



**OBSERVATIONS**  
ON  
**EMIGRATION**  
TO  
**British America,**  
AND THE  
**UNITED STATES;**

Written expressly  
FOR THE USE OF PERSONS ABOUT TO EMIGRATE TO  
THOSE COUNTRIES.

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Member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

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*Ad societatem, et communitatem humani generis nati sumus; itaque semper aliquid  
ad communem utilitatem debemus afferre* **CICERO.**



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## ADDRESS.



*THE following Work was written almost exclusively for the perusal of persons about to emigrate to America. In the present unprecedented rage for expatriation, there are many who evidently desire to obtain information on subjects connected with their intended settlement both in British North America and in the United States. This, however, is not to be procured but by toiling either through expensive and tedious volumes, or by the more equivocal medium of oral enquiry. A work, therefore, of this kind, which might supply much valu*

*able information in a small compass, became a desideratum; and it, is hoped that the conciseness, yet fidelity and accuracy, which distinguish it, may prove eminently beneficial to those interested in its details; and may entitle it to the character of being in reality the Emigrant's Vade Mecum.*

**R. HOLDITCH.**

*Falmouth, May 16, 1818.*

## OBSERVATIONS, &c.



**A**FTER a war unusually protracted, which had desolated the fairest portions of the globe, which, in its progress, had been marked by the destruction of millions, and which had been productive of evils the most terrible ever sustained by suffering humanity, the nations of the earth fondly contemplated the return of peace as an event which would, in some degree, compensate for the sacrifices which they had made, and the privations which they had so long and so patiently suffered.

Among those who had endured with unexampled fortitude the evils attendant on a state of warfare so protracted, were the British people. The blood and treasure of England had been lavishly expended during the contest, but she sustained the hour of trial with magnanimity, and came out of it triumphantly. During the

progress of the war, her victories both on the land and on the ocean had been unprecedented, brilliant, and decisive. But they had been achieved with uncommon exertion, at an enormous expence, and repose was absolutely necessary. The hour of peace at length arrived—but it brought not with it those benefits which had been so eagerly contemplated.

The commerce of England had covered the seas, from the commencement to the termination of hostilities, and her thousand ships of war, while they so gloriously added to her naval fame, protected her commercial fleets, and enabled them to traverse the sea in comparative security. London became the emporium of the globe, and the commercial monopoly of England was complete. The return of peace, therefore, by admitting the belligerent powers to a participation in the advantages of commerce, was scarcely felt, and the diminution of the commerce of England naturally kept pace with the activity of those maritime powers, who, during the continuance of hostilities, were almost in a state of absolute inaction.

The cry of distress was soon heard from all quarters, and the bankruptcy of our merchants and tradesmen occurred to an extent hitherto unknown. These failures involved the fate of thousands connected with the machine of trade and commerce; the rich became insolvent—many of the middling classes descended to poverty—the poor filled the workhouses—the local taxes pressed with intolerable weight upon those who were unable to pay, and the situation of many who were obliged to contribute to these was scarcely superior to the wretched inmates of the workhouse.

The aspect of affairs at this moment is not much improved in appearance. Commerce has revived in an inconsiderable degree, and there is an increased demand for our manufactures, but a frightful national debt still presses on an already exhausted people, and the united demands of local and national taxes have influenced, and do still influence thousands of our countrymen to abandon their native shores, and to commence as it were a new existence on those of the Atlantic.



Among the many causes leading to the immense emigration which is taking place, must be particularly noticed an excess of population, and the use of machinery in our manufactories. The mill machinery of a single mill now completes the work of thousands. Machinery also used in the operations of agriculture is hourly lessening the demand for hands. An excellent writer (Mr. GOULRAY) observes, in a letter from Canada, that England could spare 50,000 people annually, while she would be refreshed and strengthened by the discharge. In war, England sent abroad annually more than 20,000 of her youthful sons to be slain, and more than 20,000 of her youthful daughters shot after them the last hope of honourable love. In these 25 years of war, the population of England rapidly increasing, what is it to do now, when war is at an end, when love and opportunity are no longer to be foiled, and the poor laws have provided sustenance for children independent of the parent's care? Under existing circumstances, it is absolutely necessary, for the domestic comfort of England, that a vent should be immediately opened for her increasing population, and the

colonization of Canada, if once begun upon a liberal footing, will afford this vent.

It is, however, impossible to behold the affecting spectacle of so many myriads of our fellow citizens embarking for foreign shores, without experiencing distressing emotions. With what agonized feelings do they quit their homes—their fire-sides—the abodes of their ancestors—the country to which a thousand recollections—a thousand heart-rending associations still rivet them.

“ Behold the duteous son, the sire decay’d,  
The modest matron, and the blushing maid,  
Forc’d from their homes, a melancholy train,  
To traverse climes beyond the western main,  
Where wild Oswego spreads her swamps around,  
And Niagara stuns with thund’ring sound !  
E’en now, perhaps, as there some pilgrim strays  
Through tangled forests, and through dangerous ways,  
Where beasts with man divided empire claim,  
And the brown Indian marks with murd’rous aim :  
There, while above the giddy tempest flies,  
And all around distressful yells arise,  
The pensive exile, bending with his woe,  
To stop too fearful, and too faint to go,  
Casts a long look where England’s glories shine,  
And bids his bosom sympathize with mine.”

The great stream of emigration is evidently towards the United States, but many thousands of emigrants arrive yearly from England, in Canada. The population of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, received an accession of 5000 persons in 1817. At the present moment, settlers are embarking in considerable numbers from every part of the United Kingdom, and during the year 1818, it is apprehended that the number of persons who will embark for America, will far exceed any thing of the kind ever known. This little work, therefore, cannot fail to be of singular service to those whom circumstances may impel to quit their beloved country. To the industrious enquirer, it may afford instruction—to the visionary a salutary check, but it cannot fail to afford amusement to all.

The author does not claim the merit of exclusive originality in this unassuming production. Where so many have written, and so well on subjects connected with America, there cannot be much said that may claim the meed of uncommon novelty. Having, however, twice crossed the Atlantic, he has inspected in person most of what

he has described, and thus can at least vouch for the fidelity of his little work, which he again asserts, was undertaken expressly for the information of persons about to emigrate to America, and who have not leisure for the inspection of more voluminous works.



### *Lower Canada.*

The face of Lower Canada is remarkably bold and striking. The noble river St. Lawrence flows more than 400 miles, between high lands and lofty mountains, sometimes divided into channels by large islands, and at other times intersected by clusters of small ones; numerous rapid streams rolling from the neighbouring mountains, breaking over steep precipices, and mingling their waters with the grand river; its bold and rugged shores, lofty eminencies, and sloping vallies, covered with the umbrageous foliage of immense forests, or interspersed with the cultivated settlements of the inhabitants, pre-

sent altogether to the eye of the spectator, a succession of the most sublime and picturesque objects, that imagination can conceive.

