

THE LAND
OF
THE MAYFLOWER:

OR,
THE PAST AND PRESENT OF NOVA SCOTIA,

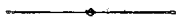
CONTRASTED;

WITH

A GLANCE AT THE PROBABLE FUTURE.

BY

J. WILLOUGHBY.



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Dedication.

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T O

THE REV. ALEXANDER FORRESTER, D.D.,

WHOSE COMMANDING TALENTS AND POWERFUL ENERGIES ARE FAITHFULLY AND
INDEFATIGABLY DIRECTED TO THE PROMOTION OF A SOUND AND PHIL-
OSOPHICAL SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN NOVA SCOTIA, AND THEREBY
LAYING A BROAD AND FIRM FOUNDATION FOR THE
FUTURE GREATNESS OF HIS ADOPTED COUN-
TRY, THIS LITTLE WORK IS RE-
SPECTFULLY INSCRIBED, BY

THE AUTHOR

Advertisement.

In placing this humble offering upon the altar of his country, the author ventures to indulge the cheering hope that the enlightened and generous public of Nova Scotia, will not criticise with too much severity, its numerous defects, but rather look with a favourable eye upon any merits which it may possess. It is with a view, mainly, to the benefit of the young, in whom the author is deeply interested, and for whose welfare he is earnestly solicitous, that he has, in the face of many difficulties and trials, produced this unpretending volume. Success has, at length, crowned his efforts, and "The Land of the Mayflower" is now fairly launched upon the tide of public opinion. If it meet with the warm and welcome reception which the author ventures to hope for it, he will, at no very distant day, again make his appearance before an indulgent public, with a volume of higher pretensions, and one which he trusts, will be more worthy the attention of all who are desirous of cultivating an acquaintance with the eventful past and interesting present of British North America. But of this in its proper time and place.

The present volume will be found to contain a condensed history of Nova Scotia, from the time when it was first colonised by the French, to the present day; a picture, how imperfectly soever delineated, of the present state of the province, and a hasty glance at the probable future.

The Author, in this place, gratefully acknowledges the valuable assistance which he has received from the deservedly popular works of Hali-burton, Dawson, and several others, especially P. Hamilton Esq., upon whose excellent treatise entitled "Nova Scotia considered as a Field for Emigration," he has drawn freely.

Preface.

“Breathes there the man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself has said,
This is my own, my native land?
Whose heart has ne’er within him burn’d,
As home his footsteps he has turn’d
From wandering on a foreign strand?
If such there be, go mark him well,
For him no minstrel raptures swell,
High though his titles, proud his name,
Boundless his wealth as wish can claim,
Despite these titles, power, and pelf,
The wretch, concentr’d all in self,
Living, shall forfeit fair renown,
And doubly dying shall go down
To the vile dust, from whence he sprung,
Unwept, unhonord and unsung.”

So said or sung the immortal Scott, and the sentiment so strongly and beautifully expressed, finds a hearty response, in the affirmative, in every virtuous and generous heart. With the truly great and good, love of country, whether that country is bathed in the golden light and vivified by the fervid heat of eternal summer, or buried beneath the drifting snows and bound under the deadening influence of perpetual winter, is a ruling, governing principle, prompting them to do, and if, need be, to die, for that dear and deeply loved land.

The hardy Swiss loves his native Alps, with glaciers gliding down their rugged sides, and would not exchange them even for

———“The land of the cedar and vine,
Where the flowers ever bloom, the beams ever shine.”

Ask him which is the best of all lands, and with honest pride he will tell you, as he points upward to his snow-clad mountains, and downward to his deep and shadowy glens, “*It is here.* Tell me not of serenest skies, of greener fields or of sweeter comforts to be enjoyed in other lands. Leave me to cultivate my few paternal acres at the mountain’s base, and to chase the bounding chamois at its summit, and I am content!” Go to Holland, and ask the sturdy Dutchman which of all lands he deems the fairest and best, and with an emphasis which bespeaks his sincerity he will tell you it is “*Vaderland.*” Step over to France, visit its gay capital, and ask the piquant Parisian which he believes to be the best portion of the world, and with animated look and gesture he will tell you, “Paris is France and France is the world”; and then, perchance, he will give expression to his constant aspiration “*Vive La Belle France!*” Cross the channel and visit “merry England”, and mark how devotedly the Englishman loves “his little island home”. With perfect truthfulness he tells you, while soul-felt joy beams from his kindling eye, and lights up his manly countenance, that the best of sovereigns sways her benign sceptre over a free people. With what pride he refers you to the faithful pages of his country’s history, and bids you learn her mighty deeds of arms, and her mightier deeds of peace! He tells you that the terror of her arms has been carried into all lands, that her glorious old flag proudly floats on the breezes of every clime, and that the blessings of her civilization and refinement, based, as they are, upon the unyielding basis of her open Bible, are known and felt throughout the world. He tells you that of old her battle cry “St George and merry England” struck terror into the hearts of her barbarian foes, whole hosts of whom went down before her conquering sons, upon many an ensanguined field; and that still the prowess of her arms and the glory of her achievements, are, at once, the wonder and the admiration of the world.

Proceed a few leagues northward, and ask the stalwart Scot, now happily united with his southern neighbour in the bands of loving brotherhood, and vying with him as successfully in the arts of peace, as his forefathers did in deadly feud—ask him, which is the most glorious country on earth, and his soul-stirring response will embody the sentiment contained in the stanza succeeding the one which stands at the head of our preface:—

“ Oh, Caledonia, stern and wild !
Meet nurse for a poetic child,
Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,
Land of the mountain and the flood,
Land of my sires ! What mortal hand,
Can e'er untie the filial band,
That knits me to thy rugged strand ?

Ere leaving the Old World, let us pay a “flying visit” to the “ Emerald Isle” and witness the deep devotion of the honest Hibernian to his own loved land. With perfect sincerity he tells you that it is the garden of the whole earth, and no land is half so fair in his eyes as his own deeply loved Erin.

Cross now, with me, Atlantic's waves, and we will visit the “ Great Republic of the West,” and propound the same question to one of its intelligent and enterprising citizens. With perfect assurance he will answer, “ These free and enlightened States constitute the greatest nation on earth. The British can whip all creation and we can whip the British.” He never wearies in extolling the country of which he is a citizen, and truly the high position which that country has so speedily attained to, among the nations of the earth, justifies the pride with which he regards that great and glorious land which has produced a Washington, with a long array of other illustrious names.

In one word let us “beat the ample field” of the whole earth, and wherever we shall find a noble minded man, or a virtuous and intelligent woman, there we shall find a patriot ; one who loves his or her own country above all others, and who counts toil and pain the sweetest pleasures, if they but tend to promote its welfare. And when oppression strikes down its liberties with a ruthless hand, while lovely woman weeps over her country's wrongs, and devoutly prays to heaven for its deliverance, stern man girds on the sword, and rushes to the gory fields of war, to avenge these wrongs and to free his native hills and plains from the oppressor's yoke, or to yield his life, a willing sacrifice, in a cause so holy.

In the earnest hope of extending and deepening this heaven born principle in the minds of all who claim Nova Scotia as the land of their birth, the following pages have been written. Why should not the children of the Land of the Mayflower love their pine-clad hills and smiling vales ? It is a country, filled to overflowing, with the most precious gifts of nature. There is no country on earth where the inhabitants enjoy more freedom, or where they can live more happily. Many do love it with a deep and abiding love, and are labouring, with zeal directed by knowledge, for its prosperity ; but others, and alas ! a great many, can see no beauty or excellence in it. On the contrary they see nothing but deformity and defect. Why ? Because they are at little or no pains, to become acquainted with the nobler features of a country, unsurpassed in the elements of greatness, by any other beneath heaven's azure concave.

Let Nova Scotians cultivate an acquaintance with the past history of our country ; let them acquire a thorough knowledge of its present state, especially with respect to its rich and exhaustless resources ; let them understand thoroughly its relationship to other countries, particularly to Britain ; and when in possession of the powerful agent *Intelligence*, let them labor with zeal and determination in building up, not merely their own fortunes, but conjointly therewith, the Provincial prosperity, and then shall we see our country rapidly rise to her true and rightful position among the states of the earth.

PART I.—THE PAST.

INTRODUCTION.

"Come, bright improvement ! on the car of time,
And rule the spacious world from clime to clime ;
Thy handmaid Art, shall every wild explore,
Trace every wave and culture every shore."

—*Campbell.*

Four centuries have not yet rolled away since the continent of North America was first trodden, at least in modern times, by the foot of civilized man. The "majestic repose" of nature reigned from the shores of the broad Atlantic to those of the broader Pacific. Wild men and beasts roamed through the interminable forests which waved, in solemn grandeur, over valley, plain, and mountain. No human voices were heard among these solitary wastes, save the Indian's dread war-whoop when savage tribes met each other in deadly conflict ; or the melody of their soft and silvery voices, when the celebration of festal or religious rites, called for milder accents. But a change came. The daring Columbus guided his gallant ships over the waves of an unknown ocean to these uncultured shores, and made the grandest discovery of all adventurers who ever sailed in search of distant lands. Since that time to the present, the "pale faced" nations have been extending their proud conquests and achievements, slowly and intermittently at first, but with giant strides at length, until now, they nearly

"Fill the land."

and the once powerful tribes of red men are almost

"Driven into the western sea."

The prediction of Irving is already in part fulfilled, and will continue to receive fulfillment as age succeeds to age, even down to the end of time.

Says that inimitable writer, "Various nations and tongues and languages will fill America with the renown of Columbus and bless his name to the latest posterity."

In no period of the world's history have greater changes taken place than those which have been produced within the last four hundred years ; and in these changes this "western world," including that portion of which the present volume mainly treats, has borne the most eventful part. A continent, far greater in superficial area than the whole of Europe, has

been called from nature's rudest and wildest state, and now presents an aspect cheering to behold. Where once the tall trees of unbroken forests stood, "thick as the waving grain which kisses the summer's breeze," we have now splendid cities by thousands, and homes of rural beauty scattered thick over by the land. Dwelling in these fertile vales and beautiful plains, through which savages, both in human and bestial forms once roamed, we have now millions of enlightened Christians, living in the full enjoyment of all the blessings of religion and civilization. In these great changes our little peninsula has largely shared; and it is not the least favoured with respect to the benefits and blessings which have grown out of them. To trace its eventful past; to delineate its cheering present; and to cast a hopeful glance at its probable future, is the design of the subsequent pages. If the reader succeed in gathering a few fragments of knowledge, worth treasuring up in the storehouse of his memory, the object contemplated by the writer will be gained, and he will be richly rewarded for his labours in the field, which he has thus humbly, though confidently, entered.

CHAPTER I.

FROM THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA IN 1492, TO THE CAPTURE OF
PORT ROYAL BY SIR S. ARGALL, IN 1613.

The past history of our country, does not, like that of the countries of the old world, reach backward into the region of fable and uncertainty. Interesting facts and figures, constituting our history, stand in thick array before us. All we have to do is to collect and arrange these, so as, at once, to instruct and interest the reader. This rich and inviting field now lies open before us. Let us enter, and see if an abundant harvest will not reward our labours.

The student of European history is not ignorant of the fact, that for many years, both anterior and posterior to the discovery of America, the French and English were arrayed against each other, with longer or shorter intervals of peace, in the most deadly conflicts. The hostility of these rival powers to each other, had, as we shall see, an important bearing upon the early history of Nova Scotia, as well as upon other portions of North America.

In 1492, Christopher Columbus, a native of Genoa, under the patronage of Ferdinand and Isabella, sovereigns of Castile and Arragon in Spain.

discovered America. He was the first navigator of whom we have any knowledge, who crossed the Atlantic, and it is both frivolous and unfair, to attempt, as some have done, to rob him of the honor which is his just due. True it is, that, after his first perilous voyage, he accidentally landed on one of the islands in the Gulf of Mexico, instead of upon the mainland, but it is equally true, that *he led the way—he was the pioneer of navigators across the Atlantic*. Others speedily followed, and among the first of these, was Americus Vesputius, a native of Florence, who obtained honors which properly belonged to Columbus. From him the continent received the name of America. In justice to Columbus it should have been called Columbia.

In May 1497, John Cabot, an experienced Venetian navigator, with his son Sebastian, sailed from Bristol with a commission from Henry VII, to take possession of “Heather lands, unknown to Christians.” The expedition consisted of five ships, fitted out at the cost and charges of the Cabots, and two caravels, victualled at the public expense, and freighted by merchants of Bristol and London, for the purpose of traffic. The whole company consisted of 300 men. Sailing westwardly, they discovered land, on the 24th of June 1497. The land which they discovered, is generally supposed to have been some portion of Nova Scotia. They afterwards discovered an island, which is supposed to have been that which now bears the name of Newfoundland. Thence they sailed westwardly, reached the continent, and then coasting northwardly, they arrived at the latitude of $67^{\circ} 30'$. They then altered their course and steered southwardly, as far as that tract of country which has since been called Florida. Their provisions failing, and a mutiny breaking out among the sailors, the Cabots returned, with the expedition to England.

Seventy-two years elapsed from the time when this voyage was performed, before the English made any attempt to follow up the advantages which Cabot's discoveries had secured, by actual settlement. This singular fact is accounted for by many unpropitious circumstances which attended the reigns of Henry VII., Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Mary. Under the reign of Elizabeth a spirit of enterprise was awakened, and public attention was once more directed to the New World. In 1579, Her Majesty granted to Sir Humphrey Gilbert, a patent for “discovering, occupying and peopling heathen and barbarous countries”, which were not in possession of other Christian people. He set sail from Plymouth, in June 1583, with five ships, and 250 men; and, after a voyage of one month, arrived off the harbour of St John's, in Newfoundland. On the 5th of August, he took formal possession of the island. He returned to England without taking possession of any other part of America.

In 1607, Sir John Gilbert, brother to Sir Humphrey, made an attempt to settle in a part of the country which is now within the limits of the State of Maine. He planted a weak colony, but, dying soon after, it languished for a time and was finally broken up. The discoveries made by Cabot, the formal possession taken by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, and the actual residence of his brother, Sir John Gilbert, are considered by the English, as the foundation of the right and title of the crown of England to the whole of its possessions in North America.

In the mean time, the French had not been idle spectators of the attempts of the English and other nations, to gain a footing in America. At a very early period adventurers had visited Canada, for the purpose of annexing it to the crown of France. Cape Breton was known before Nova Scotia, to both the French and English. The former were the first who were acquainted with it, and it probably derived its name from the Bretons of Bretagne in France. It is not positively known whether the French or English discovered Nova Scotia first, subsequent to the voyage of Cabot; but the French were the first to make an attempt to colonize it. In 1598 the Marquis de la Roche was despatched from France by Henry IV. with a number of convicts. He was so unwise as to select Sable Island, that sterile and dangerous sand-bank, which has proved the grave of so many navigators, as his place of immediate settlement. Nothing but disaster and disappointment could result from so injudicious a selection, and, accordingly, out of forty miserable creatures whom he left there, only twelve were found alive seven years afterwards.

In 1603 De Monts was appointed Governor General of New France, which included the whole region between Virginia and Hudson's Bay. Wiser than his predecessor, he chose the spot on which the delightful town of Annapolis now stands, as the capital of his extensive province. Zeal, intelligence, and justice, were the prominent traits of his character. He also gained the confidence and admiration of the savages, who were ever afterwards attached to the French, much to the annoyance and injury of the English. The whole country over which the French thus assumed control, was named Acadia.

De Monts, after having established his "Head Quarters" at Port Royal, which he appears to have done at the solicitation of a personal friend named Pontrincourt, continued his voyages along the coast, trading with the natives, and making further discoveries. He was very active in exploring his territory, and in promoting the interests of his colonists; but his power was of short duration. The jealousy of some adventurers from his own country was excited on account of his exclusive privileges, and they so misrepresented him at the French court, that his commission

was cancelled. He thereupon quitted all connection with Acadia ; but Pontrincourt was so attached to his new home, that he remained and turned his attention to Agriculture, in which noble pursuit he was eminently successful. He succeeded in raising fine wheat, specimens of which he sent to France. During De Monts' administration, he and his friend Pontrincourt had gained the confidence and affection of a celebrated Indian sachem, named Mambertou, who presided over the tribe which occupied Acadia. At this period there was a sanguinary war between Mambertou's tribe and the Armouchequois, or natives of the country near Cape Cod. Mambertou was victorious, but when, on his return, he found his friend De Monts about to leave Acadia, he was deeply distressed. Shortly after De Monts's departure this venerable chief died, at the advanced age of 100 years, and was interred in the French burial ground with military honors, though it was with the utmost reluctance that he consented to have his remains separated from the last resting place of his forefathers.

