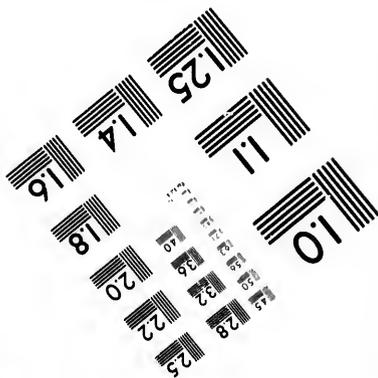
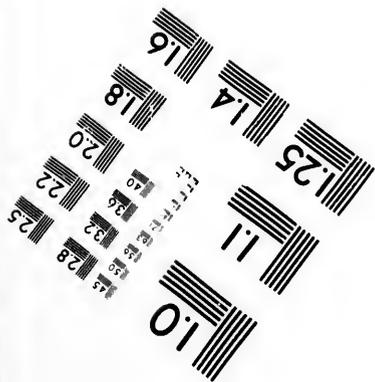
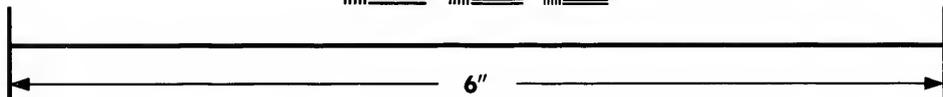
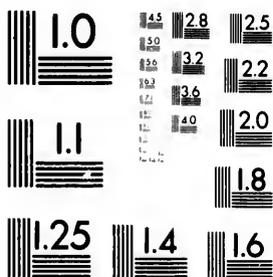
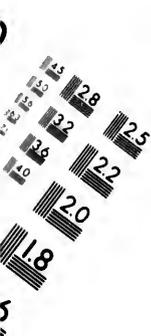


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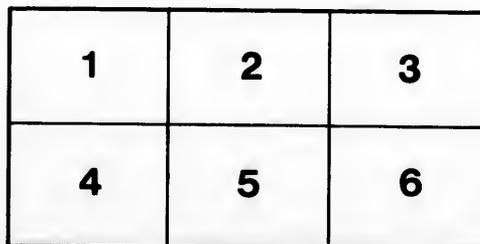
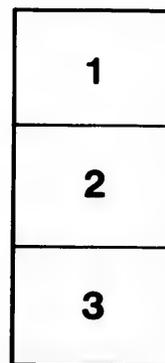
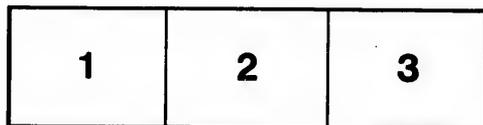
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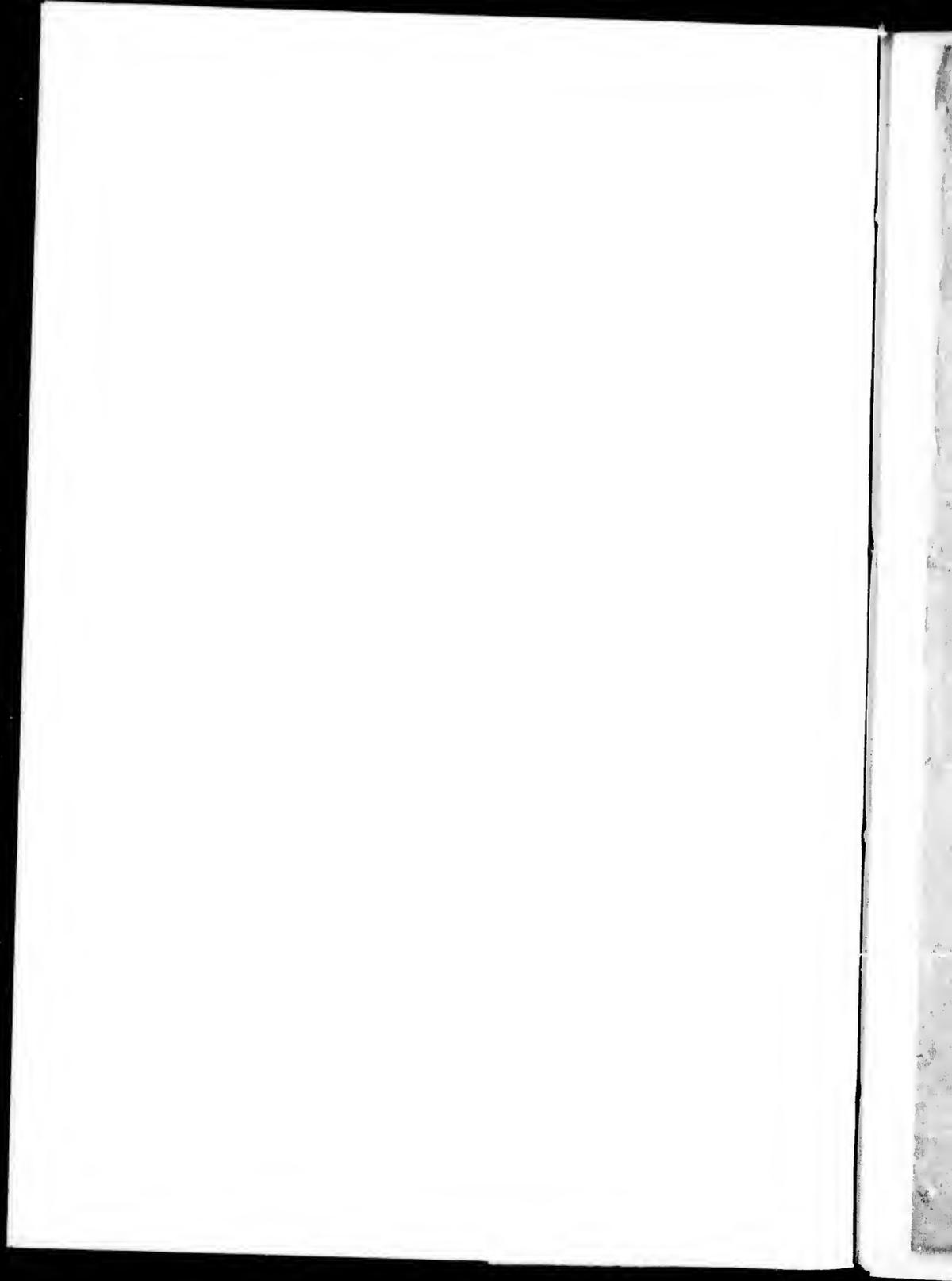
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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

INFORMATION

—REGARDING ITS—

CLIMATE, SOIL, RESOURCES,

(Suitability for Summer Visitors and
Tourists, &c., &c.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

OTTAWA:

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Prince Edward Island, the smallest of the Provinces of the Dominion of Canada, is situated on the southern part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and is separated from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick by the Strait of Northumberland, which varies from seven to thirty miles in width. This Island was discovered by Sebastian Cabot, on St. John's Day, 24th June, 1497, and was called by him the Island of St. John, which name it bore until 1799, when, out of compliment to the Duke of Kent, the father of Queen Victoria, at that time Commander of the forces in Halifax, it was changed, by an Act of the Colonial Legislature, to that of Prince Edward Island.

