Hemp.

This plant is of great use in the arts and manufactures, furnishing thread, cloth, and cordage. The article bears a near analogy to flax not only in form but also in culture and use. The bark of the stalk, as in flax, is the chief object for which it is cultivated; but it is coarser as well as stronger in the fibre than flax. When grown for seed it is a very exhaustive crop, but when pulled green it is considered as a cleaner of the ground. In Great Britain, its culture

is not deemed profitable; so that, notwithstanding the encouragement it has received from the government of that country, and the excellent quality of English hemp, it is but little grown there, except in a few districts. It grows well on strong soils, and hence on newly-cleared lands.