While the French were occupying Acadia, the English succeeded in establishing a colony further south. In 1607 a settlement called James Town, was made in Virginia, and when these colonists learned that the French had settled in Acadia, considering it within the limits of their charter, they fitted out a fleet under the command of Sir Samuel Argall, Governor of Virginia, with which an attack was made upon Port Royal in 1613, and the French offering but little resistance, it was easily taken. Sir Samuel Argall having found the French king's commission, under which De Monts and Pontrincourt had settled in Acadia, concealed it, in order to gain a pretext for giving up the place to pillage, and of treating the French as pirates. Not being able to return to France for want of a vessel of sufficient size, some of the French, at the request of Sir Samuel, accompanied him to James Town, where they were thrown into prison, as corsairs, and condemned to be executed, a fate which they only escaped in consequence of Sir Samuel having confessed the unknighly act which he had committed, in concealing the French king's commission.

CHAPTER II.

FROM THE GRANT OF NOVA SCOTIA, MADE BY JAMES II. IN 1601, TO
THE CESSION OF NOVA SCOTIA TO THE FRENCH, BY
THE TREATY OF ST. GERMAINS, IN 1632.

We now reach a very important period in our history. In the year

1601 king James I. granted to Sir William Alexander, afterwards Earl of Stirling, the whole territory lying between the river St. Croix and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The country was named Nova Scotia (New Scotland) in the grant, and it was Sir William's intention to colonize it with Scotch emigrants. By the change of name was introduced that confusion which at a subsequent period caused so much difficulty, and gave rise to a tedious and intricate discussion whether Nova Scotia and Acadia were words indifferently expressing the name of the same country, or whether they were two distinct and neighbouring provinces. It was the intention of James to establish an order of baronets for the purpose of encouraging in supporting the colony, but he died before this was put into execution. Associated with Sir William Alexander, was one David Kirck, a French Calvinist, who had sought refuge from persecution in England. Their attempts to introduce Scotch settlers proved abortive, but they succeeded in capturing several French transports, while on passage from France to Quebec, under the French "*Company of New France*." In the mean time, as Sir Samuel Argall's conquest of Acadia had not been followed up by actual settlement, the French had regained possession, and were strengthened by the arrival of numerous adventurers from France. Among the prisoners taken on board one of the French transports, was a nobleman named Claude de La Tour, who appears to have been easily won over to the English interest. He entered readily into Sir William Alexander's scheme for settling the country with Scotch emigrants—a scheme which, though delayed, had not been abandoned. Charles I., who succeeded James on the throne of Britain, warmly seconded Sir William's plans, and, re-appointing him Governor General, confirmed the grant of his father, by patent dated July 12th, 1624. He also founded the order of Knights Baronet of Nova Scotia, who were to contribute their aid to the settlement, upon the consideration of each having allotted to him a liberal portion of land. Claude de La Tour, who had married one of the queen's maids of honour, was included in the number of these knights, and, having received such flattering expressions of the royal favour, seems to have quite forgotten that he had ever been a subject of France. He undertook to procure the submission of his son, who commanded a fort which still bears his name, in the southern part of Nova Scotia. But the younger La Tour manifested a praiseworthy loyalty to his king and country. He indignantly refused to betray his trust, although his father attempted to bribe him by the most tempting offers of honors and emolument. Finding all his offers firmly rejected, the elder La Tour landed his men, and made a vigorous attack upon the fort. After an ineffectual attempt of two days, in which he lost

many men, La Tour abandoned the hope of succeeding in his enterprize, and his men were again embarked. After his defeat, he chose the humiliating alternative of accepting an asylum from his son, rather than return to England in disgrace. Notwithstanding the failure of this enterprize, La Tour was not abandoned by his patron. In the succeeding year he joined a party of Scotch emigrants, who landed at Port Royal, and built a fort on the west side of the Basin, where Granville now stands, nearly opposite Goat Island. The remains of this fort are still visible, and retain the traditionary name of the Scotch Fort.

But now, just as the English were beginning to establish themselves in the country, in the year 1632, Charles I., by the treaty of St. Germain's, ceded the whole of Nova Scotia and Canada to the king of France. From this unfortunate treaty may be dated the commencement of a long train of calamities to the colonies, and to the English, the subsequent provincial disputes, and, in some measure, the success of the American Revolution.

CHAPTER III.

FROM THE POSSESSION OF NOVA SCOTIA BY THE FRENCH, UNDER THE
TREATY OF ST. GERMAINS, TO ITS RE CONQUEST
BY SIR WM. PHIPPS, IN 1690.

The French having once more become masters of their beloved Acadia, Louis XIII. sent out Razillai as Commander-in-Chief, and divided the country between him and several officers who were appointed to assist him in its settlement. Razillai dying shortly afterwards, was succeeded by Charnise. Soon after these French officers commenced a petty warfare among themselves, owing to conflicting claims; but while they were quarrelling among themselves, an English fleet, fitted out by Cromwell for the recovery of Nova Scotia, effected an easy conquest over them, and brought the country again into the hands of the English.

While the French were disputing with each other, one circumstance, growing out of these disputes, deserves, at least, to be recorded. It is this:—Charles de la Tour, son of Claude de la Tour, formerly mentioned was in possession of a fort upon the river St. John. Charnise engaged in hostilities with him, and attacked the fort during his absence. His spirited lady, Madame La Tour, made a gallant resistance, heading a handful of men in person, and succeeded in repulsing the assailants, until she was betrayed by a traitorous Swiss, whom the enemy had found

means to bribe to their interest. But even this did not cause her noble spirit to quail. When she found herself betrayed, and that Charnise had mounted the wall, she ascended, sword in hand, at the head of her little garrison, to dispute the possession with him. Fearing that he would be a second time repulsed, and that, too, by a woman, he offered her honourable terms of capitulation, which she accepted. No sooner, however, had he gained possession of the fort, than he found a pretext for violating the terms of the treaty, hanged the survivors of the brave little garrison, and even compelled the brave woman, whom he could not subdue, to appear at the gallows with a halter around her neck, in order to give her the appearance of a reprieved criminal—acts which must cause his name to be forever held in detestation.

After the conquest of the country by Cromwell, La Tour sought to identify his interests with those of his conquerors, as his father had done, and obtained a grant of the country from Cromwell, in consideration of the transfer made to his father by Sir William Alexander. Shortly afterwards, Sir Thomas Temple purchased the right of La Tour, and expended £16,000 in repairing the fortifications. He was just beginning to reap the reward of his enterprize, by a large revenue from the fur trade, when the country was again ceded to France by the treaty of Breda in 1667.

In the mean time, the flourishing colonies, known as New England, were springing up vigorously,—that of Massachusetts being the most prominent and flourishing.

During the various times that Nova Scotia was owned by the English, it was never completely deserted by the French, who still retained possession of many obscure settlements. In the interval that now elapsed from the treaty of Breda until the country was again conquered by the English, the French colonists received but little encouragement or assistance from their government. The whole population was estimated at 900.

While France was thus neglecting her valuable possessions in America, the people of Massachusetts were making preparations to wrest Nova Scotia, at least, once more from her dominion. An expedition for this purpose, consisting of a frigate mounting 40 guns, a ship of 16 guns, and another of 8 guns, with transports for the conveyance of 700 men, were placed under the command of Sir William Phipps, Governor of Massachusetts. With this strong armament he reached Port Royal in May, 1690. The garrison being held by less than 90 troops, and the forts being dilapidated, Manival, the Governor, entered into a verbal treaty of surrender. Phipps sought and found a pretext for violating the terms of the treaty, and treated the unfortunate Manival with much severity, at

the same time giving up the place to general pillage, from which neither the priests nor their churches were exempted. Having compelled the people to take the oath of allegiance to William and Mary, he left a person in charge of the fort, and, taking the Governor Manival with him, he proceeded to Chedabucto, which he attacked and captured, after a spirited resistance on the part of the garrison. From Chedabucto, Sir William Phipps proceeded to Isle Perce', where the unarmed inhabitants witnessed the destruction of their property and the loss of their chapel.

CHAPTER IV.

FROM THE EVENTS RECORDED AT THE CLOSE OF THE LAST CHAPTER,
TO THE FINAL CESSION OF NOVA SCOTIA TO THE BRITISH,
BY THE TREATY OF UTRECHT IN 1713.

Port Royal being left in a dismantled state, and without the protection of a garrison, was open to the attacks of pirates. The poor Acadians in the neighbourhood were soon visited by these remorseless depredators, who set fire to a number of houses, hanged some of the inhabitants, slaughtered many of their cattle, and deliberately burnt one family after having shut them up in their dwelling to prevent escape. The Chevalier Villabon soon arrived from France to assume the command of Nova Scotia, the French government being unconscious that it had fallen into the hands of the English. He found the British flag flying at Port Royal, though not protected by any troops. He replaced it by that of France, and immediately adopted measures to protect the fort, and the stores which he had brought with him, against the attacks of the English. It was decided to remove the stores to the fort on St. John river, but on his way thither the pirates captured his vessel, and Villabon narrowly escaped with his life. After the loss of his stores he obtained an interview with an assemblage of Indians, exhorted them to remain firm to their treaties, to preserve all English captives to be exchanged for French, and assured them of the continued protection of France. They promised obedience to his wishes, and expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with *Onanthio*, the name which they had given the French king.

The old charter of Massachusetts having been recently forfeited, a new one was obtained from William and Mary, which greatly enlarged their territory. The colony of New Plymouth, the province of Maine and Nova Scotia, with the lands lying between the two latter, were thus an-

nexed to Massachusetts, and formed an extensive tract of not less than 800 miles in length. Sir William Phipps was appointed Governor under the new charter. Still Nova Scotia was, as usual, left in actual possession of the French, and Villabon, according to a promise which he had made to the Indians, returned to his fort on the St. John, which served as a rallying point to the French and savages. Being thus aided by the Indians, who were commanded by the celebrated Baron Castine, and reinforced by two ships from Quebec, Villabon captured a strong fortress named Pemaquid, in New England. To avenge this act, and make reprisals on the French, the Bostonians sent Col. Church, with about 500 men, who ravaged *Beau Basin* (Cumberland) and speedily retook other parts of the country. Up the Bay of Fundy the conquerors burned churches and other buildings, slaughtered cattle, destroyed expensive dykes, thereby letting in the water upon valuable marshes, and committed many other equally damaging acts of spoliation.

Massachusetts, finding the defence of Nova Scotia more troublesome and expensive than profitable, wished to be set free from its charge. As it yielded only furs and fish, it was but little valued by the British government, and consequently in the year 1696, was restored to France by the treaty of Ryswick. By this treaty the French and English attempted to establish a boundary line between New England and Acadia. The eastern limits of the British dominions were fixed at the river St. Croix, but still it remained a question which of two rivers this was, as both bore the same name. This boundary afterwards continued to be a subject of dispute and negotiation between the two powers, so long as France retained her American possessions. Encroachment and conquest seemed to be the ultimate aim of her policy.

The French possessed two great rivers, the Mississippi and the St. Lawrence, the sources of which were at no very great distance from each other, and formed a line almost parallel to the sea coast, which was both claimed and inhabited by the English. This territory, therefore, was more than sufficiently ample for all the purposes of colonization, but both parties carried with them to America their hereditary animosities, and frequently committed acts of violence, even while their respective states in Europe were at peace.

Thus the seeds of a prolonged and bloody contest were sown with the early settlers of both nations. The immensity of territory for which they were contending, prevented any boundaries from being amicably settled between them at first; and as national honour and personal interests were both involved in the contest, it was ever afterward impracticable. The extravagant and ridiculous grants of land, made by the sovereigns of both

kingdoms to their subjects, necessarily made them regard each other as trespassers.

The peace of Ryswick was scarcely proclaimed in New England, when the French evinced a disposition to make themselves sole proprietors of the fisheries, and to restrain the English from any part of the country contained in the Massachusetts charter, to the east of Kennebec. Villabon exerted himself to the utmost to accomplish these objects, but failed for want of a sufficient force. The peace which followed the treaty of Ryswick was of short continuance. Louis XIV. having acknowledged the Pretender, as king of England, war was declared against him on the 4th of May, 1701. Fearing that the English would again attempt to wrest from them their American possessions, the French began to adopt measures for the effective settlement of Nova Scotia, as well as to erect permanent and expensive fortifications, in order to hold it. To this end Brullion, the governor of the country, was ordered to encourage the trade of La Have, to erect fortifications there, and to prevent, as far as possible, the English participating in the fisheries. In the absence of a naval force, Brullion called the pirates, who at that time infested the shores of the Atlantic, to his aid, and they were not slow in obeying the call. They committed many depredations on the trade of New England, and the money which was thus thrown into circulation, and the quantities of merchandise which they disposed of at very reduced prices, afforded him the means of paying the savages, whom he instigated to acts of hostility to New England. In order to retaliate these injuries, an armament consisting of 14 transports, and 36 whale boats having on board 550 soldiers under the command of Col. Church was fitted out in 1704, for the purpose of ravaging the French settlements in Nova Scotia. He overran several parts of the province, and committed the most dreadful havoc of life and property, especially in Minas (Horton) and Chiegnecto (Cumberland). At Minas he destroyed three populous villages, plundered the inhabitants and made many prisoners. He also laid waste extensive tracts in Chiegnecto, plundering the inhabitants of their goods and burning their houses, and breaking down their dykes.

The people of New England, especially those of Massachusetts were, at this time, pressing upon the British government, the necessity of wresting Nova Scotia, fully and finally, from France. The government, at length, assented, and, at the same time, conveyed to them the welcome assurance, that, if taken once more, Nova Scotia would never again be ceded to France. Accordingly 1000 men were raised in New England, and on the 17th of May, 1707, they arrived at Port Royal, under the convoy of two ships of war. Brullion, the governor, having died the

preceding year, the command of the place had been conferred upon M. Subercase, whose skill and bravery proved equal to the emergency in which he was placed. Aided by his faithful allies, the Indians, under Baron Castine, he not only repulsed the English, but in his turn became the assailant, and compelled them to re-embark. A second attempt proved equally unsuccessful, and the soldiers being chiefly recruits, fell into several ambuscades, and many of them were cut to pieces by the French and Indians. Epidemical disorders also prevailed among them, so that, under all these discouragements, it was deemed prudent to make good their retreat. The conquest of this place, however, was an object of too much importance to be thus easily abandoned. Another expedition was fitted out in 1710, under the command of General Nicholson. On the 24th of September a fleet, consisting of three men of war, a provincial galley, twenty-four transports belonging to the several colonies, together with five belonging to England, arrived at Port Royal. The troops consisted of one regiment of Marines from Europe, and four regiments of Provincials. At the entrance of the harbour one of the transports was wrecked, and 26 men, together with the stores on board, were lost. Subercase, had but a small garrison under his command, but nevertheless, he made his arrangements for a stout resistance. On the 1st of October the attack commenced by a heavy cannonading, which was spiritedly answered by the French. Subercase could not hold out long, however, and on the evening of the same day, he capitulated. On the following day the terms of surrender were formally signed, and thus the famous old Port Royal was finally wrested from its former possessors. The English only lost 14 or 15 men in this expedition, besides the 26 who perished by the loss of the transport.

The following are the articles of this important capitulation :—

1st. That the garrison shall march out with their arms and baggage, drums beating and colours flying.

2nd. That there shall be a sufficient number of ships and provisions to transport the said garrison to Rochel or Rochfort, by the shortest passage, when they shall be furnished with passports for their return.

3rd. That I (Subercase) may take out six guns and two mortars such as I shall think fit.

4th. That the officers shall carry out all their effects of what sort soever, except they do agree to the selling of them, the payment of which to be on good faith.