It existed as a separate Government from the 1st May, 1769, to 1st July, 1873, when it became a Province of the Dominion of Canada. It was not, however, until the 7th July, 1773, that the General Assembly met, under Walter Patterson, its first Governor. Responsible Government was conceded in 1851, since which time the Executive has been distinctly recognized as responsible to the Legislature. The Government is administered by a Lieutenant Governor, appointed by the Dominion Government, assisted by an Executive Council of nine members of the Legislature. The other branches are the Legislative Council of thirteen members, and the House of Assembly of thirty members. The system of Government is the same as in the other Provinces of the Dominion, except that the Legislative Council is elective. The Island is divided into three counties, each of which elects four councillors (Charlottetown returning one additional) and ten representatives to the Lower House. There is no property qualification for members of the Legislative Council; for its electors the qualifications are full age, and the occupation of property to the value of \$325. The property qualification of a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold or leasehold estate to the value of \$163, over and above all encumbrances. The qualifications of electors for the Lower House are full age, a residence of twelve months, and the performance of two day's labour on the roads, or the payment of seventy-five cents commutation money. The Island is represented in the Dominion Parliament by four Senators, and six members of the House of Commons.

The Revenue, which, during the last three years, has averaged about \$254,000, is derived from subsidy allowed by the Dominion Government, moneys arising from the sale of Government lands, fees, &c. (the Provincial Government levies no taxation), and is applied to education, the administration of justice, the maintenance of Public Works and buildings, and of the Executive Government.

Seen from the water, the appearance of Prince Edward Island is exceedingly prepossessing. On approaching the coast, the country affords a charming picture of cultivated and well wooded land, with villages and cleared farms dotted along the shores, and by the sides of the bays and rivers. The Island, although generally level, is in many parts beautifully undulating, and rises here and there to an elevation never exceeding 500 feet above the sea. The conformation of the Island is good, and the scenery very much resembles that of England, and thickly scattered, flourishing homesteads indicate a degree of prosperity rarely met with in a new country. In shape it takes the form of an irregular crescent, concave towards the north, measuring in length 150 miles, and being deeply indented, at many points, by large bays and inlets, it varies in width from four to thirty miles. It contains an area of 2,133 square miles, equal to 1,365,400

acres, and its population at the last census (1881) was 108,891 as compared with 94,021 in 1871. The following abstract shows their religion and nationality:—

Roman Catholics.....	47,115	
Presbyterians.....	32,835	
Methodists.....	13,485	
Church of England.....	7,192	
Baptists.....	6,236	
Various.....	1,028	108,891
<hr/>		
Scots.....	48,933	
Irish.....	25,415	
English.....	21,404	
French.....	10,751	
Indians.....	281	
Others.....	2,107	108,891

The present population is probably about 119,000.

Communication with the mainland is maintained, during the period of ordinary navigation, by a line of steamers connecting daily with ports in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and thus with the various railway systems of Canada and the United States. Freight and passenger steamers connect weekly with Quebec, Montreal, St. John's, Newfoundland, Halifax, Boston and New York, while, during the shipping season, opportunities occur of direct freights by steamer to British ports.

Ordinary navigation generally closes about the middle of December, and re-opens about the middle of April. During this time communication is carried on with the mainland by a steamer specially constructed for a winter navigation. The various efforts in this direction can so far, however, be regarded as experimental only, the difficulties attending it not having been fully surmounted. This service is supplemented by boats which cross to New Brunswick at the "Capes" a distance of nine miles. Branch railways have recently been constructed to Cape Traverse on the Island, and to Cape Tormentine in New Brunswick, and there is no doubt that a permanent connection will be established between these two points, and that communication during winter will, ere long, be accomplished with but little difficulty.

A subway has been proposed to connect the Island with the railway systems of the other provinces, and the matter is fairly before the Dominion Government, its complete practicability having been favourably reported on by many leading engineers. Surveys and borings have been made by which the bottom of the straits has been shewn to be perfectly suitable to the enterprise.

The following table gives the distances from some of the principal cities of Canada and the United States and the length of time at present required to make the journey:—

	Miles.	Hours.
Charlottetown to Halifax, Nova Scotia.....	160	12
" " St. John, New Brunswick.....	200	12
" " Quebec.....	600	38
" " Montreal.....	800	48
" " Ottawa.....	960	53
" " Boston, Massachusetts.....	600	36
" " New York.....	850	44

A line of railway traverses the Island from Tignish, the western terminus, to Souris, the eastern, with branches to Charlottetown, Georgetown, and Cape Traverse, a total distance of 210 miles.

The adoption of the shorter route to New Brunswick, *via* Capes Traverse and Tormentine, either by means of the Sub-way before mentioned, or by ferry

steamers, would not only lessen the time of travel to the upper provinces, &c., but would give a greater impetus to trade, and to the passenger traffic in particular.

Mails are despatched daily to the Mainland, and weekly to Great Britain, while advantage is taken of intervening opportunities *via* New York. There are excellent postal facilities throughout the Province, —post offices being established at intervals of three or four miles, and of these there are 297, or one for every four hundred inhabitants.

There is direct telegraphic communication by submarine cable, and telegraph offices are established in all the principal towns and villages, and along the line of railway. In addition to this a Telephone Company, which opened an exchange in Charlottetown in 1855, has extended its operations into some parts of the country.

Besides the internal communication furnished by the railway, several small steamers and sailing packets, most of them subsidized, more or less, by the Government, offer means of coast and river transit. In the summer there is no more enjoyable trip than a sail, either to Crapaud or Orwell and back, by the Inland Navigation Company's steamer from Charlottetown, and a much better idea, and a nearer view, of the shore farms are obtained, than is possible from the Pictou boat.

One or more of the denominations mentioned in the population statistics have places of worship in almost every district.

Seven Newspapers are published in the Province, five of which are weeklies and two dailies, which latter issue weekly editions also; three of the former are located in Summerside, the remainder in the Capital, where, also, the Royal Gazette appears.

The people are, on the whole, contented and prosperous, and the farmers, though few of them can be called wealthy, constitute the most independent portion of the population. The amount to the credit of depositors in the Dominion Savings Bank on the 30th June 1887, was \$2,305,535.09, or \$19.37 for every man, woman and child in the Province. The amount on deposit in the five other banks doing business, as well as the capital invested in commercial ventures, which is very considerable, must also be taken into account.

The Law Courts of the Province consist of:—

1. Court of Chancery, of which the Lieutenant Governor is *ex-officio* Chancellor, and the judicial powers of which are exercised by a Master of the Rolls and Vice Chancellor.
2. Court of Divorce, of which the Lieutenant Governor and members of the Executive Council are Judges.
3. Supreme Court presided over by a Chief Justice and two Assistant Judges.

This court besides its sessions in Charlottetown sits, for the trial of civil and criminal suits, twice a year, both in Summerside and Georgetown, the chief towns of the other counties.

4. County Courts, of which there is one in each county, presided over by a Judge.

Each of these, which are for civil suits only, has five circuits distributed over the county.

5. Court of Probate of Wills, with one Judge.
6. Stipendiary Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.

CLIMATE.

The climate of Prince Edward Island is remarkably healthy. The cold is certainly more severe, and lasts for a longer period than in England, but the atmosphere is dry and salubrious, and the summer is of such brightness and beauty as amply to compensate for the winter. The weather generally becomes unsettled in the early part of November and sometimes sharp frosts, with falls

of snow take place about the middle of the month, the frost gradually increasing till the ground resists the plough, which is ordinarily about the second week in December. The cold then increases rapidly, and the ground is covered with snow. During the months of January and February the weather is usually steady with the thermometer on rare occasions falling to 15 degrees below zero of Fahrenheit. March, as in England, is a windy month, and is throughout very changeable. During the latter part of this month the snow rapidly melts, and the ice becomes rotten and dangerous for travel, and wholly disappears about the middle of April. Strong southerly winds now set in, and the last vestiges of frost speedily vanish. The spring is short, and in the beginning of June the summer bursts forth, and from this time to the end of September, the climate resembles that of the Southern coast of England. The thermometer, in calm weather indicates a greater degree of heat, but the sea breeze seldom falls to lower the temperature, so that little inconvenience arises from it. About the middle of September the autumn commences. The cold is neither so great in winter, nor the heat so intense in summer as in the western provinces of the Dominion, while the Island is almost entirely free from those fogs to which the neighboring provinces are subject. This exemption is accounted for by the fact that the waters which wash the shores of the Island do not come in immediate contact with those of a different temperature, and that Cape Breton and Newfoundland, both of which are high and mountainous, lying between it and the Atlantic, arrest the fogs, which would otherwise be driven from the banks to the Island.

