

vince of New Brunswick, those of the whole State of Ohio are as follow:—

X.	Ohio in 1848.		New Brunswick.	
	Smaller average.	Greater average.	Smaller average.	Greater average.
Wheat,	15 1-4 bush.	17 3-4 bush.	19 11-12 bush.	20
Barley,	24	27	29	30
Oats,	33 3-4	33	34	35
Buckwheat,	20 1-4	28	33 3-4	34
Rye,	16 1-3	18	20 1-2	21
Indian Corn,	41 1-4	36 1-2	41 3-4	42
Potatoes,	69	204	226	230
Turnips,	—	389	456	460
Hay,	1 3-4 tons.	—	1 3-4 tons.	—

Except as regards oats, maize and hay, the above numbers are decidedly in favour of New Brunswick, in comparison with the whole State of Ohio. There are Counties in this State, indeed, as there are in the Province of New Brunswick, of which the average produce is greater than that for the whole State, as represented in the above Table. But to show how the three Counties [stand] in this respect I shall place in juxtaposition the two highest County averages for the Province of New Brunswick, and for the States of Ohio and New York respectively, in bushels per imperial acre:—

XI.	N. B.		N. Y.		Ohio.	
	Counties of		Counties of		Counties of	
	Yerk.	Restigouche.	Monroe	New York.	Shelby	Defiance.
Wheat,	22 1-2	28	19 1-2	20	22	20
Barley,	34 1-2	60	19	—	40	20
Oats,	38 3-4	50	32	26	40	45
Rye,	20	—	10	—	15	25
Buckwheat,	31 1-2	—	15	37 1-2	29	15
Indian Corn,	40	—	30	40	25	45
Potatoes,	208	170	110	45	—	150
Turnips,	520	—	—	—	—	—
Hay,	1 1-4 ts.	—	—	—	2 ts.	2 ts.

On comparing the New Brunswick and New York numbers, it appears that no County in this State is equal in the production of any crop to the richest County in the Province of New Brunswick. As regards the two richest Counties in Ohio, nearly the same may be said, though the superiority of the growth of Indian Corn appears to be on the side of the Ohio Counties.

This grain, it is known, does not, or is not supposed to suit the climate of Restigouche County, but the average for Sunbury (51 1-2 bushels) is considerably beyond that for Defiance County in Ohio.

From the United States we may turn for a moment to Canada. In the appendix to the first report of the Board of Registration and Statistics of Canada, published at Montreal in 1849, at page 29 an estimate is made of the average productiveness of Lower or Eastern Canada in grain of all kinds. This estimate assigns 12 1-5 bushels per acre as the average productiveness in grain of all kinds of the land now in grain culture in Lower Canada. This estimate is not founded on good data, and may be too low, I therefore pass it by.

But in regard to Upper or Western Canada, the census returns for 1848 (contained in the same Appendix, page 38) give data, from which the average productiveness in grain and potatoes of the different parts of Canada may be deduced with an approach to accuracy. The number of acres under each crop, and total produce in 20 districts, are there stated, and from them I have calculated the averages in the fourth column of the following Table, with the view of contrasting them with the New Brunswick averages in the fifth column:

XII.	Canada West in 1848.		New Brunswick.	
	Cultivated acres.	Produce in bushels.	Produce per acre.	Produce per acre.
Wheat,	593,695	7,553,773	12 3-4	17 3-4
Barley,	29,324	519,727	17 1-2	27
Oats,	285,571	7,055,734	24 3-4	33
Rye,	38,452	446,293	11 1-2	18
Maize,	51,997	1,137,555	21 3-4	36 1-2
Buckwheat,	26,653	432,573	16 1-4	28
Potatoes,	59,796	4,751,231	84	204

A comparison of the numbers in the last two columns of the above Table are as much in favour of New Brunswick as those I have made with the average produce of the States of New York and Ohio in the preceding Tables.

I do not dwell on the very favourable, and, on my own part, unanticipated result of all these comparisons. Before quitting this topic however, I may be excused for observing that I do not personally vouch for the accuracy of the New Brunswick returns. They are all I have been able to collect, and are, I believe, the only ones which exist. They are guaranteed by the names and handwriting of the parties by whom they have been transmitted to me. They may be exaggerated intentionally or otherwise. They may be high only because they come from the best farmers in the country—because the crops in New Brunswick are generally raised on new land—because the best land in the Province has hitherto been brought under cultivation, or because the crops of this year are larger than usual. To these, and other like objections, the returns embodied in the Tables I have given may be open; but in the absence of any data, by the help of which I can criticise them, I am bound to assume that they have been given to me in good faith and with a due previous consideration of such circumstances and objections as the above, and I must reason upon them accordingly.

