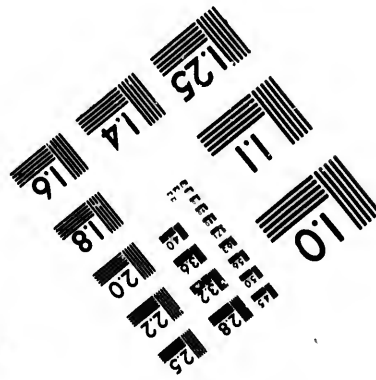
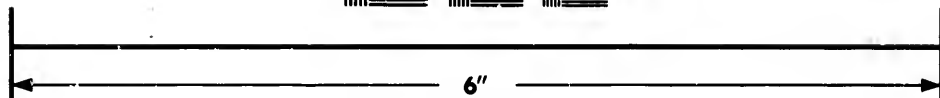
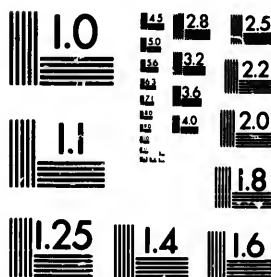


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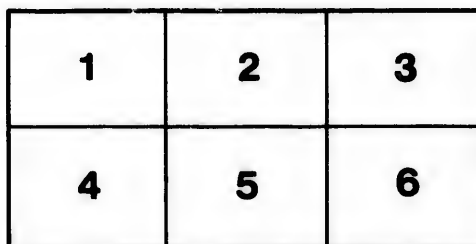
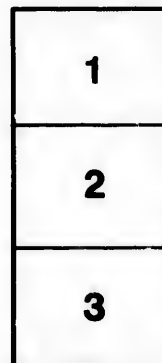
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**SECOND PRIZE ESSAY.**

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**NEW BRUNSWICK,**

**AS A HOME FOR EMIGRANTS:**

**WITH THE BEST MEANS OF PROMOTING IMMIGRATION,**

**AND DEVELOPING THE RESOURCES OF THE PROVINCE.**

**BY**

**JAMES EDGAR.**



**SAINT JOHN, N. B.**

**PRINTED BY BARNES AND COMPANY,**

**PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.**

**1860.**

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## P R E F A C E .

In December last, the President and Directors of the *Saint John Mechanics' Institute* proposed two prizes of Fifteen Guineas and Ten Guineas, respectively, for the best Essays upon the subject :

*"New Brunswick as a Home for Emigrants : with the best means of promoting Immigration, and developing the resources of the Province."*

The Essays were to be delivered on or before the first day of March last ; and no less than eighteen were sent in as competitors for the prizes.

It was determined that a committee of three gentlemen, unconnected with the management of the Institute, should be appointed to act as examiners of these Essays, and judges of their merits. William Wright, Esq., L.L. D., Advocate General, the Hon. John W. Weldon, and the Rev. William Scovil, A. M., accepted the Board's invitation to act as such Committee. On the 19th April they submitted their report, in which they speak in flattering terms of all the Essays, and recommend that three of them, besides the two to which they had awarded the prizes, should be published. The following is the Essay which gained the second prize.

Being convinced of the necessity of diffusing as widely as possible the valuable information contained in these Essays, the Directors of the Institute communicated with the Provincial Government upon the subject of their publication, and distribution throughout the Provinces and in the United Kingdom. In the most liberal manner, the Government assumed the cost of printing several

## PREFACE.

thousand copies of each of the five Essays, on the sole condition that a certain number should be placed at the disposal of the Executive Council; and they are now published under that arrangement.

The President and Directors of the Institute beg to express their sincere thanks to the gentlemen who undertook so readily, and discharged so faithfully, the laborious task of examining the Essays, and their entire satisfaction with the course adopted by the Government in aiding and encouraging the Institute's effort to make our country and its resources more widely known and more fully appreciated.

They sincerely trust that their endeavours to effect this desirable object may not be unproductive of good results.

*Saint John, June 1860.*

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## NEW BRUNSWICK AS A HOME FOR EMIGRANTS:

WITH THE BEST MEANS OF PROMOTING IMMIGRATION, AND  
DEVELOPING THE RESOURCES OF THE PROVINCE.

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*Our greatest want is the want of men and women.*

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IN stepping outside its wonted boundaries of operation, and offering prizes for Essays upon this national subject, the Mechanics' Institute of our commercial metropolis has added to those already given, another and a striking evidence of the direction in which the public mind of New Brunswick is turned. We have always, of course, had before us in this Province the subject of Immigration; it has always been a topic upon which politicians were wont to wax eloquent, and journalists to grow warm. We have had no end of schemes, suggestions, plans and proposals; of Crown Land regulations, and rules and orders of all kinds; of eulogies of our country; of reports, and of collections of statistics. Plans and regulations have been prepared—sufficient, if put into efficient operation, to have drawn to our shores a hundred thousand emigrants, and to have provided every family of them with a comfortable homestead in the backwoods, and an independence.

If mere words had sufficed, New Brunswick had been, ere this, a populated country. But this matter of the promotion of immigration, is just one of those in which mere words are valueless, and action is essential. Unfortunately but little attention has been paid to this fact. People seemed to think that all that was necessary was to draw up, on three or four sheets of foolscap, a fine scheme; and that then, from the mere virtue of the scheme itself, immigrants

would be drawn in in crowds. But while we have been making paper schemes, those interested in the promotion of emigration to other countries have been *working*. The consequence is, that while we have nothing but the schemes, they have the men and women.

Therefore, it has come, that all our hopes of this kind have been disappointed, and all our expectations have been nipped in the bud. So great has been our failure that not a few men among us of very considerable shrewdness, and of long and wide experience, have arrived at the conclusion that all efforts to induce immigration to our Province are, and will ever be, in vain. "We cannot," say they, "compete with other new countries—with Western Canada, or the Western States, or Australia; we have no inducements to offer which can compare with those held out by these countries; and we can never hope to divert to our own shores any considerable portion of the stream of emigration which has set towards these countries. We have always failed hitherto; and the money which the Province has, from year to year, set apart for this object, has been a clear loss. It is useless, therefore, to struggle against our fate, and to vote further sums, with the result of filling the pockets of jobbers and party dependents."

If I believed these vaticinations to be as correct as they are gloomy, I should not have thought of preparing this essay. But I conceive that they are founded upon a partial, and not a complete, view of the matter. Those who indulge in them take it for granted that all has been done that could have been done; that every means has been used and every resource tried. Were it so, hope would indeed be at an end. But I conceive that it has been precisely because the proper means have not been used that we have hitherto had nothing but failure; or, I should rather say, it is because there has been no actual organized, consistent and sustained effort, worthy of the name. There has been much talking, and much writing, and much planning; but there has been comparatively no *action*. What efforts have been made have been of a nature too desultory, temporary, and fitful to effect much good. We want steady, persistent, and enlightened action.

That the public are with me in believing that it is yet possible to promote immigration to New Brunswick is proved

by the interest which they still take in the question. Disappointment exists, but not despair. The subject of immigration is never lost sight of; it comes up at every turn; you meet it at every step. I verily believe that the question, How can we promote Immigration? is scarcely for a day absent from the mind of any public man, or any man of thought. People cling, despite numerous and mortifying disappointments, to the belief that something can be done. Every year it affords matter of discussion for the Legislature; and scarcely a week passes that it is not ventilated in one or other of the Provincial newspapers. It haunts the public mind. It seems to have over us the same strange power that the Ancient Mariner had over the wedding guest:

"The wedding-guest, he beat his breast,  
Yet he cannot choose but hear."

We cannot avoid considering and pondering upon the subject; it has a power of fascination from which it is vain for us to attempt to escape.