The following table is compiled from the Official Meteorological Register at Charlottetown, kept by an officer of the department :—

	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886 30 June
Highest temperature	87.50	89.00	86.80	85.70	85.40	81.10	81.80	81.70	78.80
Lowest temperature..	-13.80	-17.90	-11.30	-15.00	-11.29	-16.30	-20.10	-10.50	-15.00
Mean of all highest temperatures.	49.65	47.50	48.33	48.02	47.19	47.58	47.13	48.40	43.03
Mean of all lowest temperatures.	36.01	32.20	32.47	32.99	31.65	31.07	30.03	31.82	26.55
Amt. of rain (Inches)	32.467	25.127	24.245	29.116	26.733	30.70	30.07	30.61	12.648
Amt. of snow (Inches)	93.60	170.06	115.10	147.75	212.90	123.31	137.45	114.70	64.74
Total precipitation....	41.71	42.018	38.586	43.804	48.023	12.74	58.54	42.08	19.122
No. of fogs observed.	13	16	10	21	8	15	20	15	2
Number of thunders.	7	9	18	11	9	8	7	4	—
Number of lightnings	8	14	23	14	11	9	13	6	—
Number of gales.....	21	19	10	16	21	17	23	20	9

LANDS.

For more than half a century what was known as the "Land Question" was, to use a phrase that has become historical, "a fruitful source of discontent." Now, happily, it is possible to write of our beautiful Island with merely a passing reference to this grievance, and to say that it no longer exists. Absentee proprietorship has been abolished, and the Provincial Government having purchased the interests of the landlords, has taken their place, not, however, for the purpose of exacting the annual rent from the tenants, but with the object

of making them owners of the freehold of the soil which they have redeemed from the wilderness. Of this immense advantage by far the greater majority of the tenants have availed themselves, to such an extent, indeed, that at the close of 1886, of the 76,700 acres actually remaining unsold of the 843,981, purchased by the Government, only about one-half represented land held by parties who had not yet commenced to buy. The remainder may be set down as the available uncultivated and vacant Government land. These consist of forest lands of medium quality, the very best having, of course, been taken up by the tenants in the first instance, and their price averages about one dollar per acre. Parties desiring to settle upon them are allowed ten years to purchase their holdings, by paying a deposit of not less than twenty per cent, of the whole amount, the remainder being divided into ten equal instalments payable annually, with five per cent interest on the balance left unpaid each year.

Although there is apparently little room for new settlers, yet Prince Edward Island is a desirable field for a certain class of immigrants, who, in search of a ready made farm, where they may have the social comforts of life within their reach, are prepared to pay a higher price rather than go westward. Such farms can be obtained in the Island, and various circumstances have contributed to place them in the market. The desire for change, and to see the world on a larger scale than is afforded them at home, has led many of the youth to the great North-West, and to the busier life in the large cities of the United States. The adoption of other pursuits has also, in some cases, deprived the farmer of the assistance of his sons, and, having himself acquired a competency, he is often anxious to sell and remove into town. Others, again, have been unfortunate, and are burdened with debts, of which they desire to relieve themselves and start afresh. The price of such land varies much according to its quality, situation, and buildings, but, with good buildings, a farm of 100 acres can be obtained from \$20 to \$35. (£4. to £7.) an acre. Facilities for travel and transportation are excellent, the roads are good, and few farmers are as much as six miles from a shipping place for their surplus produce. All the necessaries of life can be had at very low rates. Labour-saving machines of the most approved kinds can be purchased or hired without any difficulty, the competition in this branch being very keen.

SOIL, CROPS, &c.

The Island is noted for the fertility of its soil, and it may confidently be asserted that, with the exception of a few bogs and swamps composed of a soft spongy turf, or a deep layer of wet black mould, the whole Island consists of highly valuable cultivable land. The soil, which is well watered with numerous springs and rivers, is formed for the most part of a rich layer of vegetable matter above a bright loam, resting upon a stiff clay and sandstone; the land, in its natural state, being covered with timber and shrub of every variety. The underlying rock through the main part of the Island, belongs to the upper Permian, capped about New London and Cavendish, with a triangular section of Triassic of considerable size; but in Prince County, west of Summerside, where the denudation has been greater, the lower Permian comes to the surface. All kinds of grain and vegetables grown in England ripen here in great perfection. The principal crops raised are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and turnips, of which oats and potatoes are exported in very large quantities. Mr. J. P. Sheldon, Professor of Agriculture at the Wilts and Hants Agricultural College, Downton, near Salisbury, who visited the Island in 1880, thus writes of it:—"In some respects this is one of the most beautiful Provinces in the Dominion, and it has probably the largest proportion of cultivable land. The soil generally is a red sandy loam, of one character throughout, but differing in quality. On the whole, the grass land of the Island and the character of the sward, consisting as it does of indigenous clovers and a variety of finer grasses, reminded me strongly of some portions of old England. The people, too, are more English in appearance than

those of any other of the Provinces, with the exception of New Brunswick. This is probably owing to a cooler climate, and the contiguity of the sea. Prince Edward Island is covered with a soil that is easy to cultivate, sound and healthy, capable of giving excellent crops of roots, grain and grass—an honest soil that will not fail to respond to the skill of the husbandman. The Island grows very good wheat, and probably better oats than most other parts of the Dominion. Of the former the crops are from 18 to 30 bushels and of the latter 25 to 70 bushels per acre. Barley, too makes a very nice crop. Wheat, at the time of my visit, was worth 4s. per bushel of 60 lbs., oats 1s. 9d. per bushel of 34 lbs. and barley 2s. 6d. to 3s. per bushel of 48 lbs. The Island is noted for its large crops of excellent potatoes, which not uncommonly foot up to 250 bushels an acre of fine handsome tubers. Swedes make a fine crop, not uncommonly reaching 750 bushels per acre of sound and solid bulbs."

The following table gives the yield per acre and present prices :—

	Wt per bushel.	Bushels.	VALUE.	
			Decimal.	Sterling.
Wheat.....	60 lbs.	18 to 30	\$0.80 to \$1.01	3s. 4d. to 1s. 2d.
Oats.....	34 "	40 to 60	0.24 to 0.30	1s. 0d. to 1s. 3d.
Barley.....	48 "	30 to 45	0.50 to 0.60	2s. 4d. to 2s. 4d.
Potatoes.....	60 "	150 to 300	0.18 to 0.31	0d. to 1s. 3d.
Turnips.....	60 "	100 to 1000	0.12 to 0.16	6d. to 8d.