On the other hand I have not selected from a larger number the agricultural returns from the United States or from Canada, with which I have compared those of New Brunswick. I have taken all I can at present obtain access to, and I believe I have fairly contrasted them with each other.

On the whole therefore I think the result of this comparison of the actual productiveness of the soil of New Brunswick with that of other parts of North America, ought to be very satisfactory to the inhabitants of this Province, and is deserving of their serious consideration. So far as my knowledge of the intermediate Country goes, I am induced

to believe that the agricultural capabilities of New York are at least equal to any of the North Eastern States. If New Brunswick exceeds New York in productiveness, it ought also to exceed all the States of New England.

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

8. There is another interesting point exhibited in the columns of Table I, which is deserving of special notice. This is the great weight per bushel the grain crops frequently attain. Wheat is said sometimes to reach the enormous weight of 70 lbs. per bushel, and oats to 50 lbs. a bushel, but 62 to 66 lbs. for wheat are common, and upwards of 40 lbs. for oats.

The general averages for each County, deduced from Table I. are as follow:—

XIII.	Counties.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Buckwheat.	Maize.
Saint John,	61	—	41	—	50	—	—
Westmorland,	60	43	35 1-2	—	43	59	—
Albert,	58	50	34 3-4	50	45	—	—
Charlotte,	59	45	38	—	57	59	—
King's,	59 1-2	43	37	—	48	60	—
Queen's,	58 1-2	50	36 1-2	53	43	61	—
Sunbury,	57	55	38	53	47	57	—
York,	63	50	38	—	51	60	—
Carleton,	64	—	38	—	52	65	—
Kent,	63	—	37	—	50	—	—
Norumberland,	62	53	37	—	45	57	—
Gloucester,	63	51	39	—	—	—	—
Restigouche,	63	48	42	—	—	—	—

And the general average weights for the whole Province are, for

Wheat,	60 11-13 lbs.	Buckwheat,	48 8-11 lbs.
Barley,	50 do.	Indian Corn,	59 1-2 do.
Oats,	38 do.	Potatoes,	63 do.
Rye,	52 1-2 do.	Turnips,	66 do.
Carrots, 63 lbs.			

These average weights, over a whole Province, where the land is new, and manured only in rare instances, or at long intervals, indicate a capacity in the soil and climate, to produce grain for human food of a very superior quality.

9. This observation leads me to advert to a point which first arrested my attention from its abstract scientific interest but which possesses a direct practical importance to the inhabitants of the Province. I have in various places heard it stated, and by some warmly maintained, that wheat flour from Canada or the United States was more nutritious, stronger as it is called, and went farther in a family, than flour manufactured in New Brunswick, and especially from Province-grown wheat. Such a difference as this might arise either from an actual inferiority in the quality or composition of the grain itself, or from some difference in the mode of grinding and manufacturing it.

For my own part, I was unwilling to admit the existence of such an inferiority in the flour, when I considered the excellent quality of the wheat which the Province was capable of producing. It is true that if inferior or unsound wheat is ground, the flour produced cannot be so good, and may probably not go so far as that yielded by sound ripe grain. In this case the inferiority will be owing to the miller's selection of his sample, and not of the general inability of the millers of New Brunswick to produce first rate flour from good grain, nor to any general inferiority in the wheat which the Province actually does produce or is capable of producing.

Having consulted Mr. R. D. Wilmot, the Mayor of Saint John, who is practically acquainted with the wheat of Province growth, and with the absolute and comparative qualities of the flour manufactured both in the Province and in the United States, he informed me that the result of a trial made with a barrel of flour ground at his own mill from wheat grown at Bellemont, in the County of Sunbury, against a barrel of superfine Genesee flour was, that the Province manufactured flour went farther and gave a considerable number more loaves than the Genesee flour did, both being baked at the same time and in the same way. He since writes me that "the fact is notorious that at the same price the bakers take the home made flour in preference," and he transmitted the following certificates from parties well known in the City of Saint John:

Saint John, N. B., 24th Nov. 1849.

Sir,—In reply to your communication relative to the quantity of bread produced per barrel from the flour ground in this Province, as compared with the produce of that imported under the name of Genesee, the result of my own experience during the last twelve years, during which period I have carefully watched the quality as well as the productiveness of the different descriptions of flour used in my establishment, and I have no hesitation in stating that the average quality and productiveness of the flour ground in the mills of H. Gilbert Esquire, and that of Messrs. J. and R. Reed, from whom I have chiefly got my supplies, is much superior to the average quality of that imported from the United States.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN MLARDY, Baker.  
R. D. Wilmot, Esquire, Mayor.

Saint John, Nov. 26th, 1849.

Sir,—In reply to your communication, I beg to state that the result of my experience is, that the Genesee flour is not so strong an article, and will not produce as many pounds of bread per barrel, as the flour manufactured here, which is principally manufactured from Southern red wheat. The largest average quantity of bread ever produced,

was from flour manufactured here, which turned out 132 loaves of 2 lbs. each, from 106 lbs. of flour.  
I remain, &c.

