

two miles from the sea, and for ships,—eight miles; the least depth during that space being sixteen feet, with good shelter and anchorage. About thirteen miles from the shore, and twenty-one miles west by north from Cape Sable, lies Seal Island. It is emphatically called the elbow of the Bay of Fundy. The American fishermen resort to it for wood and water. There are two Acadian settlements in this township, at Pubnico and Eel Brook. The principal harbour is Pubnico, from seven to twelve fathoms water, easy of access, and affording shelter to vessels entering the Bay of Fundy.

Yarmouth township lies between Argyle and Clare (in Annapolis county), and contains 100,000 acres of land. The soil, productions, and climate are the same as those of Argyle. There are numerous lakes in these townships, upwards of eighty of which have been already explored, and it is intersected by several rivers. The face of the county is diversified, and the scenery beautiful. The principal harbour is Cape Fourche or Fourchon, which is large, well sheltered, and navigable for ships up to Yarmouth village. Chebogue river is navigable for seven miles from the sea, and at its mouth expands into a good harbour. The Acadians had several small settlements in this district; after their expulsion the township was granted, in 1767, to settlers from New England. It has always maintained a steady state of improvement, and promises, from its various local advantages, to become a place of considerable importance. The inhabitants are industrious and enterprising, and carry on a trade of some consequence both with England and the West Indies. There are in the township a court-house and a jail, four churches of several denominations, eighteen small school-houses, fourteen grist-mills, and upwards of 700 dwelling-houses. Yarmouth village and Melton are classed among the towns of the province. Yarmouth contains about 100 dwelling-houses, and there are nine trading establishments. Melton contains about thirty houses.

The population of this county was, in 1817, 13,611; the census of 1827 gave the following results, both of population and produce. This is the only county in the province in which the population has not increased; a circumstance attributable, not to the want of a due natural

increase in the resident population, but to be ascribed to emigration, the greater part of the settlers in and about the town of Shelburne having removed from that place.

	Population. Souls.	Live Stock.				Cultivated Lands.	Produce.			
		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.		Bushels of Wheat.	Bushels of other Grain.	Bushels of Potatoes.	Tons of Hay.
Shelburne Township	2,397	41	2,428	4,993	1,754	3,133	295	2,611	42,701	2,408
Barrington ditto	2,186	16	1,323	4,002	1,221	1,687	20	590	47,020	1,651
Argyle ditto .	2,790	42	2,566	3,940	1,555	2,640	15	1,663	103,837	2,212
Yarmouth ditto	4,345	220	3,722	7,817	1,456	10,039	115	4,798	114,692	5,022
Total county of Shelburne	12,018	319	10,039	20,752	5,986	17,429	445	9,062	308,250	12,293

Abstract of the Population, Cultivated Land, Agricultural Produce, and Live Stock of Nova Scotia, as per census taken in 1828.

	Population.		Land cultivated in Acres.	Agricultural Produce and Live Stock.							
	In 1817.	In 1827.		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Bushels of Wheat.	Bushels of other Grain.	Bushels of Potatoes.	Tons of Hay.
Halifax County . . .	30,196	46,548	92,976	4,530	29,464	43,534	24,122	62,246	194,902	876,546	40,397
Sydney ditto . . .	7,090	12,760	39,465	848	15,706	24,349	7,705	21,919	38,173	363,288	15,794
Cumberland ditto . . .	2,965	5,356	29,308	1,264	8,226	11,566	5,533	14,152	34,007	269,897	13,790
Hants ditto . . .	6,318	8,627	37,531	2,486	9,475	14,863	5,927	18,520	45,328	227,948	19,977
King's ditto . . .	7,145	10,208	34,150	1,789	12,580	18,574	8,232	25,668	65,137	538,903	25,286
Lunenburg ditto . . .	6,428	9,405	13,467	202	8,978	11,238	5,331	3,117	33,146	334,163	10,577
Queen's ditto . . .	3,098	4,225	5,630	163	2,436	2,737	2,264	1,359	3,276	53,917	3,507
Annapolis ditto . . .	9,817	14,661	22,174	1,351	13,872	27,040	6,404	5,410	26,309	385,478	21,549
Shelburne ditto . . .	13,611	12,018	17,429	319	10,039	20,752	5,986	445	9,062	308,250	12,293
Total (exclusive of Cape Breton) . . .	86,668	123,808	292,130	12,952	110,776	174,653	71,904	152,836	449,400	3,358,390	163,170

CHAPTER III.

Harbours—Roads—Canals—Climate—Productions, &c. of Nova Scotia.

No country, in proportion to its extent, possesses a greater number of safe and commodious harbours than Nova Scotia. The whole line of coast, with the exception of a part in the Bay of Fundy, is almost one continued chain of bays and harbours, some of them forming as fine ports as any in the world. Halifax is one of the finest in America; accessible at all seasons of the year, remarkable for the facility of its entrance, and possessing safe anchorage for 1000 ships. Margaret's Bay is both safe and capacious, twelve miles in depth and from two miles, at its entrance, to six miles in width. Malone Bay is equally extensive and safe, affording secure anchorage for ships of the line. Liverpool, a noble deep bay, having good anchorage for the largest ships. Shelburne Harbour is esteemed one of the best in America, as well on account of its easy access, as for its capacity and perfect security. Country Harbour is navigable and safe for the largest ships for ten miles from its entrance. Canseau forms an excellent harbour, affording safe and commodious anchorage for the largest ships; and Chedabucto Bay, twenty-five miles in length and fifteen in breadth, free from all obstructions, is navigable throughout for the largest ships, and affords secure shelter and anchorage in its several smaller harbours. These are but a few of the principal harbours on the Atlantic shore. In the gulf of St. Lawrence and the Straits of Northumberland there are also several noble harbours: Pictou Harbour, a beautiful and capacious basin; Wallace Bay, navigable for ships of the first class for more than six miles; and Pugwash Bay, the entrance about a quarter of a mile wide, leading into a noble basin, where the largest vessels can ride in perfect safety, and anchor within twenty yards of the shore. On the Bay of Fundy the principal harbours are Annapolis, with its two beautiful basins, and the outer port of Digby; the extensive basin of Minas,

with its numerous minor harbours; and Chignecto Channel and Cumberland Basin, out of both of which branch off several smaller bays and harbours*.

ROADS—CANALS.

The roads of this province are, for a new country, inferior to none in America. The expense of their construction and repair has been provided for by annual votes of the legislature; the sum raised for "road service" is very considerable, being not less than 30,000*l.* a year. It forms nearly half the public expenditure of the province. The road from Halifax to Annapolis is very good, and kept in excellent repair, and a stage coach runs between these towns three times a week. This main-road crosses the counties of Halifax and Hants to Windsor, runs from thence to Kentville, and so on to Annapolis, parallel with the shore of the Bay of Fundy. Another road has been completed from Halifax to Annapolis in a direct line, traversing the interior of the province in that direction. A line of roads, commencing at Halifax, passes through all the townships on the southern and western shores, taking in Chester, Lunenburg, Liverpool, Guysboro, Shelburne, Barrington, Argyle, Yarmouth, Clare, and quite round through Weymouth and Digby to Annapolis. Again, good roads run from Halifax into the eastern districts of the province; viz. to Pictou, to Antigonish, to Guysboro, Crow Harbour, Cape Canseau, and the townships in that direction. Other excellent roads run from Halifax to Truro, the townships of Onslow and Londonderry, and the several townships of the county of Cumberland. Generally speaking, the road communications of the province are very good, and are every year extended and improved.

* The position of Halifax, as well as of all the principal headlands and harbours on various parts of the coast, and in the gulf of St. Lawrence, have been most accurately determined by the direction and under the immediate command of Admiral Sir C. Ogle, whilst commanding on that station, by Messrs. J. Jones and other officers of distinguished scientific talents. A table of the latitudes and longitudes of such points will be found in the Appendix. The solicitude of the admiral in the execution of this important service has produced a degree of accuracy of the greatest advantage to the shipping interests employed on these coasts, as has been unequivocally acknowledged both by the colony and at home.

of the SHUBENACADIE NAVIGATION from HALIFAX HARBOUR to the BASIN of MINES.



J. & C. Palmer, Surveyors

[illegible]

The Shubenacadie Canal, which unites the waters of the Basin of Minas, or Mines, with Halifax Harbour, is a work of infinite importance and value to the province. It traverses the best-cultivated districts of the country, and affords an easy and cheap communication to Halifax market for the produce of all the townships on the Minas Basin; and in the event of a war with the United States, puts the internal trade of the province beyond the reach of an enemy. It is fifty-four miles in extent, and is constructed for sea-going vessels drawing eight feet water. It has been completed for boat navigation, and will be fully finished, as is expected, in the course of another year. The expense of its construction was estimated at about 40,000*l.* raised by a joint-stock company, who have obtained a charter of incorporation.

It has been proposed to make a canal across the narrow isthmus (which connects this province with New Brunswick) between Cumberland Basin, at the head of the Bay of Fundy, and Bay Verte in Northumberland Straits. The distance across is no more than eleven miles, and an eminent engineer who surveyed the ground has demonstrated the practicability of the work, and estimated the cost of its construction, so as to admit sea-going vessels drawing eight feet water, at 67,728*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* Upon consulting the map, the advantages of such a canal are most apparent, and would be equally important to New Brunswick and to this province. The long and dangerous circuit of Cape Breton would be avoided in the navigation between the Bay of Fundy and the St. Lawrence, and the communication between the Canadas, Prince Edward's Island, and the country on the Restigouche and Mirimichi, and between this province and New Brunswick, would become so much shorter and safer, that there can be no doubt that the intercolonial trade would be increased to a degree not easily to be calculated; and in the event of hostilities, placed beyond the reach or interruption of an enemy. Another benefit arising from this navigation to the trade of the Canadas would be, that Halifax, St. John's, and New Brunswick, would become depots for the bread stuff intended for exportation to the West India Islands.

CLIMATE.

The climate of Nova Scotia is cold, the winter continuing from December to May. The earth is completely frozen from Christmas to April, during which period there are very heavy falls of snow. There is scarcely any spring; for so soon as the frost and snow disappear, vegetation revives with such vigour as, in a few days, to alter the whole face of the country. About the 1st of June the fields afford sufficient food for cattle. The heat of summer is both moderate and regular, being greatest in the month of August, and the nights are, generally, temperate. The autumn is the finest portion of the year; the mornings and evenings are cool, the temperature of mid-day not unlike that of June, and the sky generally clear, and cloudless. The month of April and the autumnal months are the most rainy, and fogs prevail on the southern shore, and at the mouth of the Bay of Fundy, in summer, but do not extend inland. The climate is remarkably healthy, and conducive to longevity. A great proportion of the inhabitants live to a very advanced age, not uncommonly to ninety and one hundred years. This great longevity was also observable among the Indians. The air is pure and wholesome, and there is nothing like that noxious miasma which in the United States is the fruitful cause of intermittent fever. The intermittent, bilious, and yellow fever of America have never appeared in the province, nor do any diseases prevail that are not usual and familiar in England. To say that the climate is not unhealthy would convey but an inadequate idea of it. It is decidedly most salubrious and congenial to the prolongation of human life, and proved by experience to be entirely beneficial to Europeans.