In addition to the natural fertility of the soil, the great facility for obtaining manure may be set down as one of the principal advantages. In most of the bays and rivers are found extensive deposits of mussel mud, formed by decayed oyster, clam and mussel shells. These deposits vary from five to twenty feet in depth, and their surface is often several feet below low water level. Machines placed upon the ice, and worked by horse power, are used for raising this manure, which is then carried off by sleds and distributed over the fields while the covering of snow still remains. Procured in this way, in large quantities, and possessing great fertilizing qualities, it has vastly improved the agricultural status of the Island. An eminent authority Sir J. W. Dawson, F.R.S. C.M.G., Principal and Vice Chancellor of McGill University, Montreal, says: "The great wealth of Prince Edward Island consists in its fertile soil, and the preservation of this in a productive state is an object of imperative importance. The ordinary soil of the Island is a bright, red loam, passing into stiff clay on the one hand, and sandy loam on the other. Naturally, it contains all the mineral requisites for cultivated crops, while its abounding in peroxide of iron enables it rapidly to digest organic manures, and also to retain well their ammoniacal products. The chief natural manures afforded by the Island, and which may be used in addition to the farm manures to increase the fertility of the soil, or restore it when exhausted, are (1) *mussel mud*, or oyster shell mud of the bays. Experience has proved this to be of the greatest value. (2) *Peat and marsh mud and swamp soil*. These afford organic matters to the run out soil, at a very cheap rate. (3) *Seaweed*, which can be obtained in large quantities on many parts of the shores, and is of great manurial value, whether fresh or composted. (4) *Fish Offal*. The heads and bones of cod are more especially of much practical importance, (5) *Limestone*. The brown earthy limestones of the Island are of much value in affording a supply of this material, as well as small quantities of phosphates and alkalis. Where manures require to be purchased from abroad, those that will be found to produce the greatest effects are those capable of affording phosphates and alkalis, more especially bone earth, superphosphates of lime and guano; but when fish offal and seaweed can be procured

in sufficient quantity, or when good dressings of the oyster deposit are applied, these foreign aids may well be dispensed with, at least for many years." Of this deposit Professor Sheldon speaks as follows: "The Island possesses one advantage which is unique and very valuable. I refer now to its thick beds of "mussel mud" or "oyster mud" which are found in all bays and river mouths. The deposit, which is commonly many feet thick, consists of the organic remains of countless generations of oysters, mussels, clams, and other bi-valves of the ocean, and of crustaceous animals generally. The shells are generally more or less intact, embedded in a dense deposit of mud-like stuff, which is found to be a fertilizer of singular value and potency. The supply of it is said to be almost inexhaustible, and it is indeed a mine of wealth to the Island. A good dressing of it restores fertility in a striking manner to the poorest soils—clover grows after it quite luxuriously, and, as it were, indigenously—by its aid heavy crops of turnips and potatoes are raised, and, indeed, it may be regarded as a manure of great value, and applicable to any kind of crop. Nor is it soon exhausted, for the shells in it decay year by year, throwing off a film of fertilizing matter."

Of late considerable improvement has been made in raising farm stock. The Horses of the Island enjoy a high reputation, much attention having been bestowed on their breeding. Owing to early Government importations of thoroughbred and cart stallions, which have, more recently, been followed by many private importations, the horses of Prince Edward Island are now regarded as among the best in America, and command ready sale at good prices. Clydesdales, Shire horses, Percherons and Standard Bred Trotters are the breeds generally raised. For sheep also the Island is especially suited, the mutton being of a very fine flavour, and the export of sheep and lambs to the other provinces and the United States is assuming very large proportions. The Shropshire Downs, Leicesters and Cotswolds are favourite breeds. The increased quantity and superior quality of the fodder caused by the application of mussel-mud to the land, has also produced great improvement in the quality of Cattle. Pure bred herds of Short Horns, Ayrshires, Jerseys, Holsteins, Galloways and Guernseys are raised in the province, and are used in improving the native stock. The Provincial Government maintains a Stock Farm, which is devoted to the breeding of horses, cattle, sheep and swine. The yearly surplus stock is distributed between the three counties. The extraordinary ease and abundance with which turnips, potatoes, oats and barley are raised, added to the excellence of the hay crop, marks Prince Edward Island as a country rarely well adapted for cattle feeding. The importation of store cattle from the adjoining provinces, for feeding during the winter, is now being undertaken, and, it is believed, will prove remunerative. This system of farming if generally adopted will be found much more satisfactory than the sale of the more bulky products.

On these points Professor Sheldon writes: "For sheep, particularly, the Island appears to be well adapted, for the soil is light, dry, and sound, growing a thick set, tender, and nutritious herbage. For cattle, too, it is suitable, though, perhaps, less so than for sheep.

"For horses the Island has been famous for a long time, and American buyers pick up most of those there are for sale. It is not improbable, in fact, that, taking them for all in all, the horses of the Island are superior to those of any other province; it seems to be, in a sense, the Arabia of Canada. The sheep, as a rule, are fairly good, but open to improvement."

The following table shows the principal farm productions of 1880, compared with those of 1870, as extracted from the census:—

Articles.	1871.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bushels Wheat	269,392	546,986	277,594	.....
" Oats	3,120,576	3,538,219	418,363	.....
" Barley	176,441	119,368	.....	57,073
" Buckwheat	75,109	90,458	15,349	.....
" Peas and Beans	1,325	3,169	1,844	.....
" Potatoes	3,375,726	6,042,191	2,666,465	.....
" Turnips	395,358	1,198,407	803,049	.....
" Other roots .....	.....	42,572	.....	.....
" Timothy and Clover Seed.	11,864	15,247	3,383	.....
Tons of Hay	68,349	143,791	75,442	.....
Lbs. " Butter	981,939	1,688,690	706,751	.....
" " Cheese	155,223	196,273	41,050	.....
" " Maple Sugar .....	.....	25,098	.....	.....
" " Tobacco .....	.....	1,367	.....	.....
" " Hops .....	.....	10,209	.....	.....
" " Wool .....	.....	552,083	.....	.....
Yards home-made Cloth	428,313	514,682	86,369	.....
" " Linen .....	.....	30,088	.....	.....
Bus. Apples, Grapes, &c. ....	.....	34,843	.....	.....

We may here give another extract from the census of 1881 which contains interesting statistics :-

Number of owners of land	16,663
" occupiers of land	13,629
" acres of land occupied	1,126,653
" " improved	596,731
" Horses owned	31,335
" Horned cattle owned	90,722
" Sheep owned	166,496
" Swine owned	40,181
" Vessels owned	267
" Tanneries	36
" Curding Mills	25
" Grist and saw mills	280
" Limekilns	176
" Cloth factories	9
" Printing offices	12
Shipyards	20

On comparing these, and other returns from the Island, with those from the remainder of the Dominion, (omitting of course the North-West Territories) we gather the following :-

One-half of the area of Prince Edward Island is cultivated.

Only one twenty-fifth of the other Provinces is cultivated.

Prince Edward Island has a population of 51 to the square mile.

The other Provinces only 4.72.