And it is not strange that it should be so. It would be very strange were it not. There is in the public mind in any nation an insatiable longing to become great, rich and powerful; and to become still greater, richer and more powerful. This feeling is especially strong in new and weak States. In New Brunswick it is very observable, and gives rise to a sentiment of discontent. We feel that we have here all the materials for a great and noble state. We have space, soil, minerals, fisheries, forests, rivers, climate, institutions, and geographical position. Nature has poured out upon our Province with a lavish hand those natural resources and products which the genius and hands of man can convert into the means of power, comfort, and progress. In some particulars one country, and in other particulars another, may possess greater natural advantages than ours. We cannot boast of the gold of California or Australia, of the almost inexhaustible soil of the prairies of the West, of the sunny climes of more southern regions. But for a combination of those qualities and advantages which history shows to be most conducive to substantial and permanent greatness, our country has but few equals. One thing only do we lack—men and women. But without them we have

comparatively nothing. Shrewd and active minds, stout hearts and sinewy hands, are the preliminaries to greatness. We feel this; and we feel, also, that in asking our brothers and sisters in Europe to join us in our noble work, we are asking them to make no sacrifice to our vanity; for we have here for them, as for ourselves, the means of comfort, wealth and happiness. We do not ask them to build up our country at their own expense; we ask them to build it up through their own success and their own prosperity.

With these feelings and these convictions, it is no matter for wonder that the great immigration problem should haunt the public mind. This offer of the Saint John Mechanics' Institute of prizes for the best Essays upon the subject, is but an additional manifestation of the bent of the public thoughts and longings. That the problem is capable of solution, I, for one, have never doubted. This essay is offered as an humble suggestion towards that solution.

The proposed subject is divisible into three branches. I shall first proceed to consider what New Brunswick has to offer emigrants. I shall then make a few suggestions as to the best means of promoting immigration; and shall conclude with some general observations upon the third branch of the subject, the development of the resources of the Province.

We have first, then, to consider New Brunswick as a Home for the Emigrant.

There are, I think, two classes of considerations which we may suppose to influence the emigrant in the choice of his future home. The first class are considerations of immediate expense, convenience and comfort; the second class are considerations of permanent advantage and ultimate success. Casting his eyes around for a new home, the emigrant first naturally thinks of its distance from his fatherland, and the time, expense, and means of reaching it, and of the chances of immediate and profitable employment, without trouble or loss of time. Other things being equal, he will, of course, prefer the nearest available country, and the country in which his old habits, associations and modes of thought will require the least change.

In proximity to Great Britain, length and comfort of voyage, and expense, New Brunswick has a decided advantage. The voyage to Australia may be reckoned at 88 days;

the voyage to New Brunswick at 26. Then the fare to Melbourne for steerage passengers is about £19, while the fare to New Brunswick may be reckoned at £4 10s. But the steerage passenger has to find himself with a certain proportion of provisions in both voyages, and the length of the voyage to New Brunswick being less than one-third the other the expense is proportionately less. If we reckon the cost for a single passenger at ten pence a day on both routes, we shall have an addition to make to the passenger's expenses to Melbourne of £3 13s. 4d., and to New Brunswick of £1 1s. 8d. This makes the advantage on the part of the New Brunswick route still greater,—£5 11s. 8d., against £22 13s. 4d., or less than one quarter.

The cost of the voyage to Quebec and to New York is not greater than to New Brunswick. But there is this difference to the emigrant: when he lands at New York or Boston he is yet very far from the settling lands of the United States; if he is bound for the Far West he has still before him one thousand miles of inland travel, over a route which is swarming with pickpockets, knaves and swindlers of all kinds, whose occupation it is to make a living out of the verdant traveller, and who especially mark the unsophisticated and helpless emigrant for their prey. If he lands at Quebec, with the intention of settling in Western Canada, he has neither so far to travel nor is he beset with so many difficulties; but he is, nevertheless, far from his promised home, and not in the most enviable position. The emigrant to New Brunswick has no such difficulties to encounter. At St. John he is within two hundred miles of the very centre of the Province, and a pound will carry him up the St. John into the very heart of the country in which he is about to settle. There is scarcely the slightest fear of his being swindled out of his means. He will find within a few hundred yards of the spot at which he lands an Emigration Office, in which full and reliable intelligence respecting the country, the routes of communication, and the cost of travel, can be had. He may land with nothing but the clothes which cover him, and earn his dinner before he wants it, and his supper and lodging before the approach of his first night in New Brunswick.

Once arrived in this Province, the first business of the



emigrant is to find either employment as a labourer, or a farm upon which to settle. Clearly it would be to his advantage, in almost every instance, to find employment as a labourer or mechanic until he becomes accustomed to the ways of the country, and possessed of the information necessary to guide him in choosing a permanent occupation, and selecting a locality for his future home. In this matter he can be at no loss. Labour, skilled and unskilled, always finds ready employment and good wages. Any steady and industrious man can, in his first year's residence, get occupation which will furnish him with board, lodging and clothes, and save enough to purchase one hundred acres of Crown Land. At the end of that period, if he has kept his eyes open, he will have learned enough of the backwood lore to set him up as a settler; and if he has brought with him into the country any considerable means, it will, perhaps, be advisable for him at once to commence hewing out his farm from the forest. If, on the contrary, he has come into the country penniless, he will have to spend a few years in the accumulation of a small capital, with which to commence his labours as a settler. The greater number of emigrants will prefer not to extend their period of servitude to a greater length than is absolutely necessary. A very laudable pride will induce them to commence, at the very earliest possible moment, working on their own account, and for themselves. They will not bear to give their labour to another one moment longer than circumstances render necessary; feeling that unless working on their own account they cannot reap the full fruits of their own industry.

The choice of land upon which to settle will be a matter requiring much consideration and judgment. If the immigrant prefers a ready made farm, he can have one in any locality, of any size, of any required quality, and at any price. The immigrant of means will prefer a farm made to his hand, in proximity to some market, and in a populated district. The immigrant of small means will go further into the country, and will find farms of fifty, of one hundred, of one hundred and fifty, or of two hundred acres, with small clearings, and with buildings, humble, perhaps, but sufficient for his immediate purposes, at a very moderate price. The prices vary, of course, with the location,

situation, soil, amount of clearing, and value of buildings. They can be had as low as fifty or seventy-five pounds, and so on, up to hundreds. He who can purchase one of these, place upon it a small stock of cattle, and support himself until his first year's crop is available, may consider himself already in an independent position.

If, from either choice or necessity, the immigrant determines to go into the primeval forest and hew out for himself a home, his first step is to pitch upon a location. To accomplish this, every aid is given him. The Crown Land authorities are ready to furnish him the fullest and most explicit information concerning all the ungranted lands in the market, their locality, distances from central points, nature, and price, the means by which they can be procured, and the terms and conditions of sale. The Deputy Surveyors in the several Counties are equally ready to furnish all the information in their power, and to render aid in the selection and purchase of lands. From their experience as practical land surveyors, they are often in possession of information as to the actual and comparative value, eligibility, and accessibility of most of the ungranted lands in their respective Counties; and they are thus in a position to render the intending settler services of the highest value, and to shorten much his inquiries and researches. Plans of all Crown Lands can be had from the Crown Land Office, and from the Deputy Surveyors, at a trifling cost. Thus every possible aid is given to the land hunter in his search after a desirable location.

Having fixed upon the seat of his future home, the settler's next object is to procure the land and get a title to it. Here, again, he finds every convenience and every aid. If he desires to purchase for cash, he makes a written application, in a prescribed form, to the Governor, and transmits it to the Surveyor General of the Province. If the land be not already surveyed, a survey will be immediately made by the authorities, at the expense of the applicant. When the survey is made, the land is advertised for public sale at the regular monthly sale which is held on the first Tuesday in each month by the local Deputy Surveyor for the County in which the land is situated, at his office. At this sale all the lands thus advertised for the month are put up at public auction, and sold to the highest bidders. If there

is no other bidder on his lot, the applicant gets it at the upset price, three shillings currency, or two shillings and five pence sterling, an acre; one quarter of which he is required to pay down, and the remainder in three equal annual instalments, with interest at six per cent. from and after the date at which such instalment becomes due. If he pays the whole purchase money down, a discount is made of twenty per cent. Thus, under the latter arrangement, he finds himself in possession of one hundred acres of land for twelve pounds currency. By the instalment arrangement he pays three pounds fifteen shillings down, and three pounds fifteen shillings annually for three years.