5th. That the inhabitants within cannon shot of Port Royal, shall remain upon their estates, with their corn, cattle and furniture, during two

years, in case they are not desirous to go before ; they taking the oath of allegiance and fidelity to Her Sacred Majesty of Great Britain.

6th. That a vessel be provided for the privates belonging to the Islands of America, for their transportation thither.

7th. That those who are desirous to go to Placentia, in Newfoundland, shall have leave by the nearest passage.

8th. That the Canadians, or those that are desirous to go there, may, during the space of one year.

9th. That the effects, ornaments and utensils of the chapel and Hospital, shall be delivered to the Almoner.

10th. I promise to deliver the fort of Port Royal into the hands of Francis Nicholson, Esqr., for the Queen of Great Britain, within three days after the ratification of this present treaty, with all the effects belonging to the king, as guns, mortars, bombs, ball, powder and all other small arms.

11th. I will discover, upon my faith, all the mines, fugasses and casements.

12th. All the articles of this present treaty shall be executed upon good faith, without difficulty, and signed by each other at Her Majesty of Great Britain's camp, before Port Royal this second day of October, in the ninth year of Her Majesty's reign.—Annoque Domini, 1710.

Upon these terms which were duly signed, this first spot settled in Nova Scotia, passed finally into the hands of the English.

The French Government awakened, when forever too late, to a sense of the importance of their loss. Schemes were concocted for the retaking of their favourite Acadia, but for want of power, combined with the want of unanimity in their councils, nothing was effected beyond instigating the Indians to commit depredations on the English. Baron Castine was appointed to the chief command in Nova Scotia, and was directed to preserve, as much as possible, the loyalty of the French settlers, and to keep indissoluble the alliance with the Indians. He was also encouraged to hope for succours from France and from Quebec, with a view to the re-conquest of the country. He accordingly collected a large body of Indians, attacked a small party of English and defeated them, and, being joined by the inhabitants, invested Port Royal, and only awaited the expected succours to complete his conquest. His expectations, however, were disappointed, and his forces accordingly dispersed, the French laying down their arms and making acknowledgment of their faults. Many of the French who lived at a distance from the fort, had not yielded to the English, and Captain Pidgeon, an officer of the regulars, was sent up the river, with a strong detachment, to reduce them to subjection, and to

procure timber for the repair of the fort. While in the performance of this duty they were surprised by a great body of Indians, who killed the Fort Major, the Engineer, and all the boat's crew, and took between 30 and forty prisoners. The scene of this disaster is about 12 miles from Annapolis, and still bears the name of "Bloody Creek."

The success of this ambushade encouraged the inhabitants to take up arms again, and five hundred of them, with as many Indians as they could collect, were in readiness to attack the fort, as soon as an experienced officer should arrive from Placentia, to take the command; but the governor of that place, not being able to spare one, they abandoned the enterprise and dispersed.

On the 11th of April 1713, the treaty of Utrecht was concluded between France and England, by the 12th article of which Nova Scotia was finally ceded to Great Britain.

From this point the author can give only a very short summary of our history. It is his intention, however, to resume it, at no distant day, and continue it down to the present time, taking Haliburton, as in the present portion, for the basis. The design of the present volume is different.

CHAPTER V.

FROM THE TREATY OF UTRECHT TO THE FINAL BREAKING UP OF THE FRENCH POWER IN NORTH AMERICA IN 1749.

The name of Port Royal was now changed to that of Annapolis Royal, in honor of Queen Anne,—(Annapolis, being literally translated, is Anne's city.) For many years the settlement of the country proceeded very slowly, those who desired to come hither, either from Britain or New England, being deterred through fear of the French and Indians, who were fired with the most implacable hatred against the English, and many are the heart-rending tales which might be recorded of the cruelties which were perpetrated by them. It is even stated that some of the English were roasted in ovens in Horton, while tomahawking, scalping, and dashing out the brains of tender children, were the common practices of the terrible Indians.

At the time when Nova Scotia was ceded to Britain, there were about 4000 French Canadians in the country, capable of bearing arms. The governor of Annapolis gave them their choice of two alternatives, namely, either to take the oath of allegiance to the British sovereign, or to leave

the country within a year. They did not comply with either of these demands, but, nevertheless, they were permitted, at least for a time to remain undisturbed. That they refused to acknowledge the sovereign of Britain, as their rightful ruler, is not at all to be wondered at. Naturally all their feelings and prejudices inclined to the land of their fathers, whose language and usages they still retained. Naturally enough, too, they felt disinclined to remove from the fertile fields which by their labours, had been gained from the sea or the wilderness. Moreover no facilities were allowed by the government for their removal, and so most of them, at least, remained.

The French still retained Cape Breton and Canada. In 1720 they began a strong fortification in the former place. It was situated in the southern part of the island, and, when completed, was one of the strongest fortresses in America. It cost the large sum of one million, two hundred and fifty thousand pounds ! This fortification was called Louisburg, in honor of the king of France (Louis XV.) It soon became the asylum for the perpetrators of the most cruel and daring assaults upon the English in Nova Scotia.

A settlement at Canseau was attacked, during the night of the 7th of August 1720, by a party of Indians, several of the inhabitants were cruelly murdered, and the settlement was pillaged of property to the amount of £20,000. Many vessels belonging to English colonists, were captured by the Indians, during these troublesome times, and their crews cruelly treated or barbarously murdered. As the Indians were justly regarded as the allies of the French, complaints were made to the governor of Cape Breton of these outrages, committed in a time of peace ; but he replied that the Indians were an independent people, over whom he had no control.

On the 20th of March, 1744, war was declared by the French against the English. The governor of Cape Breton received intelligence of this fact before it reached the people of Nova Scotia, and he immediately commenced to take action thereon, with a view to surprise his English neighbours on the peninsula. His plans were so far successfully executed, that he captured Canseau ere the inhabitants were fully aware that any danger was threatened. The French next laid siege to Annapolis ; but aid arriving from Boston, they were obliged to raise the siege and retire from the place. They then proceeded to Horton, and committed a variety of outrages upon the English inhabitants.

It now became apparent to the British, that neither peace nor safety could be expected for their settlements in Nova Scotia, while the French retained the strong fortresses of Louisburg and Quebec, in their imme-

diate neighbourhood. To finally break up the power of these enemies in North America, then, became an object of paramount importance. To accomplish this most desirable object a large provincial force, under Wm. Pepperall, a colonel of militia belonging to Massachusetts, was sent against Louisburg in 1745. Additional forces arrived from England, and the French governor was soon induced to surrender. When the conquerors entered the town and ascertained the strength of its fortifications they were amazed at their own success. About this same time Prince Edward's Island (formerly St John's) fell into the hands of the English.

In 1746 the French government prepared to retake Louisburg. A fleet of 70 sail, including 11 ships of the line, was sent from France, under the command of the Duke d'Anville. This formidable force was to be joined by 1700 men from Canada. The Canadians arrived first, and after waiting for some days for the arrival of the fleet, returned home. After a most disastrous voyage the Duke arrived at Chebucto, with a mere fragment of his force. Some were captured by the English, and others were disabled or dispersed. Many of his men, too, had died and many more were ill. The Duke died of grief in a few days after his arrival, and the remainder of the expedition returned to France, without attempting the object for which this powerful armament had been sent.

In 1748 Cape Breton was ceded to the French by the treaty of Aix La Chapelle, much to the vexation of the people of New England, who thereby lost the advantages of their proud conquest. No wonder that they were chagrined at seeing Louisburg once more pass into the hands of their enemies. If Britain had been desirous of inflicting a severe blow upon her infant settlements in Nova Scotia, instead of protecting them, she could not have done so, more effectually, than by putting it again into the power of her enemies to shelter those demons in human form, whose greatest delight was to harass her severely tried subjects in Nova Scotia. But perhaps objects of greater importance, and involving deeper interests at home, demanded this sacrifice.

The French now revived the old boundary difficulties, and contended that the Acadia, ceded by the treaty of Utrecht, embraced no more territory than the peninsula, and that, consequently, a large tract of country between New England and the Gulf of St Lawrence, still belonged to them. The inhabitants of New England, fearing that Britain would yield to this most unjust claim, remonstrated strongly against it, and the British government was thereby induced to take prompt and active measures for settling the country. 3,760 individuals with their families, were sent out under the Honorable Edward Cornwallis, for Nova Scotia. They arrived at Chebucto Harbour on the 8th of June, 1749. After forming a

civil government of simple construction, by appointing a council of six persons, Cornwallis selected a site, and founded a town which he named Halifax, in honor of the Earl of Halifax, who had been an active promoter of the enterprise.

The French and Indians now seemed inclined to adopt a more friendly course towards the English, than they had hitherto done. They even made a visit to the settlers at Halifax, and tendered their submission to the English governor. It is probable, however, that all this was only *seeming* friendliness, and that there was a great contrast between the feelings of their hearts and the expressions of their lips. Their objects may have been to lull their intended victims into a false sense of security, learn how and when to strike with the most terrible effect, and then to burst upon them with all the fury of their vindictive natures. However this may be, it is certain that the French government soon sent instructions to these people, influencing them to remain true to the cause of France, and to continue their hostility to the English.

The Indians, led on by French commanders, committed the most barbarous outrages upon the infant colony. The town was frequently attacked by night and plundered, and the inhabitants could not enter the neighbouring forest, but at the risk of being murdered and scalped, or captured and carried off to Louisburg and sold as slaves. When expostulation was made to the Governor of Louisburg, he replied, as before, that the plunderers were not his subjects and, consequently, were beyond his control; and that the captives were purchased to save them from the barbarous Indians. But he shewed his want of sincerity by retaining these captives until enormous sums were paid for their ransom.

The Governor of Halifax immediately adopted measures to secure, as far as possible, the safety of the settlers at a distance from Halifax. He erected a fort at Pesiquid (now Windsor), and a block house at Minas (now Horton). He then summoned the Acadians to take an oath of unconditional allegiance to the British crown. Still indulging the delusive hope that their old masters would regain their lost possessions, they again refused to take the required oath.

Meanwhile the barbarities of the Indians continued. At Dartmouth, where a settlement had recently been formed, the inhabitants were attacked, four men killed and scalped, and others carried off. Similar attacks were made upon other settlements. Governor Cornwallis, roused to the necessity of vigorous measures, denounced the Indians as traitors, and issued orders throughout the country that they should be treated as such. He also organized companies to hunt them in their retreats, and offered a reward of ten guineas for every Indian scalp. This severe re-

tialiation produced a temporary tranquility, and for a short time the Indian atrocities ceased.

Had the Acadians not been secretly instructed by the governors of Canada and Cape Breton, to hope for the eventual expulsion of the English from the country, it is highly probable that these unfortunate people would have submitted to British rule.

While the French government was still quibbling about the boundary question, the governor received information from Massachusetts, that the Commander-in-Chief of Canada had sent two vessels to Bay Verte, with 600 men, under the command of M. La Corne, with munitions of war for an attack, and that bodies of Indians were marching to join him. The object of these hostile movements seemed to be either to take possession of the narrow pass which connects Nova Scotia with New Brunswick, or to attack Halifax. The town was, by the governor's orders, immediately surrounded by a breast-work of trees. In the mean time, M. La Corne had arrived at Bay Verte, and commenced a fortification on the isthmus, on pretence that it was part of Canada. * The object of this measure evidently was, to secure the Indians of the continent a free entrance into the peninsula, and a safe retreat in case of pursuit.

In the spring of 1750, Governor Cornwallis having learned what La Corne was about at Chiegnecto, dispatched Major Lawrence, to secure the fidelity of the Acadians who resided there. But at his approach they burned their houses and fled to La Corne, increasing his force to about 1500 men. Having obtained an interview with La Corne, Major Lawrence learned that the French were determined to dispute the territory with the English, and, as his force was too small to cope with that of La Corne, he returned to Halifax. He was immediately sent back with a large force, with which he repulsed the French and Indians with immense slaughter. He then constructed a fort which he named after himself, Fort Lawrence. This served to keep the French and Indians in check.

In 1751, Lunenburg was settled by the Germans and Swiss, invited by the British government. They were at first much harrassed and annoyed by the French and Indians, as the first settlers at Halifax had been, so that it was extremely perilous to venture, to any distance, into the surrounding woods. Previous to this time the place had borne the name of Merliguish. Governor Cornwallis, during his administration, established three Courts of Justice. The first was a Court of General Sessions, similar in its nature, and conformable in its practice to the courts of the same nature in England. The second was a County Court, having ju-

* This fort was called Beau Sejour.

risdiction over the whole Province, which was then but one county, and held by those who were in the Commission of the Peace at Halifax. This Court sat monthly, and except in criminal matters, was invested with all the powers of the Court of King's Bench, Common Pleas and Exchequer; but either of the litigating parties, had a right, after judgment, to carry his cause by appeal, into the Supreme Court. The third was the Court of Assize and General Jail delivery, in which the governor and council sat as judges. It assembled twice a year, in April and October, and tried, with the assistance of a jury, all criminal offences and appeals from the county court, when the sum in dispute exceeded five pounds. In 1752 Governor Cornwallis returned to England, and was succeeded by Perigrine Hobson. In 1755, a force of 3000 men, under Colonels Monckton and Winslow, was sent to dislodge the French from Chiegnecto. The expedition was crowned with the most complete success. Fort Beau Sejour and another French fort upon the river Gaspereaux, which runs into Bay Verte, were taken, and the garrisons were sent to Louisburg, on condition of not bearing arms in America for six months. The Acadians who had aided the French were pardoned in consequence of having been forced into that service. It was at this time that the name of the place was changed from Chiegnecto to that of Cumberland.

The joy inspired by this victory was much dampened by reverses experienced by the English in Canada.

The Governor of Nova Scotia, apprehensive that another attempt would be made by the French to regain the Province, and fearing that in such an event, the Acadians, whose predilections for the French were well known, and whose fidelity to the English was in many cases worse than doubtful, would join the enemy, assembled his council to determine what course to pursue in relation to them. It was finally resolved to remove them from the Province and disperse them throughout the other colonies. Accordingly, without intimating to them what determination had been formed, they were all commanded to assemble at their churches, where officers, with military forces, awaited them. Here they were apprised of their fate, declared to be the King's prisoners, and all their property except money and household goods, confiscated to the crown. Many suspecting that no good was designed for them, fled to the woods. To prevent such from gaining a subsistence their houses and barns were consumed by fire, so that most of those who had escaped were forced to return. About 7000 of these unfortunate people were transported from Horton, Canard, Cumberland and Annapolis. Many managed to escape expulsion and some returned. Their fate was truly a hard one, but while we shed the tear of pity, at the recital of their sufferings, in be-

ing driven, poor and friendless, to strange lands, the conviction is forced upon us, that the safety of the English colonists rendered the measure one of stern necessity. At the same time, we cannot help thinking that it might have been more mildly executed.* The lands vacated by the Acadians were subsequently settled by farmers from New England.

Britain was now bringing her forces to bear upon Canada, with a view to wrest it, also, from the French. At first she met with sad reverses in this attempt; but eventually a brilliant success rewarded her perseverance.

In 1758, an attack upon Louisburg was decided upon, by the celebrated British Premier Pitt. Accordingly 152 ships, under Admiral Boscawen, and 14,000 men under General Amherst, were despatched to Halifax, where they arrived in April, and were immediately joined by a body of Provincial troops. On the 28th of May this force sailed from Halifax, and after a passage of five days reached Gabarous Bay, seven miles west of Louisburg. The French commander prepared for a vigorous defence, and in addition to the strength of the garrison, he secured the co-operation of a large body of militia, Acadians and Indians. The harbour was protected by six ships of the line and two frigates, and three other frigates were sunk at the entrance. The invading troops disembarked, and were formed into three divisions, under the celebrated General Wolfe, Governor Lawrence, and General Whitmore; while General Amherst retained the chief command.

