

tracts of land, under the name of "timber limits." These are in most cases remote from the settlements, and much ability and foresight are required to make adequate provision for the large bodies of men, horses and oxen, to be employed in cutting down and preparing the timber for the market, and transporting it to suitable points for rafting. Much capital is accordingly embarked in the trade. Many thousands of men are busy through the whole winter felling the trees, cutting them into logs or hewing them into squared timber, and transporting them over the snow to suitable points for floating them down the rivers to the mills, or directly to the place of export. As the rivers are in many places interrupted by falls of a character unfitted to the safe passage of timber over them, large sums are expended in constructing timber-slides, and on some of the main channels, as on the Ottawa, the construction and maintenance of the chief timber-slides are undertaken by the Government.

It is erroneously supposed by many, who are unfamiliar with the character of the Canadian forest, that the work of the lumberer results in the clearing of the land. Only the finest full-grown trees are selected for the lumberer's axe, and it is calculated that the same district may be gone over by the lumberer every twelve or fifteen years. Hence if the destructive fires which from time to time do such immense injury can be guarded against, and the operations of the lumbermen are carried on with due care, under proper oversight, there is no reason why the forests of Canada should not remain a permanent source of national wealth. In the new clearings, in the vicinity of lumbering districts, the farmer finds a ready demand for all his produce, and employment for himself, his horses and his oxen during the leisure of winter. In this way the lumbering business helps to promote the settlement of new districts, and attracts a population to localities which otherwise might long remain a wilderness.

Looking to the native fauna of Canada in an economic point of view, it is abundantly evident that the animal life of its seas and rivers is one of its great and inexhaustible sources of wealth. Alike on the sea coasts, in the estuaries, and throughout its great inland lakes and rivers, the most valuable fish abound, and on the Labrador coasts and those of Newfoundland the seal fisheries are another annual source of wealth. The sturgeon is caught in Canadian waters, frequently reaching mammoth proportions; the finest salmon abound both in the eastern rivers emptying into the Gulf of St. Lawrence and in those of British Columbia; lake trout are caught in large quantities, weighing from 10 to 40 pounds, and the smaller rivers and lakes teem with beautiful speckled trout, frequently weighing from 4 to 6 pounds. The white fish and maskinonge are esteemed for their delicacy and richness of flavor; cod, haddock, mackerel, herring, salmon, halibut and white fish abound in Canadian waters. Valuable oyster beds exist on the Pacific coasts of the Dominion. The salmon fishery promises, if rightly protected and regulated, to prove a valuable branch of industry. In the great lakes and rivers of

Manitoba the white fish are no less abundant, and they constitute an important source of supply of food in certain seasons of the year throughout the whole Northwest. The total value of the yield of the fisheries of the Dominion are estimated at not less than \$15,000,000 annually.

Canada has been esteemed from its earliest discovery for its valuable fur-bearing animals, and has been the trapping and hunting ground for two centuries for the great Hudson's Bay Company and rival organizations. There still remains not only a vast extent of unoccupied territory in which for many years to come the hunter and the trapper will find undisturbed sway, but the regions around the Hudson's Bay, and stretching westward to Alaska and northward to the pole, must ever remain a shelter for fur-bearing animals and a resort of the hunter. All the furs collected for the great fur company are shipped to London; in part from their factories of York Fort and Moose River, on the Hudson's Bay, which are visited by a ship from England every year, and in part from Montreal and Victoria.

Canada is pre-eminently a country of yeoman farmers. The land is held in possession and tilled by the settler on his own account; and with every addition to the numbers of its industrious population, fresh acres are recovered from the wilderness and added to the productive resources and the wealth of the Dominion. By patient industry and frugality it is in the power of every Canadian to become owner of a house and proprietor of whatever amount of land he can turn to profitable account, while the character of the population resulting from this condition of things checks the accumulation of extensive landed estates in the hands of single proprietors. The majority of the farms are small, tilled by the proprietor with his own hands, with the help of his sons and occasional hired labor in the busy season of harvesting. But capital is also successfully applied to farming, and beautiful large stock farms are now entering into rivalry with those of the United States and even of England.

Besides the grand staple of the cereal grains, the Canadian farmer derives large returns from his crops of hay, clover, and grass seeds, carrots, mangel-wurzel, beans, hops, flax, hemp and tobacco. The total value of the grain and other agricultural produce of Canada exported annually is about \$40,000,000, having doubled in the last decade. But a false estimate of the actual agricultural resources of Canada is apt to be produced by testing them by its exports. Canada is a country of yeoman farmers tilling their own lands and living in abundance on the produce. The requirements for the table of the farm laborer are on a scale consistent with the resources of the country. The home consumption is accordingly great as compared with the number of the population, and it is therefore impossible to estimate, even approximately, the total annual value of all kinds of produce resulting from agriculture within the Dominion.

In the matter of education Canada holds an advanced position. There are normal schools for the training of