

practised in Nova-Scotia? Have we not the clearest proof that they may be practised with equal advantage here as in Europe? Our soil is adapted to every kind of vegetable, and is such as the most judicious Husbandmen prefer. It is in general a sound, friable, crumbling loam; very little clay, or even stiff loam is found, except in our dyked lands. On the southern sea coast, the land in many places is stoney for some distance from the shore, which is a continued range of granite, and schistus, or coarse slate rock; but large tracts in the interior parts, consisting of a light, sandy loam, are wholly without stones. Properly speaking, we have no mountains, at least none that are high; and a circumstance peculiar to Nova-Scotia, is, that the highest ridges of land generally have the best soil. No soil produces more luxuriant herbage and crops of grass. With tillage that is any way tolerable, it yields from 20 to 30 bushels of wheat per acre, and the wheat is remarkably heavy—upon accurate trials, it has weighed 64 lb. and even 67½ lb. per bushel. No country produces better potatoes, turneps or carrots, or a greater quantity of each per acre. Flax, hemp, buck-wheat, and Indian corn, succeed well; and the cyder made in Nova-Scotia is not inferior to any in North-America.

These are notorious facts, too well known to admit of any doubt; the plain inference from them is, that if we are obliged to have recourse to strangers for provisions, it is not owing either to our soil or climate; the one is fertile, the other is healthy in a high degree. Our spring indeed is later than in countries that lie farther south; but countries which are north of us, and whose spring is later than ours, abound in provisions. The mean Latitude of this Province is 45 degrees; and there is nearly the same difference between our spring and that of New-York, for instance, which is found between the spring in Middlesex and that of Yorkshire, in England; yet Yorkshire is a fine corn country, though in Latitude 52 degrees. It may with truth be asserted, that the same quantity of land, acre for acre, in Nova-Scotia, will maintain as many people, yield as much corn, as in New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, or any of the old Colonies; and will raise and fatten more cattle.

But it will be said, that the price of labour is high, owing to a thin population, and the scarcity of labourers, and that few have sufficient capitals to carry on Agriculture with spirit. It must be acknowledged that this is very true; these are inconveniences incident to all new colonies; there was a time when this was the case of the old colonies; and from these circumstances, some interesting inferences may be deduced.

From hence appears a necessity for our Legislature, and all