But the actual settler can procure his land upon even more easy and advantageous terms than these. He can make his application for the land for purposes of actual settlement; and he then has the opportunity of paying for it in the same number and kind of instalments, not in cash, but in *labour on the roads in his own district*. The only conditions exacted by the Government are that he shall be an actual settler on the land, and shall within five years after the approval of his application, prove to the satisfaction of the Government that he has paid the full amount of his purchase, in labor, is then, and has been for the previous twelve months, residing on the lot, and has cleared and cultivated not less than five acres of the land.

More favourable terms than these it would be scarcely possible to offer. In effect the settler pays his three pounds fifteen shillings a year for four years, in labour near his own house, and has that labour immediately expended in making public roads to and across his own property. Every penny which he pays he pays in the easiest manner, in his own labour, and has it immediately returned to him in the most valuable form, improving his property, making it more accessible, and providing better facilities for communication with his neighbours, and with the markets in which he sells and buys. I doubt that there ever entered the mind of a public man in our country a more wise and happy expedient than this.

Our immigrant has now chosen his location, and is prepared to enter upon it. He casts off his old character, and becomes a "settler." The most favourable time for him to commence operations upon his land is, perhaps, in the spring

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or beginning of summer. He has then the whole season before him for cutting down the trees on his first clearing, and preparing for putting in a crop the next spring. He works at this until the frost and snow in the fall stop his operations. When he first goes on the land he builds himself a temporary "camp." Of course he has to lay in, from time to time, a sufficient stock of provisions to last him until winter. During the season which elapses before the winter, he spares time enough from the work of clearing the land to build himself a log house. A log house, with a shingle roof, will be the cheapest, most conveniently constructed, and in many respects the best, for him. Three men for two days, with a horse or yoke of oxen one day, at a cost of about a pound currency, will prepare the logs, and put up the walls of a house twenty feet by sixteen. Then a small quantity of boards and shingles will be needed. The boards he must purchase at the nearest saw mill, and there is scarcely any settlement without one; but if he is at all ready and mechanical in his turn he can make, during spare hours, shingles for himself, and amuse himself, and further his education for a pioneer, at the same time. Very few backwood Bluenoses but can turn out a respectable shingle, and the tools required to make them are few, simple and inexpensive. He will require some nails, glass, a chimney, or cooking stove, with pipe and flue, carpenter work, cooking utensils, and furniture. The cost of the first supply of household furniture and cooking utensils need be but very light; it is astonishing with how little fitting up of this description, simple and hardy people can manage very comfortably in the backwoods. There are few places in which you will find more cheerfulness, contentment, health and rude comfort, than in a New Brunswick lumber camp; and yet the furniture, if indeed it deserves the name, is almost laughably simple and rude, being probably the work of a man or two, for half a day, with an axe, draw knife, and auger. With an axe and jack-knife the pioneer can provide himself with almost every mechanical contrivance needed to supply his temporary wants. Add to the axe and knife, an auger, a draw-knife, a grindstone of course, a tin kettle, a tin cup, a plate or two, a frying pan, and a few blankets, and he is set up comfortably in house-keeping. If he is luxurious in his tastes, or has means sufficient to

justify indulgence in luxuries, or has a wife or children for whom to provide, he may add slightly to this outfit; but scarcely any addition can be regarded as a necessity. Nor must it be supposed that the pioneer with this apparently slender stock does not live comfortably and enjoy life. It possesses the best of all qualities—it is fitted to his circumstances. He is commencing life as a settler; for a year or two he has neither time nor attention to give to anything but the simple object before him, the demolition of the forest. He is in the rudiments of his new life, and he wants nothing around him but what is rudimentary. He wants nothing, handles nothing, knows nothing, wishes for nothing, and, I might say, thinks of nothing, but his axe and his hoe. After a season or two, when he has got a small clearing made, and a few buildings put up, and the proceeds of the surplus of a crop or two in his pocket, he takes breath. He looks up and around; sees new wants; thinks new thoughts; is seized with new desires. As his situation changes, so change to some extent his objects and his mode of life. The stern necessity which at first crushed out every thought from his mind but that of war on his enemy the forest, has gradually departed; and as the weight is removed there spring gradually up all the desires and inclinations of the civilized man.

I might, without much difficulty, sum up the actual expenditure necessary for the first season, that is, from the time of his first commencing work to the approach of winter, and show how exceedingly small it is. The most considerable expense would be for provisions. His axe and a few other tools, grindstone, half a dozen culinary utensils, and blankets, are permanent investments. Most of the work upon his log house he would do himself, and only that for which he has to pay others need be counted. And even a portion of this need not be a money outlay; for if he has gone into the wilderness in company with other settlers, he can exchange with them the few days' work which he needs. The actual outlay will then be reduced to a very low sum. After he gets a "burn" upon his fallow, and is engaged in clearing up the land—rolling the logs into piles, piling up the brush, and burning the whole—he needs the assistance of a team. But one team, say a yoke of oxen, costing from twenty to twenty eight

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pounds, will do all the work of several settlers: so that one settler can either buy in company with others, or hire a team for the work which he has to do. His first instalment on the purchase money of his lot he pays in labouring on the road. Thus his actual money outlay for the first season—say from the first of June to the first of November, five months—is very small. If he manages with economy and prudence it will, probably, not be more than from fifteen to twenty pounds.

The approach of winter causes a temporary suspension in his operations; but that suspension is no loss to him, for he can hire out during the winter, to go into the lumber woods, or to some other species of employment, and thus procure a fresh supply of money for the next season's operations. If he hires at the middle of November, and returns to his lot by the first of April, he will have four and a half months' wages coming, which we may reckon at, as an average for the whole Province, three pounds ten shillings a month. Thus he will have earned nearly sixteen pounds; as much as he has spent in the preceding summer. Consequently he is in almost as good a position, financially, as when he first pitched his tent upon his land, and has all his previous summer's operations as a clear gain.

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Early in the spring our settler is again on his lot. In the five months of the previous year, and in the portion of his time during the spring in which he is not engaged in putting in seed, he clears up say six acres of land. He pays five or six pounds for seed, and gets the six acres into crop. To do this he should have the use of a horse or yoke of oxen for a portion of the spring; but here, as in the operations of the preceding season, he can form a partnership with some of his fellow settlers, as one good team will do easily the work for several of them. Not that even a team is indispensable; for hundreds upon hundreds of pioneers, who have since attained to comfort and an independence, and to whose children there is open the highway to wealth and honour, have commenced backwood farming without such assistance—clearing off the brush and sticks from between the large trees with which their fallows were strewn, and hacking in their seed amongst these logs with a hoe. We have a notable instance in a gentleman now high in the councils of his country, who many years ago commenced

life in New Brunswick, a poor immigrant, on a soil by no means the best in the Province, by hoeing in his seed among the logs and stumps, and—very much worse than either—stones, of his new land farm. There is, I verily believe, no country under heaven, in which a labouring man can commence life with fairer prospects and fewer artificial appliances than New Brunswick.

After the settler has committed to the bosom of kind mother earth the seed of his first crop, he will do well to provide himself with a small barn, and procure the small beginnings of a stock, with some farming utensils. He can commence very well with one cow and two pigs; and he should have a sled, a cart, if he can afford it, and other things. He can do the first year with very few farming implements, and do very well too. As new land crops require no weeding, and admit of very little culture, he has the whole time which elapses before harvest to prepare these things and cut down a new fallow, in order to increase the size of his clearing. When the harvest season arrives he gathers in his crops; and then sets again about his work of clearing.