SOIL.

The soil of this province is of the greatest variety; and although no general observations will apply to the whole, it may be divided into four classes; viz. the superior quality of soil, the good, the inferior, and the barren, or that which is incapable of cultivation. The quantity of land

of the first class is supposed to be equal to one-fourth of the whole province, about 2,500,000 acres; and of the second about 3,500,000 acres: inferior land about 2,000,000 acres; and nearly an equal proportion of barren. The same diversity of soil prevails in every county in the province. The best land is generally found on the shores of the Bay of Fundy, the Minas and Cumberland Basins, and the gulf shore; and the inferior land on the southern shore. There are extensive exceptions in both cases, particularly on the margins of the lakes and rivers; on the latter of which, especially, good land mostly prevails. The quality of the soil is generally indicated by the timber it produces. Black and yellow birch, elm, ash, maple, or hemlock, indicate a rich soil. White birch and spruce, or timber of a stunted growth and size, denote inferior land, and pine is generally found on dry sandy soils. The first class of land consists of upland, interval, and marsh. Interval is a term peculiar to America, and denotes land composed of the alluvial deposit of rivers: it is found in every county in the province; it produces grain of all kinds; and such is its fertility, that it has been known to produce fourteen successive crops of wheat without the assistance of manure. Marsh land is also composed of alluvial sediment, deposited by the tide, and when enclosed by dikes, and well drained, exceedingly fertile, yielding for several years abundant crops of wheat, and subsequently alternate rotations of grass and wheat, without the aid of manure. The quantity of interval and marsh land in the province has not been accurately ascertained, nor is it easy to form a conjecture respecting it; much of it, particularly the interval, being yet in a state of nature. The arable lands bear as yet but a small proportion to the uncultivated, and are chiefly confined to the coasts, harbours, and banks of the rivers; though several small settlements, invited by local circumstances, are found scattered in the interior. The appearance of some of the old townships will vie with any part of America. The extensive and well-cultivated valley of the river Annapolis, the diversified and picturesque country of Horton, Cornwallis, and Windsor, the country along the Shubenacadie, and the townships of Newport and Yarmouth, cannot fail to strike the stranger with surprise, as existing in a country which has hitherto almost escaped notice, and has been represented as the most uninteresting part of America.

NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.*

The natural productions of this country, like all others in a state of nature, consist of its timber, minerals, and wild animals. The woods and timber are the same as are found in the other northern parts of North America:—the pine in all its varieties; the birch, which is considered as the best in America; oak, suitable for ship-building; spruce, hemlock, beech, ash, maple, and elm; all fit for boards, staves, and lumber, and an innumerable variety of other sorts of great beauty, but of minor value. The quantity of valuable timber is very great, and far from being exhausted, and enables the colonists to carry on a very extensive trade in timber and lumber, to the mother country and the West Indies, as well as in the building and sale of ships, for which purposes it is as suitable as the timber of any other section of North America. There is a great variety of indigenous plants and flowers, some of them very beautiful, as well as of wild fruits, consisting of the sorts most common in Europe.

MINERALS.

The minerals of this province are but little known, and no steps have been hitherto taken to procure a scientific geological survey of the country. With the exception of the coal-fields at Pictou, no excavation of any depth has been made into the earth, and its surface is so covered with forests that the greater part of it has never been made the subject of investigation. The reservation to the crown (in the grants of land made in this colony) of the valuable minerals has rendered the owners of the soil indifferent about the discovery of what they could not enjoy. All the reserved minerals in the province were granted by the crown to His Royal Highness the late Duke of York, and by him leased (it is understood for a term of sixty years) to Messrs. Rundell, Bridge, and Co., of London, who have as yet confined their operations to a colliery opened in the district of Pictou, called the Albion Colliery. The principal minerals hitherto observed are coal, iron, gypsum, lead, copper, manganese, salt, lime, slate, freestone, and granite.

Coal of the finest quality and in the greatest abundance is known to exist in certain parts of the province. The great coal-field of Pictou, based on limestone, has been traced from Carriboo Harbour to Merigomish, enclosing an area of more than 100 square miles, the veins varying in thickness from fifty feet to one foot. The vein opened at the Albion coal-mine is upwards of fifty feet in thickness. This field consists of several distinct layers, the upper or main base being generally thirty-six feet in thickness. The coal is of a highly bituminous quality, burns freely, making a cheerful lively fire in a grate, and casting a strong and powerful heat. It is as well adapted for smiths' use as any coal in the world, and has a peculiarly valuable property in preparing iron. In an experiment made at the Albion works upon some iron ore, it produced a metal of the very best and finest quality. It is also peculiarly adapted for steam-engine boilers, as it produces steam quicker than any known bituminous coal; and being free from impurities, has not so great a tendency to burn the boilers. The coal-field in the north-western part of the county of Cumberland, between the river Macan and the shores of the Chignecto channel, is also of considerable extent. There are eight veins of coal, one over the other, varying from one to four feet in thickness. The coal is not considered so good as that of the Pictou field, nor have any works been yet established upon it. There are also indications of coal in the township of Londonderry, and at Onslow; on the north shore of the Minas Basin; at the head of Pomket Harbour, in the upper district of the county of Sydney; and on the south shore of Wallace Harbour, in the county of Cumberland. From the great abundance, superior quality, and facility of raising and shipping the coal of this province, there is no doubt but it will, at no distant period, become an extensive and valuable article of its trade, and an abundant source of wealth to the proprietors and the colonists.

Iron ore abounds in several parts of the province. Some of the most valuable is found in great quantities, interstratified with the coal veins, in the Pictou coal-field. This ore is found to be of the very best quality, producing from thirty to sixty per cent. of pure metal. There are no iron works as yet established in these districts. Iron ore exists in the western parts of the county of Annapolis in great abundance, particularly in the township of Clements. The "Annapolis

Iron Mining Company" was established and incorporated in the year 1825; they have erected extensive iron works on the Moose River, which falls into the Annapolis Basin, where they manufacture hollow ware and bar iron of very superior quality. As there is no coal discovered in this part of the province, charcoal is used in those works, of which the neighbouring forests afford an inexhaustible supply. Indications of copper have been found at Cariboo and Toney's River, French River, and East River, near Pictou; at Tatmagouche and Waugh's River, and at Minudie, in the county of Cumberland: in fact, indications of copper are found from Cariboo, near Pictou, quite through the whole extent of the county of Cumberland to Minudie; and although no stratum or continuous vein has been discovered, with the exception of a small one at Minudie about an inch in width, there is every reason to believe that this section of country contains some valuable veins of this mineral. Very few lead ores have been discovered. Some fine specimens of sulphuret of lead have been found near Guysborough, in the county of Sydney; and manganese occurs in considerable quantities near Amherst, in Cumberland county. Thus it should seem that in those sources of riches which lie below the surface of the soil, this province excels every other part of the British dominions in North America.

Gypsum, or plaster of Paris, abounds in the middle and eastern parts of the province, and is generally of the best quality. It exists in the county of Hants, and in Windsor and Newport townships in the greatest profusion, forming the principal article of export. It also abounds in the Shubenacadie River. Considerable quantities are raised in the township of Dorchester, in Sydney county, and exported from Antigonish; and it is very abundant in the county of Cumberland, especially at the Rivers Macan and Napan, in the township of Amherst, and on the River Philip. There are various kinds of gypsum, generally divided into hard and soft, the latter of which is esteemed the best; it is by no means a solid body, and is seldom found in unbroken strata of pure gypsum. It is quarried by the aid of gunpowder, and broken into a suitable size for exportation by the pick-axe. Its value, as a manure, is well known, and highly appreciated in the United States, to which upwards of 100,000 tons have been annually exported from Nova Scotia.

SALT SPRINGS.

Salt springs have been discovered in several places. At Black River, a branch of the Philip, a considerable quantity is manufactured, producing twelve per cent. of pure salt; at West and Middle Rivers, near Pictou, producing about eight per cent.; at the west river of Antigonish of similar quality; at the Rivers Chegenois and Salmon, in the township of Onslow; and at the River Stewiack, in the township of Truro. There never has been any extensive manufacture of this article, the price of labour being as yet too high to enable the colonists to enter into competition with that which is imported; but no doubt the period will arrive when the supply of native salt for the fisheries will be an interesting object of manufacture, and source of considerable wealth.

Granite, limestone, slate, and freestone are found in several parts of the province, and the two latter in some places worked to some extent, principally for domestic use; and extensive and valuable quarries of grindstones are worked at South Laggan, near Minudie, in the county of Cumberland. These grindstones are particularly esteemed in the United States, to which upwards of 10,000*l*. worth are annually exported.

ANIMALS.

Nova Scotia abounded with a great variety of animals. These were soon considerably reduced by the chase, principally for the purpose of obtaining fur and peltry; many species have consequently become extinct, and the catalogue and number of those that remain are by no means considerable. Among these the principal are the moose, cariboo, bear, fox, racoon, lynx, cat, weasel, martin, otter, minx, beaver, musquash, hare, woodchuck, rat, mouse, mole, bat, &c.

BIRDS.

The birds of Nova Scotia are in general the same as are found in all the northern provinces of America. Most of them are birds of passage,

but some, such as the jay, crow, partridge, woodpecker, and a few others, are to be found during the winter. No perfect catalogue has been as yet made of them.

FISHES.

The waters of this province, and the seas surrounding it, abound with fish in the greatest variety and of the most valuable species. The lakes and rivers teem with the usual fresh water fish—trout, perch, bream, eels, and many others. The harbours swarm with cod, mackerel, herrings, shad, alewives, salmon, halibut, sturgeon, sole, plaice, smelt, haddock, lobsters, oysters, muscles, cockles, and an infinite variety of others; and in the surrounding seas are found all those fish of the whale species valuable for their oils, as the whale, grampus, porpoise, &c. Indeed the taking and curing of fish may be considered as one of the principal, if not the chief staple of the trade and source of the wealth of Nova Scotia; a more particular account of which will be given when we come to treat of the trade of the province.

CHAPTER IV.

Extent—Grants—Agriculture—Statistics—Clergy—Education, &c.

