

wick farmer ought to be much better off than the farmer of Upper Canada, because his farm produces so much more in proportion. But then the question arises, whether the larger produce brings a larger amount of money: the question of price is quite as important as the question of quantity; therefore, I have devoted a chapter to the prices obtained for different kinds of produce, (derived from the same returns and authorities as the other tables in my Report, already mentioned,) and have deduced the averages for respective counties, and for the whole Province, and have compared them with the averages for other parts of the world. It must be more interesting to you to compare these averages with those of the other parts of North America, than those of Europe; therefore I have made the comparison accordingly, so far as I could get access to the materials to enable me to do so. In England we always speak of the price of grain by the "Quarter," which is a measure containing eight bushels; therefore I use that measure in these tables. First, then, in Upper Canada, the average prices are as follow:

Wheat, 28s. per Qr.	Rye, 18s. per Qr.
Barley, 18s. "	Potatoes, 1s. 6d. per [Bushel.
Oats, 10s. "	

In New-Brunswick, the averages are:

Wheat, 60s. 8d. per Qr.	Rye, 38s. 8d. per Qr.
Barley, 34s. "	Potatoes, 1s. 11d. per [Bushel.
Oats, 16s. "	

In the State of Ohio, the averages are:

Wheat, 31s. per Qr.	Rye, 16s. per Qr.
Barley, 14s. 8d. "	Potatoes, 1s. 10½d. per [Bushel.
Oats, 8s. "	

Therefore it appears, that the prices in New-Brunswick greatly exceed those in the two other countries named. Then, when we consider, that the land in New-Brunswick produces a much larger quantity of food, and that the prices obtained for it are also greater than in the neighbouring countries, we cannot fail to draw the conclusion, that unless certain circumstances, which are said to interfere with profitable farming in New-Brunswick, do really operate very disadvantageously, the farmer of this Province ought to be much better off than the farmer of Upper Canada or Ohio. This is not an absolute conclusion, but depends on circumstances, capable of investigation. If there are such circumstances, which render the condition of the farmer of New-Brunswick different from that of the agriculturists of other countries, and which might possibly so interfere with his pursuits as to render his condition less comfortable and profitable than their's, those circumstances should be investigated, with a view to discover whether they cannot be remedied. Many such circumstances have been alleged, and I have considered them attentively in my Report. First of all, the climate is said to be disadvantageous. It is most important to a farmer to understand well the

nature of the climate of his country; and therefore the relation of the climate of New-Brunswick to the profits of the New-Brunswick farmer, is a necessary point of enquiry. It is of no consequence to discuss the general subject of "Climate"; we need merely enquire, whether the Climate of this Province is such, as to interfere materially with the profits of the New-Brunswick Farmer, and to injure his condition in comparison with the farmers of neighbouring countries. In my Report, I set out with allowing two things as indisputable; first, that this climate is *exceedingly healthy*; and 2dly, that, as far as I can judge, the climate is not such as materially to interfere with the amount of the produce of the land, and that, in spite of the climate, the average produce is greater than in the adjoining countries of Canada and the United States. 'Tis clears away much difficulty, and leads me to discuss the question, of what are the probable profits of the farmer in this country. It has been so often stated to me, that in this Province the winter eats up the summer; that the immense stock of hay required to maintain the stock of cattle during the winter greatly decreases the value of the farm produce, and that therefore it is impossible for the farmer to realise any great profit on his operations, that I was compelled to give attention to these statements. I have therefore considered these points fully in this portion of my Report. I will not now go over the arguments and facts contained in my Report, on this head; but will merely state the general results deduced from them. The first objection made is, that the extreme shortness of the season for agricultural labour requires greater exertion than in climates with longer summers, and leaves a larger portion of the year in which agriculturists must be supported without raising any produce, and that therefore farming in this country is more expensive than elsewhere. This is a very reasonable argument, and requires investigation, to test its soundness. I have compared the answers to my printed queries, as received from fifty different persons (practical men in this Province,) who have given an opinion on this question. Of these, there are twenty-five who say, that the fact does not in reality affect the profits of the farmer, and twenty-five who say that it does, and that it lessens those profits. Therefore the evidence is exactly balanced on that point. Then I take the question of paid labour; whether it is profitable for the farmer to pay for labour in this country? The same difference of opinion appears on this point also: there are just as many who say that it is, and just as many who say that it is not.

I will now just draw your attention to the value of the evidence in this respect. One man gives me an opinion on one side; another gives his opinion on the other side; and a third tells me he has made a good profit on paid labour, and shews me the money he has gained by it.