And now, having got our immigrant settler fairly launched upon his new life, let us leave him for a little, and endeavour to ascertain what is the character of this Province; what are its capabilities, its resources, the nature and quality of its soil; what its agricultural productions, climate, material condition, political and commercial state, its social condition. Let us endeavour to ascertain whether it is really a country to which we should invite men and women who wish to exchange their homes in the Old World for a better and happier one in the New. Does our country in good truth present to the emigrant the conditions of success and prosperity?

To this question I shall endeavor, in all honesty, to provide from the materials at hand, an answer which shall contain the truth, without prevarication or extenuation.

New Brunswick lies between forty five degrees and five minutes, and forty-eight degrees and twenty minutes of North latitude, and between sixty three degrees fifty minutes, and sixty eight degrees of West longitude. It borders on Canada, Nova Scotia, and the State of Maine. It contains about 18,000,000 acres, of which there are, by

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the computation of Professor Johnston, 13,000,000 available for cultivation, while under actual cultivation there are not much above 700,000 acres. The same gentleman divides the soil into five descriptions, and calculates their productiveness in tons of hay and bushels of oats per acre. We present his estimate of the amount and productiveness of each class of soil in a tabular form:—

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1st quality, 50,000 acres, will produce | 2½ tons hay, or 50 bush. oats, per acre. |
| 2nd " 1,000,000 " " "                   | 2 tons hay, or 40 " " "                  |
| 3d " 6,950,000 " " "                    | 1½ tons hay, or 30 " " "                 |
| 4th " 5,000,000 " " "                   | 1 ton hay, or 20 " " "                   |
| 5th " 5,000,000 " " "                   |  |

The first quality of soil in the above calculation consists mostly of intervalles and marshes. These lands are exceedingly productive; intervalles along the St. John river have, with no more than average cultivation, been made to produce eighty bushels of Indian corn to the acre. A very large portion of the available lands consist of the uplands of the second and third quality. The Professor's estimate of the capability of these soils is certainly rather below than above the mark. The uplands in the counties of Restigouche, Victoria and Carleton, on both sides of the river, St. John, are truly magnificent. They are deep, mellow, and productive in a high degree. I have seen sixty bushels of oats taken off an acre, as a second crop, on new land. Fortunately for those who have still to become settlers in New Brunswick, the great ungranted tract in the centre of the Province, including portions of the Counties of York, Northumberland, Carleton, Victoria, and Restigouche, is mostly composed of those very lands which are second only to the intervalles and marshes in fertility and productiveness. This district is destined to become the granary of the Province.

For the number and variety of its agricultural productions New Brunswick may vie with any Colony of the Empire. I do not pretend to give a complete list; but the hasty glance which is all that space allows me to give this matter, will show of what our country is capable. First in the list is the wheat, which grows well and produces well. A temporary disease, the wheat weevil, has interfered to some extent, in the last few years, with the raising of this cereal; it has been grown with great success in almost every



portion of the Province. Oats are one of our staple crops; the oat seems well suited to our soil and climate. Barley is also a staple crop; it grows with great luxuriance. Rye yields very heavily. Indian corn yields well on uplands, while on the intervalles it is one of the most profitable crops that can be grown. Buckwheat is grown in vast quantities. Peas and beans are highly productive. For potatoes, it is doubtful if our Province can be surpassed. Root crops of all kinds grow well, and yield largely; our soil seems peculiarly well adapted to them. Premium crops of turnips, even in localities in which farming is yet in its infancy, run up to 800 or 900 bushels to the acre; and carrots exceed this. The mangold wurtzel and the parsnip grow well; as do most kinds of other vegetables, particularly cabbages. I need not extend the list further.

To arrive at a comparative estimate of the produce of New Brunswick and other parts of North America, I shall compile from Professor Johnston's Report. He compares the average produce per acre of certain crops in New Brunswick, obtained with as much accuracy as was possible, with the average produce per acre of the State of New York, as given in the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society for 1854; the average produce per acre of the State of Ohio, from the Report of the Ohio Board of Agriculture for 1848; and the average produce per acre of Upper or Western Canada, given in the first Report of the Board of Registration and Statistics of Canada, published in 1849. It is well known that these three districts stand very high among the grain growing regions of the New World. How does New Brunswick compare with them? Let us see.

|            | Canada West<br>in 1848.  | Ohio in<br>1848.      | New York<br>in 1845.  | New Brunswick<br>in 1849. |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
|            | <i>Bushels per acre.</i> | <i>Bus. per acre.</i> | <i>Bus. per acre.</i> | <i>Bus. per acre.</i>     |
| Wheat,     | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 15 $\frac{1}{2}$      | 14                    | 17 $\frac{3}{4}$          |
| Rye,       | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 16 $\frac{1}{2}$      | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 18                        |
| Barley,    | 17 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 24                    | 16                    | 27                        |
| Oats,      | 24 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 33 $\frac{1}{2}$      | 26                    | 33                        |
| Maize,     | 21 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 41 $\frac{1}{2}$      | 25                    | 36 $\frac{1}{2}$          |
| Buckwheat, | 16 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 20 $\frac{1}{2}$      | 14                    | 28                        |
| Potatoes,  | 84                       | 69                    | 90                    | 204                       |
| Turnips,   | —                        | —                     | 88                    | 389                       |
| Hay,       | —                        | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons. | —                     | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons.     |

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With respect to this gratifying comparison, I cannot do better than to quote the remarks of the same disinterested writer, Professor Johnston. At page 77 of his Report on the Agricultural Capabilities of the Province of New Brunswick, he says :

“On the whole, therefore, I think the result of this comparison of the actual productiveness of the soil of New Brunswick with that of the other parts of North America, ought to be very satisfactory to the inhabitants of this Province, and is deserving of their serious consideration. So far as my knowledge of the intermediate country goes, I am induced to believe that the soil of New York is at least equal to any of those of the North Eastern States. If New Brunswick exceed New York in productiveness, it ought also to exceed all the States of New England.

“And if it will in this respect bear a favorable comparison with Ohio and with Upper Canada, it becomes doubtful how far, on the whole, the other Western States are superior to it. At all events there appears to me to be sufficient reason, until more satisfactory information is obtained, for the agricultural population of New Brunswick to remain content with the capabilities of the soil which they possess, and to give themselves up strenuously to the development of its latent resources, rather than to forsake it for either Northern or Western America, which appear incapable of yielding larger crops than they can easily reap at home.”

And as the weight per bushel of crops is a point of the first importance with agriculturists, we give the result of the Professor's inquiries on that matter, with his own remarks thereupon:—

“The general average weights for the whole Province are, for

|                  |               |              |              |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Wheat,           | 60 11-13 lbs. | Buckwheat,   | 48 8-11 lbs. |
| Barley,          | 50 “          | Indian Corn, | 59½ “        |
| Oats,            | 38 “          | Potatoes,    | 63 “         |
| Rye,             | 52½ “         | Turnips,     | 66 “         |
| Carrots, 63 lbs. |               |              |              |

“These average weights over a whole Province, where the land is new, and manured only in rare instances, or at long intervals, indicate a capacity in the soil and climate

to produce grain for human food of a very superior quality."