The soil of lower Canada is very various, and is more or less fertile, as it approaches to the North or South, from Father Point (the lowest settlement on the south shore) to Kamouraska; but little is cultivated, and that yields a crop only with considerable labour\*.

From Kamouraska to the Island of Orleans, both on the North and South shores, the soil gradually improves and great quantities of grain are produced. The average crop is about 12 bushels. Emigrants from Europe greatly excel the natives in all agricultural operations—the prejudices of the Canadians in favor of old systems will not however permit them to adopt European

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\* The labour of manuring is not however to be included. Mr. B. an intelligent native of Plymouth-Dock, who has lived ten years in Canada, observes in one of his letters: I have often requested the Canadians to throw Compost on their lands, as I do, to which the uniform answer is, "there is no necessity for it, our fore-fathers never did it, why should we?"

methods. Of the soil in the vicinity of Quebec, that of the island of Orleans is reckoned the best. This island is diversified with high and lowlands, covered with woods, or converted into meadows and corn fields; the soil is sufficiently fertile to afford the inhabitants a large surplus of productions, beyond their own consumption, which they dispose of at Quebec.

The meadows of Canada, which have most commonly been corn fields, are reckoned superior to those in the more southern parts of America. They possess a fine close turf, well covered at the roots with clover. They cannot be mown more than once a year, in consequence of the Spring commencing so late. In Autumn they exchange their beautiful green, for a light brown hue, which gives them the appearance of being scorched by the sun. It is two or three weeks after the snow is gone, before they recover their natural colour; this is the case all over America, whose pastures, during the Autumnal and Winter months, never possess that rich and lovely verdure, which they do in England.

The high-lands, with good management, yield tolerable crops, but the Canadians are miserable farmers. They seldom or never manure their land, and plough so very slight and careless, that they continue year after year, to turn over the clods which lie at the surface, without penetrating an inch deeper into the soil. Hence their grounds become exhausted, over-run with weeds, and yield but scanty crops. The fields of wheat which I have seen in different parts of the country, appeared much stunted in their growth, and were often much choked with weeds. When cut down the straw was seldom more than 18 or 20 inches long, the ears small, and the wheat itself discoloured, and little more than two thirds of the size of our English wheat. The wheat about Montreal, appeared to be the best that come under my observation. There is however a month difference in the climate between Montreal, and Quebec: the former is situated in lat. 45, 36, Three Rivers in 46, 25, and Quebec in 46, 35. The French Canadians sow only summer wheat, though I should think that winter wheat might be sown in winter with success

Peas, Oats, Rye and Barley, are sown more or less by every farmer, though the largest crops of these are in the vicinity of Montreal.

The towns of Montreal and Québec including their suburbs, are said to contain 14,000 inhabitants each, nearly three-fourths of whom are French.

The British inhabitants of Québec consist of the government people, the military; a few persons belonging to the church, the law and medicine;\* the merchants and shop-keepers.

The French comprise the old noblesse, and seigniors, most of whom are members of the government; the clergy; the advocates and notaries; the storekeepers.

The houses at Québec are, with few exceptions, built of stone; the roofs of the better part are

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\* Better medical practitioners of character and skill, are much wanted, both in Upper and Lower Canada, and the Canadians would do well to encourage professional gentlemen by such liberality as would induce them to settle among them.



generally covered with sheets of iron or tin. The streets of the lower town are scarcely deserving of that appellation; they are rugged, narrow and irregular. A heavy sameness prevades all the houses in Quebec, which is seldom relieved by any elegance or beauty in the public buildings. The upper town is the most agreeable part of Quebec, both in summer and winter. The markets of Quebec are well supplied. In the summer the following articles are brought to market by the habitants, (country people) and generally sold at the prices affixed to them.

*Sterling Money.*

MEAT.	{	Beef, per lb. 1d. $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4d.
		Mutton, per lb. 4d. to 6d; per sheep, 8s. to 10s.
		Lamb, per quarter, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.
		Veal, 6d. to 7d. per lb.
		Pork, 5d. to 6d per lb.
		Sausages.
POULTRY AND GAME.	{	Turkies, per couple, 3s. 6d. to 5s.
		Fowls, do. 1s. 3d. to 2s.
		Chickens, do. 7d to 10d.
		Geese, do. 2s. 5d. to 4s. 6d.
		Wild, do. do.
		Partridges, do. 10d. to 15d
		Pigeons, per dozen, 1s. 6d. to 4s.
		Hares, each, 5d. to 9d.

FISH.	{ Eels, price according to their size	
	Trout	do.
	Perch	do.
	Poisson Dorée	do.
	Maskinongé	do.
	Shad, each,	1d. to 2d.
	Sturgeon	
	Actigan	{ Of various prices, according to the size.
	Black bass	
	Salmon	
	Fresh Cod	
	Salt Cod	
	Cat Fish	{ At some periods Cod and Salmon are as dear as in London.

VEGETABLES.	{ Potatoes, 18d. to 20d. per bushel	
	Cabbages	1d. to 2d. each
	Onions, per hundred,	10d.
	Leeks, per bundle,	4d.
	Carrots, but very little cheaper than in London	
	Turnips,	do.
	Peas	do.
	Beans,	do.
	Beet,	do.
	Celery,	do.
	Sallad	do.
	Asparagus,	per bundle
	Cotannier	do.
	Parsnips	do.
	Boiled corn, herbs, &c.	

FRUIT.	{ Apples, 18d. per barrel	
	Pears, but few at market	
	Strawberries about	6d. per quart
	Currants	
	Gooseberries	
	Raspberries	

FRUIT.	{	Blucherries
		Blackberries
		Plums
		Melons

SUN- DRIES.	{	Maple Sugar, 2d. to 3d. per lb
		Flour, per Cwt. 18s. to 25s.
		Lard, 6d. to 9d. per lb
		Tallow, 9d. to 10d. do.
		Tobacco, 9d. do.
		Butter, 9d. to 14d. do.
		Oats, per minot, 2s. 6d. to 3s.
		Hay, per bundle, 6d. to 7d.
		Straw, per do. 2d. to 3d.
		Wood, per cord, 12s. to 15s.
		Soap, magasins, furs, &c.

In winter, a few only of the above articles are brought to market. As soon as the river between Quebec and the Island of Orleans is frozen over, a large supply of provisions is received from that island. The Canadians, at the commencement of winter, kill the greatest part of their stock, which they carry to market in a frozen state. The inhabitants of the towns, then, supply themselves with a sufficient quantity of poultry, and vegetables, till Spring, and keep them in garrets or cellars. As long as they remain frozen, they preserve their goodness, but they will not keep long after they have thawed.

I have eaten turkies in April, which have been kept in this manner all the winter, and found them remarkably good. Before the frozen provisions are dressed, they are always laid for some hours in cold water, which extracts the ice; otherwise, by a sudden immersion in hot water, they would be spoiled.

The articles of life are certainly very reasonable in Canada, but the high price of house rent and European goods, together with the high wages of servants, more than counterbalance that advantage. A person must pay at least 70 or 100 per cent. upon the London price for every article of wearing apparel, furniture, &c. unless he attends the public sales, which are pretty frequent, and where articles are sometimes sold very low; but there he is often liable to be deceived, and many a keen economist has been confoundedly bit.