The French poured forth on the disembarked troops, a tremendous charge of cannon and musketry, but gaining the beach, the latter drove off their opponents. Wolfe carried an important station, from which he opened strong batteries against the town. Three of the French ships were destroyed by fire, one of them having exploded, and the others suffered from their fatal neighbourhood to it. A daring attempt of Admiral Boscawen succeeding, and the French Commander perceiving that the walls had suffered material injury, and that his fleet were injured, proposed a capitulation, under which he and his garrison surrendered themselves prisoners of war, on an important day for Nova Scotia, 26th July, 1758. The prisoners were presently sent to England. The British loss, in acquiring this victory, of such immense value to England and injury to France, was about four hundred men. Nor has the glory of Louisburg been even partially retained. Her dwellings have passed away, and her walls and turrets are overthrown. Prince Edward Island, (in the Gulf of St. Lawrence,) was soon afterwards taken possession of

* This subject will be fully discussed in a future work.

by the English, and a skilful and brave campaign speedily resulted in the complete conquest of Canada.

In the conquest of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia was deeply interested, since it had supplied Quebec with provisions, and afforded shelter to the French neutrals who had fled from Annapolis. From that Island those Acadians and Indians had frequently effected sudden and barbarous attacks on parts of Nova Scotia. Now, however, the Acadians, of whom there were four thousand in the Island, submitted.

On the memorable 13th of September, 1759, Quebec also fell before the gallant Wolfe, and the power of the French in North America was thereby finally broken up.

CHAPTER VI.

FROM THE CAPTURE OF LOUISBURG TO THE PRESENT TIME.

From the time when Nova Scotia was ceded to Britain by the treaty of Utrecht, till 1749, the commanding officer at Annapolis had administered the government of the country, with the advice of his council. Thence till 1758, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Council governed the country. The Hon. Jonathan Belcher had been previously appointed Chief Justice.

In 1758 Governor Lawrence convened the first Provincial Parliament of Nova Scotia. It consisted of 22 members, elected by the people, a council of 12, and the Governor.

In 1761 a new Assembly was convened by the Hon. Jonathan Belcher, on whom the administration had devolved by the death of Governor Lawrence. In the same year a treaty of peace was concluded with the Indians, and the hatchet was solemnly buried by the Chief, in presence of the Assembly and Council and the principal inhabitants of Halifax.

By the treaty of peace signed at Paris, between the French and English, in 1763, the French relinquished all further claim to Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, Canada, and the various islands in the river and Gulf of St Lawrence. At this time Cape Breton was annexed to Nova Scotia, but in 1784 it was established under a separate government, with Sydney as its capital. New Brunswick was at the same time made a separate province, it having previously formed part of Nova Scotia. In 1819 Cape Breton was again annexed to Nova Scotia, with a privilege of sending representatives to Provincial parliament.

In 1776 the thirteen New England Provinces declared themselves independent, and after a severe struggle which lasted seven years, their independence was acknowledged by Great Britain. Thus these flourishing colonies, whose interests had so long been identified with our own, and which had so often assisted in freeing this province from French dominion separated from us, and have since pursued their own career, and truly, upon the whole, a brilliant one it has been.

We cannot better close this brief sketch of the history of our province, than by adopting the concluding paragraphs of Calkin's excellent little work, on Nova Scotia, to which, as well as to other works, especially those of Halliburton, Hamilton and Dawson, we acknowledge our indebtedness :—

“Amid this general rebellion, Nova Scotia maintained her allegiance and fidelity to the British Crown. During the war some localities were indeed accused of revolutionary feeling, and the inhabitants of Onslow and Truro refused to take the oath of allegiance, in consequence of which their member was not permitted to take his seat in the house of Assembly.

The destinies of Nova Scotia were, no doubt, much influenced by the revolution. The policy of Britain towards her remaining colonies, was much modified by past experience. It is computed that Nova Scotia received an accession of about 20,000 inhabitants, who came from the revolted colonies, on account of their attachment to British rule.

Since these events, Nova Scotia has been steadily increasing in population and prosperity. In the year 1818, the population of Nova Scotia Proper was 78,345; in 1828 it had increased to 123,848; and in 1851, to 221,239.

In 1823, Roman Catholics were admitted to equal civil privileges with other denominations.

Until the year 1838, a single Council, consisting of twelve members, possessed both Legislative and Executive power, and always sat with closed doors. This Council was then dissolved, and two were created in its stead; a Legislative Council of 19 members, whose deliberations were to be open to the public, and an Executive Council, of twelve members.

The ten years following this change in the Council, were characterized by violent agitations in the country, as well as keen contests in the Assembly for political reform. These movements, at length, resulted, in 1848, in the establishment of what is called Responsible Government. The Executive is now chosen from the House of Assembly, to which it is responsible and whose confidence it must possess to retain office.”

CHAPTER VII.

REVIEW OF THE PAST—TRIALS OF OUR FOREFATHERS.

The foregoing pages contain a brief, though correct history of our province, drawn from the most authentic records. Let us now take a rapid review of the scenes in which our honoured forefathers were actors

These severely tried, and lion-hearted men, came from lands of civilization and refinement, to these, then, wild shores, exchanging the comforts of home, and the sweet solace of friends, for the dangers and trials of a dreary wilderness, filled with dire alarms. Yes! they bade adieu to the dear lands of their birth, and all the deeply loved scenes of their earlier days, together with those around whom the warm affections of their hearts were entwined, and came hither to encounter dangers, and endure toils of which we, their descendants, have but a faint conception. Having reached these frowning shores, with the heaving billows of the broad Atlantic behind them, and a wide wilderness before them, they addressed themselves with unquailing resolution to a struggle with all the hardships of the lot which they had chosen. The dense forests which covered the land were to be felled and removed, and the stubborn soil broken up and subdued, by their hands, ere they could wring, even a scanty subsistence, from the bosom of the earth. But if toil and privation had been the only trials of the early settlers, they would have been comparatively happy. To their increasing toils they were required to add constant vigilance. In the recesses of these dark forests there was ever lurking a terrible foe, at least to the Englishman. We have seen how the French gained the confidence and alliance of the savage tribes, and enkindled all the evil passions of their wild natures to the fiercest blaze against the English. Many were the victims of their relentless cruelty, and it would be easy to fill a volume with these tales of horror.

Let us attempt to draw a picture, at once illustrative of the trials, the toils, the privations, the perseverance, and the dangers of those who came hither in early times. It must, however, fall immeasurably short of the reality :—

A family in the favoured land of Britain, (though even that land was far less favoured then than it now is), resolve to leave home and friends behind them, and make for themselves a new home in the wilds of America. Their preparations are soon made, and with aching hearts they bid adieu, probably forever, to kindred, friend and neighbour. They embark on board a ship, bound for the far-off land, and, after a dangerous voyage of weeks—it might have been months—the ship glides into one of the few ports of Nova Scotia, which were then frequented. We pass over the

difficulties which they encounter in selecting a spot on which to settle. A spot is at length found, a rude habitation is constructed, and they are—"dwellers in the wilderness." Henceforth, at least, for years they must live without the blessings and comforts of sweet intercourse with friends and neighbours. Their world is circumscribed to the narrow limits of their own family circle. Day and night they must both labour and watch with untiring perseverance, and unceasing vigilance, to secure a bare subsistence, and their own safety. Whenever they visit their nearest neighbours, if neighbours they may be called, they must travel miles, not over level roads—not even over rough roads, but through a tangled forest often without even a pathway to guide them, climbing hills, fording rivers, and dreading, at every step, to suddenly meet the cruel red man, armed with his awful tomahawk. When by the hardest toil they have succeeded in raising a few bushels of grain the "good-man" cannot put it into waggon or sleigh, and drive it to a neighbouring mill to have it reduced to wholesome flour, but he must either grind it by a most laborious process, in one of those handmills, known, in these primitive days, by the name of *quirns*, or carry it miles upon his back, to some far off settlement, where the convenience of a water-mill is to be found.

When the "sacred day of rest" comes weekly around, he cannot drive in an easy carriage, taking his precious ones with him, to a handsome church, within a mile or two of his humble dwelling, but sabbath after sabbath, he must sit in his cabin, with his family around him, deprived of the priceless privilege of hearing the living truths of the gospel, enunciated and enforced by a minister of religion. One blessed comfort, however, is still his. He can draw forth the well worn Bible, brought from his dear old home, and classed among his choicest treasures, and while his family listen with the deepest reverence, he can read its sacred pages, and offer in his own homely style, such remarks as to him seem appropriate. It may be, also, that he has a volume of sermons, preached perhaps by the great Whitefield, Wesley, or some other eminent divine, years ago, in his own beloved land. Probably he, himself, has heard the living voice of the man, whose burning words are recorded on the page before him. If so, a joy which no words can describe is his, while he reads these words of fire, and tells his wondering children of the holy man who spake them.

Most of the sabbaths are thus spent, from year to year, but, occasionally a minister—perhaps a Manning, a Baillie, a McGregor, a Black, an Allen, or some other one of those distinguished heralds of the cross, who in these early times scattered the precious seed of the gospel, visits the solitary neighbourhood in which this family reside. Oh! what a privilege

is now presented of hearing the "joyful sound!" It is by no means to be lost, and though the appointed place is miles away, yet the whole household must go. And go they do, although the journey must be performed on foot, without the convenience even of a road. Thus they live on from year to year, their little ones in the mean time growing up around them. But *how* are they growing up? They are industrious and virtuous, like their parents, it is true, but they are deprived of the invaluable blessings of education, except the little that their parents can do for them, in this great work. There is no school near them, or if there is one, it is necessarily of so humble a character, that nothing, beyond the merest rudiments of learning, can be obtained from it.

Still, amid all their toils, sufferings and privations, they would be comparatively happy, if they could repose in safety beneath the sheltering wing of Peace. This inestimable blessing, however, is not theirs. While labouring a-field by day the anxious father's heart is ever filled with dismal forebodings that the savages will visit his dwelling, murder his wife and children, or carry them away captives, to live in cruel bondage, and, perhaps, at length, to die under such tortures as none but savages can inflict. Nor does night bring relief to his burthened mind. On the contrary it increases his terrors, for it is generally at night that these acts of barbarity are perpetrated.

Let us imagine the feelings of that loving husband and father, as, after a day of toil, he sits at night in his humble dwelling. He gazes, Oh! how fondly and tenderly, upon the countenance of her whom, in other days and in another land, he vowed to "love, honour and cherish," and who, from the happy day when he led her, a blushing bride from the sacred altar, to the present hour, has been truly "a help meet for him"—one who has heightened his every joy and lightened his every sorrow. He gazes upon her and upon the dear pledges of their conjugal affection who are clustering around his knees, while the horrible thought is "borne and branded on his soul," that, perhaps, ere the morning light shall streak the eastern segment of the horizon, their blood, commingled with his own, shall drench his hearth stone! Imagine his feelings as, after having committed himself and them to the care of Him who "never slumbers nor sleeps," he bolts and bars the doors of his cabin, and places his trusty fire-lock, with other deadly weapons, within easy reach, sternly resolving that, ere one hair of those beloved heads shall be ruffled by a ruthless hand, he will shed the last drop of the crimson fluid that courses through his veins in their defence.

Such were the toils, such the privations, such the trials, and such the fears, of many of our honoured forefathers. And frequently were their

worst fears fully realized. On many a quiet village and retired habitation, have the dusky demons of the forest, burst with horrific yell, in the silent hour of midnight, and, ere morning dawned, blazing dwellings, mangled bodies, scalpless heads and smouldering ruins, were the terrible and ghastly evidences of their fatal work.

Ere closing this chapter let us take a passing review of the almost super-human labours of those early ministers of the gospel, and others who, like them, were engaged in their Divine Master's noble work. They had no costly and splendid churches, filled with elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen, in which, and to whom to declare their heavenly message. They could not roll over broad high-ways in easy carriages, in travelling to the scattered people of their charges. But they were obliged often to travel on foot, or, at best, on horse-back, over the roughest roads, climbing snow-clad mountains in winter, not unfrequently on snow shoes, with their feet encased in moccasins, and fording swollen streams in spring and autumn. Often have they stood, at night, after a day of such travelling, in some rude dwelling in the wilderness, and declared to a listening group, gathered from widely scattered habitations, and dressed in the coarsest habiliments, "the unsearchable riches of Christ." Not in words of studied elegance of diction, but with tongues of fire, enkindled by a "live coal" from off God's own altar, did they declare and enforce, the sublime and soul-enlivening truths of our holy religion. Nor did their earnest words of burning eloquence, fall powerless upon the ears of their hearers. Believers were thereby edified, and arrows "dipped in Immanuel's blood" pierced the hearts of sinners, bringing them in penitential humility to the Saviour's feet. These were the holy men of God who sowed much of the precious "seed of the Word," which is now producing such an abundant harvest. Oh! if the glorified spirits of these sainted men can look down from their exalted stations before the burning throne, (and who doubts that they can,) and see the abundant fields "whitening for the garner of the Lord," which, partly at least, through their instrumentality now stand on these scenes of their earthly labours, how must they exult and raise the loftiest anthems of praise to Him who crowned those labours with such abundant success!

Those of whom we more particularly write now "rest from their labours." Their spirits, now made perfect, are among the blood-washed throng on high, and their bodies are slumbering in the tomb, awaiting the trump of the Judgment angel, which shall summon them to their great and final reward. Many souls, saved through their honoured instrumentality, shall shine in the crowns of their rejoicing "on that day," shedding upon them such effulgent lustre as shall dazzle even celestial eyes to be-

hold. But though writing chiefly of those who have passed away, full of the honours which come from God, there is at least one survivor, (the venerable John Sprott of Musquodoboit, who may be designated "the aged,") who entered the field a little later, and who is still privileged to work in the vineyard of the Lord. Though he has long "borne the heat and burthen of the day," yet he still "labours on at God's command." When called, may he go up and join the bright throng above, to shine among those who have preceded him to the heavenly shores.



PART II.—THE PRESENT.

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF NOVA SCOTIA.

"Not many summers yet have blessed thy clime,
 (How short a period in the page of time !)
 Since savage tribes, with terror in their train,
 Rush'd o'er thy fields and ravish'd all thy plain.
 But some few years have roll'd in haste away,
 Since, through thy vales, the fearless beast of prey,
 With dismal yell and loud appalling cry,
 Proclaim their midnight reign of terror nigh.
 And now, how chang'd the scene ! The first, afar,
 Have fled to wilds beneath the northern star;
 The last have learn'd to shun the dreaded eye
 Of lordly man, and in their turn to fly."

— *Goldsmith's Address to Acadia.*

Having partially, at least, seen Nova Scotia *as it was*, let us now look upon it *as it is*, in order that we may learn something of the value and importance of this rich inheritance which has been bequeathed to us by the generation that has passed away.

Nova Scotia possesses the most commanding and advantageous geographical position of any country in North America. It is situated on the eastern side of this continent, and is, therefore, the nearest point of land upon it, to the old world. It lies between the parallels of 43° 25' and 47° N. latitude, and between the meridians of 59° 40' and 66° 25' E. longitude, and possesses a climate, which, upon the whole, may fairly be

considered salubrious and agreeable, though it is subject to more frequent changes, and greater extremes of heat and cold, than countries situated in the same latitude, either on the western side of the continent, or in Europe. Its great natural divisions are Nova Scotia Proper and Cape Breton. The latter place, though geographically separated from Nova Scotia, is united to it politically.

Nova Scotia Proper, is a peninsula, (almost an island,) connected with New Brunswick by an isthmus 12 miles wide. It is bounded on the north-east by Northumberland Strait, St. George's Bay, and the Strait of Canseau; on the south and south-east by the Atlantic Ocean; and on the north-west by the Bay of Fundy, Chiegnecto Bay, and the Province of New Brunswick.

The Strait of Canseau, which the French called Passage de Fronsac, divides Nova Scotia Proper from Cape Breton.

The surface is agreeably diversified by hills and valleys—that is, it is undulating, though it is not mountainous.

The length of Nova Scotia is 256 miles and its greatest breadth about 100 miles, and it contains a superficial area of 15,600 square miles.

Cape Breton is an island, lying on the north east of Nova Scotia Proper. It is bounded on the north-west by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, on the south-west by St. George's Bay and the Strait of Canseau, and on the north east and south-east by the Atlantic Ocean.

Its greatest length is 100 miles, its greatest breadth 72 miles, its area about 3000 square miles.

Its surface is in general similar to that of Nova Scotia Proper. In the northern part of the island the surface is elevated and uneven; in the southern and eastern parts it is undulating, with some ranges of low hills. Its climate is, of course, similar to that of Nova Scotia Proper.