Prices, again, are a very important element in the calculation of the comparative advantages of countries as homes for the emigrant. Upon this point it is difficult to get entirely reliable data. Professor Johnston collected information upon this point by the same means that he collected it upon the other points to which his attention was directed—by sending circulars to persons in every quarter of the Province. His general averages for the Province may be too high, but as they are the only calculation upon the matter with which I am acquainted, I give them here:—Wheat, 7s. 6d. per bushel; Barley, 4s. 2½d.; Oats, 2s.; Rye, 4s. 10d.; Buckwheat, 3s. 9d.; Maize, 4s. 8d.; Potatoes, 1s. 4d.; Turnips, 1s. 2d.; Carrots, 2s. 5d.; Mangel Wurtzel, 2s. 1d.; Hay, 49s. per ton. Buckwheat, I should suppose, is put too high; the others are probably not far from the mark. Professor Johnston makes various comparisons of these prices with prices in other places. With those of the averages of the London Corn Exchange for the six months ending the 31st of November of the year in which he wrote, 1849, they compare thus:—

|         | New Brunswick.        | London.               |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Wheat,  | 48s. 6d. per quarter. | 41s. 6d. per quarter. |
| Barley, | 27s. 3d. "            | 28s. 7d. "            |
| Oats,   | 13s. 9d. "            | 16s. 10d. "           |
| Rye,    | 30s. 11d. "           | 22s. 9d. "            |

I shall quote from Johnston one more table, showing the average value of an acre of each crop in the State of Ohio, Canada West, and New Brunswick, from the best authorities to which we can refer.

|              | State of Ohio. | Canada West. | New Brunswick. |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Wheat,       | £2 19 0        | £2 4 7       | £6 13 0        |
| Barley,      | 2 4 0          | 1 19 4½      | 5 13 7½        |
| Oats,        | 1 13 9         | 1 11 0       | 6 3 6          |
| Rye,         | 1 12 4         | 1 5 10½      | 4 7 0          |
| Buckwheat,   | 1 16 3         | 3 5 0        | 5 5 0          |
| Indian Corn, | 2 15 0         | 2 14 4½      | 8 10 4         |
| Potatoes,    | 6 9 4½         | 6 6 0        | 19 11 0        |

The seasons of New Brunswick differ from those of Great Britain. Our winter is much longer and more

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severe; our summer is consequently shorter, and the time for farm work correspondingly less. But the winter is by no means such a serious drawback as many suppose. The nature of our husbandry differs from that of the British Isles. The circumstances of our country are widely different from those of an old and thickly populated country. The severe frosts of our winters pulverize the soil, and thus do the work of many of those repeated ploughings which are essential in British agriculture. Any one who has seen the "frost coming out of the ground," as it is termed, in a New Brunswick Spring, cannot but be struck with the heaving of the earth, and the consequent mechanical separation and pulverization of the soil, produced by the alternate freezing and thawing process which is going on. Then the winter affords to the settler means for the transportation of his produce to market much superior to those available in summer; for speed and draft there is no road equal to the snow road. It also gives opportunity for the getting out of fencing, scantling, firewood, and other materials of the very first consequence to the settler.

The great drawback with respect to seasons, is the shortness of time for Spring and Fall work, especially for the former. The average length of summer, calculated by a competent person from good data, is six months and twenty one days. The Saint John river remains closed with ice on an average four months and twenty seven days. But the dryness and equability of the atmosphere, and the fewer number of days on which rain falls sufficiently to interfere with outdoor labour, assist in making up for the disadvantage of the shortness of Spring and Autumn.

In the matter of healthiness of climate, New Brunswick has very few equals. The air is dry and bracing, and uncommonly conducive to health and physical and mental activity. It has been pronounced by many persons of knowledge and experience to be in these respects behind that of scarcely any other country. "It is an exceedingly healthy climate," says Professor Johnston. "As regards climate, none is more healthful," says Dr. Waddell. Dr. Gesner states that the "climate is decidedly healthy, and there is no disease peculiar to New Brunswick." Similar testimony might be quoted from other authorities. A few days study of the physical characteristics of the people

would furnish irrefutable proof that the climate is promotive of physical health and development; the tall, strong and shapely forms of natives of both sexes would strike the observer at every turn. And I would here observe that notwithstanding the severity of a portion of the winter, it must not be supposed that this period is long. Although the winter itself is nearly five months in length, it is only for a comparatively brief time that the cold is extreme, and mild intervals and thaws are frequent. If we take the present winter, that of 1859-60, we shall find that the severe weather in it may be counted by days rather than weeks. I am informed by a gentleman who speaks from experience and certain knowledge, that the cold of our winter is not nearly so severe as that of the winters of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, those famous regions of the West; and it is very well known that the cold of the Lower Canadian winter is much more intense than ours. There is a strange fact which I may mention here—that persons from the more temperate climate of Great Britain, do not for the first winter or two which they spend in New Brunswick feel the cold nearly so much as New Brunswickers born; they can work with bare hands when the Bluenose “to the manor born” has to resort to thick woollen mitts.

The matter of internal communication is one of vast importance to the emigrant and settler. Here, again, our Province stands very high among new countries. New Brunswick is permeated in every direction by large navigable rivers. The noble St. John runs through its whole extent, from its northern to its southern boundary. The St. John is navigable for vessels of considerable size to Fredericton, about ninety miles; for small steamers to the Little Falls at least, one hundred and seventy miles further. At present steamers run only to Grand Falls. During the summer season, while the river is at a sufficient height, boats run regularly from St. John to Tobique, over two hundred miles. Thus by this single river there is a regular steamboat communication through fully one half the length of the Province. Next is the St. Croix or Schoodie, which is navigable for large vessels to St. Stephen, seventeen miles. This river forms for a considerable distance the boundary between the Province and the State of Maine, and penetrates the country to the west of the Valley of the St.

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John. The Peticodiac runs into the Bay of Fundy, west of the St. John, and is navigable for vessels of one hundred tons, thirty miles from its mouth.

The Saint John river penetrates the Province in a line from southeast to northwest, and opens up a great highway through it for nearly three hundred miles. Then we have a series of rivers, which, starting from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, over the northeast of the Province, penetrate it in a southwesterly direction, their head waters making towards the St. John, and thoroughly penetrating and opening up the district lying east of that river. Of these, the Richibucto is navigable twenty miles from its mouth. Next is the Miramichi, which is second but to the St. John in the Province. Its southwest branch runs directly at a right angle to the St. John, and almost meets some of its tributaries; while the northwest branch turns off at a right angle from the southwest. The Miramichi is navigable for large vessels for twenty miles, to the junction of its branches. At the extreme north of the Province, we have the Bay of Chaleurs and the Restigouche River. This Bay extends into the Province westerly one hundred miles, and varies in width from twenty to forty miles. At its head it receives the waters of the Restigouche, the several branches of which penetrate this district of country in every direction.

An examination of the Map of New Brunswick, with the information respecting its Rivers which is given in several popular works, one of the most valuable of which is Gesner's *New Brunswick*, will show that it has in its rivers natural means of internal communication such as few countries possess. There is scarcely a district which is not penetrated by a navigable stream; there is scarcely a Parish beyond the reach of craft of some size. Tow boats ascend the St. John till it passes into the territory of the United States and Canada. They ascend the Tobique, a tributary of the St. John, above seventy miles, until it nears the waters of the Restigouche, running in the opposite direction. They ascend the Restigouche and its Southwest branch one hundred and fifty miles, its south east branch seventy miles, its north west fifty miles. Again, the Miramichi is navigable for boats for a great distance. Thus the great highways of nature intersect the country in every direction, providing for the settler ready access to any part of the Province in which he may fix his habitation. He can scarcely erect his

cabin upon a spot at which a tow boat or batteau cannot reach him. The facilities thus given for the progress of settlement can scarcely be overrated; in every quarter of the Province you will find the settlements strung along the rivers and streams, as though threaded on them. The great portion of the ungranted lands, lying in the interior, on the east of the St. John, are thus rendered accessible. The upper waters of the Tobique, Restigouche and Miramichi, open up a magnificent agricultural district, covered with a forest which bears unmistakable testimony to the quality and the strength of the soil which sustains it.