The lower town market place is reckoned cheaper than the other. It is not so large, but is generally well supplied. Fish is at certain seasons abundant, particularly salmon and shad;

the latter is classed among the herrings, which it somewhat resembles in flavour, though widely differing in size, the shad being as large as a moderate sized salmon. They are a great relief to the poor people, in the months of May and June, as at that season they are taken in shoals. In the river of St. Lawrence, from the entrance to more than 200 miles above Quebec, large quantities are salted down for the use of the upper province.

Fresh cod are very rarely brought to market. A merchant in the upper town usually gets a supply once during the summer season, which he keeps in an ice-house, and retails to the inhabitants at nearly the London price. Montreal receives a supply from the United States during the winter season; they are packed up in ice, and a few of them find their way to Québec.

Considering the vast quantities of fish with which the river and gulph of St. Lawrence abound, the markets in Canada are very ill supplied. Though the gulph is full of mackarel, yet none ever appear at Quebec. Oysters are

sometimes brought from Chaleur Bay, but so seldom, and in such small quantities, that an oyster party is considered by the inhabitants as a very rare treat. They are however but of an indifferent quality, and though of large size when taken out of the shell, yet have so little substance in them, that when cut with a knife, the water runs out, and they diminish at least a fourth. The shells are large, and adhere to each other in great clusters. The herrings of Canada are large, but of an indifferent quality. Sprats there are none, at least none ever appear on shore.

In the Spring, the markets are abundantly supplied with wild pigeons, which are sometimes sold much lower than the price I have mentioned; this happens in plentiful seasons.; but the immense flocks that formerly passed over the country are now considerably diminished, or as the land becomes cleared they retire farther back.

The beef of Canada is in general poor and tough eating. The Canadians have not got into a proper method of fattening their cattle, which are

for the most part lean and ill fed. The butchers; however, contrive to furnish a better sort, which they fatten on their own farms. The veal is killed too young to please an English taste, and the pork is over-grown. Mutton and lamb are very good, and the latter on its first coming in, is sold at a price that would not disgrace a London market. The habitants sell their meat by the quarter half, or whole carcase, which accounts for the different prices I have affixed to those articles. The butchers retail them by the pound.

The best butter is brought from Green Island, about one hundred and fifty miles below Quebec. That sold by the Canadians in the market place, is generally of a cheesy or sour flavour, owing to the cream being kept so long before it is churned. Milk is brought to market in the winter time, in large frozen cakes.

Large quantities of Maple sugar are sold at about half the price of the West-India sugar. The manufacturing of this article takes place early in the spring, when the sap or juice rises in the Maple trees. It is a very laborious work,

as at that time the snow is just melting, and the Canadians suffer great hardships in procuring the liquor from an immense number of trees, dispersed over many hundred acres of land. The liquor is boiled down, and often adulterated with flour, which thickens and renders it heavy; after it is boiled a sufficient time, it is poured into tureens, and when cold, forms a thick hard cake of the shape of the vessel. These cakes are of a dark brown colour, for the Canadians do not trouble themselves about refining it: the people in Upper Canada make it very white, and it may be easily clarified equal to the finest loaf sugar made in England.

It is very hard, and requires to be scraped with a knife when used for tea, otherwise the lumps would be a considerable time dissolving. Its flavour strongly resembles the candied horehound sold by the druggists in England, and the Canadians say that it possesses medicinal qualities, for which they eat it in large lumps. It very possibly acts as a corrective to the vast quantity of fat pork which they consume, as it possesses a greater degree of acidity than the West-India



sugar. Before salt was in use, sugar was eat with meat, in order to correct its putrescency. Hence probably the custom of eating sweet apple sauce with pork and goose; and currant jelly with hare and venison.

Hay is sold at market in bundles of 17lbs. weight each, at 50s. the hundred bundles. Straw is sold in the same manner, at about half the price. Wood is brought to market in carts or sleighs; three loads make one cord, which sells from 12s. to 15s. Most people at Quebec, however, lay in their wood from the water side, near the lower town market-place; it is brought down the river in summer, in cribs of six cords each. A cord of wood is six feet long, four feet high, and two feet deep, and is sold at the water side from 1s. to 9s. The expences of carting, piling, and saving the wood, is about 4s. 6d. more. Coals are generally brought by the vessels as ballast, and sell from 20s. to 30s. per chaldron, at Quebec; they are a cheaper fuel than wood, but the latter is better adapted for the stoves which are used in Canada. The French people sell their commodities by the *minot*, a measure

which is one-twelfth more than the Winchester bushel. They also measure land by the arpent, which is four-fifths of a statute acre.

The fish in the seas, gulphs, rivers, and lakes, of Canada, are innumerable; they consist, indeed, of almost every species and variety at present known. Those brought to market I have mentioned before. They are mostly the fresh water fish, and considering the immense quantities that might be procured with the greatest facility, it is surprising that so few are offered for sale. The salt water fishery is carried on chiefly for the purpose of exportation, but no great quantity is exported from Quebec.

The two Canadas abound with almost every species and variety of trees, shrubs, and plants; among the timber trees are the oak, pine, fir, elm, ash, birch, walnut, beech, maple, chesnut, cedar, aspen, &c. Among the fruit trees and shrubs are walnut, chesnut, apple, pear, cherry, plum, elder, vines, hazel, hiccory, samach, juniper, hornbeam, thorn, laurel, whortleberry, cran-

berry, raspberry, gooseberry, blackberry, blueberry, sloe, &c. Strawberries are luxuriantly scattered over every part of the country, but currants are only met with in Gardens. Such innumerable quantities of useful and beautiful plants, herbs, grapes, and flowers are also to be found in the forests, that where the botanist is presented with so rich a field for observation and study, it is to be regretted that so little is known concerning them,

The pine trees grow to the height of 120 feet and more, and from 9 to 10 feet in circumference. In several parts of Lower Canada, bordering on the states of Vermont and New York, they make excellent masts and timber for shipping; but the quantity procured in the lower province is very trifling to the supplies received from Upper Canada and the United States. In other parts, particularly to the northward and westward of Québec, the forest trees are mostly of a small growth. There are several varieties of the pine and fir trees, from some of which are made large quantities of pitch, tar, and turpentine. *The clearing of lands has of late years been carried on to*

*great advantage, by those who properly understand the true method, for there is scarcely a tree in the forest but what may be turned to some account, particularly in the making of pot and pearl ashes, which have enriched the American settlers far beyond any other article.* The trees of a resinous quality supply pitch, tar, and turpentine. The maple furnishes sugar, and with the beech, ash, elm, &c. will also serve for the potash manufactory. Cedar is converted into shingles for the roofs of houses; oak into ship timber; firs into deal planks and boards, and in short almost every kind of tree is brought into use for some purpose or other.