The whole Province abounds with the rarest facilities and advantages for the prosecution of almost every branch of industry. Being almost surrounded by navigable waters, and deeply as well as thickly indented on every coast, except the western coast of Cape Breton, with bays, harbours and other arms of the sea, it affords facilities for shipping and commerce, far beyond those possessed by any other country in America.—The surrounding waters being filled, at almost all seasons of the year, by a great variety of fish, there is no country on earth where the fishery business can be more profitably followed. The mineral wealth which lies beneath, and *upon*, its surface, consisting of granite, slate, clay, freestone, lime, gypsum, marble, coal, iron, with many other kinds, is beyond all calculation, and would make any country rich, without the addition of any other resource, if fully developed and drawn upon. Containing, as it

does, extensive tracts of superior land, its agricultural capabilities are of no mean order. The forests which still cover a great extent of its surface, together with the streams and rivers with which it is intersected, in all directions, affording facilities both for communication and the propelling of machinery, are also sources of immense wealth to the country.

And yet, in the face of these facts, and many others which might be given, all tending to prove that nature has been lavish in her gifts to Nova Scotia, an absurd notion has got into the minds of many, not only abroad, but also at home, that this is a very poor country! That it is too poor, the author knows very well; but he also knows, as well, that it is so in the same sense that a man is poor, while he has an abundance of money, which he refuses to use.

Let us take up some of the more important facilities and advantages, as they are found in the various sections of the province, and see if we can discover any poverty which can fairly be attributed to a want of munificence on the part of nature. *

CHAPTER II.

COMMERCE.

The products which have hitherto formed the largest portion of the exports of Nova Scotia, have been drawn from its forests and fisheries. Mineral substances,—particularly coal and gypsum—live stock, and agricultural produce are also exported largely. The exports under this latter head have increased very much within the last few years. The principal markets for these products are Great Britain, the United States and the West Indies. The principal export to Great Britain consists of timber, both as squared timber and sawed into deals, lumber, &c., and of ships built in the province. In return for these, there are imported from the United Kingdom manufactures of every description suited to the wants of the country. The West Indies have long been the principal market for the fish of Nova Scotia, which receives in return produce the growth of those countries. To the United States are exported coal, gypsum, wood, fish, and agricultural and horticultural produce. The imports from

* In this part of the work the author has drawn pretty largely from. Hamilton "Nova Scotia as a Field for Emigration."

that country consist principally of breadstuffs and of American manufactures, especially of a cheap description of furniture and cabinet-work, carriages, and agricultural implements.

The general trade of Nova Scotia being divided among various channels, and carried on in a large variety of products, with no very great preponderance of any one, it has not been liable to such great and sudden fluctuations as have been rather frequent in some neighbouring countries. It has increased very steadily and in proportion to the general growth of the country. The following statistical information, taken from the Trade Returns of the Province, for the year ending September, 1859, will show to what an extent our shipping and commerce has already reached :—

From the various ports in the province during that year, there were, cleared 5809 vessels of various classes, with an aggregate of 657,092 tons, and manned by 40,218 hands. The number of vessels entered inwards at the various ports was 5,635 carrying 638,042 tons. There was exported from the province, articles of merchandise to the value of £1,377,826 sterling, while the value of our imports reached £1,620,191 sterling.

There seems every reason to suppose that the commerce of Nova Scotia, rapidly as it has grown of late years, must continue to grow much more rapidly. By the "Reciprocity Treaty" between Great Britain and the United States, which went into operation in 1854, all unmanufactured articles, the growth and produce of Nova Scotia, of commercial importance, may be imported into the United States, *free of duty*. The result of this is to cause a great stimulus to the export trade of Nova Scotia, a result which is yet but scarcely commenced.

Notwithstanding that, by one article in that treaty, United States fishermen are privileged to pursue their calling upon the coasts and in the bays of Nova Scotia, and in the Gulf of St Lawrence, it is believed that the Nova Scotian fisherman will ever find a ready market for his fish in the United States. However this may be, there are other articles, the growth and produce of this province, which it is quite certain will ever find a ready sale in the United States, and at a fair profit to the producer. The decided superiority of Nova Scotia with reference to its agricultural resources, its mines, or its forests, over the New England States, furnishes the best of reasons for such a conclusion. The proximity of the province to the market thus opened to its products, and the comparatively small cost of the transportation of those products to market, owing to the free water communication available for that purpose to every section of the province, add to the probabilities of a greatly enlarged trade between it and the United States.

There is an equal probability of a great increase in the trade between Nova Scotia and the neighbouring British provinces. Previous to 1850. but very little commercial intercourse existed between them. Since that time, owing mainly to an inter-provincial treaty, providing for an exchange of commodities, the growth, or natural products of the province whence exported, the trade between them has considerably increased. Canada affords not a small market for the fish of Nova Scotia. The latter country is richer in mineral resources than Canada, New Brunswick, or Prince Edward's Island, a fact which will in all probability, lead to an active traffic between it and them. The principal import from Canada has been and will probably continue to be, breadstuffs. But that which is most especially calculated to increase the direct traffic between Nova Scotia and the more important of these provinces, is the undoubted tendency of the trade between Canada, and, to some extent, New Brunswick also, on the one hand, and the West Indies on the other, to pass through Nova Scotia. Owing to causes which it is scarcely necessary here to trace out, Nova Scotia will be the immediate source from which those neighbouring countries will mainly draw their supplies of West Indian produce.

Without descending to particulars, the reader will perceive that from the geographical position and conformation of Nova Scotia, already alluded to; the number and excellence of its harbours, its great facilities for shipbuilding, the tendency of these conditions combined with the excellent fisheries upon its coasts to decide the occupation of a large proportion of its population; it is more than probable that it must soon appropriate to itself a very large proportion of the carrying trade of North America.

CHAPTER III.

FISHERIES.

Nova Scotia if not unequalled is certainly not surpassed, by any country in the world, for the extent and value of its far famed fisheries. The coast line forms a distance of 1000 miles at least, and there is no part of it on which a highly profitable fishery may not be pursued. The interior of the country is also, as already shown, well watered by numerous rivers. In these, the fishes that usually frequent such inland waters in these latitudes are caught in abundance. The salmon, to say nothing of the

finest trout, are plentiful in nearly all of those streams, and afford fine sport to the angler; and are so numerous and of so fine a quality as to be of some importance as an article of commerce. The yellow perch, the white perch, sucker, chub, carp and roach are also abundant in many of the lakes and streams.

The shad is taken in great numbers in Cumberland Basin, Minas Basin, and the estuaries of the rivers which empty into them. The taking of this most delicious fish constitutes the principal fishery of those waters. The gaspereau, or alewife, the cod, the haddock, the pollock, the herring and the flounder are found in the greatest abundance in all parts of the bay of Fundy, and also in its branches, Cumberland Bay and Minas Basin; whilst the hake, the forsk or cusk and halibut, are taken in such numbers as to form a very important item in the products of those waters. In the early spring the smelt swarms in myriads up into most of the rivers emptying into the Bay of Fundy. The herring of the Bay of Fundy is small, but usually fat and of excellent quality. The greatest number of those caught are smoked and packed in boxes. The pollock fishery is believed to be the most valuable and extensive of the deep-sea fisheries of the Bay of Fundy. The cod, haddock, halibut, and gaspereau, do not differ from the fishes of those kinds found upon other parts of the coast of Nova Scotia. The sturgeon is also frequently caught in the Bay of Fundy, but is not highly valued in Nova Scotia. The bass, a delicious fish, sometimes attaining a weight of forty or fifty pounds, is also common in this bay.

In the Gulf of St Lawrence the shad and gaspereau are not so numerous nor of such good quality as on the Bay of Fundy coasts. All the other fishes already named, with the exception of the pollock are there found in abundance. The bass appears at certain seasons on this coast, in large schools. The makarel, which forms an important article of commerce in Nova Scotia, but which is comparatively rare in the Bay of Fundy, is abundant in the Gulf of St Lawrence. The sea perch is also very numerous. It is in the estuaries of the rivers on this coast that the salmon trout, or sea trout, is found in the greatest numbers in Nova Scotian waters. Of these, River Philip seems to be more particularly favoured, and is the summer's resort of many anglers. Valuable oyster Fisheries exist at several points on the Gulf coast.

The Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia is that most celebrated for its Fisheries. Nearly all of the salt water fishes already named are here found in abundance, and many other valuable species besides. The Halifax fish market is said to be the best supplied of any in the world; and certainly,

if such is not the case, it is owing to no lack of means. The cod swarms along the shores and upon the fishing banks which lie off this coast throughout nearly its whole extent. The supply of this valuable fish, and of haddock, hake, and pollock appears to be unlimited. When cured, they are most frequently sent to market in the form of "dry fish." Delicious halibut, sometimes attaining a weight of 500lbs., may be taken in the greatest abundance; and the great tunny, or albacore, so highly prized in the Mediterranean, is here frequently taken, varying from six to twelve feet in length. The mackerel so much valued, frequents this coast in immense "schules," the arrival of any one of which gives occasion to a scene of great activity among the fishermen who are anxiously awaiting them. Nova Scotia is, undoubtedly, without a rival in the facilities which it affords for prosecuting the mackerel fishery with profit. The shores in and about Chedabucto Bay, the southern entrance to the strait of Canso, are especially famed for the myriads of these fishes which resort to them annually. In that vicinity the immense schules of mackerel are sometimes seen several miles in breadth, rendering the surface of the water quite smooth, and forming a mass so dense as even to impede the progress of the smaller class of vessels. These waters are their highway to the Gulf of St Lawrence, of which, as already mentioned, they form one of the most valuable Fisheries.

The quantity of fish that may be taken from one of these great shoals seems to depend solely upon the extent of the means at hand for securing and curing them. Upwards of 20,000 barrels were taken in Halifax harbour in 1855; and the value of products of the sea, taken by the fishermen of Halifax County during that year, were estimated to be over £250,000. A great number of mackerel—probably a greater number than in any other way—are also taken in the deeper waters off shore, particularly in the Gulf of St Lawrence, by means of hook and line. The mackerel abounds on all the coasts of the Island of Cape Breton.

Next to the mackerel the herring is most deserving of particular mention. Immense schules of this fish also frequent the Atlantic coast. This fish, although different from the herring of the European side of the Atlantic, is, when properly dressed and cured, scarcely, if at all, inferior to the widely celebrated Dutch herring. Those caught upon the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia are usually pickled in barrels. There is no part of that coast on which herring may not be taken in great abundance; and they may there be caught at all seasons of the year. But, indeed, every salt-water fish named in this section may be caught in the greatest abundance upon the Atlantic coast of the province of Nova Scotia, and with few exceptions at all seasons of the year.

The value, in sterling, of the various kinds of fish taken from our own waters and exported during the year 1859, was as follows :—

Cod-fish,	£207,364.
Herrings,	135,239.
Lobsters,	4,151.
Makerel,	117,683.
Scale-fish,	15,159.
Shad & Halibut,	3,708.
Salmon,	15,653.

Total, 598,955.

These figures show what an incalculable treasure the fisheries of Nova Scotia are to us. Here we have a total of five hundred and ninety-eight thousand, nine hundred and fifty-five pounds sterling, as the value of the fish exported from our province in one year, besides which, an immense quantity must have been kept for home consumption.

But it has never been disputed that our fisheries are of immense value. Very many are, however, under the erroneous impression that they are our only considerable source of wealth. This is far from being true, as we shall see as we proceed.

CHAPTER IV.

AGRICULTURAL CAPABILITIES.

It is stoutly contended by many, even of those who call themselves farmers, that Nova Scotia is *not* an agricultural country. We beg leave most respectfully to differ, and proceed to show the grounds for this difference :—

On the Atlantic coast, as every one knows, there are almost no facilities for the prosecution of agriculture. The vast fields of granite rock which extend along the entire shore, preclude the possibility of such a pursuit. This is only one of the wise provisions of nature, or rather of nature's author. These huge rocks were piled up here, by the Great Architect, for the purpose of protecting this peninsula against the violence of the long waves of the Atlantic. Were it not for this arrangement, long ere the present time there would have been no land here to cultivate—all would, ages ago, have been swept into the sea and buried beneath its waters.

But let us proceed inland, and see if we cannot find immense tracts of the most fertile lands.

There are tracts of excellent land along the margin of many of the rivers which traverse even this district. On receding from the shore, the soil greatly improves, owing probably to the greater prevalence of clay slate in the underlying rocks; and in the northern districts of all those counties which front upon the Atlantic, it is of a good quality and amply repays the labours of the farmer. The county of *Halifax*, with the exception of the beautiful and fertile valley along the upper part of the Musquodoboit River, belongs to the granitic district; and it contains a greater proportion of rocky and unproductive soil than any other county in the province.

The soil of *Lunenburg*, although generally stony, is for the most part of a good quality; and many flourishing agricultural settlements are scattered over the county.

In *Queen's County* the land, for some distance back from the shore, is principally of an unproductive character; but it improves very much as it recedes into the interior. In the northern part of the county there are large and rapidly extending agricultural settlements.

In *Shelburne County*, the comparatively barren shoreband seems to widen and extend somewhat farther back than in Queen's County; but here, too, there are tracts of valuable land in the rear of the county. The population however is, as yet, almost confined to the vicinity of the shore, and is engaged more in the fisheries than in agricultural pursuits, there being a smaller number of farmers in this county than in any other in the province.

The soil of *Yarmouth County* is of the same general character as that which we find in Lunenburg, and in the northern parts of Queen's and Shelburne Counties. The upland soil is pretty nearly of a uniform quality throughout this county; and, owing to the higher average temperature of the climate, compared with that of most other agricultural districts of the province, is capable, under good cultivation, of yielding highly remunerative returns to the husbandman. This County exceeds all the others along the southern coast in the extent of the dyked marsh lands, which lie along the shores of its many harbours and inlets. This marsh is, however, insignificant in quantity, and inferior in quality, when compared with that of counties which lie along the bay of Fundy and its tributaries.

The whole of this Atlantic coast district—including the southern half of the county of Guysborough, which is very similar in every respect to Halifax County—presents many attractions for the farmer, although not usually represented as a valuable agricultural district. The land of good quality in this district is frequently stony and somewhat difficult to clear

up and put under cultivation in the first instance ; but when once it has been brought to that stage, it is more easy and less expensive to keep it in good condition than many of the more highly extolled soils of the interior counties, owing to the more porous substrata of the latter. Lime, the ingredient which it most requires, can be procured from beds found at the head of Mahone Bay and Margaret's Bay, and on both shores of the Strait of Canseau, and conveyed by water to any part of the coast at an expense which, if the traffic became a regular one, would make its use highly remunerative to the farmer.

On pursuing our investigations into the northern section of the province, we find land, for the most part, very different from that in the shore counties. Commencing with *Digby*, we find that this difference is, as yet, not very perceptible. The rocks which underlie the soil of the greater part of this county, although not the same as those of Yarmouth, are yet very similar ; and the soil itself, of all that part of the county which lies south-east of St Mary's Bay, bears a like similarity to that of Yarmouth. The small portions of the county which remain, are of a different kind of soil, which is, for the most part, highly fertile when once-brought under cultivation.

Annapolis and *King's Counties* are so very similar in their character, that they may be considered together. They are, with scarcely any exception, highly fertile throughout their whole extent ; but afford many varieties of soil corresponding to the varieties of rock formations which underlie them. Fronting on the bay shore, the ridge of highlands known as the North Mountain, stretches along the whole north-western limit of the two counties. The soil upon these hills, composed of disintegrated trap, possesses all the elements of fertility ; and accordingly this land, wherever it has been stripped of the luxuriant forests which grow upon it, yields the farmer a rich reward for his labours. Next to this, and about equal to it in extent, lies another strip of light and mellow but very fertile soil, based upon the new red sandstone formation. This forms the rich and beautiful valley which is drained towards the west by the Annapolis River and its branches ; and towards the east by the Cornwallis, Canard, Habitant, and Pereau—the oldest settled and most highly cultivated region in Nova Scotia. Lying next to this again, and forming the south-eastern portion of the two counties, is an extensive tract, of which the soil, based upon the clay slate with occasional ridges of igneous rocks, is very similar to that of Northern Queen's County. A great portion of this tract is still covered with luxuriant forest ; but the land, although in some few localities too broken and rocky for cultivation, wherever cleared, has proved itself to be of good quality. In both of these counties, but

more particularly in King's County, there are large tracts of the marine alluvium known as *marsh*, the most valuable description of soil in the province. The Grand Pre, in Horton, forms the largest unbroken expanse of marsh in Nova Scotia. The light, loamy soil of the great valley, already mentioned, which stretches across these two counties, seems particularly adapted to the growth of root crops, great quantities of which, especially of potatoes, are there cultivated. In King's County alone, 574,692 bushels of potatoes were raised in 1851; and the crop has considerably increased with each succeeding year since then. Large quantities of fruit—apples, plums, and pears—are also raised in these counties, for home consumption and for exportation to New Brunswick and the United States. It does not appear however, that they have any peculiar natural adaptability in this way; for in most parts of the province, fruits of the kinds mentioned can, with ordinary care and attention, be raised in profusion.