NOVA SCOTIA contains, exclusive of Cape Breton, about 9,000,000 of acres, not including lakes and rivers. Very few grants of land were made prior to 1750, except town and fishing lots. It appears that from 1760 to 1812, there were passed 1816 grants of land, conveying 5,991,961 acres, and subsequently 127,978 acres; on the whole 6,119,939 acres: but of those 2,152,662 acres escheated to the crown. The quantity of appropriated land therefore is 3,979,277 acres, and the quantity at the disposal of the crown about 5,000,000. In all those grants trifling quit-rents were reserved to the crown, and in most instances all minerals; but the crown lands are now disposed of by sale at public auction; and as the mines and minerals of the whole province have been granted away, they cannot go with the land. The first settlers naturally selected the best land, both as to quality and situation; the ungranted, or crown lands, therefore, lie in the rear of the townships and in the interior, and consist of almost all the inferior tracts, with a very considerable quantity of good land. There are extensive tracts of crown lands in the county of Cumberland, extending from one end of it to the other, a great part of which is of very excellent quality. The whole of the interior of the county of Shelburne is still undisposed of; some of it is well wooded, and the soil in many places of good quality. There are also considerable tracts of good crown lands in the interior of the counties of Annapolis, Queen's, and Sydney. In short, considerable tracts of superior and good land are to be found among the crown lands in all parts of the province*.

The value of land necessarily depends on the fertility of the soil, local situation, and state of improvement. It is impossible therefore to form any general estimate of the value of improved land. Wilderness, or unimproved land, varies from 5*l.* to 40*l.* per hundred acres. About 10*l.* per hundred acres is the full average value of improvable wilderness land.

The process of bringing the wild land into a state of cultivation, and the operations of agriculture, are much the same in this province as in all other newly-settled countries. The first thing to be done is to clear off the wood. The trees are cut down at about three feet from the ground, lopped and sawn into convenient lengths, and then burnt; where this is not performed by the settler himself, the cost of the whole is about 4*l.* 10*s.* per acre, exceeding the rate at which the same service may be procured in the Canadas by about 1*l.* 10*s.* per acre. The wood, although green, burns freely, and the whole clearing may be, and generally is, performed in one season, from March to September. The land is then prepared, by manual labour with the hoe, for the seed, and wheat, rye, maize sown, or potatoes planted; grass seeds are always sown with the grain crops, and after they are taken off, the land remains in grass, producing hay for the food of the cattle in winter, until the stumps of the trees decay, and the plough can be used. The settler is enabled to keep a stock of cattle as soon as he can raise hay off his land, which is generally the third year. The settler carries on the same process on a portion of new land every year, either until his whole farm is cleared, or until, by the decay of the stumps, he is enabled to cultivate again the already-cleared land with the plough, which can generally be done in five or six years. New land yields the most abundant crops, and a farm consisting of both new and cleared land is considered more profitable than one entirely cleared. Farms of the former description are called "half-improved farms." Wheat is raised with some difficulty in Nova Scotia; if the seed be well selected, and sown early on good land, properly tilled, it will ripen in all ordinary seasons; it requires great care in its culture, and if that be neglected, it is probable it will not succeed. The average crop on good upland is from sixteen to twenty-five bushels; on interval and marsh much more: it has been known to yield forty bushels per acre. The quantity grown in the province is not nearly sufficient for its own consumption, and flour is consequently imported to a considerable extent. The climate is very congenial to rye, oats, and barley; they are raised without difficulty, and yield abundantly. The average crop on good land is oats, 25; barley, 20; and rye, 16 bushels per acre. Maize, or Indian corn, is indigenous in America; it is extensively cultivated in the western districts of this pro-

vince, and is a most valuable vegetable. It is easily cultivated: the leaves and stalk afford good food for cattle; the grain is the very best that horses and swine can eat; and the meal the best for bread, next to wheat-flour. Indian corn bread, though very little used in this province, is in common use in the New England provinces and New York, indeed all through the United States; the average crop is about twenty-five to thirty bushels per acre.

Potatoes thrive better in Nova Scotia than in any part of America, and are very much cultivated; the produce is about 200 bushels per acre. Turnips, beans, and buckwheat are also cultivated very generally, and with success. Few places are regularly divided into fields, but a rotation of crops is generally adopted. On the virgin land, wheat, rye, potatoes, maize, and sometimes turnips, compose the first crop; then grass for a few years. On the breaking up of the grass land, generally oats, then potatoes, then wheat, succeeded by potatoes and wheat, and laid down with clover or timothy grass. Hay is indispensable for the subsistence of cattle in the winter in this province, and the culture of grasses is therefore a primary object with the Nova Scotia farmer, insomuch that the land laid down in grass is scarcely ever broken up until the failure of the grass crop indicates the necessity of renewal and change. New land, requires no manure in the first instance, and some soils, marsh and interval, have been under crop for several successive years without the aid of manure. Dung is the most common manure used, particularly on upland; lime has come but partially and lately into use. Gypsum, of which such quantities are exported to the United States for manure, is not at all used for that purpose in this province; the alluvial deposit of the tide and rivers is, where it can be had, considered the best manure, and used as such.

One of the greatest embarrassments of the farmer arises from the rapid progress of vegetation. The spring is very short, the time for planting extremely limited, and the period of harvesting succeeds with rapidity; hence the labours of the husbandman are all crowded within the space of half the year. Wheat and rye are sown in April; Indian corn, barley, and potatoes, in May; buckwheat in June; and turnips in July. Mowing commences in July; reaping begins in August, and is finished in Sep-

tember. This crowding of the business of the farm is often attended with expense, and sometimes, owing to the scarcity of labourers, with the loss of some part of the crop, from inability to harvest it. The quantity of cultivated land, and its produce, was ascertained, by a census taken by order of the government in 1827, which gave the following results:

Land cultivated, 292,009 acres; wheat, 152,836 bushels; other grain, 449,626 bushels; potatoes, 3,398,220 bushels; hay, 168,212 tons. From which it would appear, estimating the number of acres under each crop by the average produce per acre, that there were about 10,000 acres under wheat, 22,500 acres under other grain, 22,500 acres under potatoes, and about 164,000 acres under hay; in all about 220,000 acres under crop.

The climate of this province is by no means uncongenial to the production of fruit. The French in all their settlements planted orchards, some of which still remain: the settlers from New England often did the same, and the practice has been generally and successfully followed. There are extensive orchards in Hants, King's, and Annapolis counties; and the cider, which forms a considerable article of export, is inferior to none in America. The winter fruit particularly is raised in great quantities, and is of the most excellent quality. Plums, pears, quinces, and cherries are found in all the orchards perfectly naturalized, and bear abundantly; and peaches and grapes ripen in ordinary seasons without any artificial aid.

The province is well stocked with horses, horned cattle, sheep, and swine. The horses are a mixed race of the American, Canadian, and English stock; they are not very good, but considerable improvement is being made in the breed by the introduction of English blood horses. The horned cattle are very superior; the oxen are large, well-shaped, strong, tractable in yoke, and easily fattened. The cows, when attended to, are good for the dairy. Beef and butter are both abundant and cheap, and not only supply the home consumption, but afford a considerable article of export. The sheep have been so intermixed that they cannot be classed with any particular breed: they are good-sized, and hardy; weigh from ten to twenty pounds a quarter, and as mutton,

are very good; the fleece is tolerably fine, and always manufactured by the settler for domestic use. The live stock of the province has more than doubled within the last twenty years. The census of 1827 gave the following results: horses, 12,951; horned cattle, 110,818; sheep, 173,731; swine, 71,482.

• Labour, although scarce, cannot be considered high in this province. The expense of clearing wilderness land, that is, felling and carrying off the timber, varies from 3*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* per acre; that of erecting a tolerable house for a first settlement, about 15*l.* to 25*l.* The yearly wages of good labourers are from 20*l.* to 25*l.* besides board and lodging; day labour from 2*s.* to 3*s.* per day, with board and lodging also. The demand for labour must suit itself to the supply, but if the supply were considerably greater, the demand would increase, at least in an equal, if not a still greater ratio.

There are few manufactures, properly so called, carried on in Nova Scotia; but the preparation of lumber, and ship-building, are sometimes so denominated. There are saw-mills in every district of the province, and even so far back as 1785 there were ninety of them in the country; the number has been vastly increased since that period. The quantity of lumber prepared and exported is momentous, and it is considered as good here as in any other part of America. Ship-building is carried on to a great extent in every part of the province: in the ship-yards of the peninsula alone, there were built in the year 1826, 131 vessels, containing 15,535 tons; and in 1828, 94 vessels, containing 6,560 tons. The average quantity of ship-building is not less than 10,000 tons per annum, principally sloops, schooners, and vessels for the fishery. The number and tonnage of the shipping belonging to the province, exclusive of Cape Breton, was, in 1826, 1,031 vessels; tonnage, 52,779; number of men and boys employed, 3,407. The number is on the increase, and may now be estimated at not less than 1,500 vessels, and 70,000 tons, about 150 of which are square-rigged, and the remainder sloops, schooners, &c. There are iron works at Moose River; the quantity manufactured is inconsiderable, but the quality is very good. There are also coal works at Pictou, which supply not only the provincial demand, but also a considerable export to the United States. A few manufactories are esta-

blished at Halifax : sugar refining; distilleries of rum, gin, and whiskey; breweries of ale and porter; soap, candle, and leather factories: the latter, with some few other articles of domestic consumption, are indeed manufactured by almost every farmer.

The foreign trade of this province is, in common with that of the other British possessions in America, regulated by the statute 6 Geo. IV. cap. 114, of the British Parliament, which took effect in 1826. Halifax and Pictou were declared free-warehousing ports, under this act, for the entry, warehousing, transporting, and exportation of all description of merchandize, with a few trifling exceptions. The exports of provincial produce consist of timber to Great Britain and foreign Europe; of gypsum, coal, and grindstones to the United States; of lumber, fish, beef, pork, butter, grain, potatoes, horses, horned cattle, and sheep to the West Indies, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Brazil. Besides provincial produce, considerable quantities of fish, flour, and West India produce are re-exported. The imports consist of British manufactures of every kind, wines, dried fruit, &c. West India produce, salt, flour, and cured fish. The greatest part of this trade is carried on at Halifax, which is the general port of entry and clearance for the greater part of the province. The value of the exports, and quantity of shipping employed therein in 1828 was, of exported articles, 473,861*l.*; shipping employed, 1,651; tonnage, 132,767; navigated by 7,304 men and boys. Among the articles exported were, 175,128 quintals of dry fish, and 40,526 barrels of pickled fish, the latter consisting principally of herrings, mackarel, salmon, alewives, and shad. The imports the same year were of the value of 847,530*l.* in 1,694 vessels, of 132,174 tons, navigated by 7,342 men and boys. Such a trade, carried on by a province the resources of which are scarcely known, much less fully developed, and having only a scanty and widely-scattered population of 124,000 souls, is powerfully demonstrative of the industry and enterprise of the inhabitants, and of the value and importance of the colony. Fish is the chief staple of the trade of this province. The fishery is carried on principally on the eastern shore, in and about Chedabucto Bay; on the southern at Lunenburg, Liverpool, and Shelburne; on the western at Yarmouth, Clare, Argyle, and Barrington; and at Annapolis, in the Bay of Fundy.