In the clearing of lands, however, it is always necessary that the settler should first look out for a market for his produce, and for some navigable river, or good road to convey the same, otherwise it is of little consequence that he obtains four or five hundred acres of land for four or five pounds. So much land for so little money, is highly prepossessing to an European, but appearances, particularly at a distance, are often fallacious.

The American oak is quicker in its growth, but less durable than that of Europe; one species called the live oak, which is, however, found only in the warmer parts of the country, is said by many to be equal, if not superior to the English oak for ship-building. The white oak is the best that is found in the Canadian settlements, and is chiefly used for the building of vessels at Quebec and Montreal.

One of the most useful trees in Canada is the maple tree, *acer saccharinum*, which supplies the inhabitants with abundance of excellent sugar, and the best fire wood. I have, in a former chapter, adverted to the mode of procuring the sap of this tree, and manufacturing it into sugar. It is not cut down for fire wood, till exhausted of its sap, when it is generally preferred, and fetches a higher price than any other fire wood sold at market.



### *Roads and Distances in Canada.*



*From Quebec to Halifax.*

	MILES.
From Quebec to Point Levi, cross the River	1
Thence to the Portage at Riviere du Cap	121½

	MILES.
Thence to Timispuata .....	36
—— to the Settlement of Maduaska ..	45
—— to the great falls in river St. John	45
—— to Frederick Town .....	180
—— to St. Johns .....	90
—— to Halifax.....	189½
	<hr/> 708



*From Quebec to Michillimakinak, at the entrance of  
Lake Huron.*

To Montreal .....	184
— Coteau du Lac ... ..	225
— Cornwall .....	266
— Matilda .....	301
— Augusta.....	335
— Kingston .....	385
— Niagara .....	525
— Fort Erie .....	560
— Detroit .....	790
— Michillimakinak .....	1107



*From Quebec to New York, by way of Montreal.*

To Cape Rouge .....	9
— St. Augustin... ..	9
— Jacques Cartier.....	15
— St. Anne's .....	30

	MILES.
To Three Rivers.....	22
— Riviere du Soup .....	27
— Berthier.....	22
— Repentigné .....	32
— Montreal .....	18
	<hr/>
	184
 To Laprairie ..	9
— St. John's .....	14
— Isle au Maix .....	14
— Windmill Point.....	12
— Savage's Point .....	6
— Sandbar.....	20
— Burlington, the first post town in the States.....	14
	<hr/>
	89
 To Skenesboro' .....	78
— Fort Anne .....	12
— Dumant Ferry.....	24
— Waterford .....	24
— Albany City .....	12
	<hr/>
	150
 To Hudson City .....	34
— Rhinebeck.....	31
— Poughkeepsie .....	17
— Peckshill .....	34

	MILES.
To Kingsbridge .....	34
— New York.....	15
	<hr/>
	165
	<hr/>

The expence of travelling post, in Lower Canada, is one shilling currency per league.

The American packets, on Lake Champlain, charge from three to four dollars for the passage from St. John's to Skenesborough, a distance of nearly 160 miles.

From Skenesborough, the traveller proceeds to New York, in a waggon or stage, at the rate of threepence sterling per mile.

Of the inhabitants of Lower Canada, not more than one-tenth are British or American settlers from the United States. In Upper Canada, the population is almost entirely composed of the latter and British subjects, who have emigrated from various parts of the United Kingdom. Very few French people reside in that province, and it is a remarkable circumstance, that among all the British residents in the two colonies, not



two hundred Englishmen perhaps can be found. I was told, that, at Quebec, there were not more than twelve or fourteen of that country. The rest are either Irish or Scotch, though the former bear no proportion to the latter, who are distributed from one end of the Canadas to the other. *The Irish emigrate more to the United States than Canada.* Being discontented with their own government, they endeavour to seek relief under a foreign one, whose virtues have been so greatly exaggerated, and whose excellent properties have been extolled to the skies. A few months, however, convince them of their error, and those who are not sold to their American masters, generally find their way into Upper Canada.

Of all British emigrants, *the Scotch are the most indefatigable and persevering.* In poverty, they leave their native home; yet, seldom return to it without a handsome competency. Their patient diligence, and submission, in the pursuit of riches, together with their general knowledge and good sense, render them highly beneficial to the mother country, while their natural partiality for their ancient soil, secures their steady attachment and adherence to the British government.

The expences of the civil government in Upper Canada, are defrayed by direct taxes; by duties upon articles imported from the United States, and a sum granted by the lower province, out of certain duties. In Upper Canada, lands, houses and mills; horses, cows, pigs, and other property are valued and taxed at the rate of one penny in the pound. Woodlands are valued at one shilling per acre, and cultivated lands at fifty shillings per acre. A house, with only one chimney, pays no tax, but with two it is charged at the rate of forty pounds per annum, though it may be but a mere hovel,

The inhabitants of Lower Canada pay no direct taxes, except for the repair of roads, highways, paving streets, &c. and then they have the choice of working themselves, or sending one of their labourers with a horse and cart, &c.

The timber and staves which are brought into Canada from the States, are cut down in winter or spring, and collected into large rafts, on Lake Champlain, whence they are floated down the river Richlieu, into the St. Lawrence, and depo-

sited along the shores of Silleri and Wolfe's Cove, for an extent of more than five miles. There they are culled and sorted for the merchants.—Standard staves, of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet long,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick, and 5 inches broad, sell in Canada, from £40 to £50 the 1200. The freight is about the same amount.

The rafts when coming down the river, exhibit a curious scene: they have several little sheds or huts, erected with boards for the accommodation of the rowers, whose number on large rafts, frequently consists of 100, or 150.

The following extract from a letter, received from the intelligent friend resident in Canada (whom I mentioned before,) will be found interesting:

QUEBEC.

Dear Sir,—“ As to what goods will sell best here, it is impossible for me to speak accurately. In one season articles sell well, in another very indifferently. Cargoes that have arrived from England this year (1817,) are selling at sales as cheap as in England! The market is glutted, and indeed some articles are going off 20 per Cent

under Prime Cost. The course of exchange is at par at present: the difference of currency and sterling is 1s. 9d. An English Guinea if weight, is worth £1. 3s. 9d.

In Canada all gold is taken by weight. Salt is now going off here at the sales at 7s. 6d. per bushel: this article is procured chiefly from Liverpool. In some years 226,000 bushels have been exported. During Winter, it has been known to sell as high as 12s. 6d. per bushel, and even at 14s. but in the ensuing Spring it fell to 3s. 6d. which is generally the price, at which it is retailed. Ships from Liverpool are most commonly ballasted with salt, and during the season of their arrival at Quebec, some of the merchants purchase it from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. per bushel, and monopolize it until the season is over, when no more supplies can be obtained, till the following Spring”

The fruit of Canada is not remarkable either for goodness or cheapness, except strawberries and raspberries, which are brought to market in great abundance, during the season. They are gathered on the plains, at the back of Quebec, and in the neighbouring woods, where they grow upon the ground, or among the shrubs, in wild

luxuriance. The poor Canadians send their children to gather them, and afterwards sell them to the inhabitants at a moderate price. It is an agreeable sight to view the fields covered with strawberries, in blossom, or ripe: few persons keep them in gardens. The raspberry bushes are intermingled with the underwood of the forests, and afford an agreeable treat to those who are fond of rambling in the woods. That pleasure, is, however, more than counterbalanced by the musquitoes and sand-flies, which never fail for three or four months in the summer to annoy those who venture to penetrate their abode.