Upon our Roads much attention has always been bestowed by our Government. No new country, with the population of New Brunswick scattered over its extent of territory, has done more for these means of accommodation than ours. The Great Roads, and lines of postal communication are under the direct management and supervision of the Executive, and claim a large share of the annual revenue. And the Bye Road service has ever been considered, as it naturally should be, an interest of the first importance. There is not, I verily believe, a settlement in New Brunswick, however remote or obscure, which has not had Government aid in the construction and repair of the roads by which its inhabitants communicate with and reach the markets of the world outside. The present system of surveying tracts of Crown Lands for settlement is, in the first place to survey through them, from end to end, the location for a good and easy road, one which will not merely look well upon a plan, but be really practicable for men and for teams; and then to lay off the lots on both sides of this road, and fronting upon it. Whenever a settlement is commenced, the settlers can claim their share of the annual Bye Road grant for the County, and have their claim allowed. And besides this, they can pay for the land upon which they settle by work upon the roads crossing them; so that the very purchase money of their homesteads is expended in constructing their own highways, and affording them communication with their neighbours. The general excellence of our roads attracted the notice of Professor Johnston, who makes some complimentary remarks upon the attention which is devoted to them. In this respect we have nothing to fear in comparison with any other country as new and sparsely populated as our own.

Within a few years we have commenced the construction of Railways. By July or August next we probably shall have the St. John and Shediac Railway completed; and in the course of a year the Road from St. Andrew's to Woodstock will be finished, making nearly two hundred miles of Railway. I shall not dwell at any length upon the influence which these works must have upon the material advancement of the Province, and the facilities which they give to immigrants to reach the interior. The St. Andrew's line penetrates towards the very centre of the Province, and its terminus at Woodstock will be within a few miles of the borders of that magnificent district which contains the body of the ungranted lands in the Province. When this Road is completed, the immigrant landing at St. Andrew's will be able to have himself and his family carried in say four hours from the vessel which brought him over, to what is acknowledged to be one of the finest and most thriving agricultural and lumbering districts in New Brunswick—a district in which labour always commands a fair price, in which farms, large and small, old and new, with a soil of exceeding richness, can always be purchased at prices, varying according to locality and other circumstances, and suited to all kinds of purses, except, perhaps, those which are absolutely empty.

Markets are a particular of vast importance in summing up the advantages of a country. In new countries the necessary want of good cash markets is a drawback scarcely inferior to any other; and New Brunswick has suffered in this respect most severely. Without much communication with foreign countries, with few cities and towns of her own to consume surplus agricultural produce, in the early years of the Province her industry was cramped, and her capability of production was left undeveloped. But great changes have taken place, and great progress has been made. We are no longer isolated; we now are connected with our neighbours by the bonds of trade and commerce; under the Reciprocity Treaty between the United States and Great Britain our raw products go into the wide territories of the great republic free of duty. The facilities for the transportation of produce are infinitely greater; our own cities and towns have increased in size and number, and consume vastly greater quantities of home produce; the old



system of barter—an absolute necessity in all new countries—has died out, and our farmers now sell for cash and buy with cash.

In the matter of prices, the New Brunswick farmer has a decided advantage over the farmers of the Western States and those of Canada. In the Western States, owing to the great distance from the great markets on the seaboard, the prices of grain are much lower than in our Province. Compared to the farmer of Wisconsin, Minnesota, or even Iowa or Illinois, the New Brunswick farmer may be said to live beside his market. And so of Western Canada. If the New Brunswick farmer can supply only his home markets with produce, certainly the Far West cannot compete with him at his own door; if he can produce more than is required for home consumption, and therefore raises crops to send beyond the seas, or into the older States of the Republic, he lives as it were, on the coast; his competitors live away in the interior, hundreds of miles behind him, and with all the disadvantages which attend distant transportation of bulky matter. But at present it is not necessary for our farmers to seek a foreign market. They do not supply our own. The imports of the Province show that every year Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island, which cannot compare with our Province for richness of soil, furnish a considerable portion of the farm products which we consume. We do not yet supply our own wants; and until we do that it is unnecessary to look abroad for markets.

I shall conclude these remarks by quoting from Johnston a comparison of our prices with those of the State of Ohio and Canada West. I regret that I have at hand no later information; these prices being those for 1848 and 1849.

|            | Upper Canada.             | State of Ohio.            | New Brunswick.            |
|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|            | <i>Price per Quarter.</i> | <i>Price per Quarter.</i> | <i>Price per Quarter.</i> |
| Wheat,     | 28s.                      | 31s.                      | 60s.                      |
| Barley,    | 18s.                      | 14s. 8d.                  | 34s.                      |
| Oats,      | 10s.                      | 8s.                       | 16s.                      |
| Rye,       | 18s.                      | 16s.                      | 38s. 8d.                  |
| Maize,     | 20s.                      | 10s. 8d.                  | 37s. 4d.                  |
| Buckwheat, | 32s.                      | 14s. 4d.                  | 30s.                      |
| Potatoes,  | 1s. 6d. per bush.         | 1s. 10½d.                 | 1s. 11d.                  |
| Hay,       | 23s. 9d. per ton.         | —                         | 49s.                      |

The mutual assistance which the different branches of industry afford each other, makes it a matter of importance to the emigrant to know what are the character of the other resources of New Brunswick. Though he may intend to devote his attention solely to the cultivation of the soil, he well knows that no country can be soundly prosperous in which but one branch of industry is pursued; and that although the soil is the first of treasure houses, there are others of an importance in the promotion of a state's welfare only second to that.

Very little pains have ever been taken to ascertain the actual extent, nature, and value of the mineral resources of the Province; but the symptoms are, as all well know, full of promise. The most useful of all the minerals, iron, has been found to exist in vast quantities, and the ore is of great richness. As yet, the only works which have been erected for smelting the ore are at Woodstock, in the County of Carleton, upon which some thirty thousand pounds have been expended. Owing, I believe, to some difficulty in finding a process to make the pig iron of an equable consistency, the works have not as yet been successful; but of their ultimate success there cannot be doubt. Beds of the ore have also been found in various other portions of the Province.

Copper ore has been found in several places, one of which is near Bathurst, in Gloucester, and another six miles below Woodstock. An English company, or firm, were for some time engaged in commencing work at the latter, and, I have understood, after a temporary suspension, are about to recommence operations.

Gypsum exists in various portions of the Province, but "more particularly," it is said, "in Restigouche, Victoria, King's, Albert and Westmorland." On the river Tobique there are immense deposits of the gypsum rock. Limestone is also found in almost every locality in the Province. Excellent building stone of various kinds abounds. Companies have been formed for quarrying and exporting the free-stone of Albert and Westmorland, which is much used for the best buildings in New York.

But the mineral which is attracting most attention at present is Coal. Some twenty years ago Dr. Gesner was employed to make a geological survey and exploration of the

Province, a work upon which he spent five years. The opinion which he formed and expressed respecting the extent and value of the coal formations in New Brunswick was very favourable. He computed the area of the coal district at 12,500 square miles. Since that time doubts have been thrown upon the correctness of the doctor's estimates of the real value of the coal fields. But within a few years discoveries have been made of vast importance, and which must eventually be a source of great wealth to the Province. I speak of the discovery of the oil coal known as *Albertite*, and which produces the *Albertine* oil. Companies have been formed for the mining of this coal and the manufacture of the oil, and the results, with which we are all well acquainted, are most *dazzling*. The Company's profits for the last year are put down at the almost inconceivable figure of one hundred and ten per cent. It was stated in the House of Assembly during the present Session that a gentleman from New York who was a stockholder in the Company, declared *that* whatever might befall him he would not part with that stock; it was such a piece of fortune as only occurred once in one's lifetime; and he did not believe that there was another such stock in the world. Other companies are being formed for the working of these mines in the County of Albert; and the prospect is that they will become one of the most productive sources of wealth in the world.

Upon our Fisheries I feel that it is unnecessary that I should dwell at any length, for they are known to the world. Our sea fisheries have been the subject of dispute and negotiation between Great Britain and foreign governments; and their value was reckoned so high by our shrewd American neighbours, that the right to participate in them led to the famous Reciprocity Treaty. They have been characterized by an official document of our Assembly as "an incalculable source of wealth."