The fish principally taken are cod, herrings, mackarel, shad, alewives, and salmon. The fisheries of Chedabucto Bay are remarkably productive; indeed, cod is taken in the bay, and even in the harbours, and so are herrings; and the shoals of mackarel are immense. This fish is to be found from June to October on the shore and in the harbours, in such quantities that 1000 barrels have been taken in a sieve at one draught. At the commencement of the season the fisherman obtains permission from the proprietor of the beach to erect his hut, and occupy a certain space for his boat and nets, for which he pays at the end of the season a barrel or more of cured mackarel, and one-twentieth of the aggregate quantity of fresh fish besides. The fishery is usually held by shares; the owner of the boat and nets taking one half of the produce, and the fishermen he employs, the other, which is divided amongst themselves. One proprietor has been known to receive nearly 2000 barrels of mackarel in the year for his fishing grounds, each barrel worth 17s. 6d. The quantity of herrings that throngs Annapolis Basin is almost incredible; they are caught in weirs. Herring fishing commences in May and continues generally to September, sometimes until November; at one time the fish remained so long that they were frozen in immense masses in the weirs. After being properly selected and cleaned, they are smoked, and packed in boxes of half-bushel size, 200 fish in each box, and are shipped for the West India market. The herring fishery on the other parts of the coast is carried on in the usual way. Besides this "shore" fishery, the Nova Scotians carry on a considerable cod fishery on the Labrador shore. The fish is taken there, and generally brought to the ports of this province to be cured.

Value of Exports from and Imports to Nova Scotia in 1828, distinguishing the several Countries, the number of Ships employed, and Tonnage.

	Ships.	Tonnage.	Great Britain.	West Indies.	British North America.	United States.	Brazil.	Foreign Europe.	Total Value.
Exports.	1,651	132,767	£ 37,860	£ 233,877	£ 166,514	£ 5,790	£ 24,850	£ 4,970	£ 473,861
Imports.	1,694	132,174	311,100	153,298	139,644	217,933	875	24,680	847,530

Quantities of Fish, Flour, and Salt exported and imported, 1828.

	Quintals of Dry Fish.	Barrels of Pickled Fish.	Barrels of Flour.	Hogsheads of Salt.
Exported .	175,128	40,526	26,721	..
Imported .	81,248	3,439	76,696	51,090

POPULATION.

The progress of the population of this province before the complete establishment of the British dominion was very slow and uncertain. Although the colony had been settled for a period of about one hundred and forty-four years, the Acadian, or French population, amounted in 1749 to no more than 18,000 souls. After the expulsion of this unfortunate people in 1755, the British population was numbered at 5,000. By an estimate made in 1764, the number of souls was 13,000, of whom 2,600 were Acadians, who had escaped the general expulsion, or returned to the province at the peace. It was estimated in 1772 at 19,100 souls, of whom 2,100 were Acadians, and 865 Indians. In consequence of the American Revolution it was reduced to 12,000 in 1781, but 20,000 American loyalists having arrived in 1784, the number in that year was computed to be 32,000, including New Brunswick and Cape Breton, which were until then included in the province of Nova Scotia, but were

about that time separated from it; the population within the limits of Nova Scotia, as it now stands, was estimated to be 20,400 souls. This population had increased in 1790 to 30,000 souls; from which time it steadily, and, in many instances, rapidly advanced. By a census taken in 1817, it was found to be 86,668 souls, and another census, taken with great care and accuracy in 1827, gave the results exhibited in the general statistical return of the province, made by the civil secretary 31st December, 1827.

The population of Cape Breton, about 20,000, is not included in this census; and if that amount be added to the returns of Nova Scotia, we shall have a population of 164,191 souls in 1827.

A statistical Return of the Province of Nova Scotia, 31st day of

COUNTY.		POPULATION.					RELIGION.								
		Number of Males in the county, exclusive of labourers or servants.	Number of Females in ditto, exclusive of Servants.	Number of Labourers, or Male Servants.	Number of Female Servants in ditto.	Total Number of Souls in the County.	Of the Church of			Methodists.	Baptists.	Lutherans.	Disenters from Establ. Church of England.	Ditto Scotland.	Universalists.
							England	Scotland	Rome.						
County of Halifax.	Peninsula of Halifax . .	5,546	6,466	1,321	1,106	14,439	6,021	2,900	3,627	1,164	680	..	..	..	..
	District of ditto . .	4,898	4,614	680	345	10,437	3,709	3,732	2,158	150	688	..	..	..	..
	District of Colchester . .	3,606	3,597	315	185	7,703	334	6,283	136	50	868	..	..	..	..
	District of Pictou . .	6,704	6,291	408	296	13,949	257	12,429	1,013	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hants County . .	3,901	3,692	610	415	8,627	1,956	2,722	599	1,590	1,753	..	..	..	..
	King's ditto . .	4,756	4,654	537	261	10,208	1,507	2,432	721	1,080	4,454	..	..	..	..
	Annapolis ditto . .	7,152	6,917	339	253	14,661	4,900	400	2,004	1,776	4,872	..	..	..	21
	Shelburne ditto . .	6,133	5,885	273	288	12,018	2,116	2,075	1,326	1,501	4,672	26	13	..	25
	Queen's ditto . .	1,936	1,915	251	123	4,225	865	217	183	1,253	411	45	1,241	..	9
	Lunenburg ditto . .	4,531	4,288	315	271	9,405	2,119	1,916	437	844	1,192	2,997	..	..	..
	Cumberland ditto . .	2,568	2,415	285	148	5,410	763	646	417	..	..	..	3,173	405	..
	Sydney ditto . .	6,255	5,775	431	222	12,760	4,107	1,473	7,180	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total . .	57,986	56,509	5,783	3,913	123,848	28,659	37,225	20,401	9,408	19,796	2,568	4,417	405	55

March 31st, 1828.

* This seems an error, as the addition of the numbers of males and females, including servants, gives the number found in our statement.

It is not easy to ascertain the increase of population derived from emigration as distinguished from the natural increase of the inhabitants. It is certain that natural increase has been very great in this province, and such as is only known in newly-settled countries, where the means of providing for a family are easily acquired. It is equally certain that there has been a considerable addition made to the population by immigration even before the last census, 1827, although this province partook less of the tide of emigration than the other North American colonies. The mass of the present inhabitants consist of natives, the descendants of the original emigrants from Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, New England, and the Acadians. The majority of the people in the eastern parts of the province, district of Pictou, and county of Sydney, are of Scotch descent, and are a most industrious and enterprising por-

December, 1827, not including the County of Cape Breton.

AGRICULTURE.																		
BIRTHS.						MARRIAGES.	DEATHS.	Land cultivated.	PRODUCE.				STOCK.					
Sandwich Islands.	Quakers.	Swedenborgians.	Jews.	Antislavery.	Unitarians.	Doubtful or professing no Religion.	No. of in the County during the year ending 30th Sept.	No. of Females married in the County during the same period.	No. of in the County during the same period, including Labourers.	Number of Acres of Land in cultivation in each County.	Number of Bushels of Wheat.	Number of Bushels of other Grain.	Number of Bushels of Potatoes.	Number of Tons of Hay.	Number of Horses.	Number of Horned Cattle.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Swine.
23	..	..	3	..	..	21	384	87	520	1020	122	4,105	23,601	2,101	399	458	39	493
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	370	105	157	13,440	5,298	28,212	189,041	10,852	1,081	7,130	8,720	3,673
..	..	..	..	..	..	32	334	38	77	29,135	18,644	64,073	292,235	16,756	1,440	10,177	12,713	6,912
..	..	..	..	..	..	250	501	79	115	49,181	38,198	98,561	302,659	11,750	1,609	11,701	21,128	12,945
..	..	..	..	..	..	7	330	95	362	37,531	18,520	45,328	227,948	19,977	2,486	9,475	14,063	5,927
..	14	..	..	..	..	..	339	71	115	34,150	25,668	65,100	538,903	25,386	1,789	12,580	18,574	8,232
..	75	3	..	..	..	10	435	65	100	22,174	5,410	26,309	385,478	21,549	1,351	13,872	27,042	6,804
..	60	..	..	..	4	..	635	129	124	17,499	445	9,062	308,250	12,293	319	10,039	20,752	5,986
..	2	..	..	9	..	..	153	26	77	5,630	1,362	3,476	52,817	3,517	163	2,436	2,737	1,941
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	331	78	123	13,476	3,117	33,146	334,163	10,577	202	8,978	11,238	5,331
..	7	..	..	..	..	..	243	46	49	29,308	14,152	34,076	269,897	13,790	1,264	8,266	11,576	5,533
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	508	126	89	39,465	21,919	33,173	368,228	15,794	848	15,706	24,349	7,705
23	158	3	3	9	4	320	4,563	945	1,908	292,009	152,861	449,626	3,298,220	168,212	12,951	110,818	173,731	71,482

RUPERT D. GEORGE.

tion of the population. The Germans were settled at Halifax, Lunenburg, and at Clement's, in the county of Annapolis; their descendants are numerous, but do not preserve any distinct character, as they have always mixed with the general mass of the inhabitants. The early New England settlers occupied the lands of the expelled Acadians about Annapolis and the shores of the Alpinas Basin, and the American loyalists were located all over the province; they very generally engaged in the lumber trade and the fisheries, and were a most active and industrious class of people. The descendants of those different people now form a population so mixed up together, that all distinctive characteristics are lost. Not so the Acadians; they settle together as much as possible, preserve their religion, language, and customs, and never intermarry with their protestant neighbours. As a people, they are moral, simple in their habits,

cheerful in their disposition, and although neither so intelligent perhaps or enterprising as the other inhabitants, are contented and happy; they are principally settled in the township of Clare, county of Annapolis, and Minudie, county of Cumberland. There are a few free blacks, who are principally employed as domestic and agricultural servants, but there are no slaves. There are a few Indians still in the province: in 1772 their number did not exceed 865 souls, and they have been since then on the decrease. Isolated from their red brethren of the continent, and living very much among the white inhabitants, they preserve but few of their Indian characteristics; they are an indolent race, addicted to drunkenness, and are seldom found steadily to adhere to industrious habits or pursuits. In a few years not a trace of this once numerous people, the original proprietors of the soil, will be found in this province; on the whole, the predominant character of the people is Anglo-American. They are generally tall; the men stout, muscular, active, hardy, enterprising, and ingenious; the women, well made, and possessing much feminine softness of manner. As the people live chiefly on their own farms, and rely on their own exertions for support, they have much manliness of character, and a singular aptness in acquiring a tolerable degree of skill in the more useful and common mechanical arts. A Nova Scotia farmer will not only cultivate his own farm, but build his own house, make his implements of husbandry, and even shoe his own horses. He is in a great many instances a sailor, and can build and navigate the vessel that conveys the produce of his own farm to market. The people are hospitable and civil in their manners. It may be remarked, that inn-keeping alone will not afford a subsistence in any part of the country out of Halifax.