Apples and pears are procured from Montreal, where they grow in more abundance, and in greater perfection, than in any other part of Lower Canada. They are sold for much the same price as in England. The apple which is most prized, is what they call the "pommegris," a small light brown apple, somewhat resembling the russetin in appearance. Many persons say that it is superior to any English apple, but I never could agree with them in that particular. In my opinion it is not equal to many of our ap-

ples, and cannot be compared with the nonpareil, an apple which is not known in Canada. Several species of wild apples and pears are found in the woods, but they are of inferior quality to those cultivated in the gardens and orchards.

The grapes brought to market are mostly of the wild species, which are gathered in the woods, or from vines that have been planted near the houses. Little care has been taken to improve the latter, so that very trifling alteration is discernible. They are scarcely larger than currants, but when ripe, have a pleasant flavour, though rather sharp and pungent. There are a few European vines cultivated in the gardens, but the grapes are seldom to be purchased. Oranges and lemons are imported from England, and are always extremely scarce; for the damage which they sustain on the voyage, renders them a very unprofitable article for sale. They frequently sell (particularly oranges) at one or two shillings each. The lemons, which generally keep better, are sometimes as low as six-pence, but they are often not to be purchased at any price.

Gooseberries, blackberries, and blueberries,

are in great abundance, and grow wild in the woods. Those cultivated in gardens are much superior. Currants came originally from Europe, and are to be found only in gardens; there is of course but a scanty supply of them at market. Plums are plentiful in the market, they are of the wild species, though often introduced into gardens. They are generally of two sorts, the white and black, and resemble the most common of our plums. Walnuts and filberts are by no means common in Canada, and are procured principally by importation from England. Hickory and hazel nuts are met with in the forests. Cherries are grown in gentlemen's gardens only: wild cherries are, however, scattered over the country, and a very agreeable liqueur is made with them, which in flavour resembles noyau.

Vegetables may be obtained in tolerable quantities at the markets. The potatoe is now generally grown in Canada; it was introduced by the English settlers. Onions, leeks, peas, beans, and cabbages, are much esteemed. Gardening is, however, as little understood as farming, and nothing is brought to market in perfection. Gardeners of skill, sobriety, and industry, would

meet with considerable encouragement, both in Upper and Lower Canada. Scotch gardeners, so celebrated for their superior intelligence, their sobriety, and their perseverance, would effect wonders with the soil of either province.

Large quantities of wheat are raised in Canada, and exported to Great Britain, and yet the article bread, is not so cheap as it ought to be.—Upper Canada is particularly luxuriant in the production of the finest wheat. There is no deficiency of mills for grinding wheat. The price of bread is regulated monthly by the magistrates.

If the emigrant farmer should be poor, he *will have difficulties to encounter in establishing himself.* Arrived at his land, he has no shelter till he erects his house; he then cuts down trees, and clears his ground of brushwood, &c. by fire. By degrees he ameliorates his land, obtains shelter for his cattle, &c. Enterprising men who have courage to surmount difficulties, will in the end do very well, as thousands have done.—That farmer will best succeed who can command a small capital, from £200. to £400. With this



he can purchase a farm in the neighbourhood of Montreal, where the ground is luxuriant, and the frosts do not injure the crops, as is often the case at Quebec: he will also find a market for his productions.

The price of the best land averages from 25 to 30 dollars per acre. Perhaps the best land is in the neighbourhood of Montreal. The farms are generally cleared of trees about a mile back. Few trees are suffered to grow near the houses. In the clearing of land, the Canadians are very fond of white-washing, but do not trouble themselves about painting them.

Sugars are obtained at a reasonable rate. Green tea is generally drank in Canada, and differ considerably in price: the highest is 10s. per lb. Hyson sells from 12s. to 14s. per lb. Tea comes from the United States, and considering that no duty is paid on it, is certainly dear. Chocolate and Coffee also come from the United States, and average at 2s. per lb.

Soap and Candles are made at Quebec and

Montreal, not extremely good in quality, and in price as high as in England. Tobacco is universally grown in Canada, and yet it is imported from the United States in considerable quantities.

Some cheese is also obtained from the United States, which is nearly of the same quality as Suffolk cheese. This sells from 7d. to 9d. per pound. English cheese sells high, from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per pound.

The trades likely to flourish in the Canadas, are those of the shipwright, block and mast maker, blacksmith, house carpenter, joiner, millwright wheelwright, boat-builder, cabinet makers, saddler, painter, baker, tailor, tanner, hair dresser, and whitesmith. There are others, no doubt, which I do not immediately recollect, that would answer extremely well. Skill and industry will make their way every where.

I have known, in several instances, an association of the house carpenter and blacksmith to expedite considerably the formation of an infant settlement. They have emigrated together from

England, and their union has materially facilitated the progress of their establishment in their adopted country.

Ship builders, in Canada, are in general an indifferent set of men. Many of them are from the river (Thames) and the dissolute habits of these, are proverbial. Shipwrights, of sober, steady habits, cannot fail of doing well in the St. Laurence. The Canadian Shipwrights, however, make up for lack of skill, by habit, the very reverse of those of the Europeans.

There is certainly a great want of useful hands in Canada, but, perhaps it is not so great as is apprehended in England.

The wages of artificers are good, *but they must imitate the ants.* Those who cannot save during the Summer, are miserable during the Winter, when many are out of employment.

For a small society like that of Canada, the number of unfaithful wives, kept mistresses, and girls of easy virtue, exceed in proportion those

of the old country, and it is supposed that in the towns more children are born illegitimately than in wedlock. Trials for *crim. con.* are however unknown.

Good female servants are very scarce in Canada. Following the example of their mistresses, few can be found who are exempt from the vices of the age. Their wages are from £12 to £20 per annum, and notwithstanding they are so liberally paid, they seldom remain above a month in a place. A servant that remains in her place four or five months is looked upon as a pattern of excellence. Farmer's servants get from £36 to 40 a year currency, and provisions. A careful man may of course lay by something.

Blessed with a luxuriant soil, which he obtains on easy terms, the habitan of Canada raises the productions of the earth with inconsiderable labour, and satisfied with the practice of his fore-fathers, obstinately rejects the advice which would lead to improvement and profit. It will therefore be readily perceived what singular advantages await the *industrious* agricultural emi-

grant on his arrival in Canada. What effects must be produced by the introduction into that country, of the superior modes of husbandry adopted in England, and what wonders will not these methods produce, when associated with the characteristic perseverance and industry of the farmers of the United Kingdom!

