

New Brunswick's Natural Resources.

EXCELLENT ESSAY BY H. O. McINERNEY, WHICH WON THE PRIZE GIVEN BY HON H. R. EMMERSON IN CONNECTION WITH ST. JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY CLOSING.

The following excellent essay by H. O. McInerney, son of George V. McInerney, of St. John, formerly of Richibucto, won the Emerson prize at St. Joseph's College at the closing exercises last week:—

Nature, nude as God created her, always appeals to what is best in man; nature garbed as creatures clothe her often awakens the sense of the ridiculous in man. Any attempt to apparel nature's resources with rich rhetorical garments would be an attempt to "gild refined gold" to paint the lily, to throw a perfume on the violet." But unearthing the gold and its brilliance dazzles, but uproot the lily and its purity delights, but pluck the violet and its fragrance enchants. So travel from Chaleur to Fundy, from Northumberland Straits to Maine, only cast a passing glance at here, a wood of spruce, there, a forest of pine, here a wall of gypsum, there a well of petroleum, here a school of trout, there a waterfall, here an acre of hay, there a field of wheat and sufficient is seen to understand that natural resources are many and great in New Brunswick.

Our globe is made up of two vast bodies land and water. With each of these New Brunswick is well supplied, and in each she possesses numerous natural resources. Those of her terra firma being of more importance than those of her "troubled waters" it is expedient first to journey through the home of the deer and the wolverine over the soil of the farmer, and down in the cave of the miner.

Forests and woodlands, constitute the most valuable natural resources of New Brunswick. Her supply of lumber is almost inexhaustible as is seen from the fact that despite the steady increase of wood exports from \$2,065,400 worth in 1835 to \$6,706,339 worth in 1900, she still contains 14,776 square miles of forest and woodland from which, excluding Quebec, she produces more lumber than does any other province of the dominion.

Her vast tracts of those commercially most desirable trees black and white spruce, they stud the southern and middle counties, her many miles of white, Norway, grey and scrub pine trees that drop their slender needles into the South West Miramichi, her lofty hackmatacks that line the banks of the upper St. John, her numerous acres of nearly indestructible cedars that give wealth to Victoria, Madawaska and Restigouche, her mighty birches, white, yellow, black and paper that rear their majestic limbs along the shores of Fundy, her rock, white and red maples, that scatter Canada's emblem over the length and breadth of our province, her beeches, ash, fir, butternut, cherry, hornbeam, hemlock and basswood trees that skirt her rivers, farms and orchards, toes to and fro in joyful breezes, announcing glad tidings of her sylvan wealth and beauty, and of consequent commercial pre-eminence for the province down by the sea.

New Brunswick's trees have long supplied countless saw mills, the bark from her spruces has long aided the tanner, and gum from the various forest kings has long found a ready market, but only within the last few years have our trees been converted into pulp. The pulp industry is one that has grown rapidly, and one that will soon be among the most important. Before another decade shall have passed New Brunswick possessing many hundred acres of spruce the greatest pulp producer, will number double the four mills that are now situated, two at Chatham, one at Pispec and one at St. John.

Trees are not the sole revenue of our forests. Dr. James Hannay in his hand book for New Brunswick says that there is no country in Eastern America in which game is more abundant than it is in New Brunswick. The deer, moose and caribou that inhabit the forests of Carleton, Victoria, Northumberland, Madawaska, Gloucester and Restigouche, annually attract hundreds of sportsmen to the province. The raccoon, bear, lynx, otter, muskrat, fisher, squirrel, mink, wolverine, woodchuck and beaver are familiar to nearly every New Brunswick school boy. The high value of the furs of the beaver, bear, mink and otter and the continued increase in the numbers of these animals in the province, tempt many sturdy New Brunswickers to seek a livelihood as did their trapper forefathers.

Upon emerging from the forest a vast clearing of 12,734 square miles or of 8,000,000 acres meets the eye. This immense region is already fit for cultivation. Professor Johnson whom the New Brunswick government brought here from England some 50 years ago estimated that of the 18,000,000 acres of land comprising the whole province, 73 per cent. is fit for cultivation. It is highly probable that with proper draining, 85 per cent. could

be made cultivatable, thus giving young New Brunswick 3 per cent. more of arable soil than is possessed by England, a country which has been worked for over 1000 years.

The importance of New Brunswick's agricultural territory is evident from the fact that in the year 1900 she produced 14,182,000 bushels of wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat, potatoes and turnips and 481,000 tons of hay. The soil is very rich, producing to the acre 77.6 bushels of the foregoing crops, excluding hay, and in the yield per acre, coming next among the provinces to Prince Edward Island and Ontario.