There are several religious denominations in this province, all of whom enjoy the most complete toleration, and are subject to no disabilities whatever on account of religion. The number of each denomination was found, at the census of 1827, to be church of England, 28,659; of Scotland, 37,225; of Rome, 20,401; baptists, 19,790; methodists, and other protestant sects, 17,771. The church of England in this country is supported by the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign

Parts and by the British government. The clergy of this church consists of a bishop, styled Bishop of Nova Scotia, whose jurisdiction extends over New Brunswick, and the Bermudas,—and about thirty missionary clergymen, each of whom receives a salary of 200*l.*, one half from the crown, and one half from the society, which, with the proceeds of small glebes, parochial fees, &c. affords a tolerably comfortable maintenance. The churches have been built by subscription, aided also by funds from the crown and the society. Nova Scotia was erected into a bishopric in 1787. The bishop possesses no lay jurisdiction of any kind; his authority is confined to the superintendence of the church of England clergy within his diocese. The presbyterians have an independent provincial church government of their own, upon the model of the church of Scotland. The synod generally meets at Pictou, and contains about thirty members, who are dispersed over this province, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, and are supported by their respective congregations. The Roman catholics are under the control of a bishop, who resides at Antigonish; there are about twelve subordinate clergy, who are altogether supported by their respective congregations. The baptist clergy have an annual meeting, called an Association, wherein they arrange the general concerns of their church; but each baptist congregation is considered by them a distinct independent church, and as such chooses and supports its own clergyman. The number of the clergy of this denomination is scarcely sufficient to supply all the congregations. The methodists compose about one-half of the remaining sects; they have about twenty missionaries connected with this province and Prince Edward Island. This church is in all respects governed in the same manner as the methodist church in England, with which it is closely connected. Its ministers are supported by the people of their persuasion, assisted by the English Methodist Missionary Society. The other denominations, who are principally Lutherans, and what in England are known as Independents, are tolerably well supplied with ministers, each congregation supporting its own. Such is the good feeling that prevails, that it is not uncommon in this country to find the minister of one denomination officiating occasionally for and in the churches of another. The chapels belonging to all the different sects are numerous, and in many instances both com-

modious and handsome, bearing ample testimony in favour of the religious feeling of the country.

The education of the people is provided for as well as in any of the British-American colonies. There is an university, called King's College, at Windsor; Dalhousie College at Halifax; academies at Pictou, Annapolis, and Kentville; grammar-schools at Halifax, Windsor, Pictou, and Kentville. The Society for Propagating the Gospel supports between forty and fifty schoolmasters; and schools have been established in all the townships, aided by a very liberal pecuniary grant from the provincial legislature. The university of King's College was established by royal charter in 1802; it is enabled to confer the usual degrees. The Archbishop of Canterbury is patron; and the board of governors is composed of the lieutenant-governor of the province, the bishop, chief-justice, speaker of the House of Assembly, the attorney and the solicitor-general, and the president or principal of the university, all for the time being. There are four professors: one of Hebrew and divinity, one of moral science and metaphysics, one of mathematics, astronomy, and natural philosophy, and one of grammar, rhetoric, and logic. The students are eligible for matriculation at the age of fourteen, and the course occupies from four to seven years. There are twelve divinity scholarships, endowed by the Society for Propagating the Gospel, each enjoying 30*l.* per annum for seven years. There are also some scholarships on the foundation of less emolument. The college possesses a large well-selected library, and a valuable philosophical apparatus. Subordinate to the college, and under its control, is the collegiate school; the system of education is preparatory to that of the college, for which it is intended. There are twelve divinity scholarships, supported also by the society, who allow each 30*l.* per annum, and they may be held for seven years.

Dalhousie College (at Halifax) was incorporated in 1820; the system of education was framed upon the model of the university of Edinburgh. There are three professorships: one for the Greek and Latin classics, one for mathematics, natural and experimental philosophy, and one for theology and moral philosophy. The academy at Pictou was projected in 1804, and incorporated by charter in 1816; it was erected and supported by subscriptions among the presbyterians, for whose benefit it was prin-

cipally projected. The House of Assembly has voted 400*l.* annually for several years in aid of this institution. The course of education here includes the usual branches of academical instruction, and occupies four years. There are at present three professors. It possesses a small but valuable library, and has the best museum of natural history in Nova Scotia. The academy of Annapolis was established in 1827, partly by voluntary subscription, and partly by provincial aid. There are two distinct but connected schools—one devoted to the higher branches of classical education, the other confined to the elementary and higher branches usually taught in English schools.

CHAPTER V.

The Legislature—Courts of Law—Public Revenue—Sable Island.

THE legislature of the province is composed of a lieutenant-governor, a council, and an House of Assembly. The whole of British North America is generally comprised under one command, the captain-general, governor, and commander-in-chief, who resides at Quebec. The governors of the respective provinces are styled lieutenant-governors, and in their civil capacities are quite independent of the governor-general. The governor of Nova Scotia has the local rank of lieutenant-general, and is styled lieutenant-governor; commander-in-chief, chancellor, and vice-admiral of the province of Nova Scotia. The whole executive authority is vested in the governor: he summons, prorogues, and dissolves the council and general assembly; he appoints to all offices not disposed of by the crown; he can pardon all offenders but those guilty of treason and murder; he commands the army and militia, and presides in the Courts of Chancery and Error. Besides various fees and emoluments, he receives a handsome annual allowance or salary. In the event of the governor's death, the next senior member of council, not being the chief-justice, exercises all the functions of governor.

The legislative council consists of twelve members, appointed by mandamus from the king. In their legislative capacity they meet and deliberate as a distinct chamber or upper house, and conduct their proceedings as closely in imitation of the House of Lords as circumstances allow. They are also a council of state, or privy council to the governor, whose advice he is obliged to obtain and act upon in a great variety of cases. They form, with the governor, the Court of Error and the Ecclesiastical Court, in whose deliberations the governor has only a single voice; they are styled honourable, hold their office merely during the king's pleasure, and the governor can suspend them until the king's pleasure be signified. The House of Assembly resembles the British

House of Commons in its formation, powers, and mode of procedure as closely as the circumstances of the country permit. The members are elected exactly as in England, by freeholders possessing real estates in houses or lands of the annual value of 40s. The assembly continues for seven years, and must meet at least once a year, but may be dissolved or prorogued by the governor.

The number of members elected to the House of Assembly is forty-one: four for the county, and two for the town of Halifax; two for each of the other nine counties of Annapolis, Cumberland, Cape Breton, Hants, King's County, Lunenburg, Queen's County, Shelburne, and Sydney; and one for each of the following towns—Annapolis, Amherst, Barrington, Cornwallis, Digby, Falmouth, Granville, Horton, Liverpool, Londonderry, Lunenburg, Newport, Onslow, Shelburne, Truro, Windsor, and Yarmouth. The legislature meets generally in winter, and continues in session from six to twelve weeks, and the debates are often conducted with ability and spirit. Every law in this province must have received the concurrent assent of the House of Assembly, of the council, and of the governor, before it can be enforced; and each may dissent from any law or bill proposed or approved of by the others. Upon any bill passing the house and council, and receiving the assent of the governor, it immediately operates in the province; but to make it a permanent law it must be submitted to the king in council, who may confirm or disallow it. In the event of its being disallowed by the king, or *not* confirmed within three years from the time of its enactment, it becomes void.

The courts of law are, the Court of Chancery, of which the governor is sole judge, by virtue of his office, but where the Master of the Rolls, always a professional man, sits as judge in lieu of the governor. The powers of this court are, within the colony, the same as those of the Court of Chancery in England, and its proceedings similar in form. An appeal lies from this court to the king in council. The Court of Error is composed of the governor and council. An appeal lies from all the inferior courts to this, and from this to the king in council. The subject-matter of the appeal, in the former instance, must exceed 300*l.* in value, and in the latter 500*l.* The Supreme Court is invested with

the powers of the King's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer. It is composed of a chief and three puisne judges, and a circuit associate. The jurisdiction of the court is both criminal and civil, and extends over the whole province, including Cape Breton; it holds four terms in the year at Halifax. The whole province is divided into four circuits, Cape Breton being one, into which the judges go and hold courts of assize, &c. The practitioners in this court unite the business of barrister and attorney. The inferior courts are courts of common pleas in each county, having jurisdiction in all civil matters under the value of 5*l*. There are three distinct commissioners, or judges, each of whom holds a distinct court in every county within his circuit, the province being divided into three circuits for that purpose. The process and course of practice are similar to those of the Supreme Court. The process issued by the courts of the province is of the same nature and operation as the process of the courts at Westminster; besides which there is a peculiar process affecting absent or absconding debtors, by which their property in the colony is attached, and unless security be given, is sold for the benefit of the creditor. There are also courts of general and quarter sessions, similar in all respects to such courts in England, held in each county; and in every township small debts are recoverable before courts consisting of one or more justices of the peace. The governor, being ordinary of the province by virtue of his office, appoints surrogates in the several counties, by whose probates letters of administration, &c. are granted.

The statute of distribution in Nova Scotia is different from the same statute in England, in so far that the real estate is divided into shares, according to the number of children, and the eldest son takes only *two* of such shares. The reason for this alteration of the law of the mother country is, that in a new country the improvement of the landed estate is likely to absorb the whole personal property of the proprietor, and that if it went to the eldest son, there would be no provision for the other children; on this ground it was that this law, which prevailed in all the English-American colonies, was approved of by the king in council.

There is also a Vice-Admiralty Court at Halifax. This court has the usual admiralty civil jurisdiction. It has also a peculiar revenue jurisdiction, and in time of war a prize jurisdiction: the duties of judge

are at present performed by the chief-justice of the Supreme Court. There are sheriffs and justices of the peace in all the counties, both appointed exactly as such officers are in England.

From this sketch it will appear that the government and institutions of this province are in all respects as similar to those of England as the nature and circumstances of a new country will allow; the unrivalled constitution of the mother country being the grand model by which the institutions of this minor, but not unimportant portion of her dependencies have been framed and established.