They will have difficulties to encounter, but “*Nihil impossibile industriæ est*,”—nothing is impossible to industry. The increase of agriculture and commerce has caused many in Canada to emerge from poverty and neglect, to opulence and esteem; and he that dares to be resolute in the teeth of obstacles, will find that success will generally crown his efforts.

“*The wise and prudent conquer difficulties*

“*By daring to attempt them.*”

The emigrant will also find the habits of the people with whom he is called to associate very different from those of the people whom he has quitted; but it should be his business to accommodate himself to circumstances, and he will find, that, in a great degree, his comforts will

be proportioned to the disposition which he may carry with him into his newly-adopted society. With him, prudent conformity to new habits will often be wisdom.

The observations which have been rapidly made on the soil, the scenery, commerce, trade, &c. of Lower Canada, will nearly apply to the Upper Province.

The climate of Upper Canada is much more temperate and soft than that of the Lower Province, and it is on that and on many other accounts preferred by emigrants. Vegetation is extremely rapid, the harvests remarkably abundant; and, by many, Upper Canada has been termed the garden of North America. The principal towns are York, Kingston, Queenston, and Niagara. The capital (York) is on Lake Ontario, and is rapidly increasing in importance. All the towns are populous, and the commerce of the whole province has considerably increased within the last ten years, and is still increasing.)

Direct taxation is very trifling, and any man

with a moderate sum of money, has it in his power to acquire a handsome competency.

The manners, customs, and amusements of the people, resemble those of the British nation: and though society is yet in its infancy, it is not wanting in those requisites which make it agreeable to strangers.

England derives considerable benefit and assistance from the productions and commerce of Upper Canada. Yet Government does not appear to be sensible of the high importance of this rising state. Greater encouragement must yet be held out to those who are disposed to emigrate, and the fostering hand of a paternal Administration must cheer and animate the mind of the adventurer.

That there yet unaccountably exists a want of due attention, on the part of Government, to this national concern, may be inferred from the perusal of the excellent letter of Mr. Goulray, to the Gentlemen of Canada—a letter which is so conclusive on the subject, that I must beg leave to recommend it to my readers particular attention.

“ QUEENSTON, October, 1817.

“ GENTLEMEN—I am a British farmer, and have visited this province to ascertain what advantages it possesses in an Agricultural point of view. After three months residence, I am convinced that these are great—far superior, indeed, to what the Mother Country has ever held out, either as they concern speculative purchase, or the profits of present occupation. Under such impressions, it is my purpose as soon as circumstances will permit, to become a settler; and in the mean time would willingly do what lay in my power to benefit the country of my choice. When I speak in this sanguine manner of the capabilities of Canada, I take it for granted that certain political restraints to improvement will be speedily removed. Growing necessity, and the opinion of every sensible man with whom I have conversed on the subject, gives assurance of this. My present address, therefore, waves all regard to political arrangements: it has in view, simply to open a correspondence between you and your fellow subjects at home, where the utmost ignorance prevails with respect to the natural resources of this fine country. Travellers have published passing remarks; they have told wonderful stories, and amused the idle of England with descriptions of the beautiful and grand scenery which nature has here displayed; but no authentic account has yet been afforded to men



of capital—to men of enterprise and skill, of those important facts which are essential to be known, before such men will launch into foreign speculation, or venture with their families, in quest of better fortune across the Atlantic. In this state of ignorance, you have hitherto had for settlers chiefly poor men driven from their home by despair—these men, ill-informed and lost in the novelties which surround them, make at first but a feeble commencement, and ultimately form a society, crude, unambitious, and weak. In your Newspapers I have frequently observed hints towards bettering the condition of these poor settlers, and for ensuring their residence in the Provinces. Such hints evidently spring from benevolent feelings; they are all well meant, and may tend to alleviate individual distress, but can produce no important good to the country. Canada is worthy of something better than a mere guidance to it of the blind and the lame; it has attractions to stimulate desire, and place its colonization above the aids of necessity.—Hands no doubt are necessary, but next to good laws the grand requisite for the improvement of any country, is capital. Could a flow of capital be once directed to this quarter, hands would not be wanting, nor would these hands be so chilled with poverty as to need the patronage of charitable institutions. At this moment British capital is overflowing; trade is yielding it up; the funds

cannot profitably absorb it; land mortgages are gorged; and it is streaming to waste in the six per cents. of America. Why should not this stream be diverted into the woods of Canada, where it would find a still higher rate of interest, with the most substantial security?

“Gentlemen! The moment is most auspicious to your interest, and you should take advantage of it. You should make known the state of this country; you should advertise the excellence of the raw material which Nature has lavishly spread before you; you should inspire confidence, and tempt able adventurers from home. At this time there are thousands of British farmers sickened with disappointed hopes, who would readily come to Canada, did they but know the truth; many of these could still command a few thousand pounds to begin with here; while others less able in means, have yet preserved their character for skill and probity, to entitle them to the confidence of capitalists at home, for whom they could act as agents in adventure. Under the wing of such men the redundant population of Britain would emigrate with cheerfulness, and be planted here with hearts unbroken. We hear of 4 or 5,000 settlers arriving from home this season, and it is talked of as a great accession to the population of the provinces. It is a mere drop from the bucket.

“The extent of calamity already occasioned

by the system of the poor laws, cannot be even imagined by strangers. They may form some idea, however, when I tell them, that last winter I saw in one parish (Blackwall, within five miles of London) several hundreds of able-bodied men harnessed and yoked, fourteen together, in carts, hauling gravel for the repair of the highways; each 14 men performing just about as much work as an old horse led by a boy could accomplish. We have heard since, that £1,500,000 has been voted to keep the poor at work; and perhaps the most melancholy consideration of the whole is, that there are people who trust to such means as a cure for the evil. While all this is true; when the money and labour of England is thus wasted; when thousands of our fellow-subjects are emigrating into the States of America; when we even hear of them being led off to toil with the boors of Poland, in the cultivation of a country where the nature of the Government must counteract the utmost efforts towards improvement—is it not provoking that all this should go on merely from a reigning ignorance of the superior advantages which Canada has in store, and a thoughtlessness as to the grand policy which might be adopted for the general aggrandizement of the British nation? Some have thought the exclusion of American citizens a great bar to the speedy settlement of Canada; but a liberal system of colonization from Europe,

would render this of small importance. Before coming to a decided opinion on this important subject, I took much pains to inform myself of facts. A minute enquiry on the spot where Government has endeavoured to force a settlement, satisfied me as to the causes of the too notorious failure there. It convinced me that the fault by no means rested with the incapacity of the settlers, but resulted from the system pursued. I have since spent a month perambulating the Genesee country, for the express purpose of forming a comparison between British and American management. That country lies parallel to this; it possesses no superior advantages: its settlement began ten years later: yet I am ashamed to say, it is already ten years before Canada in improvement. This has been ascribed to the superior loyalty of the American people, but most erroneously. The art of clearing land is as well understood here as in the States:—men direct from Britain are as energetic, and after a little practice, sufficiently expert with the axe, while they are more regular in their habits and more persevering in their plans than the Americans. No improvement has taken place in the Genesee country, which could not be far exceeded here, under a proper system. It was indeed British capital and enterprize which gave the first grand impetus to the improvement of that country: much of its improvement is still proceeding un-

der British agency; and one of its most flourishing townships is wholly occupied by men who came with slender means from the Highlands of Scotland. In the Genesee country the Government pocketed much, but *forced* nothing, and charity there has been left without an object.

