging them to prevent, while there is yet room, entire depopulation and general adversity. To the assertions of those who may maintain that the prosperity of Nova Scotia is increasing, we point to our deserted villages, untenanted houses and falling manufactories, and then ask—where is the proof of her wealth and improvement? It is useless to tell us that those who have emigrated from our population, were its refuse. Stern experience tells us that in the majority of cases they have been the flower of our people; the sturdy young farmers and mechanics on whose toil and care depended many an aged parent and gentle sister, but whose wants they were unable to supply from the scanty pittance the employment in their own country afforded. Far be it from us to say one word in disparagement of Nova Scotia, or her honest industrious inhabitants.