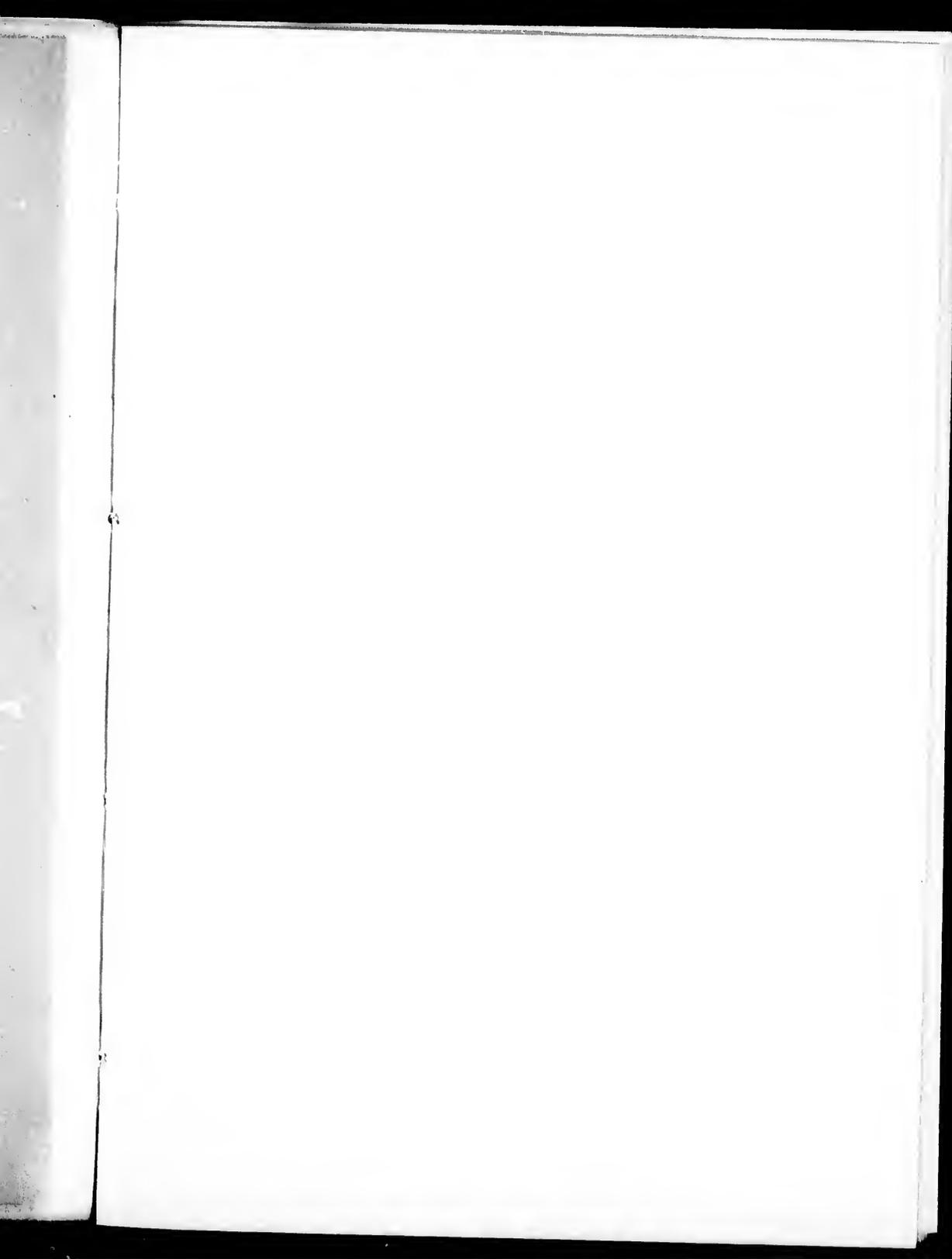
Prince Edward Island owns 55 animals of live stock for every 100 acres of improved land.

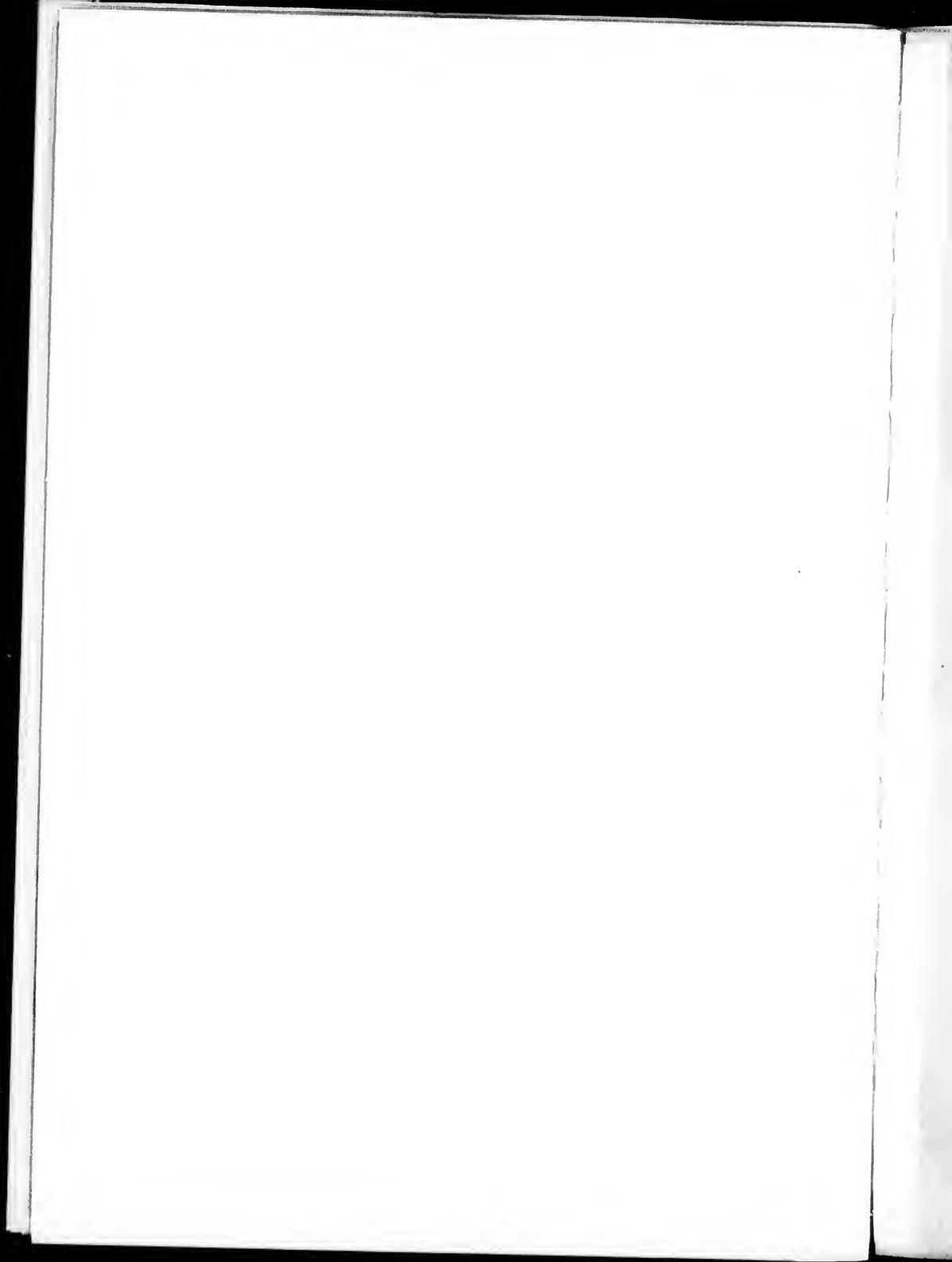
The other Provinces only 38.

In field products, Prince Edward Island raises, to the acre of improved land, 108½ bushels.

The other Provinces only 61½ bushels.

From the Fisheries Prince Edward Island produces \$17.08, per head, value.





The other Provinces \$3.55.

Exhibitions of live stock, farm, garden and dairy products, and manufactures, are, and have been, for a number of years, of annual occurrence. Great public interest is taken in these shows, and the Provincial Exhibition, held in Charlottetown, although only supported by a small public grant, is, from an agricultural point of view superior to any annual Show of the kind in Eastern Canada.

FISHERIES.