“Gentlemen—The inquiries and observations which I have recently made on the subject of settlement, assure me that neither in these provinces nor in the United States, has a proper system been pursued. The mere filling of the world with men, should not be the sole object of political wisdom: This should regard the filling of it with beings of superior intellect and feeling, without which the desert had better remain occupied by the beaver and the bear. That society of a superior kind may be nursed up in Canada, by an enlarged and liberal connection with the mother country. I am very confident; and its being realized is the fond hope which induces me to come forward with my present proposals, and which, if these proposals meet with support, will continue the spur of my exertions to complete the work which I have now in view. Many of you, Gentlemen, have been bred up at home, and well know how superior, in many respects, are the arrangements and habits of society there, to what they are on this side the Atlantic. Such never can be hoped for here under the present system of colonization, which brings out only a

part, and that the weakest part of society—which places poor and destitute individuals in remote situations, with no object before them but groveling selfishness—no aid—no example—no fear either of God or man. Is it not possible to create such a tide of commerce as would not only bring with it part of society, but society complete, with all the strength and order and refinement which it has now attained in Britain, beyond all precedent? Surely Government would afford every facility to a commerce which would not only enrich, but eternally bind together Britain and its Provinces, by the most powerful sympathies of manners and taste, and affection.

Government can never too much encourage the growth of this colony, by a liberal system of emigration. When we come from home we are not expatriated: our feelings as British subjects grow more warm with distance, and our greater experience teaches us the more to venerate the principles of our native land—the country where in the Sciences have made the greatest progress, and where alone are cultivated to perfection the arts of social life. At home, we have experienced evils: we know that influences are there, which war against the principles of the constitution and counteract its most benevolent designs. Here, we are free of such influences, we are perfectly contented, and a fine field lies open to us for cultivating the best fruits of civil and religious liber-

ty. An enlarged and liberal connection between Canada and Britain, appears to me to promise the happiest results to the cause of civilization. It promises a new era in the history of our species : it promises the growth of manners with manly spirit, modesty with acquirements, and a love of truth superior to the boasting of despicable vanity. The late war furnished the strongest proof of the rising spirit of this colony, even under every disadvantage ; and pity would it be, were so noble a spirit ever again exposed to risk. The late-war shewed at once the affection which Britain bears to Canada, and the desire which Canada has to continue under the wing of Britain. When a connection is established between the two countries worthy of such manifestations, all risk will cease. Britain will no longer have to expend her millions here. This country will not only be equal to its own defence, but the last hope of invasion will wither before its strength. While Canada remains poor and neglected, she can only be a burden to Britain ; when improved and wealthy she will amply repay every debt, and become the powerful friend of the parent state. What I conceive to be the first requisite for opening a suitable communication with the mother country, is the drawing out and publishing a well authenticated statistical account of Upper Canada. This cannot be effected by a single hand : it must be the work and have the authority

of many. To give it commencement, I submit to your consideration the annexed queries; and, could these be replied to from every township in the Province, the work would be far advanced. These queries have been shewn to many of the most respectable individuals in this Province, and the scheme of collecting materials in this way, for a statistical account, has, by every one, been approved. Some have doubted whether there exists sufficient energy and public spirit in the remote townships to reply to them. I hope there is; and certainly no organized township is destitute of individuals qualified for the task, if they will but take so much trouble. Some Gentlemen have met my ideas so cordially as to offer to collect information, not only for their own, but for other townships. Correct information, however, is not the only requisite: authority is also wanted of that species which will not only carry weight with it to a distance, but remain answerable on the spot for whatever is advanced. The desirable point, therefore, is to obtain replies separately from each township, and to have these attested by the signature of as many of the respectable inhabitants as possible. To accomplish this in the speediest and most effectual manner, a meeting might be held in each township, and in the space of an hour or two the business might be perfected,—The queries have been drawn out as simple as possible, with a view to the practi-



cability of having them answered in this general way. They embrace only such matters as it must be in the power of every intelligent farmer to speak to, and the information to be obtained by them will be sufficient to assure farmers and others at home who have money to engage in adventure, that adventure here will not only be rational and safe, but that they themselves may sit down in Canada with comfort and independence. Although to prevent confusion in the general fulfilment of the scheme, I have confined the range of queries, it would still be very desirable if intelligent individuals would communicate their sentiments with regard to any measure of improvement which occurs to them, or any remarkable fact or observation they have made concerning the climate, soil, or cultivation of the province. Should any correspondent dislike my using his name publicly, he need only give a caution, and it shall be observed.

“ If the queries obtain notice, and sufficient documents are forwarded to me, I shall arrange them and publish them in England, whither I am soon to return. Had this task required superior ability, such an offer would be presumption. I think it requires industry alone, and that I shall contribute most willingly. Whoever thinks well of this scheme, and feels a desire to promote it, let him not hesitate or delay: prompt assistance will be every thing; and as to trouble, let individuals compare theirs to mine.

“Though I gratuitously make offer of my time, I must be relieved of expence as much as possible, and shall expect all communications to be post paid. No person, I think, who interests himself at all in the matter will grudge his item in this way. Divided among many, such charges will be trifling, but accumulated upon one, they would be serious.

“Should the work succeed to my wish, I would propose not only publishing it in the English, but German language. It is well known that the people of that nation are most desirable settlers, and it is a fact, that many of them have not the means of communicating to their friends the very superior advantages of this country. One of them, who has been in Canada thirteen years, lately told me, that “tousands and tousands would come over, did they but know how good a country it is for poor peoples.”

*United States.*

The principal stream of emigration flows to the United States, and here, are concentrated, adventurers from every part of Europe,—the visionary—the bankrupt in fortune and in fame—the idle and the vicious. Happily here are also to be found, emigrants of very different character—the industrious, sober, skilful mechanic;—the honest, plodding, ingenious manufacturer;—the pains-taking, indefatigable peasant, and the invaluable respected farmer—men of sound moral and religious habits, whom the cruel necessity of the times has driven from the old world, to seek competence and happiness in the new.

A very intelligent and respectable farmer, lately of the county of Surry, has settled in a delightful situation in the Illinois territory, and observes in a work just published, that a nation, (the English) with half its population, supported by alms or poor rates, and one fourth of its income derived from taxes, many of which are dried up in their sources, or speedily becoming

so, must teem with emigrants from one end to the other; and for such as myself who have had nothing to do with the laws but to obey them, it is quite reasonable and just to secure a timely retreat from the approaching crisis—either of anarchy and despotism.