The provincial revenue is not very large, nor are the demands upon it very considerable. It consists principally of custom and excise duties, trifling in amount, and by no means onerous to the colonists. The whole is applied to provincial purposes, the greater part in the making of roads, bridges, &c., and a considerable sum in promoting education. There is a custom-house establishment at Halifax, which, considering the nature of its duties, and the amount of revenue collected, is remarkably elegant. The gross amount of the customs in the year 1827 was, 25,416*l.*, out of which a sum of 8,890*l.* was deducted for the fees and salaries of the custom-house officers. The collector at Halifax has, in salary and fees, 2,000*l.* and the comptroller 1,000*l.* a year. The receipt and expenditure of the provincial revenue for the year 1828 were as follows:

<i>Received.</i>				<i>Paid.</i>			
	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Excise duties . . .	35,099	17	10½	Government department . . .	2,762	16	11
Customs ditto . . .	18,000	0	0	Legislature . . .	3,026	0	0
Light ditto . . .	1,313	9	6	Judicature . . .	5,150	18	6
Sundries . . .	762	16	4	Revenue . . .	1,511	19	7
				Militia . . .	2,156	18	9
				Navigation . . .	3,179	15	2
				Road service . . .	29,762	6	3
				Education . . .	3,347	3	2½
				Miscellanies . . .	8,853	13	0½
	55,176	3	8½		59,751	10	7

The difference was paid from a balance remaining in hand from the prior year*.

* For a great part of the valuable details conveyed in this and the preceding chapter we are indebted to the lucid, accurate, and comprehensive labours of Mr. Halliburton, which we are most happy here, as elsewhere, to acknowledge.

ISLE OF SABLE.

Sable Island, or *Isle aux Sables*, although distant eighty-five miles from Nova Scotia, is considered as belonging to that province. The west end of the island lies in latitude $43^{\circ} 56' 42''$ north, and longitude $60^{\circ} 17' 15''$ west, and the east end in latitude $43^{\circ} 59' 5''$ and longitude $59^{\circ} 42''$; it is about thirty miles in length and fifteen in breadth. It consists entirely of an accumulation of loose white sand, utterly barren, producing neither tree nor shrub. It lies in the direct track of vessels bound to and from Europe, and upon it very many have been wrecked, and numerous lives lost. An establishment was formed in 1804 upon this island for the purpose of assisting persons wrecked: it consists of a superintendant and about ten assistants, who constantly reside on the island, and have in charge a competent supply of such articles as would be useful in cases of shipwreck. The establishment was maintained by the province of Nova Scotia from 1804 to 1827 at an annual expense of about 500*l.*; but in the latter year the British government undertook to add a further sum equal to that voted by the province, whereby the establishment has been enlarged, and its usefulness very much increased. The superintendant and his assistants continually perambulate the island. There are several signal-posts and flag-staffs to direct vessels, and huts to shelter the sufferers. The island is regularly visited to convey supplies, and bring away those who may have been thrown upon its shores. The supply of stores and provisions is always abundant, so that 300 persons at once upon the island have been liberally subsisted and supplied with all necessities. There never were any inhabitants on the island but those connected with the establishment. The only native animals to be met with are some wild horses, whose flesh has been occasionally found a providential substitute for better food; a few seals are caught upon the shore. The coast is exceedingly dangerous, and almost every where surrounded with breakers.

CHAPTER VI.

CAPE BRETON—Situation—Extent—Divisions—Harbours—Soil—Settlements.

THE island of CAPE BRETON constitutes a county of the province of Nova Scotia. Its extent is equal to about one-fourth of that of Nova Scotia Proper, and its population bears nearly the same proportion, yet it returns only two members to the provincial House of Assembly for the whole county. This island, formerly called by the French when they held it L'Isle Royale, forms with Newfoundland the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and is situated between the latitudes $45^{\circ} 27'$ and $47^{\circ} 5'$ north, including the islands of Madame, Scahari, Boulardrie, St. Paul's, and minor islands, and longitude $59^{\circ} 38'$ and $61^{\circ} 50'$ west; its greatest length north-east and south-west being about 100 miles, and the greatest width from south-east to north-west about eighty miles, comprising an area of about 2,000,000 acres, exclusive of the great masses of water contained within it. It is distant from the south-western extremity of Newfoundland about sixteen leagues, and is divided from Nova Scotia by St. George's Bay and the Gut of Canseau, twenty-one miles in length, and varying from one mile to one and a half in width. Its shape is nearly triangular, indented with many deep bays, and nearly separated by the waters of the Bras d'Or into two natural divisions; the one to the north being high, bold, and steep; the other to the south, low, and intersected by water; diversified with moderate elevations, and gradually rising from the interior shore of the Bras d'Or, until it presents abrupt cliffs towards the ocean. There are not any mountains, properly so called, in the island; the highest ridges in the southern division do not perhaps exceed an altitude of 600 feet. The highlands in the northern division are more elevated, bolder, and continuous; but even there the supposed highest point, Smoky Cape, does not probably exceed five hundred yards. There are several fresh water lakes, some of which are of no inconsiderable magnitude. The largest are Lake Marguerite, in the northern division,

about forty miles in circumference, and the Grand River and Mire Lakes in the southern division; besides several others, differing in size and shape, and scattered all over the island. The rivers, or rather rivulets and brooks, are numerous, but small, and not navigable. The whole coast of the southern division is broken into harbours, many of them of great depth and magnitude; but the northern coast does not afford nearly so many. The principal harbours for vessels of burden are the Bras d'Or, with its innumerable minor harbours, Sydney, Louisburg, Arichat, Basin of Inhabitants, Ship Harbour in Canseau Strait, Port Hood, and St. Anne's; besides several others of less importance.

The Bras d'Or is a vast internal sea, occupying a considerable portion of the area of Cape Breton, intersecting with its numerous arms every part of it, and dividing it almost into two islands. The entrance is on the eastern side of the island, facing Newfoundland, and it is divided into two passages by Boulardrie Island. The southern passage is called Little Bras d'Or; the northern passage, Great Bras d'Or; and the large sheet of inland waters itself, Bras d'Or, or the Great Lake. A sunken bar at the mouth of the Little Bras d'Or renders it unnavigable for vessels of heavy burden, and it is therefore never used. It is about twenty-three miles in length, and from a quarter of a mile to three miles wide. The Great Bras d'Or has no impediment to its navigation; it has above sixty fathom water, is from two to three miles wide, and about twenty-five miles in length: when at the head of Boulardrie Island it is joined by the Little Bras d'Or, and a few miles further on enters the Great Lake through the Straits of Barra. The Great Bras d'Or, before its junction with the Little one, or with the lake, communicates with, or rather sends its waters into the interior, forming several excellent harbours to the north-west of the Great Lake. The first is Bedeque Bay, and farther on a fine sheet of water called Whycocomagh Basin, upwards of forty miles from the main sea, and where the timber ships from England usually load. After passing the Straits of Barra the Great Lake sends off a number of branches. On the northern side the first is Brooklesby Bay, which runs to within half a mile of Whycocomagh Bay; next is the River Denys Basin, six miles long, and two broad, with numerous smaller branches, in which also the timber vessels

load; next follows St. George's Channel, which is six miles wide at its opening, is filled with creeks and inlets, and runs up, towards the Gut of Canseau side of the island, fifteen miles. On the southern shore the centre proceeds south-westerly through a number of small islands to the isthmus of St. Peter; thence again north-easterly, it makes a course of thirty-one miles to the head of East Bay, or St. Andrew's Channel, terminating in the Barrasoi, or Lagoon of Tweednooge, (this bay is eighteen miles in length); from the north-eastern point of which at Benakady, it is five miles to the Straits of Barra, on which terminates the circuit of the Bras d'Or. From the entrance of the Great Bras d'Or to the head of the Great Lake at St. Peter's is above fifty miles in a straight course, and its greatest width about twenty miles. The depth varies from twelve to sixty fathoms, and it is every where secure and navigable. This extensive sheet of internal waters is of peculiar advantage to the island, for, exclusive of the fishery, which is carried on there to a considerable extent, it spreads out into such an extensive and ramified navigation, as to afford every part of the island the benefit of water communication, and enables every district, almost every farm, to ship its own produce without the intervention of land carriage.

The Isthmus of St. Peter, which divides the waters of the Bras d'Or from the Atlantic Ocean at St. Peter's Bay, is so narrow that a canal could be easily made between the two waters for ship navigation. The ground has been examined and surveyed by an eminent engineer, who has reported upon the complete practicability of such a work, and has estimated the expense at no more than 17,150*l*. The whole length of the canal required, would not exceed 3,000 feet. The principal part of the expense would be the necessary works at the points of communication with both seas.

The soil of Cape Breton is considered quite equal to that of Nova Scotia, or any of the neighbouring countries. There is no dike land, such as is found in Nova Scotia, but the upland is of an excellent quality, and very productive; the increase of wheat on new land being in general ten or twelve fold. It is found capable of producing wheat, barley, oats, maize, potatoes, turnips, buckwheat, peas, beans, &c. It has been before remarked, that the area of the island comprises about

2,000,000 acres, exclusive of the great salt waters. Of this, 685,640 acres were granted away to settlers by the crown up to the year 1821; of the remainder, about 800,000 acres are supposed to be contained in the small lakes, hills, barrens, and swamps, leaving about 500,000 acres of land fit for cultivation undisposed of and distributed in several parts of the island. The greater part of the disposable land lies in the interior of the northern division of the island, between the gulf shore and the Bras d'Or waters. In the section of country between Port Hood, Whycocomagh, the Rivers St. Denis and Inhabitants, the Bras d'Or and the Gulf Shore, it is estimated that there are about 120,000 acres of good upland, fit for settlement; and in the north-eastern peninsula, from St. Anne's Bay on the one side and Lake Marguerite on the other to Cape St. Lawrence, there are supposed to be about 150,000 acres more. In the southern division through its whole length, from St. Peter's on the west to Sydney on the east, in the interior, including the lands on the Grand-River Lake and Mire Lake, there are supposed to be no less than 200,000 acres of good land undisposed of; besides which there are several other smaller portions scattered through the island.

The Island of Cape Breton, as has been before observed, is naturally divided by the Bras d'Or Lake into two parts, the northern and the southern. As a county, it has been divided into three districts—the north-eastern, north-western, and southern, without any respect to its natural divisions. The north-eastern district has been subdivided into the townships of Sydney, St. Andrew's, and St. Patrick; and the north-western district into the townships of Canseau, Port Hood, Ainslie, and Marguerite; the southern district, being by much the smallest of the three, has not been as yet subdivided into townships. In describing the country, we shall adhere to the natural divisions.