Prince Edward Island is, without doubt, the best fishing station in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, but the habits and feelings of the inhabitants are so decidedly agricultural, that the fisheries have not received from them the attention which they deserve. They consist chiefly of mackerel, lobsters, herring, cod, hake and oysters, while salmon, bass, shad, halibut and trout, are caught in limited quantities. Their value may be appreciated from the fact that, during 1882, there were taken from the sea 16,000,000 lbs. weight of fish food, and 107,250 lbs. from the running waters, besides 5,500,000 of edible fish used as bait. In other words, there were taken, at the lowest calculation, for food 8,000,000 of mackerel, 6,000,000 of herring, and 10,000,000 of cod and hake, 3,000,000 of oysters, and 22,000,000 of lobsters besides other fish.

The Dominion Fisheries Report for 1886 gives the following statement for the Province :—

KINDS OF FISH.	1886.	
	Quantity.	Value.
Cod	cwt. 12,850	\$ 51,400,00
Ditto, boneless.....	lbs. 35,790	2,147,40
Herring.....	Brls. 43,204	129,612,00
Mackerel.....	Brls. 27,534	275,340,00
Ditto, preserved.....	Cans. 679,584	67,958,40
Haddock.....	lbs. 71,550	4,293,00
Hake	cwt. 9,530	23,590,00
Salmon, fresh.....	lbs. 2,440	366,00
Alewives.....	brls. 700	2,100,00
Halibut.....	lbs. 9,680	580,80
Bass.....	" 200	12,00
Trout.....	" 75,195	4,511,70
Smelts.....	" 74,100	4,446,00
Eels.....	" 150,650	9,039,00
Shad.....	" 750	45,00
Oysters.....	brls. 33,125	99,375,00
Lobsters, preserved in cans.....	lbs. 3,616,780	434,013,60
Cod and Hake sounds.....	" 20,580	12,348,00
Fish oil.....	galls. 14,997	7,498,50
" manure.....	tons 3,315	3,315,00
Fresh fish local consumption.....	.....	5,000,00
		\$1,141,991.40

The oyster fishery of the Island is extensive and annually increasing, and though many of the shells seem very coarse and heavy, to any one accustomed to the "London Natives," yet the coarseness is all on the outside, and no more

delicate morsel can be extracted from those celebrated bivalves, than from those of our own native growth. The following Census statistics compare the fisheries of 1880 with those of 1870 :—

	1870.	1880.	Increase.
Vessels and boats employed	1,183	2,729	1,546
Men do	1,446	5,792	4,146
Quintals of cod, haddock, hake and pollock caught	15,649	26,392	10,743
Barrels of herring and gasperaux	16,831	22,457	5,626
Barrels of mackerel	16,047	91,792	75,745
Barrels of other fish		706	.....
Barrels of oysters		175,408	.....
Lbs. of canned lobsters	6,711	3,275,316	3,268,605

It will be seen by comparing the above table with that from the Fisheries Report, 1886, that 1880 was a very exceptional year with regard to mackerel, and it may as well be observed with regard to oysters, that, while the Fishery table quoted gives the quantity *shipped*, this, from the Census, gives the quantity *caught*, thus including those for home consumption.

Apart, altogether, from their direct value, financially and industrially, to the province itself, the island waters are of immense importance, far transcending their mere extent. The mackerel fisheries, in what is known as the North Bay of the Island, are considered, by competent authorities, worth more than those on all the other eastern coasts of the Dominion put together.

EXPORTS.

The volume of exports from the Province is very large, and few, even of the residents of the Island, are aware of the quantities of products annually shipped to other countries, and of the sum of money returned to the people therefor. The following table, which has been compiled from the Customs entries, show their value for the year ended 30th September, 1883, to have been about three millions of dollars, more than double that of the year 1871 :—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

OF THE VALUE OF THE EXPORTS OF THE PRODUCTS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND FOR THE YEARS ENDED RESPECTIVELY, 31ST DECEMBER, 1871, AND 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1883.

ARTICLES.	1871.		1882-3.	
	QUANTITIES.	VALUE.	QUANTITIES.	VALUE.
Oats	1,229,174 bush's.	\$ 511,635	1,525,000 bush's.	\$ 610,000
Barley	28,030 "	18,665	11,000 "	8,000
Wheat	31 "	55		
Flour and Meal		9,900	Oatmeal	1,500
Potatoes	355,048 "	99,844	1,345,000 "	336,500
Turnips	25,870 "	4,560	33,000 "	6,600
Other Vegetables		277		5,400
Starch			2,140,000 lbs.	64,500
Hay	338 tons	5,392	380 tons.	5,500

ARTICLES.	1871.		1882-3.	
	QUANTITIES.	VALUE.	QUANTITIES.	VALUE.
Seed	678 bus.	790	1,000 bus.	2,000
Pork		125,600		272,500
Beef and Mutton		4,130		16,500
Preserved Meat				104,000
Lard and Tallow		5,334		17,000
Preserved Fish		11,770		470,000
Mackerel		147,085		200,000
Oysters	9,490 bble.	12,683	18,100 bbls.	30,000
Dried Fish		57,181		17,000
Other Fish		25,032		32,000
Fish Oil		2,061		1,000
Poultry		1,440		3,000
Eggs		88,313		220,000
Butter	178,451 lbs.	26,930	81,235 lbs.	17,500
Cheese	66 lbs.	12	97,225 lbs.	12,500
Horses	422	39,530	1,536	170,000
Cattle	523	12,221	1,776	60,000
Sheep	5,292	17,200	12,539	40,000
Swine	368	1,105	180	1,000
Hides and Skins		11,700		66,000
Leather		1,000		24,000
Wool	40,746 lbs.	13,120	57,295 lbs.	14,500
Woollen Cloth				12,500
Lumber and Brick		10,903		12,000
Carriages, Agricultural Im- plements, &c.		586		10,000
Tobacco		915		2,000
Shipping		210,000		128,000
Sundry		1,587		6,500
		\$1,478,645		\$3,000,000

Owing to the manner in which the Customs returns, as published, are made up, no aid whatever can be had from them in ascertaining either the actual exports or imports of the Island; consequently it not only renders the accurate construction of such a statement as the preceding, a matter of considerable labour, but does a serious injustice to the trade of the province.

MANUFACTURES.

The manufactures of Prince Edward Island are limited but have rapidly developed of late. They consist of butter, cheese, starch and soap factories, tanneries, grist, saw and woollen mills, factories for canning and preserving meat and fish, carriage factories, &c. By the census of 1881 the figures of Island industries were as follow:—

Capital invested	\$2,000,000
Number of hands employed	5,767
Yearly wages, over	\$800,000
Value of products	\$3,500,000

In 1882 two cheese factories were put into operation, and one creamery, for the manufacture of butter and cheese. The production of that year was about 2,000 boxes of cheese, valued at \$12,000, or £2,400 stg. Now the number of

cheese factories has increased to four, and the owners expect to place in the market about 5,000 boxes. The quality is pronounced excellent, and it meets with a ready sale in the adjoining Provinces, as well as entirely taking the place of the imported article at home. The value of this year's operations is estimated at \$28,000, or £5,600 stg. This year the number of starch factories has increased to ten, with a total capacity of 2,500 tons; the output averages about 1,500 tons, the quantity being affected by the price and supply of potatoes, and the demand for the product. This would be worth about \$90,000 or £18,000 sterling.

In addition to the above, there are three large machine shops, with accompanying foundries, a smaller for repairing guns, sewing machines, &c., and for electroplating; several furniture and tobacco factories, two high class cloth factories of considerable capacity, a boot and shoe factory, steam biscuit factory, three large woodworking factories, and numerous other minor industries, all in full employment, while a "roller process" flour mill with a capacity of 80 barrels per day is in course of completion.