I shall not dwell upon the other resources of New Brunswick—upon her wealth in lumber, her manufacturing advantages, her unsurpassed water power for the driving of mills and the aid of manufactories. Space requires that I should cut short these matters, and hurry on to give a slight sketch of our political and social condition.

In respect to political institutions, New Brunswick has no reason to envy any country under the sun; for there is

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none which enjoys more freedom or greater advantages. Her form of government is as near a copy of that of Great Britain as differing circumstances will admit. The Lieutenant Governor represents the Sovereign, and bears in domestic matters the same relation to the Provincial Parliament that the Sovereign does to the Imperial Parliament. The Upper House of twenty two members, appointed for life by the Crown at the recommendation of the Provincial administration, stands in the place of a House of Lords; while the House of Assembly, the people's branch, is chosen every four years by [popular election, the franchise being extended to every one who pays taxes on one hundred pounds personal property, one hundred pounds annual income, or twenty five pounds of real estate. Responsible and departmental government are established; the Council which surrounds the Lieutenant Governor being directly responsible to the House of Assembly for their acts. The political institutions are as free as institutions can be that stop short of extreme democracy. There are no religious or denominational tests or exclusions; in practice, as well as in theory, every man, of whatever class or sect, has a fair field. Local self government can be established in any County wherever the rate payers meet in the several Parishes of the County, and vote to ask for it. It is significant of general satisfaction with the conduct of local affairs, that only three Counties have taken advantage of this opportunity, and asked for municipal institutions. The Judiciary is modelled after that of Great Britain; and the administration of justice by the Courts of Law is such as to command the confidence of the people. Law, order and justice prevail in our Province certainly very much more than they do in many parts of the United States, and, we regret to say, much more than they do in some of our sister colonies.

Our taxes are very light; the general government of the Province is supported entirely by indirect taxation—by import duties, an export duty on lumber, sale of Crown Lands, and other small imposts. In the year ending Oct. 31st, 1858, the whole amount of import duties, export duties, and railway impost, was, in round numbers £130,000, being a tax of about eleven shillings and three pence upon each inhabitant, taking the population at 230,000. The

other day Mr. Gladstone made his financial statement in the House of Commons, and asked for £70,000,000 for the current year, a tax of some fifty six shillings of our currency upon each person in the United Kingdom, or rather above *five times* the sum each inhabitant of New Brunswick was taxed in 1858. Our taxes for local purposes are very light. And it must be remembered that the great portion of the Imperial Revenue is expended upon the interest of the national debt and the military and naval defence of the Empire; whereas the greater portion of our revenue is returned to the people in grants for educational purposes, in aid of agriculture, for the repair of roads, and for other public works.

Our educational institutions are creditable to the Province. The immigrant will find the facilities for the schooling his children upon the whole superior to those which he has left in the old world. The Parish School system is extended over the whole Province, into every nook and corner. Wherever the people desire to establish a school the Government supplies one half of the teacher's salary, up to a certain sum, the maximum amount of the Government allowance for a first class teacher being £37 10s. By the aid of a Training and Model School in St. John, and a system of examination, and license of teachers, and of periodical visitation and examination by salaried Inspectors, of schools, it provides for efficiency and uniformity in teaching. Provision is also made for the support of a Superior School in each Parish, and aid is given towards the formation and support of School District Libraries. Then each County has a higher seminary, known as a Grammar School, towards which Government makes an annual allowance of one hundred pounds. There are also in the Province several academical institutions, partly supported by Government. To crown all is the Provincial University, as instituted under the Act of last Session, in which provision is made for above fifty free scholarships, distributed according to population among the several Counties, and the cities of St. John and Fredericton.

With other means of education the Province is moderately well supplied. It has twenty three newspapers, four of which are tri-weekly, one semi-weekly, one bi-monthly, and the remainder weekly. Almost every town and village has

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its Mechanics' Institute, Library Society, or something of the sort. The postal arrangements are good and extensive. Between all important places there are daily or tri-weekly mails, while there is scarcely a settlement in the Province that has not its post office and weekly mail.

Socially New Brunswick labours under the disadvantages which attend all new and sparsely populated countries. But it has also very great advantages. Peace, law, order, justice and good feeling reign supreme. There is no war of sects and classes, no proscription, no sectional contests. The extremes of poverty are almost unknown, except with those who from some cause or other are incapacitated for work; and they are cared for by the parochial authorities. Great crimes are very unfrequent: and in the rural districts are almost unknown. The settler goes to bed with his windows unfastened and his door unlocked, without the slightest fear of the midnight thief. Except in the cities, and a few places of lesser size, robbery is comparatively unknown.

The highways to wealth, to office, and to honour are open to all. There are no class privileges or denominational privileges. Industry, perseverance and ability are the sure means of success. There is nothing to prevent the humblest and poorest immigrant that lands on our shores rising to the highest positions in the land—to the Legislature, to the departments of state, and the Council of the Lieutenant Governor—if he possesses the necessary mental qualifications. We have at this day men in our Legislature, and men who either have administered or are at present administering the Executive Government, who came to this country from the British Isles, with scarcely a shilling in their pockets, and whose first experiences of New Brunswick were gained axe or hoe in hand.

Such, then, is the country in which, some pages back, we left our immigrant settler with his first crop housed. We have got him fairly and successfully launched on his settler's life. He has a home of his own and a farm of his own; and his crop is amply sufficient to support him, and to give a foothold for new and wider exertions. If he has been industrious and provident, he is clear of debt. He is his own lord and master; has neither rent nor fealty to pay, and very few taxes. Quarter day, and a rise in rent, and notice to quit, are terms not found in his vocabulary.

If his clearing is yet small, he has nothing to do but go on from year to year levelling the forest under his axe; if he lacks many of those appliances which oil the wheel of life, he learns to do without them until in due course of time constantly increasing prosperity puts them within his reach. He has years of hard labour, doubtless, to face, and not a few privations; but he has also before him, under the blessing of divine Providence, the means of independence and rural comfort. He knows that every step which he takes—every day's toil—every blow of his axe—every hack of his hoe—removes him further and further from the grinding grasp of want and hardship. He feels that he is no longer a hireling and a servant of others, but a freeman and a master of the soil; that his labour is no longer given for the advantage of strangers, but for the benefit of himself and his wife and children. The land upon which he treads, the house in which he lives,—all that he surveys around him, are his and his alone. The state reposes in his hands the sacred trust of the franchise. As years pass on his little clearing becomes a noble farm; his log cabin gives place to a trim cottage; his barns and stables grow in number and in size; his fields are covered with flocks; all the simple comforts, and not a few of the luxuries, of rural life, pour in around him. His children grow up, some to become, like himself, tillers and lords of the soil, and some, who possess a capacity and an ambition above the majority of their fellows, to go into the higher callings and walks of life, and become honoured and useful leaders and teachers in the state. For again and again do I say, there is no obstruction in their way—no barrier across their path. They have but to work and to win.

Who will say that this is not all true—true to the letter? Who that has seen and studied the life of the New Brunswick settler does not know that it is true? And shall we then be told that New Brunswick has no inducements to offer? that she can hold forth nothing to bring emigrants to her shores? that the endeavour to promote immigration is hopeless and should be abandoned? I believe that as there is every motive to exertion in this great work, so there is every ground for hope from enlightened and persistent effort. And this brings me to the second branch of the subject.—The best means of promoting Immigration.