Sydney is the shire town and capital of the island, and a free port. It is situated on the harbour of that name, on the eastern coast of the southern division of the island. The courts of justice and public offices are kept here, and here also the principal officers of the island reside. It contains about sixty houses, besides a government-house, government-stores and barracks, a court-house; likewise episcopal, Roman catholic, and dissenting churches. The streets are regularly laid out, the houses tolerably

good, and the grounds in the vicinity cultivated with some taste, so that on the whole it presents a pleasing appearance. The population is about 500 souls. The harbour is one of the most capacious and secure in the provinces; it is two miles wide at its entrance, four miles above which it diverges into two extensive arms, upon one of which, about seven miles from the sea, the town of Sydney is built, on a peninsula affording abundant suitable situations for wharfs, dock-yards, &c. The surrounding country is one of the finest agricultural tracts in the island: the advantages for carrying on the fishery are excellent. The principal coal-works are carried on in the neighbourhood, where useful timber abounds. The vicinity of these works must eventually render Sydney a place of considerable importance.

All the settlements in Cape Breton have been made on the shores of the Atlantic, of the Gulf, and of the Bras d'Or. None have as yet been made to any considerable distance in the interior; and all the points on those shores fit for settlement are occupied. The line of coast from the Bras d'Or to Cow Bay may be called the coal coast, the whole range being faced with cliffs streaked with veins of that mineral.

The principal settlement is Sydney. There are several other small settlements along the shore, upon Lingen Bay, Windham River or Glace Bay, and Cow Bay, all of which have bars at their entrance, and are shoal harbours; but the adjacent lands are very fertile, and abound with fine timber. The settlers, consisting principally of the descendants of American loyalists, Scotch, and Irish, are industrious and comfortable. Miray Bay is a large arm of the sea into which falls the River Miray. This river, or rather succession of narrow lakes, has its source about forty miles in the interior, but its entrance being obstructed by a bar, its navigation does not afford all those advantages that otherwise belong to it: the lands upon it and around the bay are good, but the soil light: the best portion of it, consisting of about 100,000 acres, although granted some years ago to 100 individuals, has never been settled on or improved. There are several settlements on the bay, wherein agricultural operations are not considered as secondary to the fisheries. Beyond Miray Bay lies the small harbour of Menadon, or Main-à-dieu, on which is a settlement of active fishermen, who are also engaged in the coal and coasting trade from

Sydney to Halifax: this is one of the busiest and most thriving settlements in this part of the coast. Opposite this place is the island of Scatari, the easternmost dependance of Cape Breton; and Port Novy Land, or Cape Breton, from which the island has been named, the most easterly point of Breton Island itself. The once-famed harbour of Louisburg is utterly deserted; although capacious and secure, no settlement has been made upon it since the destruction of the town; and what was once, if not the largest, certainly the most splendid town of La Nouvelle France, is now without an inhabitant. Beyond Louisburg the deep bay of Gabarus opens; and from thence to St. Esprit there are three or four small fishing inlets. The tract of country from Miray to St. Esprit is of inferior quality, destitute of timber, barren, and hilly; and with the exception of a fine tract here and there, unfit for settlement, and uninhabited. At St. Esprit the country again improves; and upon the banks of the Grand River, and the chain of lakes out of which it issues, the soil is of an excellent quality, and is now being settled by Scottish emigrants.

From Grand River to the Gut of Canseau, the whole shore, including the Isle Madame, is of the same general character; it is indented by a great number of small coves and inlets, and occupied by Acadians, who are chiefly employed in the fisheries. The land on the whole of this part of the coast is of superior quality, and the settlements are populous and thriving. These are principally situated at Ardoise, River Tillard, River Bourgeois, False Bay, Grand Anse, the inlets on the northern shore of Lenox Passage (itself a harbour of great extent, separating Isle Madame from the main land), Inhabitants River, and Caribacou Cove, where this series of Acadian settlements terminates. A number of Scotchmen have settled at the upper end of Grand Anse Bay, and are chiefly engaged in agriculture, the land being very good; but the Acadians whom we have just mentioned devote themselves almost exclusively to the fisheries and the coasting trade. Both sides of Inhabitants River, which runs parallel with the Gut of Canseau for nearly fifteen miles, are settled nearly down to its mouth, and also across to the shore of the Bras d'Or Lake, and in the direction of the River St. Denis.

The Isle Madame, separated from the main land of Cape Breton by St. Peter's Bay and Lennox Passage, is about sixteen miles in length

and five in breadth, indented with numerous harbours, and possessing a tolerably good soil. . It is situated near to the Atlantic side of the Gut of Canseau, and peculiarly calculated for prosecuting the fishery. The principal port is Arichat*, now, and for many years past, the seat and centre of the fishing establishments of the Jersey merchants, who export their produce hence to the West Indies, the Mediterranean, and the Brazils. It is a fine harbour, accessible at all times. The town is situate on the harbour, and is fast increasing in size, appearance, and population, and is the most important commercial port of Cape Breton.

The Bras d'Or shore of the southern division of the island is settled more or less along its whole length, commencing at that part of the Grand Lake called St. George's Channel, and bending round to St. Peter's; there are settlements every where, principally composed of Scottish highlanders, formed at various periods since 1800; and from St. Peter's, the coast, to the head of St. Andrew's Bay at Tweednooge, and thence again on the north side of that bay down to Benakady, the same settlements are continued along the shore, but do not in general penetrate far inland. To give a general idea of the settlements on this southern division of the island, it may be observed, that from the Little Bras d'Or to Miray Bay on the eastern shore, and thence to the Grand River on the southern shore, the settlements are scattered along the coast at every available part, the population being composed of English, Irish, Scotch, and American loyalists, mixed together, who are equally engaged in agricultural pursuits as in the fishery; that from Grand River the whole western coast to Caribacou on the Gut of Canseau, the settlements are all composed of Acadians, engaged principally in the fishery, coasting, and boat-building; and that the Bras d'Or coast is occupied by Scotch settlements, whose population is certainly agricultural, though partially engaged in the fisheries.

The northern natural division of the island commences at Ship Harbour, on the Gut of Canseau, from which to Port Hood there is no con-

Some years back I sailed from Quebec to Arichat, and thence to Halifax, in a small schooner which belonged to the former port, and was somewhat peculiarly circumstanced: she was called the *Mother*, was commanded by the *father*, and navigated by his *three sons*; on her next voyage she was wrecked, and the whole family unfortunately perished.

siderable harbour, although there are several inlets. The land on the whole of this coast is good, and thickly settled by Scottish emigrants, who have extended themselves four or five miles inland all the way, and are employed in agriculture. Port Hood is a spacious, safe harbour, fit for the largest vessels, and is the most important place in the northern division. The courts, &c. are held here, and it carries on a considerable trade in agricultural produce to Newfoundland. From Port Hood to Marguerite, on the Gulf Shore, the same line of Scottish agricultural settlements continues upwards of thirty miles along shore, and extends some distance back towards the interior. These form the largest series of continued settlements in the island. The coast is high and bold; there are no harbours except that of Mabou, which admits only small vessels. Lake Marguerite lies between the Gulf Shore and the Bras d'Or, from which Salmon River runs into Port Marguerite. The land on both sides of this river for several miles, and along the coast northward for sixteen miles more, as far as Chetecan, the most northern settlement on this shore, is entirely settled by Acadians. These people, although necessarily agricultural, still devote much attention to the fishery. There is a considerable village at Marguerite, and the Jersey markets have an establishment at Chetecan, in both of which places a considerable trade is carried on.

Returning to the Bras d'Or coast of this northern division of the island, the next considerable places of settlement after St. George's Bay are the Basin and River Denis and Brooklesby Inlet; the former is a noble harbour, where the timber-ships load, and where a ship-yard is established, wherein good ships have been built for British owners. The whole coast is settled by Scotch emigrants. The land is every where fit for agriculture; and as the settlements do not extend far back from the shores, there is yet a considerable quantity of disposable land in these districts. The same observations apply, in short, to the whole coast—on the Straits of Barra, from Whycocomagh Basin, Bernakady Bay, and the numerous creeks, inlets, and rivers branching out from and falling into them, the land is every where of good quality, agricultural settlements are very frequent, and their population is fast increasing in numbers and wealth. Without the Bras d'Or, is St. Anne's Bay, by the French called Port Dauphin. This is a fine harbour, about eight miles

in length and three in width, and afterwards branching out into two extensive arms. The whole country around the bay is settled by Scottish emigrants, whose chief employment is agriculture, as well as the fishery. The settlements on this bay, though founded scarcely ten years ago, are now amongst the most flourishing in the island, and the population marked for its industrious habits. The only settlements on this coast farther north are the Niganish Bay and at Aspey Bay, where there are a few families engaged in the fishery. With the exception of these settlements, the northern division of the island, from St. Anne's Harbour on one side and Cheticamp on the other, to Cape North, is wholly unoccupied, and little known, but it is represented as containing a considerable quantity of good land perfectly adapted for settlement. At this, its northern extremity, the island is only eight miles in width from Cape St. Laurent to Cape North. The shore between these capes forms a crescent, and the land sloping down to the shores of the bay is represented as possessing an excellent soil.

The island of Cape Breton, forming the eastern barrier of the gulf of St. Lawrence, commands the usual, and indeed (with the exception of the circuitous route of the Straits of Belleisle) the only access from the Atlantic by the Gut of Canseau on the south, and the passage between this island and Newfoundland on the north. It is, in fact, from its relative situation, the key of the Gulf of St. Lawrence; and being provided with excellent harbours, the naval power in possession of it will be the arbiters of the commerce of the Canadas, Prince Edward Island, and all the coast bounding that gulf.

CHAPTER VII.

Climate—Mines—Resources—Population—Agriculture—Fisheries—Trade.

THE climate of Cape Breton is very similar to that of Nova Scotia, and is considered by the inhabitants to be quite as conducive to health and favourable to agricultural pursuits as that of any of the British-American provinces. The winter lasts from the beginning of November to the end of April. The cold is sometimes intense, and has been known at thirty-two degrees below zero; $\frac{0}{20}$ is not uncommon, but the fluctuations are more frequent than on the continent; a partial thaw generally takes place every day, and the mercury, often, below zero in the morning, rises to sixty or seventy at noon. Frequent thaws of a fortnight's continuance are experienced in the winter, followed by renewed frost and snow, vicissitudes which render that season perhaps more disagreeable here than on the continental provinces. The summer months are usually dry and warm on the eastern coast, but rather moist on the western; fogs do not prevail in the eastern and northern parts of the island, but along the western and southern coasts they are more common. The mean heat in summer is about 80° in the shade, but it often increases to ninety-six (in the shade) and 120° in the sun. The spring, as in all cold countries, is short—the summer intensely hot—vegetation rapid—and autumnal maturity quickly succeeds; thus are three seasons all included between May and October. Planting and sowing take place in May—flowers are out in June—fruits in July—reaping engrosses August and September—all must be safe in October. On the whole the climate of Cape Breton is somewhat colder in winter and hotter in summer, more irregular, and therefore less pleasant than that of the neighbouring peninsula and provinces, although perhaps quite as favourable generally to health and agricultural productions.