The whole of *Hant's County*, with the exception of some inconsiderable tracts in the south eastern part, possesses a good soil. Owing to this county's lying mostly in a carboniferous district, there is less variety in the nature of its soils than in those of the last two described. It stands high as an agricultural county, and much of its cultivated land is proved to be in the highest degree fertile. Windsor is among the oldest settlements of the province; and much of the land in that vicinity is in a very high state of cultivation. This county also contains much excellent marsh land along the numerous rivers which intersect it.

Colchester, another large agricultural county, possesses a greater variety of soil than Hants; but this variety exists in its constituents rather than in its quality. There is a broad carboniferous valley, forming the central portion of the county with deep, loamy, or gravelly uplands, and extensive alluvial tracts of marsh and intervale. The northern part of the county is occupied by the chain of the Cobequid Hills, of the latter metamorphic formation; whilst some spurs, from a similar chain extend into the south-eastern part. These hills, when stripped of the dense, hardwood forests with which the new settler finds them clothed, are found to possess a soil of the highest fertility, and, with the exception of occasional spots of stony ground, easy of cultivation. Some of the most flourishing, exclusively agricultural settlements in the province are to be found on these hills. Colchester contains a greater extent of intervale than any other county of the province. This term *intervale*, it may be necessary to observe, is applied to the expanses of flat, alluvial soil, formed by the deposits of brooks and rivers before they reach tide waters. Where the sea tides have been mainly instrumental in depositing the alluvial soil, it

is called *marsh*. The name *meadow* is applied, in Nova Scotia, only to a more recent deposit of fresh water alluvium, forming flats of wet soil, in its natural state destitute of trees, but covered with a long coarse grass. The soil of the intervale is a very fertile clayey loam ; and it is by many farmers preferred to the usually more expensive marsh land. That portion of Colchester which lies north of the Cobequid Hills, is similar in soil to that part of Cumberland which adjoins it.

Cumberland, in its southern part, embraces a large portion of those elevated lands known as the Cobequid Hills, the general character of which, in an agricultural point of view, has already been briefly described. It need only be added, that towards the western termination of this range, where it is embraced on both sides by the county of Cumberland, the land becomes more stony than in some of its more eastern sections. The central portion of this county is composed of lands of fair average quality, becoming generally more light and sandy as we travel northwards. Around the head of Cumberland Basin, and along the rivers Hebert, Maccan, Napan, and La Planche, which empty into it, are extensive tracts of fine marsh, of which valuable description of land, Cumberland contains nearly as much as any other three counties in the province ; but whether from natural inferiority of soil, or less skilful cultivation, the Cumberland marshes are not quite so productive as some of those which border upon the basin of Minas and its tributary streams. The eastern part of the county of Cumberland, bordering upon Northumberland Strait, consists for the most part of a deep loamy soil, probably unsurpassed in fertility by any upland soil in the province.

Pictou and *Sydney Counties* are so very similar in their agricultural capabilities that they may be considered together. In no considerable portions of these two fine Counties, is the soil of an inferior description. In those portions of them geologically described as the carboniferous sections, the uplands afford a good soil of nearly uniform quality, whilst the intervalles, which are extensive, are similar to land of the same description in other parts of the province. The highlands which intersect these two counties, furnish soil of more varied quality. In some few localities it is so stony or rocky, as to be extremely difficult, if not even impossible of cultivation ; but for the most part the soil of these highlands is of first-rate quality, and is considered the best land in that section of the country. Pictou is, for Nova Scotia, a thickly settled county ; and from the quantities of the most valuable agricultural products which it has of late years produced, may be regarded as, at the present time, the first agricultural county in the province, with the exception, perhaps, of King's. Sydney also, in proportion to its extent, occupies a high rank in this respect.

The southern half of *Guysborough County* may be described as very similar to *Halifax County*. Its northern part contains much excellent soil ; although in some places the land is too strong to be profitably cultivated. There are some fine tracts of alluvial soil along the rivers of this county ; and it contains several flourishing agricultural settlements, particularly on the *Manchester River* and the upper banks of the *St. Mary's*.

The *Island of Cape Breton* has, in the quality of its soil, as in many other advantages which it possesses, been highly favoured by nature. The north-western half of the island, comprising the principal portions of *Inverness* and *Victoria Counties*, is generally much more elevated than the remainder, which, particularly on the Atlantic coast is flat, or but slightly undulating. At some localities on this south-eastern coast, forming parts of *Cape Breton* and *Richmond Counties*, the land is barren and rocky. Some parts of the imperfectly explored highlands in the northern sections of *Inverness* and *Victoria*, are said to be of the same character. But these may be considered as exceptional spots, small in extent when compared with the large tracts of good land comprised in this island. The whole interior, with all the shores of the great *Bras d'Or Lake* and the many inlets which branch from it, is composed of excellent soil ; and the middle and southern portions of *Inverness* form a large, uninterrupted extent of land highly fertile, and of nearly uniform quality. This county, although its settlements are of very recent origin, is already one of the first agricultural counties of the province. The soil throughout the island generally is of a description very similar to that of *Pictou* and *Sydney Counties* ; and like those two counties, *Cape Breton*, with the exception of some small tracts in *Inverness*, contains no marsh land.

Wheat crops do not succeed well upon the Atlantic coast, owing mainly, it is believed, to the prevalence of fog in that part of the country during some stages of its growth ; but it grows and produces well in most parts of the interior where the land has not been exhausted from overcropping. If any parts of that interior are entitled to a preference with a view to raising this valuable crop, they are the eastern section of *Cumberland*, the highlands of *Colchester*, the counties of *Pictou*, *Sydney* and *Inverness*. Oats, barley, rye, and buckwheat may be raised in abundance, and at comparatively trifling cost in all cultivable parts of the province. Indian corn, which is so very profitable to the farmer where it does grow well, can be cultivated with success in all parts of the interior ; but the light warm soil and sheltered situation of the lands in the valley of *Annapolis* and *King's Counties* renders them particularly favourable for its growth. Potatoes and root crops of every description succeed well everywhere.

The potatoes of Nova Scotia are very highly esteemed in the United States markets, to which large quantities of them have been exported of late years. They are produced in the greatest abundance in the dry alluvial valleys of Annapolis, Kings, Hants, and Colchester.

As a grazing country, Nova Scotia, considering its extent, probably stands unrivalled among the provinces and states of eastern North America. Rearing live stock and keeping a dairy has long been considered a particularly profitable business in every part of the province, notwithstanding that until late years little pains have been taken to introduce the most approved and profitable breeds of cattle into the country. All the interior counties, from Annapolis to Inverness inclusive, together with many parts of those on the Atlantic coast, are admirably suited to this purpose; and King's County, Hants, Colchester, and Cumberland, may be named as pre-eminently so, owing to the extent of their marshes and intervales, which, with but little cultivation, yield almost inexhaustible supplies of fodder. Among the agricultural products not named in the census returns referred to, especial mention may be made of *flax* and *hemp*. The latter of these has never been cultivated, so far as the author can learn, except by way of experiment. Flax has been raised in some parts of the province, with a view to profit; but only to the extent of supplying material for some inconsiderable domestic manufactures. Both flax and hemp of excellent quality can be grown without difficulty in Nova Scotia; and if cultivated to any extent, would yield a handsome profit to the grower. Hops, likewise, grow luxuriantly, especially in the deeper soils of the interior; but farmers have never thought of cultivating them except for domestic purposes. A good opportunity exists of cultivating them with profit. As already intimated, the apple, plum, pear, and cherry, in all their varieties, flourish well in all parts of the province. Fine peaches and grapes are grown in the open air in some parts, but have not been cultivated to any extent.

The value of the various agricultural productions exported from the province in 1859, was as follows:—

Potatoes & Vegetables	£77,315
Apples & Plums	6244
Ale, Porter & Cider	4199
Beef	5187
Butter	24,704
Cheese	819
Corn & Oatmeal	2,703
Eggs	2,531
Hides & Skins	8,644
Horned Cattle	23,251
Horses	737

Oats & Barley	.	.	.	.	.	15,697
Pork & Hams	.	.	.	.	.	15,486
Sheep	.	.	.	.	.	6,415
Swine	.	.	.	.	.	248
Firewood	.	.	.	.	.	19,877

Total £214,057

Of course a small portion of some of these articles were imported and re-shipped, but they were mainly the productions of our own country.

In 1851, there were 839,322 acres of improved lands in the province. By far the greater portion of our cultivable lands, however, is yet covered with forests, and a large area, even ungranted.

In the face of such facts and figures as the above, who will still have the hardihood to maintain that Nova Scotia is not an Agricultural country?

CHAPTER IV.

MANUFACTURES.

Nova Scotia, with its abundant *material*, and the equally abundant facilities for the propulsion of machinery by water power, possesses manufacturing capabilities of a very high order. Owing to causes which it is is not necessary here to explain, however, but little has yet been done in this important branch of industry.

There were, in 1851, 10 steam-mills, or factories, in the province. There were also at that time 1,153 saw-mills, 398 grist-mills, 237 tanneries, 9 foundries, 81 weaving and carding establishments, 17 breweries and distilleries, and 131 other factories—all upon a comparatively small scale. There were scattered through the rural districts 11,096 hand-looms, from which were manufactured 119,698 yards of coarse woollen, or cotton and woollen, cloth, afterwards fulled; 790,104 yards not fulled; and 219,352 yards of flannel. There were 78,076 gallons of malt liquor, and 11,900 gallons of distilled liquor manufactured. The value of agricultural implements manufactured was £16,640; of chairs and cabinet work, £11,155; of carriages, £9,491; of other wooden ware, £19,233; of soap, £28,277; and of candles, £21,210. The manufacture of most of the above-named articles has very considerably increased since 1851; but the extent to which they are produced is very far from being commensurate with the consumption of the country. The number of vessels built in the province that year was 486, with an aggregate tonnage of 57,776 tons.

CHAPTER V.

MINERALS.

Nova Scotia, has been endowed by nature with mineral wealth in a very high degree, but comparatively little has yet been done to extract substantial wealth from these resources. The time must come, however, when the minerals of this province will add enormously to its available wealth. Let us glance briefly at some of our more important mineral substances :—

Granite, is found in great abundance, and of excellent quality, in many places on the Atlantic coast. The quarries which have been worked to the greatest extent are at Shelburne and Halifax. Great facilities exist at both for quarrying and shipping the stone. From the “Queen’s Quarries,” at the latter place, large quantities have been taken for the construction of the fortifications of Halifax, for which purpose it is highly esteemed. Granite has been to some extent exported from Shelburne to the United States and neighbouring provinces. There are large quantities of excellent granite, readily accessible for shipment at Barrington, near the mouth of Musquodoboit River, in the vicinity of Cape Canso, and at various other places on the Atlantic coast. The slates of the older metamorphic district, afford, at a great number of localities, good material for the rougher kind of walls, and materials which may be quarried and fitted for building at very slight expense.

The Devonian and Silurian district is rich in building materials. *Sienite* and *porphyry* of good and beautiful qualities are found in great abundance in many places on the Cobequid Hills, on part of the shores of the Bras d’Or Lake, and various other places in the island of Cape Breton, and in the range of hills which skirt the Annapolis Valley on the south. *Slate*, of excellent quality, is found at New Canaan, near Kentville, along the range of hills lying between the Stewiacke and Musquodoboit Rivers, in the southern part of Pictou County, and at various other points. Quarries have been opened at New Canaan, and in the vicinity of the Stewiacke, for the purpose of procuring roofing slates. *Sulphate of barytes* is found in the hills immediately north of the Stewiacke, at Five Islands, on the north shore of Minas Basin, and at some other localities. At Five Islands it exists in great abundance, and both there and at Stewiacke it has been quarried and exported to some extent to the United States and Great Britain, where it is mixed with white lead as a paint. *Mineral paints* in great variety are procured from the iron ochres of the Cobequid Hills. One description, known as *artificial slate*, is rapidly growing into repute throughout North America. When mixed with oil,

and laid on over wood, it possesses the rare and invaluable quality of rendering it impervious to damp and proof against fire.

First among the numerous mineral deposits of the Nova Scotia carboniferous district, we may mention *coal*. It is probable that Nova Scotia, in proportion to its extent, stands unrivalled in the productive capabilities of its coal-fields. The most western of these valuable deposits, so far as ascertained, exists at the Joggins, on the shore of Cumberland Basin. In this coal-field, there are seventy-six beds of coal, with an aggregate thickness of 41 feet. Of the seams which may be profitably worked, there are six, comprising together a thickness of 18 ft. 6 in.

About twenty miles south-east of the Joggins, at Spring Hill on the northern skirts of the Cobequid Hills, we find another great coal deposit, which geologists declare to be quite a different field from the one just described. This being in an inland position, has not yet been opened, or thoroughly explored. Its coal has been proved, however, to be of excellent quality; and it comprises many valuable beds, one of which is twelve feet in thickness. Another coal-field can be traced along the southern side of the Cobequid Hills throughout their whole extent, from Cape Chignecto to the borders of Pictou County. This field is not yet mined at any point, nor has its real extent and value been yet ascertained by any close examination. Another coal-field exists on the southern side of the Minas Basin, extending quite across Hants and the southern part of Colchester Counties. Several small seams appear at or near the surface along the banks of the Kennetcook, Shubenacadie, and Stewiacke, and of small streams emptying into them.

The next great coal-field that we find, travelling eastwardly, is that of Pictou. The principal beds of *good coal* in this field are of the respective thicknesses of 24, 12, and 6 feet. The first of these has been worked for many years at what are known as the "Albion Mines."

Beds of coal occur at Little River, and at Cariboo Cove, near River Inhabitants, in Richmond County. At the former place, the coal, which is of a good quality, is found in a seam about four feet thick, two-and-a-half miles from the shore. At Cariboo Cove, the coal, which is of not so good a quality, appears on the shore in a vein upwards of eleven feet in thickness. Good coal also occurs at various places in the vicinity of Port Hood, in Inverness County.

A very valuable coal-field exists on the north side of Sydney harbour in Cape Breton County. It comprises thirty-four different seams; but of these only four, having an aggregate thickness of twenty feet, are of sufficient extent to be worked. A mine has been opened at this place; and the coal is conveyed by railroad about three miles to "Sydney Bar,"

whence large quantities of it are exported. Excellent coal and in great abundance is found at many other places in this vicinity. A coal field extends quite across Boularderie Island, from one of the seams of which, four feet thick, on the Little Bras d'Or, some coal has been raised. Several valuable beds appear, one of which, only, nine feet in thickness, has been opened. Good coal also occurs at Cow Bay, and at various other points on or near the sea shore in that vicinity. The coal-fields of Cape Breton County would appear to be almost inexhaustible, and nature affords every facility for working them to advantage.

The extensive coal deposits of Nova Scotia can scarcely be too highly estimated, when considered in connection with the fact, that no coal-fields of any considerable value exist in the eastern states, Canada, New Brunswick, Prince Edward's Island, or—so far as yet known—in Newfoundland.