EDUCATION.

The administration of the educational interests of the Province is vested in a Board of Education, a Chief Superintendent and Inspectors. Each District has a local Board of Trustees, elected annually by the ratepayers. By the report of the Superintendent for 1886, it appears that there were then 437 public schools comprising 509 departments, 493 of which were in full operation. These are divided into three classes, Primary, Advanced, Graded, and High Schools. The salaries of the teachers are paid from the Provincial Treasury, but may be supplemented by local assessment, in which case the Treasury pays a further equal amount. The Government subsidy varies, according to grade, from \$180 to \$450 for male teachers, and from \$130 to \$380 for female teachers. The amount paid for Education, by the Government alone, for the year 1886, was \$111,992.21, over £23,000 sterling, or about 44.8 per cent. of the average revenue, while the supplements &c. paid locally amounted to \$36,786.75.

A special report of the Chief Superintendent states the following:—

"Up to 1852, the Schools of this Province were mainly supported by voluntary subscriptions, and such local efforts as could be secured by mutual co-operation. In 1852, the Free Education Act was passed, under which the salaries of Teachers were paid almost entirely from the Provincial Treasury. The stimulus thus given to education resulted in the establishment of the Provincial Normal School in 1856, and of the Prince of Wales' College in 1860. From 1860 until 1877, very little was effected in the way of legislation for the improvement of the schools, although the administration was very effective during that period. In 1877 the Public Schools' Act was passed, which provided for the establishment of a Department of Education, and introduced into our Public School system many of the most approved principles and most modern methods of other countries. In 1879 the College and Normal School were amalgamated, and ladies were admitted for the first time into the former institution. Many improvements in the administration of the educational affairs of the Island, for the advancement and encouragement of the teachers, and for the grading of the different schools, have been introduced since 1879, and are now beginning to be in effective operation.

The effects of the different changes and legislative enactments will best be represented by giving the statistics for each decade since 1841:—

	Schools.	Pupils.	Population of Province.
1841.....	121	4,356	47,034
1851.....	135	5,366	66,457

1852 Free Education Act passed.

1856 Normal School established.

1860 Prince of Wales' College opened.

	Schools.	Pupils.	Population of Province.
1861.....	302	12,102	81,000
1871.....	381	15,795	94,021
	1877 Public Schools' Act passed.		
	1879 College opened to ladies.		
	1879 College and Normal School, amalgamated.		
	Schools.	Pupils.	Population of Province.
1881.....	486	21,601	108,981

It will be observed from the statistics here given, that during the period previous to the introduction of the Free Education Act not more than one in twelve of the population attended school. From the period between the passing of the Free Education Act, 1852, and the enactment of Public School Laws of 1877, the attendance was one in 6 of the population. Under the Public Schools' Act of 1877 and its amendments, the attendance was one in five."

In the above statement the departments are counted as separate schools.

The Prince of Wales' College, which includes the Normal School is situated in Charlottetown, and its staff consists of a Principal and 3 Professors. Attached to it as an adjunct to the Normal Department is the Model School with two Teachers.

In addition to these public sources of Education, there are, in connection with the Roman Catholic Church, Saint Dunstan's College in the vicinity of Charlottetown, two Convent schools within the city, and several others located in various parts of the Island. In all these, both boarders and day scholars are received.

St. Peter's school in connection with the English church of that name, also gives means of tuition to children whose parents are willing to pay for the same.

CHARLOTTETOWN.

Charlottetown, the seat of Government, is pleasantly situated upon a point of ground, at the confluence of the York, Elliott and Hillsborough rivers. It contains about 13,000 inhabitants, and is well laid out with wide streets, which intersect at right angles. Its affairs are managed by a corporation, consisting of a Mayor and ten Councillors. The harbour is large, deep and well sheltered, and is said by Admiral Bayfield (a standard authority) to be, in every respect, one of the finest harbours in the world. It is the principal port of shipment, and has a very thriving trade.

Many improvements have been made in the city in recent years; originally built of wood, it has suffered, like all such, from numerous fires, some of considerable extent. As a result of these, most of the business premises destroyed have been rebuilt in brick, and in a style of architecture that would be creditable in more pretentious places.

The city has hitherto depended on limited sources within its own borders for its water supply, but water works are in immediate contemplation and the recent discovery, by boring, of a copious supply of excellent quality, within three miles, gives encouragement to their construction during the ensuing year.

Handsome private residences have been and are being erected in various locations in and about the city, some few of brick but the great majority of wood. A large hotel has recently been completed in addition to those already in existence.

There are two hospitals, the Charlottetown hospital, in charge of the Sisters of Charity, and the Prince Edward Island hospital, managed by a general board of directors.

The shops in the city are generally handsome and commodious, and ample, well assorted stocks will be found in nearly all of them, and owing to small taxation and low rates, prices are generally very reasonable.

Gas is supplied by a company where required, but the streets and many of the principal stores are lighted by electricity.

The Merchants Bank of Prince Edward Island has its office on Water street, and agencies of the Merchants Bank of Halifax and Bank of Nova Scotia have been for some time in operation.

A branch of the Young Men's Christian Association has existed here for the last thirty years. It has a well supplied reading room.

Several temperance associations are represented both in the city and over the Island. The Benevolent Irish society, the Caledonian Club, Foresters, Masons, Oddfellows, Society of St. Vincent de Paul and other less formal charitable associations are doing a good work each in its own sphere, several having branches or separate similar organizations in other parts of the country.

There is a small theatre owned by the Benevolent Irish Society, where performances are given occasionally by travelling companies, in summer and fall, and by the Dramatic Club of the Society in the winter.

Concerts, vocal and instrumental, either by one or other, or a combination of two or more of the Amateur Musical Clubs and Choirs, or by good professionals (combining the pleasure of a summer trip with enough work to pay expenses), Bazaars, Public Teas, Church and other Socials, Lectures, &c., &c., meet a wide range of tastes in the way of social and literary amusements.

Queen's Square, the large public square surrounding the Dominion and Provincial buildings, has, within the last few years, been laid out with hard, smooth paths and well trimmed grassy lawns, planted with trees, and embellished with numerous beds of flowers and foliage plants, which, during the season, show a marvellous luxuriance of growth.

There is also a Public Park, containing about forty-six acres, to the west of the city which, besides a number of drives giving varied views of the city and harbour, furnishes the Military Parade Ground, Football Grounds, an excellent Cricket Field, several Lawn Tennis Courts, good picnic places among the trees, and, for winter amusement, a lofty Toboggan Slide, arranged to connect with the harbour ice when formed.

Though the winter may seem pretty long, yet the much larger proportion of bright, sunny weather which distinguishes it from the same season in Britain, gives a greater zest to outdoor exercises, and to the various amusements popular on this side the Atlantic. Besides the tobogganning previously referred to, Skating and Curling, either in the rinks, or on the ponds, or harbour ice, Snow-shoe tramps, Sleigh driving, and the exciting, swift, Ice-boat sailing, all help to enliven matters considerably, and, residents and visitors who enter heartily into the social life of the city, with its private and semi-private parties and entertainments, find the time anything but gloomy.

SUMMERSIDE.

The County Town of Prince County is situate upon Beleque Bay forty miles west of Charlottetown. It is a town of about 3000 inhabitants, and used to do a large amount of shipbuilding, but from various well known causes, this is almost a thing of the past. It has a fine harbour, and, through the spring, summer and fall, has daily communication with Point du Chene and Shediac, in New Brunswick, and thence by rail with all the rest of the Continent, besides weekly visits of steamers to and from the Upper Provinces, &c.

