

tivation, and are very bad farmers. They plough here a little, and there a little, and sow it with the same grain, without ever a fallow, till it will grow nothing but twitch grass; then they cast it aside and go to a fresh place. The French, when in possession of this place, had their marshes diked in and ploughed, which grew wheat in such abundance that they sold it for one shilling a bushel; however, the present inhabitants do not grow so much as is sufficient for themselves, but are obliged to buy Indian corn at four and sixpence, rye at five, and wheat at six shillings a bushel; which they would have no occasion to do, would they but properly cultivate their own lands, leave off the use of rum, which they drink in common, even before breakfast; and to which, in a great measure they owe their poverty.—By the growth of a sufficient quantity of barley, which by a little industry they might accomplish, and the brewing of malt liquor, the many fatal disorders which are the consequence of too liberal a use of rum would not be known amongst them, and the sums of money would be kept at home, to their very great advantage, which they now send out for the purchasing that liquor. If this river was settled by English farmers of substance, a very advantageous trade to the West-Indies might be carried on, by the exporting of horses, beef, butter, cheese, timber, deals, and corn; and in return, receive rum, rice; sugar, mollasses, and other spices; which at present they have through so many hands, that they cost them more than one hundred and fifty per cent. above prime cost. They likewise want a trade to England, for at present they have all their English goods from Boston, which comes at a very great disadvantage. If this could once be effected, the town would abound in plenty, and perhaps quickly regain more than its primitive lustre.