Reddish, grey, and brown *Freestones* are found in abundance in the carboniferous district. Freestone of good quality for buildings is procurable at Horton, Falmouth, Windsor, Shubenacadie, Londonderry, Wallace, Pictou, Guysborough, Port Hood, Margaree, Whycocomagh, and various other parts of Cape Breton. In most, if not in all of these, it may be quarried and shipped with facility. Excellent quarries are also to be found in many places in the interior. Hitherto the greatest quantities of freestone have been taken from the quarries of Wallace and Pictou. The best and most expensive public buildings in the province are composed of Wallace-stone; whilst that of Pictou has been of late years extensively exported to the United States where it is highly prized. Sandstone suitable for millstones and grindstones is procured at Pictou and the eastern part of Cumberland; but Minudie and other localities in the vicinity of the Joggins, already referred to are the most celebrated for this material. Grindstones are there quarried and hewn out directly upon the shore of the Cumberland Basin, the great rise and fall of tide enabling those engaged in the business to load their vessels with the stones upon the spot where they have been both quarried and dressed.

Lime and *gypsum* are found in enormous quantities in Northern Hants and Southern Colchester. The quarrying and shipping of gypsum to the United States, from Shubenacadie and the neighbourhood of Windsor form quite an active and flourishing trade. It is constantly increasing, and may increase almost indefinitely, for the supply seems inexhaustible. Large deposits of both are found scattered across the central portion of the county of Cumberland forming a band extending east and west. Lime is quarried at Cape John, Merigomish, and at the west and east rivers of Pictou; gypsum is also procurable at the latter locality. Both lime and

gypsum occur in large and readily accessible deposits at Plaister Cove, on the Strait of Canso, at several points on the shores of Lennox Passage, at St. Peter's, Arichat, Mabou, Margaree, St Ann's, Boularderie Island, Sydney, Mira, and upon every hand on the shores of the Great Bras d'Or Lake and its tributary rivers and inlets. These beds are, in many places, found associated with marls.

Marble of various descriptions is found in several parts of Nova Scotia. An extensive bed of grey and white marble is found on the southern side of the Little Bras d'Or, near Long Island. Several pretty and unusual varieties of coloured marble are procurable at Craignish and Long Point, in Inverness, near the northern entrance to the Strait of Canso. A curiously waved grey marble is also found near New Glasgow and at Little Harbour in Pictou County. Quarries have not been opened to any extent at any of the above-named places; nor have any decided steps been taken as yet with that object. But a bed of marble exists at Five Islands, in Colchester County, to work which a company was incorporated in the Nova Scotian legislative session of 1855, under the name of the "Acadian Marble Company." The Five Islands marble beds have not been sufficiently opened up as yet to warrant a very decided opinion as to their extent of value; but they seem to hold out great inducements to the capitalist. Specimens of white marble are procured from these beds as pure and fine-grained as any which the most highly valued European quarries afford to the sculptor. They also produce several varieties of coloured marble, some of which are very beautiful.

Ochres from which good paints may be manufactured, occur in large quantities on the banks of the Shubenacadie, East River, and other places. A material which makes a *hydraulic cement*, is procured near Chester; and a species of *umber*, from which paint is manufactured, is found at the same place. There is no part of the carboniferous district of Nova Scotia, of any extent in which there is not an abundance of good *clay* for the manufacture of bricks and the coarser kinds of earthenware.

First in importance among the *ores* and *metallic substances* found in Nova Scotia, must be placed *Iron*. Enough is already known concerning the extent and quality of deposits of that kind in Nova Scotia, to lead to the conviction that iron of excellent description may here be profitably manufactured to an almost indefinite extent. The ores of this most useful of metals are found in great variety, and in several places widely removed from each other. The most western deposit of any extent yet discovered occurs at Clements, on the south side of Annapolis Basin. The outcrop of the vein may be traced on the surface for the distance of a mile, with an average thickness of nine feet six inches. The ore con-

sists of scales of specular iron, firmly cemented together, and intermixed with silicious and calcareous matter ; and it has been in part converted by heat into magnetic iron ore. It yields from 33 to 40 per cent. of cast iron, the quality of which is said to be very superior. In 1826, a company was formed for the purpose of working this mine. Operations were commenced, and the smelting of the ore and manufacturing of the iron continued for some time ; but operations suddenly ceased, owing, it is said, to dissensions among the stockholders, but they are about to be resumed, with a prospect of very great success.

A bed of iron occurs at Nictau, also in the County of Annapolis, and is similar to that found at Clements. There are several parallel veins at this place, varying from four to ten feet in thickness—six of these have been examined and accurately defined, and the ore contains 55·3 per cent of iron of excellent quality. Works have recently been erected at the falls of the Nictau River, in the immediate vicinity of this deposit for the purpose of smelting the ore. The great natural advantages of the situation, the good quality of the ore, and the abundance immediately at hand of most of the raw material required, afford every reason to suppose that the operations here commenced will prove quite successful.

The next great deposit of iron ore which we will mention is found on the southern slope of the Cobequid Hills. This deposit, considering its extent and the variety and quality of its ores, may be pronounced the most important in the province. That part of it to which attention has been most particularly directed lies between the Debert River and a point some two miles westward of the Great Village River, a distance in all of about ten miles. Between these points the vein extends nearly east and west, and at a distance of from five to eight miles from the shore of Cobequid Bay. The whole vein is of very irregular width. At one spot on the bank of the Great Village River it is 120 feet wide ; whilst at another, not far from the most eastern point to which the vein has been traced, it attains a breadth of over five hundred feet. Its breadth is unequal at various intermediate points where measurements have been made. The length of this vein is not yet ascertained : its continuation may be seen near Five Islands, twenty miles westward of Great Village River ; so that the vein is *known* to extend a distance of about thirty miles in length. It is not at all improbable that upon continued examination it will be found to extend along the whole length of the Cobequid range of hills.

These ores are of an excellent quality, some of which afford from 60 to 70 per cent of pure iron. From the richness, abundance and position of the ore, it has been calculated that it can be provided at the blast

furnaces at Great Village River, at a lower cost per ton of iron than at most of the other principal establishments of the kind in the world. The iron made from these ores is found to be equal to any in the world, in the rare properties requisite for making good steel.

An Act of Incorporation has been procured from the Nova Scotian Legislature, during the session of 1855, incorporating the proprietors of these mines by the name of the "Acadian Iron and Steel Company." There seems to be no reason why the operations of this Company should not be attended with complete success. As already shown, the supply of the ore appears to be almost inexhaustible. The iron made from that ore is equal to the best quality produced by any other part of the world. There are immense forests in the immediate vicinity of the mines, sufficient to supply them with charcoal at a small expense, for many years. Good freestone for building purposes, and, it is said, good fire-brick clay, are found at a short distance from the works. The Great Village River and other streams traversing the vein of ore, afford water-power sufficient to drive any machinery that will probably be required; and there is a shipping-place easily accessible, at five and a half-miles distant from the spot where the company has commenced operations.

A very extensive deposit of iron ore, of a description similar to that of Nictau, is found at East River, Pictou, and within ten miles distance from the Albion coal mines on that river. The vein at this place is sixteen feet in thickness. The situation of this deposit, like that of the Cobequid Hills, affords every facility for the profitable manufacture of iron. There is a coal mine in operation, extensive forests for the production of charcoal, and an abundance of good building stone and lime, in the vicinity of the bed of ore. Clay Ironstone and Brown Hematite are also found in abundance in the coal measures, nearer the mouth of the East River, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the coal mines. There are no works in operation for smelting any of the ores found in Pictou County.

Iron ore, in various forms, is found on the Shubenacadie, near its mouth. It has also been found in small quantities in several other places, affording good reason to believe that further extensive deposits of that valuable material will be discovered upon a more general research into the mineral wealth of Nova Scotia.

Copper ore occurs at several places in Nova Scotia. Large and numerous fragments of that ore are found in the southern part of Sydney County, affording indications of some valuable deposit in that section of the country. It is also found in the high lands in the rear of Five Islands, and at various other points in the Cobequid Range. Copper ores, in the form of the grey sulphuret and green carbonate of that metal, and of a

rich quality, occur at several places in Pictou County, particularly at East River, West River, and Carribou. A specimen from the latter place was found, on analysis, to contain 40 per cent of copper. Ores of the same description have been found, at Minudie, in Cumberland, and near Tatamagouche, in Colchester County.

Virgin copper is found, in grains and in masses in the fissures of the trap rock at Five Islands, Cape D'Or, and at several other points in the trap district.

Galena, or sulphuret of *Lead*, occurs at Gay's River the boundary between Halifax and Colchester Counties; also at Guysborough and several other places. At Gay's River it is associated with *silver*. That particular part of the country where this ore is found is still covered for the most part with forests; and little pains have been taken to ascertain the extent, or discover the most valuable deposit of it. From the indications already observed, it is quite probable that, upon a careful examination of the neighbourhood by competent parties, such a deposit will be discovered, of great value, with reference either to the lead or silver contained in it, and perhaps with reference to both.

Manganese ores are found in several parts of Pictou County; also at Cheverie, Walton, and Rawdon, in Hants County, on the banks of the Shubenacadie, at Parrsboro, and at Cornwallis. Small quantities of it are occasionally shipped from Walton alone.

The mineral substances which may be classed as *Precious Stones*, are confined mostly to the trap districts. They comprise articles applicable to jewellery and ornamental purposes; and also a great variety of substances of interest to mineralogists as specimens of the minerals formed in volcanic rocks. Nova Scotia has become widely celebrated among scientific men for the abundance and variety of these specimens, and the facility with which they may be procured. Many of them are very beautiful; and several of those useful for ornamental purposes are so plentiful and so easily obtained as to be quite worthy of attention in an economic point of view. These minerals are found in the rocks throughout the whole Trap district; but are most sought after among the cliffs of Cape Blomidon, Cape D'Or, Partridge Island and other points on the shore of Minas Channel and its vicinity. At those places the action of the winter frosts upon the exposed face of the cliffs is such that, every spring, great "avalanches," or land slides take place, and the finely crystallised and beautiful minerals are then found in profusion among the fragmentary rocks scattered upon the shelving beach. Fine specimens of many of the mineral substances already mentioned, are found among the Trap rocks. Of these there are several varieties of iron and copper ores, oxide of man-

ganese, sulphuret of lead, carbonate of lime, and sulphate of lime, and gypsum.

The minerals exported from the province in 1859 were as follows :—

Coals to the sterling value of	£85,682
Gypsum " "	17,479
Hardware and Iron	20,954

Total, 124,115.

We might extend this interesting chapter to the dimensions of a large volume, and still be very far from exhausting the subject, which like the substances of which it treats, seems to be exhaustless.

CHAPTER VI.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

It has been truly said that "intelligence lies at the foundation of a people's greatness." Unless the masses be *educated*, in the true sense of the term, it is in vain to expect to see them happy and prosperous, how thickly soever the gifts of nature may be strewn around them.

Hitherto the *Common Schools* of our country, the only means of diffusing the blessings of education among the working classes—the bone and sinew of any country—have been, with few exceptions, far below the standard requisite for effecting the great aim and object which such institutions should ever have in view.

But a very decided change for the better is now in progress. The foundation of an improved system of Common School Education was laid, a few years since, by the labours of our talented countryman, J. W. Dawson, while Superintendent of Education in Nova Scotia. It is to be deeply regretted that the services of this gentleman, not only in the great field of education, but also in others, of the deepest importance, were so little appreciated, by his countrymen, that they allowed a sister province to take him from us.

Mr Dawson, while he held the office alluded to in Nova Scotia, agitated the province from centre to circumference, arousing the people to a sense of the overwhelming importance of securing and applying the means necessary to thoroughly educate the youths of our land.

He also urged the subject with zeal *directed by knowledge*, upon the attention of our Legislature. Little *action*, however, was taken upon the great measures which he proposed, until after his departure from amongst us.

Mr Dawson was succeeded in his office of Superintendent of Education by the Rev. Alexander Forrester, D. D., and during the Legislative session of 1853, a measure was passed, in the affirmative, for the endowment of a Provincial Normal School, to be established at Truro, of which the Superintendent of Education was to be Principal. Accordingly, in the autumn of 1855, the Institution was opened, and it has been in vigorous operation ever since. Model Schools have since been connected with the Seminary for training Pupil Teachers, and the whole establishment is now in a most efficient and promising state. Dr Forrester is eminently the "right man in the right place," and if his hands be duly strengthened for the great work in which he is engaged, by the popular voice expressed through their representatives in Provincial Parliament, as well as directly, he will ere long place the common schools of Nova Scotia upon such a footing as will secure to our youths all the advantages arising from a sound physical, mental, and moral Education.

In justice to the gentlemen who have from the opening of the Institution down to the close of the last session, acted as Dr Forrester's subordinate officers, in the Pupil Teacher's department, namely Messrs Mulholland and Randall, it ought to be stated that they have very ably supported the learned Doctor in conducting the affairs of the Institution.

It is to be regretted that the last named gentleman has recently considered it necessary to resign his situation. The cause is not yet made public, but it is to be hoped that one whom hundreds of his former pupils, including the author, justly esteem, on account of the invaluable instructions received from him, and the uniform kindness with which these instructions were given, has acted from a sense of duty both to himself and the Institution. At the same time it is to be hoped that another, equally well qualified will be found to occupy the important place left vacant by his retirement, and that the Institution will continue to be worked efficiently and harmoniously throughout all its departments.

One thing more is imperatively demanded to place the educational institutions of our country on a broad and firm basis, and to give the desired efficiency to the Normal School, and that is **GENERAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE SUPPORT OF EDUCATION.**

Besides the Normal and Model Schools, there is at Truro, a very efficient Seminary belonging to the Presbyterian body, so that Truro may be considered to be the Literary metropolis of the province—in fact, it is so styled.

There are many facilities for obtaining education of a higher class. Grammar Schools or academies, in which the classics and the higher branches of English education are taught, exist in nearly all the towns,

or large villages of the province. There are also three chartered colleges in operation—King's College at Windsor, an Episcopalian Institution, Acadia College, Wolfville, Baptist; and St Mary's College, Halifax, Roman-Catholic. Another Catholic educational institution of the higher class has recently been opened at Antigonish. Although these institutions are under denominational control, no religious tests are required of students on matriculation. The curriculum in each of these colleges, extending over four years, does not differ materially from that of the others. It usually comprises courses of instruction in the Latin and Greek languages, mathematics, logic, rhetoric, and moral and intellectual philosophy.

In King's and Acadia Colleges, there are also theological departments having professorships of Hebrew and theology. The "Free Church College for the Lower Provinces of British North America" is located at Halifax, and affords a course of instruction similar to that of the other institutions just mentioned. Gorham College, Liverpool, Queen's County, under the control of the Congregational sect, was suddenly interrupted in its operations in the year 1854, owing to the destruction of the college building by accidental fire. This serious damage has not yet been repaired. The Presbyterian church of Nova Scotia has a Theological seminary, now at Durham, in Pictou County, but about to be removed to Truro. Dalhousie College, at Halifax, was incorporated in 1820; when a building was erected at the public expense, and a sum invested in the British three per-cents for the support of the institution. It has not, as yet answered the expectations which were entertained concerning it.

CHAPTER VII.

CIVIL DIVISIONS AND OTHER ITEMS OF GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

The principal civil divisions of Nova Scotia are, Counties and Townships.

Counties are the most important of these divisions. Each county sends representatives to the House of Assembly, has a Sheriff and a bench of Magistrates, has two Sessions of the Supreme Court in each year, and has the power of levying taxes within its limits.

There are eighteen Counties; fourteen of which are in Nova Scotia Proper, and four in Cape Breton.

Townships are subdivisions of Counties. Most of them were originally tracts of land granted to Companies or Associations for the purpose of settlement.

Townships can assess themselves for the support of the poor ; some of them have the privilege of sending Members to the Assembly.

