

CLIMATE AND FARM PRODUCTS.

perienced in any part of the province, but the northern counties are more exposed to the influence of the Arctic current flowing through Belle Isle than those of the south and along the bay of Fundy. Thus Annapolis township is seven or eight degrees warmer on the average than the counties in Cape Breton and along Northumberland strait, five or six degrees warmer than Halifax and Colchester counties, and three or four degrees warmer than the famed country of Evangeline along the Basin of Minas. Yarmouth, the most southern county, has much milder winters than any other portion of the province, but the summer temperatures are lower than those of the Annapolis valley. In St. John, N.B., the winter temperatures are a little lower than those of Halifax. There is a pronounced difference between the winter climate along the bay of Fundy coast of New Brunswick and that of the interior and northern counties, which are considerably colder. Prince Edward Island, lying in the Gulf of St. Lawrence almost entirely between 46° and 47° N. latitude, has much the same climate throughout its area, the temperatures being about the same as those of Cape Breton island.

The garden of Nova Scotia is in the Annapolis and Cornwallis valley, a district about eighty miles long and from four to twelve miles wide, protected from the summer fogs of Fundy and the chilling ocean winds by two ranges of hills known as the North and South mountains. The North mountains skirt the south shore of the bay of Fundy from Brier island to the Basin of Minas, terminating in a bold bluff called Cape Blomidon. On the other side of Minas channel the range is continued under the name of the Cobequid mountains, acting as a shield against the cold winds coming from the gulf of St. Lawrence in the spring. The Annapolis valley is famous for its apples, which command the highest prices in the London market. While the climate and soil seem particularly adapted to the production of apples they are also favourable to grapes, pears, plums, cherries, melons and tomatoes, and even peaches are successfully grown. King's county, the scene of Longfellow's "Evangeline," is also a great apple-producing district. Although not quite so warm as Annapolis township it is equally fertile, and the dyked lands are as productive now after centuries of tillage as when they were cultivated by the simple Acadians. At present most of the apples produced in Nova Scotia are grown in Annapolis and King's counties, but the Government of the province is showing by means of model orchards in other counties that apples can be successfully grown in any part of the province where the soil is suitable. Even in Annapolis county there is a large area of land suitable for growing apples not yet occupied by orchards.

All the counties bordering on the Basin of Minas and those lying along Cumberland strait and the gulf are good agricultural districts. Excepting Yarmouth none of the counties along the Atlantic coast are generally well adapted for agriculture, although they contain small tracts of excellent farming lands, and no doubt some of the land now considered unsuitable for cultivation could be made productive under a system of scientific farming. Very little wheat is now raised in Nova Scotia. The chief field crops are oats, hay, buckwheat, potatoes and other vegetables. Wool of superior quality is produced in Nova Scotia,