A large export and import trade is done here, as well as an extensive wholesale and retail distributing traffic through the county, it being, also, the principal oyster mart of the Island.

The educational opportunities are very good both in the public schools and by private tuition.

A branch of the Young Men's Christian Association has recently been formed here.

The shops are numerous and well stocked.

The Bank of Nova Scotia, and Merchants Bank of Halifax have branches in the town, and there is also the Summerside Bank which has been in existence for upwards of twenty years.

ALBERTON.

Alberton, to the westward of the Island, is distant forty miles from Summerside, and is situate upon Cascumpec Bay, which is largely frequented by fishing

vessels that come in to tranship their fish and secure supplies, and occasionally for shelter. For this latter purpose it is the only harbour available on a long stretch of coast, and efforts are being made to deepen the channel over the bar to adapt it for larger vessels which improvement its trade deserves and requires.

The village is dry, airy and healthy, and is frequented by quite a number of summer visitors.

GEORGETOWN.

Georgetown, the chief town of King's County, 30 miles east of Charlestown, is situated on a long promontory formed at the confluence of the Cardigan and Brudenell rivers. It has a magnificent harbor which remains open far into the winter, and is one of the ports of call for the winter steamer. It has a good trade and the beauty of its harbour and situation, its boating and bathing facilities, and many other advantages, must bring it into prominent notice as a very desirable location for either permanent or summer residence.

SOURIS.

Souris, the eastern terminus of the railway, 60 miles east of Charlestown, is the outlet for the exports of a large portion of Kings County. It also possesses a fine harbour, which has, of late, been considerably improved, and the volume of shipping trade is large and increasing. It is beautifully situated and is also an inviting summer resort.

Other villages there are, such as Kensington, Montague, Saint Peter's, Cardigan, Crapaud, Tignish, Mount Stewart, Hunter River, Breadalbane, &c., all of them having the advantage of good harbours or railway stations.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AS A FAMILY SUMMER RESIDENCE, AND ITS ATTRACTIONS TO TOURISTS.

These remarks upon Prince Edward Island would be incomplete, did we neglect to speak of the many attractions which it presents as a watering place. In order to avoid the appearance, of undue laudation, which often renders local descriptions repulsive, liberty has been taken with some observations by a writer who does not allow his pen to indulge in such extravagance. Its summer climate is delightful, free alike from chilling fogs and excessive heat. The landscape is sufficiently undulating to relieve it from the monotony of the prairies, while the bays and winding estuaries to be seen on every hand, with their silvery waters and varied banks, together with the dark and bright green foliage of the evergreen and deciduous trees, and the rich verdure of the meadows, make up a scenery which, if not grand, is at least beautiful and quietly picturesque. Surrounded by the the Gulf of St. Lawrence, whose waters are almost as saline as those of the ocean itself, it enjoys all the ozone and coolness of the sea breeze, and the advantages that can only be derived from sea bathing. These, with the opportunities for healthful exercise or quiet rest, and the facilities for innocent mirth, removed from the immoral tendencies and other evils of large and expensive establishments, render it a most desirable retreat. Hotel accommodation has improved vastly of late, and visitors find no difficulty in securing summer quarters, (either in them, or, in some of the numerous comfortable farm houses in which preparations are made for their reception,) at very moderate rates. Sportsmen have ample opportunity for indulging their passion; the rivers teem with trout, while very many enjoy going out in the bays with the boats mackerel fishing. Game there is also in abundance, such as wild geese, brant, du k, partridge, plover, wood cock, snipe, hares, &c.

To families and others of comparatively limited means, the Island offers a haven of rest from many troubles, as, owing to moderate house rents, ranging in Charlottetown from \$80 to \$150 or £16 to £30 sterling, the low cost of provisions, fuel, &c., and the moderate style of living which obtains here, an amount of comfort, enjoyment, and freedom from petty cares, can be gained from an income of, say, £250 to £300 sterling a year, impossible in Britain. Of course a

larger income would justify keeping horses, carriages, &c., though many residents, by careful management, enjoy that luxury on no more than the above stated amounts.

A fair idea of the retail market prices of a number of articles of ordinary consumption and use will be gained from the following list:—

ARTICLES.	DOLLARS.	STERLING.
Beef, small..... per lb.	5 cts. to 12 cts.	2½d. to 6d.
“ quarter..... “	4 “ 9 “	2d. to 4½d.
Mutton..... “	5 “ 9 “	2½d. to 4½d.
Lamb..... “	5 “ 8 “	2½d. to 4d.
Pork, small..... “	10 “ 12 “	5d. to 6d.
“ carcass..... “	6 “ 8 “	3d. to 4d.
Turkeys, each.....	\$0.75 to \$1.25	3s. 1d. to 5s. 2d.
Geese, “.....	40 cts. to 60 cts.	1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d.
Ducks, “.....	30 “ 40 “	1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d.
Fowls, “.....	20 “ 25 “	10d. to 1s.
Chickens, per pair.....	30 “ 50 “	1s. 3d. to 2s. 1d.
Butter, fresh..... per lb.	18 “ 25 “	9d. to 1s.
“ salt..... “	16 “ 25 “	8d. to 1s.
Eggs, per dozen.....	10 “ 25 “	5d. to 1s.
Flour (Island)..... per 100 lbs.	\$2.50 to \$3.00	10s. to 12s. 6d.
“ Imported..... per brl. of 196 lbs.	\$5.00 to \$6.00	£1 to £1 4s. 2d.
Wheat bread..... per lb.	..... 3 cts.	..... 1½d.
Oatmeal..... per 100 lbs.	\$2.25 to \$2.50	9s. 2d. to 10s. 2d.
Hay..... per 100 lbs.	40 cts. to 60 cts.	1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d.
Tea..... per lb.	25 “ 40 “	1s. to 1s. 8d.
Coffee..... “	35 “ 50 “	1s. 6d. to 2s. 1d.
Sugar..... “	6 “ 8 “	3d. to 4d.½
“ (white refined)..... “	8 “ 10 “	4d. to 5d.
Molasses..... per gall.	40 “ 50 “	1s. 8d. to 2s. 1d.
Rice..... per lb.	..... 4 “	..... 2d.
Pearl barley..... “	..... 4 “	..... 2d.
Tobacco..... “	32 cts. upwards	1s. 4d. upwards.
Vinegar (pure)..... per gall.	..... 50 cts.	..... 2s. 1d.
Coal..... per ton of 2,000 lbs.	\$2.60 to \$3.80	10s. 10d. to 15s. 10d.
Grey Cottons..... per yard.	3 cts. to 10 cts.	1½d. to 5d.
White “..... “	4 cts. to 28 cts.	2d. to 1s. 2d.
Tweed, (Scotch)..... “	\$1.00 to \$3.00	4s. 2d. to 12s. 6d.
“ (Canadian)..... “	40 cts. to \$1.50	1s. 8d. to 6s. 3d.
Horses.....	\$60. to \$250.	£12.10s. to £52.10s.
Cows.....	\$20. to \$50.	£4. to £10.
Sheep.....	\$3,25.	..... 13s. 6d.

Being of such limited area, and its inhabitants so much devoted to domestic pursuits, it is not surprising that but little is known abroad, and in Britain in particular, regarding Prince Edward Island. However its fame, at least on this side the Atlantic, is increasing, and, now, instead of being characterised, as it was in the latter part of last century, by a very prejudiced English writer, who had never seen it, as a “rascally heap of sand, rock and swamp, occupied only as a military station, and producing nothing but potatoes,” the Island has been aptly termed and is admitted to be “The Garden of British North America.”

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