The names of the Counties, with those of their townships, and shire towns, with the date when each county was settled are as follows :—*

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Townships.</i>	<i>Shire Towns</i>	<i>When & by whom settled.</i>
DIGBY.	Digby: Clare.	Digby.	1768.—Loyalists and French Acadians.
YARMOUTH.	Yarmouth: Argyle.	Yarmouth.	1763.—French Acadians.
SHELBURNE.	Barrington: Shelburne.	Shelburne.	First settlers were French. The first Br. settlers arrived in 1761, '62, & '63.
QUEENS.	Liverpool: Guysborough.	Liverpool.	1760.—Emigrants from Massachusetts.
ANNAPOLIS	Annapolis: Granville: Clements: Wilmot.	Annapolis.	1603.—French.
KING'S.	Horton: Cornwallis: Aylesford.	Kentville.	First settled by the French.
LUNENBURG.	Chester: Lunenburg: New Dublin.	Lunenburg.	1751.—Germans & Swiss.
HANTS.	Windsor: Falmouth: Newport: Kempt: Rawdon: Douglas.	Windsor.	First settled by the French.
HALIFAX.	Halifax: Dartmouth: Lawrencetown: Preston.	Halifax.	1749.—English, Irish, and Germans.
COLCHESTER.	Truro: Onslow: Londonderry: Stirling.	Truro.	French Acadians.
CUMBERLAND.	Amherst: Wallace: Parsborough.	Amherst.	French.
PICTOU.	Pictou: Egerton: Maxwellton.	Pictou.	1765.—Emigrants from Maryland.
SYDNEY.	Antigonishe: Arisaig: Tracadie: St. Andrews.	Antigonish.	1784.—Disbanded soldiers.
GUYSBOROUGH.	Manchester: Guysborough: St. Marys.	Guysborough.	1784, '85, & '86. Loyalists and disbanded soldiers.
INVERNESS.	Port Hood: Canseau: Margaree: Ainsle.	Port Hood.	French.
RICHMOND.	Arichat: Maitland: Lennox: Hawksbury.	Arichat.	French.
CAPE BRETON.	Sydney: St. Patrick's: St. Andrews.	Sydney.	French.
VICTORIA.		Baddeck.	Recently divided off from Cape Breton County.

* It is not easy to find the exact date when some of the Counties were first settled.—All that the author could ascertain are given in this table.

The following are our Ports of Entry and Departure ; each carrying on a rapidly increasing trade :—

Advocate, Amherst, Annapolis, Antigonish, Arichat, Baddeck, Barrington, Bear River, Beaver River, Bridgeport, Bridgetown, Canseau, (Cape), Canada Creek, Church Point, Cornwallis, Clementsport, Digby, French Cross, Great Bras d'Or, Guysborough, Halifax, Hantsport, Horton, Joggins, La Have, Liverpool, Londonderry, Lunenburg, Maitland, Parrsborough, Pictou, Port Medway, Port Hood, Pubnico, Pugwash, Ragged Islands, Shelburne, Sherbrooke, Ship Harbor, Sydney, C. B., Sydney, (North), Sheet Harbour, Tatamagouche, Thorne's Cove, Truro, Tusket, Wallace, Walton, Westport, Weymouth, Wilmot, Windsor, Yarmouth.

The numbers comprised in the various religious denominations in the province, as shown by the last census, are as follows :—

Roman Catholics . . .	69,634	Church of Scotland . . .	18,867
Baptists . . .	42,243	Lutherans . . .	4,087
Church of England . . .	36,482	Congregationalists . . .	2,639
Presbyterian Church of		Universalists . . .	580
Nova Scotia . . .	28,767	Quakers . . .	188
Free Church . . .	25,280	Sandimanians . . .	101
Methodists . . .	23,596	Other denominations . . .	3,791

The whole number of churches in the province, at the same time, was 567—equal to one for every 487 inhabitants.

CHAPTER VIII.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

Common Roads, most of them good and many of them superior, now intersect Nova Scotia like a net-work. At all seasons of the year we can travel to and from every settlement of the country, with ease, celerity and comfort, to which the first settlers were strangers. These roads are all free, toll-bars being unknown in this country, and there are but two bridges, namely, the Liverpool, and the Avon bridges, at which tolls are taken from passengers.

Rail-roads are, at length, commenced in Nova Scotia. It is destined to connect this province with the others west of us, by means of a Grand Trunk Line, which has already been extended to Truro—60 miles from the capital, with a branch to Windsor, 45 miles from the capital. A branch to Pictou, forty miles from Truro, is in contemplation, and will be carried into execution, so soon as the Government, which has control over these great public works, can command the necessary means.

An Inland Navigation Company was incorporated by act of Provincial Parliament in 1853, to resume and complete the "Shubenacadie Canal." The object of this enterprize is to connect the Harbour of Halifax with Cobequid Bay. Locomotion is to be aided on this Canal by means of a series of locks, and two inclined planes, to be worked by water power machinery. One of these inclined planes is 1,320 feet, and the other 500 feet, in length. There are to be eight locks only, each of which will be in length 67 feet ; in breadth, 17 feet ; and to have 5 feet depth of water. They are intended to afford locomotion to boats of 100 tons burthen. This work is now nearly completed.

The "St. Peter's Canal" was commenced in the autumn of 1854, as a provincial work. It is to connect the waters of St. Peter's Bay, on the Atlantic coast of the island of Cape Breton, with those of the Bras d'Or Lake; and, when completed, will divide Cape Breton into two islands. This will be a work inconsiderable as to its magnitude, but of great importance to the interests of the island of Cape Breton. It will open into the great Bras d'Or a safe and easy entrance, and one by which access to it will be sought much more frequently than through the natural outlet of that lake. The advantages expected to accrue from the completion of the work may be seen by a glance at a map of the country. The length of St. Peter's Canal will be only 2,300 feet; its breadth at water line, 50 feet; depth of water, 13 feet. It is intended to have one lock at the St. Peter's Bay termination, and a guard-gate at the Bras d'Or. The length of the lock will be 120 feet; width of gates, 22 feet. These dimensions are expected to be sufficient to accommodate any coasting or fishing vessel frequenting the neighbouring waters.

Every county in Nova Scotia is connected with the provincial metropolis, and with the neighbouring provinces, and the United States, by lines of electric telegraph. Those within Nova Scotia are owned and worked by the "Nova Scotia Electric Telegraph Company." They extend over a distance of 1,124 miles; and there are thirty-six telegraph offices in the provinces. The tolls for messages upon these lines are low, being at the rate of sixpence sterling per ten words, for distances not exceeding sixty miles, with proportionable increase for additional words and for greater distances. During the summer of 1856, the "New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company," succeeded in submerging a cable, by which the Nova Scotian lines were put in connection with St. John's, in Newfoundland. In the Provincial Legislature, during the session of 1857, a bill was passed giving to the "Great Atlantic Telegraph Company" the exclusive right, for twenty-five years, to land upon the coast of Nova Scotia a submarine cable, connecting this province with the British Islands. This truly magnificent enterprize was carried into execution, and messages were actually transmitted across the Atlantic, but, it is to be deeply regretted, that it has since proved a failure, the cable being partially destroyed. May we not hope that the hand of science will yet effect, among other wonders, the execution of this great scheme, and render it permanent.

CHAPTER IX.

A FEW GREAT POINTS OF CONTRAST BETWEEN THE PAST AND PRESENT.

How chang'd the scene we now behold!
 From what our fathers saw,
 Who toil'd and bled in days of old,
 That we might dwell 'neath freedom's law.

—Original.

Our forefathers who first came hither, found almost the whole country one vast wilderness. Immense tracts of this great wilderness have fallen before the sturdy strokes of the settler's axe, and where once the "grand

old woods" stood, with sombre aspect, we have now at least, one fine city, with a multitude of towns, villages, and rural settlements, all presenting a most smiling and prosperous appearance; and still, the woods are falling to make room for the cultivation of the various vegetable productions, necessary for the support of animal life.

Our forefathers, when they would visit distant settlements for business (pleasure was out of the question), were obliged to travel for the most part, on foot, often without even the convenience of roads, trudging over uneven paths, or finding their way by "blazed" trees, and either carrying heavy loads upon their backs, or pushing and paddling them up streams in canoes. We now have a country intersected, in all directions, with excellent common roads, together with over 100 miles of railway, affording easy and comfortable facilities for travelling from settlement to settlement either on business or pleasure—the labour being performed by the faithful horse, or the gigantic power of steam.

Seldom could the early settlers hear

"Any kind endearing report,"

from the far-off homes of their youth, and even after a letter, containing such earnestly desired intelligence was received in Halifax, it was weeks, often months in reaching its destination in some back settlement. Now we can hear from the land which we call by the endearing name of "home," almost weekly, while in a day or two communications go from one end of the country to the other.

Few vessels (except in the time of war) ever either visited our shores or sailed from them, in those early times. Now stately ships glide gracefully and "floating palaces", propelled by steam power, speed swiftly into and out of the sparkling waters of our commodious harbours, over which the bark canoe of the red man was formerly paddled, by his own hand.

Seldom could our forefathers hear the truths of the ever blessed gospel of Christ, enunciated by a minister of that gospel. In order to hear the word of God they were obliged frequently to travel many miles, through the forest, and upon such wretched roads and paths as have already been described. We can hear those precious truths which are designed to lead souls to heaven, at least every sabbath. *They* were often ready to perish for lack of the heavenly manna and the waters of eternal life: *we* "sit at a full board", and enjoy the "fullness of the gospel feast."

The invaluable blessings of learning were almost entirely beyond the reach of our forefathers; but now the pure streams which emanate from a sound and philosophical system of education, are flowing abundantly through the land, and all can drink of their refreshing waters. Oh! when we contrast our condition with that of those who preceded us on this portion of the world's great stage of action, in regard to the "means of grace" and the blessings of education, let us thank God from hearts swelling with gratitude, that "the lines are fallen to us in pleasant places, yea, that we have a goodly heritage." At the same time let us awaken to a full sense of the weight of responsibility which these precious privileges impose upon us, and let us take care to improve them to the glory of God and the good of our own souls, that they prove not so many "ponderous weights," to sink us into the lowest depth of perdition.

Frequently were our forefathers called upon to take up arms and defend their own lives and those of their families, against the attacks of vindictive enemies. In these struggles many of them fell, and their lifeless bodies were left, after having been horribly mangled by the cruel savages, to feed the less cruel beasts of prey. In these harrassing conflicts some of the purling rills which irrigate our soil have been made to "blush crimson," as they ran on in their courses toward the sea, with the commingled blood of the brave Englishman, the vengeful Frenchman and the merciless savage. We can repose calmly under the protecting wing of PEACE. War's dire alarms are not sounded in our ears. We can pursue our avocations by day, and lie peacefully down at night, "none daring to make us afraid. While gratitude glows within our breasts for this priceless blessing, let our earnest prayer still ascend—"Give peace in our time, O Lord!"

We might greatly extend remarks upon this branch of our subject, but having already fully occupied the limits proposed we must leave a wide blank for the reader's imagination to fill. This he can easily do, as the history of the past and a picture of the present is before him.

Having a country possessing advantages and blessings so many and so great, let us labour each in his or her own sphere, with dilligence and zeal, based upon intelligence; and while we labour let us hope and pray that, as the wheels of time revolve, they may bring to us peace, prosperity and happiness.

CHAPTER X.

THE PROBABLE FUTURE.

"Then blest Acadia! ever may thy name,
Like hers, [Britain's,] be graven on the rolls of fame;
May all thy sons, like hers, be brave and free,
Possessors of her laws and liberty;
Heirs of her splendour, science, pow'r and skill,
And through succeeding years her children still.
Then as the sun, with gentle dawning ray,
From night's dull bosom wakes and leads the day,
His course majestic keeps, till in the height
He glows one blaze of pure exhaustless light,
So may thy years increase, thy glories rise,
To be the wonder of the western skies;
And bliss and peace encircle all thy shore,
Till sun and moon and stars shall be no more."

—Goldsmith.

Having occupied more space than was intended, in the previous portions of this volume, the reader must be content with a "glance" indeed, at the probable future.

First, let it be stated, that as several roads, all leading to a common goal are often found to converge into one, ere that goal is reached, so these western possessions of the British crown are evidently on the eve of becoming one united confederation. The present signs of the times most clearly indicate such a consummation. The subject has been discussed, not only in the leading colonial papers, but also in those of the United States for many years, and recently the attention of the British Government has been directly drawn thereto.

A portion of the American press predicts that His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales will be the future viceroy of the United States of British America, and it is quite evident that the whole subject is rather distasteful to our neighbours over the border. They have long calculated that these colonies, with all their vast and varied resources, would eventually fall into the Union, and take their places as so many States, under the "star spangled banner". Many of the colonists, too, have entertained the same opinion—not to say hope; but the tide of public feeling in the colonies, is now setting quite in another direction. The late visit of the noble scion of the illustrious House of Brunswick Hanover, to these colonies, which remained firm to their allegiance to Britain during the general revolt of the New England Provinces, has stirred the loyal feelings of the subjects of our beloved Queen, on this side the Atlantic to their lowest depths. The demonstrations which this visit have called forth in each of these noble colonies, have struck the death blow to the once cherished hopes of "Annexation", both in the United States and in the colonies. Yes, these hopes are departed, and the acclamations which everywhere greeted His Royal Highness on his landing among these British people, were at once the joyous peals which announced the birth of new aspirations for perpetual adherence to the glorious old land of our fathers, and the knell which heralded the death and obsequies of every hope for annexation to the United States.

For a series of years the certain indications of the near approach of a bright day for British America, have been making their appearance. Thanks to the patriotic labours of many distinguished colonists, among whom our own Howe, Johnston, Cunard, and the Youngs, living and departed, have severally done good service, the darkness which formerly enwrapped these colonies, and concealed them from the view of Britain, has been dissipated, and they now stand revealed in the first tints of morning light, which will brighten, ere long, into a day of resplendent glory.

There can be no doubt that the late royal visit has been the result of the knowledge which our own statesmen have imparted to Britain, in reference to the value and importance of British America; and now, since a country, containing four millions of square miles, with internal and coast navigation unparalleled in the world, with an extremely fertile soil, inexhaustible forests of the finest timber, immense mineral resources, and an active and gallant population, whose devotion and loyalty to the mother country, his Royal Highness has had abundant opportunity of witnessing and appreciating: since such a country, and such a people, have been visited and closely observed by his Royal Highness and the noble Duke of Newcastle,—men whose power and influence can easily direct a full tide of prosperity upon us, surely it is not extravagant to hope that this power and influence will be put forth.

That a political union of these colonies is already determined upon by the Imperial Government, there is now no room to doubt; but what is to be the definite form which this measure will assume, we leave others to discuss. The union for which we are looking and hoping, and from which

we expect the highest advantages, is quite of another kind, namely a *physical union*—one which shall be effected by iron rails.

The time has, at length, come when we may confidently expect the execution of the long discussed Intercolonial Railway. Does the reader ask why we so confidently predict such an event? We answer, because it must now be fully known to Britain that her possessions in North America are destined to be her *right arm*, whether in war or in peace. Well does she now know that in war, should dire necessity again 'evoke that gory demon, and demand that the flashing sword be once more bathed in human blood, that this same right arm shall strike down her foes and ours; and that in peace, while that beauteous angel shall hover over us, it shall pour the rich treasures of commerce into the maternal lap; hence the necessity of the most perfect facilities for the conveyance of troops and munitions of war, in the one event, and of the teeming resources with which each and all these colonies abound in the other. Our hopes, then, are firmly grounded on the fact, that in this great enterprise, *the interest of Britain is identified with our own, and that she, at length, knows it.*

The time is at hand when this railway union *must be executed*, and the effect of it will be to start these provinces swiftly forward on the mighty march of improvement. What position, let us enquire, will Nova Scotia hold in the great confederation?

First her commanding geographical position will secure to her the advantage of becoming "the highway of nations." The trade and travel from the old world to the whole of N. America, and *vice versa* must, to a great extent, be directed through this province. The position which we occupy, as well as the rich and varied resources which we possess, must secure to us a large population of enterprising inhabitants, who will draw upon these resources, and bring them into the markets of the world, in every conceivable variety, and in the richest profusion.

When Nova Scotia then, shall be both politically and physically united to her fair sisters; when an intelligent and active population shall draw freely upon her resources of every kind, when the remaining forests which stand upon our soil shall be swept down, and converted to purposes of utility; when manufacturing and commercial towns shall cover the face of the country; when the developing, forming and moulding hand of science shall bring out the teeming wealth which nature has conferred upon us, and apply it to the great practical purposes of life; when far over and beyond all, the people shall fully learn the great lesson that "righteousness exalteth a nation," *and act accordingly*: then, indeed shall this beauteous land rise to her rightful position, and stand prominently forth to the astonished gaze of an admiring world, as the brightest jewel in the diadem of that illustrious nation, whose flag is ever bathed in the light of an unsetting sun.

FINIS.