Of all the agricultural branches the wheat growth is assuming the most wonderful dimensions. It is already sufficient to run 21 roller mills with an average capacity of 50 barrels of flour per day. The potato crop is also an excellent one, and there is no reason why starch factories should not be established in New Brunswick. Good pasturage being everywhere obtainable in the province, New Brunswick is admirably suited for stock raising and the production of butter and cheese. In 1900 there were in the province 60 cheese factories which produced in that year 2,000,000 pounds of cheese and 40 creameries and skimming stations which produced 500,000 pounds of butter. The lack of droughts in New Brunswick renders that province especially adapted for the dairy business, indeed much more so than any of the western provinces. The wool growth is a resource which is also becoming of great worth to the province.

A feature altogether peculiar to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are dyke and marsh lands. These lands extend for miles along the Petitcodiac and its tributaries, annually producing a rich harvest of hay. The hay is not yet of the finest quality, but when the farmers begin to drain off the saline and other waste matter which the sea in its floods leaves along these lands, their produce will become of equal value with inland material. There are also in the St. John and Tobique valleys intervals lands which Professor Sheldon reported to be among the most valuable in the Dominion of Canada, yielding natural grasses unsurpassed by those of any portion of the American continent. These grasses spring up, unassisted by any other fertilizer than the waters which periodically flow over the lands. Man reaps from them a harvest which nature sows.

Another natural yield of New Brunswick's soil are berries of various descriptions. Blueberry lands fit for no other purpose than the growth of blueberries have recently become a source of profit to many. Factories for the canning of these and almost all kind of berries have been erected in the northern parts of the province. Fruits, such as apples, plums, cherries and pears grow abundantly, especially in the western portions of the province. New Brunswick's fruit, however, has not generally received sufficient attention in the past. Careful training of fruit trees and vines would surely result in an important fruit export trade.

Deep under trunks of spreading trees and blades of waving grass, lies untold wealth. The mineral riches of New Brunswick have not as yet secured for the province a strong position in the mineral market. They have been explored, however, and are known to be extensive.

One of the most promising minerals of New Brunswick is petroleum. When the lately deceased century was still young, geologists pictured oil pumping stations dotting the counties of Westmorland, Albert, Kent, Northumberland, Restigouche, York, Kings, Gloucester, Queens, and Sunbury. According to the maps of Professor Shaler and Mr. Gooderich, the expectations of these sanguine scientists will soon be realized. Mr. Lodge, secretary of the New Brunswick Petroleum Company, Ltd., affirms that oil can be taken in paying quantities from all of the named counties, that is to say that oil sands permeate over five-eighths of New Brunswick's land surface. The abundance of oil in New Brunswick, however, is not the only gratifying feature. Experts tes-

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tify that New Brunswick's oil is incomparably superior to any other oil on the continent.

If New Brunswick is rich in petroleum, she is little less so in copper. Westmorland county may enjoy the distinction of being the only place in Canada where copper is both mined and refined. The importance of her copper deposit is hence evident. A resource such as copper ore, occurring in veins of from four and a half to seven and a half feet thick and yielding from two and a half to four per cent. of copper, nine hundred and ninety-nine one thousandths parts pure, and a profit of 88 1-2 per cent a pound is certainly one worthy of the extensive development which The Intercolonial Copper Company is now giving it. Copper has also been discovered in Charlotte, St. John, Albert, Kings, Carleton, and Gloucester. It is highly probable that some of the eastern and middle counties contain it in paying quantities.

New Brunswick has a remarkable supply of gypsum, found chiefly at and around Hillsboro, in Albert county. In 1900, Albert county exported gypsum to the value of \$123,753, making New Brunswick the chief gypsum exporter of the dominion.

It is a well known fact that about one-third of New Brunswick is of carboniferous formation, especially parts of Westmorland, Albert, Kent, Queens, Sunbury and York. Seams of bituminous coal probably run through all this region. Near Grand Lake, Queens county, there is a coal field estimated to contain 150,000,000 tons of coal. It has not yet been extensively worked. A railway line, under construction, to connect Chipman, Newcastle and Fredericton will doubtless be a great boon to the coal company, who expect, after the completion of the road to produce 150,000 tons of coal annually. Even at this high rate of production, it will take 1,000 years to exhaust the Grand Lake supply. Coal is also being mined at Coal Branch in Kent county, where the company is confident of a large output. The species of coal called Albertite, peculiar to Albert county, was worked for some time. In the particular place where it was mined, however, the supply ran out, necessitating the suspension of operations. Mr. Gooderich thinks it highly probable that there is an abundance of the mineral in Albert county. When mined it yielded 100 gallons of crude oil and 14,500 cubic feet of superior illuminating gas to the ton. Anthracite coal occurs in St. John and Charlotte counties, and Lepreaux was for years the scene of mining operations. Oilite, valuable as a fuel and petroleum producer, is found in Westmorland, Albert and Kings. Some 40 years ago 2,000 tons were mined at Taylorville, Westmorland county, and 60 gallons of oil were taken from each ton.