The natural productions of this island are in all respects similar to those of Nova Scotia. The timber on the island is of a sturdy growth, and differs but little in its varieties and character from that of Nova Scotia; and it is every where very plentiful, and within reach of places of shipment.

The coal found in Cape Breton is of the best quality; a specimen has been carefully analysed, and found to contain only three-quarters of an unit per cent. of extraneous substance. Coal is traced in the western part of the island, on Inhabitants River, at Port Hood, and at Mabou. This field has never been worked or examined, but the indications are decided and numerous. The eastern, or Sydney coal field, is very extensive: it commences at Miray Bay, and follows the course of the shore all round to the Great Bras d'Or, being in length about forty miles, and averaging five miles in width. From a minute calculation, after deducting harbours, bays, and all other interpositions, it appears that there are 120 square miles of land containing available veins of coal. It is supposed the veins in many places run out into the sea ten miles from the shore. There are fourteen distinct veins, one over another, varying from three to eleven feet in thickness; and there are extensive works now carried on at Sydney Harbour and at Lingan by the lessees of the late Duke of York, Messrs. Rundell and Bridge. Gypsum is found in almost all parts of the island. In the Island of Boularderie it forms a cliff several miles in length, where large vessels may take it in. It is found at Bedique, at Whycocomagh on the River Denn, or Denis, at Barra Straits, at St. Anne's Harbour, at Aspey Bay, at Cape North, and at Plaiter Cove on the Gut of Canseau, where great quantities have been annually exported. It is every where of the very best description, and may be conveyed immediately from the quarries on shipboard.

Several salt springs have been discovered; the principal at Bedeque, at Wagamatcook, at Whycocomagh, and other places on the Bras d'Or Lake. They vary in strength, producing from six to twelve per cent. of salt. Situated in the heart of the best fisheries of North America, and where coal is so abundant, the manufacture of salt promises to become hereafter a most valuable source of wealth to the colony.

Iron ore abounds every where in the coal field about Lingan, Sydney, &c., and at Cape North and Aspey Bay: specimens from the latter place have yielded sixty per cent. of pure metal.

The natural riches of this island seem to consist preeminently in its fisheries. There is no place along the coasts of America, with the exception of Newfoundland, where the fish is so abundant and so good, or which is so well adapted for taking and curing it. The fish, consisting of those varieties taken in Newfoundland—cod, herrings, mackarel, &c. swarm on the whole coast, and in all the harbours, exterior and interior. In fact, every farmer and settler in Cape Breton may, and in general does, become as much a fisherman as an agriculturist, uniting the two profitable occupations, drawing wealth alike from the land and the ocean.

The population of Cape Breton is, like that of Nova Scotia, a good deal mixed, being composed of Acadians, and people of Scottish, Irish, English, and Arminian origin. The most numerous are the Scotch, who spring principally from the Highlands. The Irish do not permanently settle in any considerable numbers, and the inhabitants of English descent are few. Next to the Scottish, the Acadians are the most numerous class; they are industrious and active, principally employed in the fisheries, preserving, but not in so marked a manner as in Nova Scotia, their own language, customs, and religion. The settlers from Scotland and of Scottish descent are equally noted for industry, uniting more than the Acadians do the occupations of farming and lumbering with the fishery. All the Acadians and the greater number of the Scottish are Roman catholics. Presbyterians are few in number, nor are the members of the church of England at all numerous. There is no public provision made to support the clergy of any denomination, and therefore every sect provides for its own pastors. From the absence hitherto of competent schools, there being merely one or two at Sydney and at Arichat, the native part of the population have been almost wholly without the means of becoming educated, and the population on the whole may be considered therefore as very badly provided with the means of acquiring even the first rudiments of education. The number of the inhabitants has been lately estimated as high as 30,000: in 1814 it was, upon a census taken that

year, rated at 8,000 : it therefore appears to have more than trebled itself in about sixteen years. There are about 300 Indians still remaining in Cape Breton, which are included in the above-stated population : they are scattered on five small tracts of land reserved for them, upon which they grow maize and potatoes ; some of them possess cattle, but their principal employment is hunting and fishing. They are generally stationary during the winter, remaining at their settlements ; in the summer they wander along the shores, and skirt the inland waters of the island. All the distinctive traits of Indian character are softened down or lost, and they are a quiet, temperate race.

This island having been annexed to Nova Scotia in 1820, the government, laws, &c. are of course the same as in that colony. Indeed the laws and ordinances of Nova Scotia were, by an express act of the provincial legislature, extended to Cape Breton. It was erected into a county, and now sends two members to the House of Assembly ; a number certainly not commensurate with its relative extent, population, wealth, and importance, in all which respects this island is probably equal to one-fifth of the whole colony, while its share of representation in the legislature is scarcely in the proportion of one-twentieth.

There existed a small revenue, arising from a duty of one shilling per gallon on imported spirituous liquors, collected before the island was annexed to Nova Scotia, which had been expended in local improvements, &c. That revenue, which continues to be exacted since the union, amounts to about four or five thousand pounds per annum, which sum is applied generally to the domestic purposes of the colony.

Agriculture is here quite in its infancy, and there are few persons whose pursuits are confined to that object, and none but the settlers who labour on their own lands find it answer at all. The soil, productions, and seasons are similar to those of Nova Scotia, and the system of farming less perfect, bears still a close analogy to that of the peninsula. The expense of clearing new land is about three pounds per acre, not including buildings of any kind. The wages of labour from twenty to thirty pounds per annum, besides board and lodging. Wheat is not very generally grown, but oats and potatoes are raised to a considerable extent, so

as indeed to afford a surplus of both for exportation. Live stock thrives as well as in the neighbouring colonies, and also affords a moderate surplus for export.

The colonists build all their own vessels in Cape Breton, and a few ships are annually built there for British owners. The number of registered vessels belonging to the island in 1828 was 340, varying from 30 to 200 tons; the average about fifty tons each. About fifty square-rigged vessels are built every year, besides schooners, shallops, and boats; the whole number of all descriptions is estimated at about 1,500.

The trade of the island is quite in its infancy: fish is the staple article of export. The principal establishments are at Arichat, Ship Harbour, Ardoise, Sydney, Menadon, St. Anne's, Marguerite, and Chetamp. The mode generally is for the merchant to supply the fisherman with all necessaries, and take the fish in payment. The quantity of fish exported in 1828 amounted to 41,060 quintals of dried, and 18,000 barrels of pickled fish. Coal forms, next to fish, the largest article of export. The mines were for a long time worked on the part of the government; but since their occupation by Messrs. Rundell and Bridge, the quantity raised and exported has been very considerably increased, and will be still more so: from 15 to 20,000 chaldrons are annually exported, principally to Halifax and the United States. The timber trade is not so active as it has been; the facilities for shipping it are decidedly greater than in any of the continental provinces, and the quality of the timber itself is not inferior to any; yet there are not more than twenty to thirty cargoes annually exported. The export of gypsum has also declined, but not from any want or difficulty in the supply, for, as before observed, it is found in vast quantities, of the choicest quality, and can be shipped with the greatest facility. There is a partial export of agricultural produce, live stock, potatoes, oats, butter, cheese, and some beef and pork, principally to Newfoundland.

The principal imports consist of flour, rum, molasses, and British manufactures. This trade, both export and import, is carried on with the British North American colonies, Great Britain, and the West Indies. The amount and value in 1828 were as follows:

Exports.

Dry Fish	41,000 quintals.	Value of Exports to Great Britain .	£ 7,500
Pickled ditto	18,000 barrels.	British America	55,000
Coals	10,000 chaldrons.	West Indies	5,500
Potatoes	12,000 bushels.	United States	1,000
Oats	5,000 ditto.	Other places	10,000
Train Oil	2,200 barrels.		
Live Stock	700 head.	Total value of Exports	79,000
Timber	10,000 load.		

Imports.

Flour	40,000 barrels.	Value of Imports from Great Britain .	£ 22,000
Rum	40,000 gallons.	British America	50,000
Molasses	30,000 ditto.	West Indies	3,500
British manufactures		Sundries	500
		Total value of Imports	76,000

Showing a balance of trade in favour of the island.

Sydney was declared a free port in 1828, a circumstance which will no doubt be of infinite advantage to the development of the resources, and increasing the trade and wealth of the island.

About ten miles north-east from Cape North lies the Island of St. Paul, a barren precipitous rock, upon which numerous ships have been wrecked, and thousands of lives lost. From the high importance that attaches to this island for navigators, it is expedient to insert the following important reports, made and grounded on the information of gentlemen of science and experience.

“ H. M. Sloop Columbine.

“ Halifax, 20th October, 1829.

“ SIR,

“ I have the honour to represent to you, that having landed on the Island of St. Paul's on the 16th instant, in order to determine its geographical position, assisted by Mr. Jauncey, admiralty mate, with a reflecting circle, sextant artificial horizon of quicksilver, and chronometer, No. 102, being compared with our standard on board, that it lies in lat. 47° 12' 38" north, and long. 60° 11' 24" west of Greenwich. It being the most ad-

vantageous place in my opinion of all others in or about this great thoroughfare of shipping to erect a light-house, I was very particular in examining its local situation, whether a landing could be conveniently effected so as to supply a light-house with stores, &c. In standing close to its north-west and north-east sides in the ship, where we had been led to believe there was an anchorage, we had no bottom, with seventeen fathoms, at a distance of two cables' length from shore: but it has two coves, one on the north-east and the other on the north-west side; there is no possibility of landing at the former, the rocks being perpendicular, but at the north-west cove, which is an indent of about two cables' length, and about three cables' length broad, there is a shelter for small vessels, with the wind from south-west southerly to north-east, in ten fathoms, at two cables' length from shore (then Cape Breton will appear over the west side of the cove), the depth gradually lessening to five fathoms close to the rocks. At the north-east side of this cove there is a small creek, large enough for a line-of-battle ship's launch (a vessel about ten tons), to lie well sheltered, where stores could be landed whenever a vessel could show herself off this side of the island. The surface of the hills is covered with stunted firs, and between them are patches of fioron grass, which would feed cattle. The great mass of the island is composed of floetz stone (the stratum vertical), which seems to crumble away, and not very good for building; but there are here and there veins of red gæise or granite, from six to ten feet broad, running across the island from north to south. At the head of the north-west cove is a fine run of fresh water. In approaching the island from south-east and north-west, it appears in three hills, the highest being in the middle. At the head of the north-west cove, and about half a mile north-east from the middle hill, and near the brook of fresh water, is the spot where we took our astronomical observations. On the top of this hill is the site I humbly recommend to have a light-house built, its elevation being 229 feet above the level of the sea by our measurement; therefore a light-house 100 feet high could be seen over the other hills and from every direction, and ships could run boldly for it, and never could pass on either side in the fair way without seeing it. A light-house in this island would also answer to distinguish it from the neighbouring land during snow storms