And let me say, at the commencement, that too much should not be expected in the way of immigration. The inducements which we have to offer are substantial, but do not bear the glare and glitter of those held out by some other regions to which the tide of emigration is setting. We have not the auriferous sands of Australia or California to hold forth their fascinating, but too often delusive, promise. We can never hope to gain for our soil the great and wide-spread reputation of that of the Far West. We cannot show fortunes made in a month or a day. Our country and its advantages can never, with a proper regard for truth, be made so glitteringly attractive as some others; and we cannot, therefore, hope for it the floods of immigration for which the nineteenth century has been so famous. Our expectations and desires must be confined to a narrower compass. It is best for us to form a correct notion of the limits beyond which, in all human probability, the results of our labours will not go; for we shall then be able to work intelligently, and with an adaptation of the means to the end.

With regard to the means to be employed, I do not profess to suggest any *new* scheme. In the introductory part of this essay I have stated that the cause of failure did not lie so much in the lack of a scheme or plan as in the lack of spirit, energy and perseverance in carrying out any one plan. The exertions which have been made have been of that fitful and intermittent character which destroys the value of all exertion. The Legislature has one year granted a sum of three hundred, five hundred, or one thousand pounds for the promotion of Immigration, and at its next Session, twelve months thereafter, has clamorously demanded an account of the result; and if they have been precisely what might have been expected after twelve months' exertions—nothing at all—have railed against the Government, the country, the scheme, and everything connected with it. Or, a scheme has been proposed, but before it has been a year in operation a new administration has come into existence; and as its members while in opposition, in discharge of what they supposed to be their duty, abused and vilified the scheme, when they come into power they are, to preserve their reputation for consistency, bound to repeal it and frame a new one, in some slight degree different. Thus



the problem, which perhaps was in a fair way for solution, gets a new hitch; and there are more grumbling, more fault-finding, more assertions of the utter impossibility of doing anything towards promoting Immigration. A bad scheme, perseveringly and energetically carried out, is better than six good schemes, succeeding and upsetting each other within six years. I have dwelt upon this because I consider that here is the cause of our failure—that here is the rock upon which we have split; and that we cannot hope for success until we carry out a uniform and consistent policy.

If we have wares to sell, we must do precisely what a tradesman does—we must advertise them. I believe that the secret of inducing immigration, is to *advertise our country*. Tell those who are preparing to emigrate what we have here for them: tell them the truth, nothing more, nothing less; but *tell it to them*. Don't allow them to remain in ignorance. Don't allow them to set out for other countries without knowing that there exists such a place as New Brunswick; that it has advantages to offer them. Advertise New Brunswick—thoroughly, unceasingly, spiritedly, effectively.

Space forbids that I should dwell upon particulars. But I may say that every means of communicating with the people of the rural districts of Great Britain should be sought and used. Information concerning New Brunswick should be conveyed through the public prints of Great Britain—by the distribution of pamphlets—by circulars—by maps—by handbills. Late and early—summer and winter—in season and out of season—we should be instant at the work. We should gain the entry to papers of respectability, having a wide circulation; we should make a missionary of every New Brunswicker who sets foot, even for a week, in the British Isles. We should get immigrants to correspond with their relatives and friends in the old country upon the subject. No better plan could be devised of spreading information respecting New Brunswick, among those whom it would be most desirable to affect, than by getting their friends in New Brunswick to send it to them in the shape of pamphlets, or any other printed or written matter.

Then arises the question—how is all this to be accomplished? How is the machinery to be put in motion, and

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kept in motion? This brings me to a suggestion of some degree of novelty, and, as I conceive, of very great importance.

I propose that the matter of Immigration shall be brought down from its cot bed in the attic, and put into the cradle of the State. I propose that there shall be a department of Immigration, just as there is a department of Public Works. It is not necessary that a separate establishment and department should be created; put the business of the promotion of Immigration just where it naturally should be; make the Surveyor General chief of the department of Crown Lands *and Immigration*. Don't do it merely in name; do it in reality. Establish a Board of Immigration, with the Surveyor General as its President, after the mode of the new Council for India in Great Britain. The Board might be composed of one member from each County in the Province, and two or three members of the Executive, besides the Surveyor General. The functions of the Board would be not to legislate but to advise. It would be a body which the President could consult, and would be bound to consult. Its members, coming from every quarter of the Province, would represent the feelings, the wants, and the ideas of every quarter. They could bring to the aid of the President the result of the inquiries and reflections of every thinking man from St. John to Lake Temiscouata, from Bathurst to the Schoodic. Besides this, they would be of service in searching out, and bringing into communication with the Board, every one in the Province who could inform or influence any one in the British Isles. Thus a thousand channels of information and suggestion would be opened up; and the President of the Board would soon learn how and when the emigrants of Great Britain could be approached and influenced; what their wishes and intentions were; what they wished to know, what they actually knew, and what they did not know. By taking advantage of these means, and by the direct channels which would be opened, a powerful influence would be exerted upon the emigrants of Great Britain; and we might reasonably hope to see the realization of those wishes in which we so generally and ardently indulge.

I can scarcely say that there is no other department with which the Immigration Office could as naturally and

properly be amalgamated as that of the Crown Lands. The two have a connexion which none can dispute. Nor shall I argue upon the question of expense. No one denies that all that we need in New Brunswick are men and women—that these are our great want—that our great natural resources are useless to us without the minds and the hands of a large population to work at their development. It does, then, strike me that there is no interest in the state superior to that of Immigration; and that there are few that equal it. If this be granted, I contend that it should not be shut up in a petty office in St. John, of which the great body of the people know as little as they do of the domicile of the gentleman who is popularly supposed to reside in the moon, but should take its place beside the other great interests, in the Executive, and on the floor of the Assembly.

It is not desirable that I should lengthen this essay in an elaboration of this proposition for a state department of Immigration. I proceed to offer a few remarks upon the third and last branch of the subject—The development of our resources.

I need scarcely say that this is a matter for which Governments and societies can do little directly. Capital and labour will do the work; and they alone. Still, it is in the power of the Government to assist in turning the attention of capitalists towards our Province. A geological survey and exploration is highly desirable; it would bring to light many facts of importance, and might settle not a few vexed questions. Then the promotion of Railways is another means of drawing the attention of capitalists to our borders. It is highly desirable, too, that our newspaper press should turn its attention more to the material resources and interests of the Province. Then the opening up the centre of the Province by running a Railroad through the wilderness land on the east side of the St. John is a matter requiring consideration. Whatever may be the varying opinions respecting trading lines, and lines for the purpose of connecting and conveniencing certain localities, no one who has studied the map of New Brunswick can deny that the national line, the New Brunswick Railroad, must run directly through the centre of the Province, penetrating and rendering accessible the vast extent of ungranted lands

which stretch north from Fredericton, past the heads of the Nashwaak, the Miramichi, the Beckaguimic, the Monquart, the Tobique, the Nipisiguit, the Upsalquitch, and the Restigouche, away to the Canadian boundary. It is of vast importance that this great country should be opened by a railroad and by common roads; and that here, and in other parts of the Province, the utmost care should be taken to prevent the buying up of tracts of land for mere purposes of speculation.

Geographically. New Brunswick occupies a happy position. She occupies the most southern portion of the sea coast of British North America; and her harbours being open throughout the winter, she is the natural outlet for the trade of that great region. That the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada will find its way to the ocean through New Brunswick, if our Government and people take the means within their reach to secure it, there cannot be a doubt. When that is accomplished, New Brunswick will gradually become the thoroughfare for a vast and constantly increasing trade, the extent of which it would be presumptuous in any man to fix. I believe this railway connexion to be a matter of more importance in its bearing upon the development of New Brunswick than any other which has ever presented itself to our people. Connect New Brunswick with Canada and the Far West in this manner, and you place her on the highway between the Old World and the New, and you draw upon her the attention of both. Whatever advantages she may possess will then become known and appreciated; population and capital will pour in upon her; her lands will find ready purchasers—her forests will take an increased value—her mineral wealth will be brought to light—her fisheries will come to occupy the attention which they merit—her unsurpassed water power will be turned to good account; and we shall see our country rise to that condition of wealth, prosperity, and refinement, and take that place in the rank of nations, which Providence has fitted her to occupy.