(Continued on page 7.)

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SOUTH BRANCH.

(Too late for last issue.)

The readers of THE REVIEW will be very apt to think that South Branch was somewhere in the vicinity of St. Pierre before the eruption of the volcano, unless some benevolent person informs them to the contrary.

William Cochrane and family, formerly residents of East Branch, are now occupying the house vacated by Robert Mitchell.

We no longer hear the merry buzz of the saw-mill run by Mr. James Burns this season, but hope it will not be silent long, which it will not if Dame Rumor's report can be credited. Joseph Warren has purchased R. N. Doherty's mills and farm.

Miss Agnes Shortall returned from Dorchester, Mass., some weeks ago.

Miss Lizzie Warren is home from Boston.

Quite a merry procession passed through here last week when a portion of the mill purchased of Joseph Warren of East Branch by Mr. Ernest Ferguson, was hauled to Main River.

When our school closed last Friday, it was with much regret on the part of the young people, for its closing meant the departure of our beloved teacher, Mrs. Mamie Bastrache, who has also been instructing some of the young ladies in instrumental music. We hope for her return in August.

Mr. William Shortall has taken a contract to build a kitchen in addition to his house. His three sons are employed as carpenters.

Mr. David Cochrane has purchased a Doherty organ. We look forward to



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many pleasant evenings.

Mr. Larry Plume intends disposing of his beautiful dark span of horses and purchasing an automobile.

Mr. James Burns and Mr. Albert Taylor took a short trip through the woods in the vicinity of Kent Junction, surveying timber.

Messrs. Patrick, Joseph and Philip Murphy are engaged in peeling bark for Mr. Thomas C. Burns.

Miss Vernie McLeary, who is convalescing from a dangerous illness, and her sister, Miss Obellena, were enjoying a few days' visit with friends here.

The weather has been very disagreeable, but as most of the farmers have their crops in they are quite content to remain in the easy-chair with a good novel for company.

Mr. Jas. Walker, of Spring Brook, has purchased a saw-mill from Mr. C. Cormier, of St. Paul.

Mr. Patrick Murphy paid a visit to Buctouche, recently.

Messrs. John Cochrane, David Mitchell, and Theodore McDougall are employed in Mr. T. C. Burns' saw-mill at Rexton.

Hoping I have aroused the interest of your readers in the welfare of our little settlement and with the suggestion to other South Branchers to follow my example, I will anxiously await the publication of these notes.

Children Cry for CASTORIA.

Ninety American soldiers have died of cholera in the Philippines. The total deaths to date are 6,676.

Two Indian girls were kidnapped from the Wawanash Home at Sault Ste. Marie, and taken to the United States side in a boat.

An explosion on a Chinese warship lying in the Yangtze River sank the vessel in thirty seconds. Only two men escaped out of 150.

Count Von Walderssee, one of the German representatives to the coronation, has arrived in London. He and the German officers with him were entertained at dinner by Lord Rodets.

The electrical workers in the employ of the Hamilton Electric Light & Cataract Power Company, who have been on strike for some time, have returned to work and their claims will be submitted to arbitration.

Don't experiment—buy Magnetic Dyes which have been successfully used in Canada for twenty-five years. Price 10 cents.

The Senate has passed bills creating a national forest reserve in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, and the purchase of four millions acres in the Southern Appalachian system at a cost not to exceed ten millions of dollars is authorized.

Eczema's Itch Is Torture

Mrs. Ann McDonald, Kingsville, Ont., writes:—"For about three years I was a dreadful sufferer from eczema. At times the patches of raw, flaming flesh would extend from my waist to my neck and from the knees to the ankles. The intense itching almost drove me crazy and though I tried all the local physicians, they could not even relieve the suffering. The flesh would crack open, and I don't believe anyone ever suffered more than I did.

"I was told of Dr. Chase's Ointment but did not believe that it could help me. After the fifth application of this preparation, I began to feel the benefit of its soothing, healing effects, and now attribute a cure to the persistent use of this wonderful remedy. It is truly worth its weight in gold and I never tire of recommending it to other sufferers."

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