THOMAS RANKIN, Jr.

R. D. Wilmot, Esq., Mayor.

These letters show that the home millers are able to manufacture first rate strong flour from Southern wheat, and there is no reason why they may not do so also from the heavy Province grown red wheat; and should the seasons in future prove favourable to the growth of wheat, there can I think be no good reason why the most fastidious taste should not find in home grown bread as palatable and economical an article of food as the superfine flour from New York usually affords.

10. The quality of the Oats for the production of oatmeal, is another question of considerable importance to the Province. This grain is more nutritious on the whole, weight for weight, when husked than wheat is, and gives a meal which habit renders equally palatable with wheaten flour. The weight which oats are capable of attaining in this Province, renders it highly probable that a skillful miller could produce from them a superior quality of oatmeal, a presumption which is confirmed by the testimony of many persons, especially in the northern Counties, who have informed me that the Province-made oatmeal is equal in every respect to what they had been accustomed to eat in Scotland.

I have learned with much satisfaction, that the use of oatmeal is rapidly extending in many parts of the Province, and this not merely because of its very wholesome and nutritious qualities, but because the oat is one of the most certain, I might almost say, the staple grain crop of the country. The Legislature of New Brunswick has I think shown a most wise discretion in the encouragement it has given in the erection of mills for grinding this grain.

District and Provincial premiums for the best quality of home made flour and oatmeal, could scarcely fail both to improve and fully to bring forward and establish the qualities of the home grain and home manufactured flour and oatmeal.

11. Before quitting this part of my subject, I ought perhaps to advert to the fact that Tables IV. and V., compiled from the answers I have received to my published enquiries, no mention is made of beans or peas. This arises from the circumstance, that scarcely any of the returns allude to these crops as usually grown in the district to which they refer.

The use of beans in feeding is as yet but little practised in the Province; and though the bush bean is here and there cultivated to a small extent, the raising of the common bean as an article of field culture has scarcely yet been fairly tried, even on soils apparently the best suited to its growth.

Peas succeed well, are grown largely, and form a considerable article of diet among the French inhabitants of Lower Canada.  
(To be Continued.)

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN CHATHAM.—About half past 10 o'clock, on Tuesday evening last, the alarm of fire was given in our town, and before any body of individuals could muster, the fire had gained a great height. It originated, it is supposed, somewhere near the flues of the furnace of the extensive Saw and Grist Mills of Messrs. Gilmour, Rankin & Co., which was a wooden building and communicated to the Saw Mill, also built of wood, and then to the Grist Mill which was a large stone building, all which were totally consumed. The flames then extended to that part of the Chatham Foundry, which was devoted to casting, in which was the furnace; and although a large part of the moveables were saved, we are sorry to add, a number of valuable patterns were lost. The other portion of the Foundry situate on the opposite side of the wharf, which is occupied as a tin smith shop, and which contains the steam engine, and moulds of the establishment, was, with great exertion, saved, as well as the stone building in front, which was occupied as the sale room of the establishment.

On the lower side, the flames extended to the store of Messrs. Gilmour, Rankin & Co., to the large two story house owned by Mr. Martindale, then to a small building owned by Mr. Hugh Fraser, and occupied by Mrs. Murphy, all of which were totally consumed. A small tenement unfinished below the last named building, was torn down. All the goods in the store, as well as the furniture in the dwellings, were saved.

A large quantity of plank on the wharf connected with the mill was consumed, together with a quantity of coal. The amount of property destroyed must be very considerable, and we learn that but small sums were insured on the principal buildings.

Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the firemen of Newcastle and Douglstown, who came promptly to the scene of destruction with their engines, and rendered good service.

Providentially there was but little wind at the time, had it been otherwise, the destruction of property must have been much greater.

This is the most destructive fire which had ever occurred in the town of Chatham.—*Miramichi Gleaner*, June 10.

GREAT BANK ROBBERY.—The Boston Post says that on Saturday night last the Dorchester and Milton Bank, Dorchester, was broken into and robbed of nearly \$30,000, in bills and specie. The bills were nearly all on that bank, and amounted to \$27,000. The specie was between \$2000 and \$3000, chiefly in silver. The banking rooms are in the second story of the building in which the bank is located. In the first place the lock of the front lower door was picked; then the chief lock of the first door of the main banking room; then an alphabetical lock on the door; and then the lock of the outer door of the safe.—Next the outer lock of the safe proper was blown off with gunpowder, which also probably forced off the inner lock, and thus placed the money within the reach of the robbers. Having secured all the money in the safe, they left the bank, carefully re-locking all the locks they had opened with false keys. The bank has offered a reward of \$5000 for the recovery of the thieves.