An English farmer, to which class I had the honour to belong, is in possession of the same rights and privileges with the Villeins of old time, and exhibits for the most part a suitable political character. He has no voice in the appointment of the legislature, unless he happen to possess a freehold of forty shillings a year, and he is then expected to vote on the side of his landlord. He has no concern with public affairs, excepting as a tax-payer, a parish officer, or a militia man. He has no right to appear at a county meeting, unless the word inhabitants should find its way into the sheriff's invitation; in this case he may show his face among the nobility, clergy, and freeholders:—a felicity which occurred to myself when the inhabitants of Surry were invited to assist the gentry in crying down the income tax.

Thus having no elective franchise, an English farmer can scarcely be said to have a political existence, and political duties he has none, except such, as under existing circumstances, would inevitably consign him to the special guardianship of the secretary of state for the home department.

In exchanging the condition of an English farmer for that of an American proprietor, I expect to suffer many inconveniences, but I am willing to make a great sacrifice of present ease, were it merely for the sake of obtaining in the decline of life, an exemption from that wearisome solicitude about pecuniary affairs, from which even the affluent find no refuge in England; and for my children a career of enterprise and wholesome family connections, in a society whose institutions are favourable to virtue, and at last the consolation of leaving them efficient members of a flourishing, public-spirited, energetic community, where the insolence of wealth, and the servility of pauperism, between which in England there is scarcely an interval remaining, are alike unknown."

Such are the affecting remarks of a most respectable and intelligent English Farmer, and though high national prejudice may be ready to exclaim—

“ *England, with all thy faults, I love thee still!*”  
there is unfortunately too much truth in his observations.

Powerful indeed must be the motives which thus induce men to abandon their native soil, endeared to them by the ties of kindred and connections, and by the numberless associations which they form from infancy to manhood.—Local and national prejudices more or less attach themselves to every man; they are among the best feelings of our nature, and the *philosophy* of that being is not to envied, who has almost divested himself of such delightful prepossessions. How acute then must be the feelings of those who cast a last longing look at the shores of their beloved country, and feel an indescribable thrill—a death-like pang shooting over the soul; at the thought of a final, an eternal separation. GOLDSMITH has some exquisite lines on the subject:—

E'en now the devastation is begun,  
And half the business of destruction done :  
E'en now, methinks, as pondering here I stand,  
I see the rural virtues leave the land :  
Down where you anchoring vessel spreads the sail,  
That idly waiting flaps with every gale,  
Downward they move, a melancholy band,  
Pass from the shore, and darken all the strand,  
Contented Toil, and hospitable Care,  
And kind connubial Tenderness, are there ;  
And Piety with wishes plac'd above,  
And steady Loyalty, and faithful Love.

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Good heaven ! what sorrows gloom'd that parting day,  
That called them from their native walks away !  
When the poor exiles, every pleasure past,  
Hung round the bowers, and fondly look'd their last,  
And took a long farewell, and wish'd, in vain,  
For seats like these beyond the western main ;  
And, shudd'ring still to face the distant deep,  
Return'd and wept, and still ! return'd to weep.  
The good old sire, the first prepared to go  
To new-found worlds, and wept for others' woe ;  
But for himself, in conscious virtue brave,  
He only wish'd for worlds beyond the grave.  
His lovely daughter, lovelier in her tears,  
The fond companion of his hapless years,  
Silent went next, neglectful of her charms,  
And left a lover's for a father's arms.  
With louder plaints the mother spoke her woes.  
And bless'd the cot where every pleasure rose,

And kiss'd her thoughtless babes with many a tear,  
And clasp'd them close, in sorrow doubly dear ;  
Whilst her fond husband strove to lend relief  
In all the silent manliness of grief.

And, notwithstanding the immense change that takes place in the situation of the emigrant ; though relieved from the pressure of want, and the rigour of that taxation which assailed him in Europe, he must for some time continue to be the victim of solicitude. Amid the most luxuriant scenes—the happiest combinations of nature—the grandeur of mountains and lakes—the waving of venerable foliage—amid flowers and herbage, and the music of earth and sky, he will send moments when his thoughts will involuntarily turn to the land of his fore-fathers—to his beloved—lost—country. Mr. Birkbeck, in his “Notes on America,” has a touching passage to this effect :—

The world we have left at so remote a distance, and of which we hear so little, seems, to my imagination, like a past scene, and its transactions, as matter rather of history, than of present interest ; but there are times, when the re-



collection of individuals, dear to us, and whom we cannot hope to meet again on earth, *might be too painful*; but the occupations which surround us soon demand our attention, and afford, —not a *cure*—for this, which is the only serious ill which we experience from our change, but a sure *alleviation*.”

Quitting this subject, which has in it something of an oppressive nature, it is extremely interesting to contemplate the emigration which is taking place, not only from our island, but from the continent. Europe seems to be precipitating itself in America. Vessels from every part of the former are winging their course over the Atlantic, laden with human beings, who voluntarily expatriate themselves to become the citizens of the country of Franklin and Washington. Should this emigration continue, and there is every probability, not only of its continuance, but even of its increase, it is easy to perceive its *future* effects on the destinies both of Europe and America. Already there are twenty transatlantic republics, and already does an active, hardy and intelligent population swarm on the face of the

new world, while tens of thousands are annually augmenting its numbers.

New York appears to be the port at which the greatest number of emigrants disembark. Many of those who land at this and at the other ports pursue trades, and hope for immediate and lucrative employment. But it should be most distinctly understood, that the great cities, towns, and ports in the United States, are *full* and have *long been full* of the *very best* workmen. A foreign tradesman on arriving at a great port in America, is astonished to find that there is no lack of workmen—that house rent is as dear as in London—that provisions are not so cheap as he expected, that clothing is extravagantly dear, and to crown all, that wages are not very superior, to that which he has quitted. He desponds and regrets that he left home for “the land” which was said “to flow with milk and honey.” It is his own fault however: he has been too sanguine, and has made false calculations. The press of emigrants for so many years, into the large towns, has filled them with numerous and valuable workmen,—a fact which cannot be too well known. But if the

emigrant has the means of penetrating into the interior, he will find employ and good wages.

It has been remarked that notwithstanding the immense emigration of workmen to the principal cities and towns of North America, few large manufactories have been successful. Many have been erected, and much valuable machinery has been obtained from England, &c. but in a short time these manufactories have been deserted, not only by the workmen, but even by the overseers, or foremen who directed them. The fact is, that farming offers very superior advantages, and the manufacturer exchanges his confined and sedentary life, for one of activity and independence, and in which health, and the means of acquiring competence, are united.

As a great proportion of the emigrants from Europe lands at New York, a short account of this noble city, the Tyre of North America, may not be uninteresting.

New York is the first city in the United States, for wealth, commerce, and population, as it also

is the finest and most agreeable for its situation and buildings. It has neither the narrow and confined irregularity of Boston, nor the monotonous regularity of Philadelphia, but a happy medium between both. When the intended improvements are completed, it will be a very elegant and commodious town, and worthy of becoming the capital of the United States, for it seems that Washington is by no means calculated for a metropolitian city. New York has rapidly improved within the twenty years, and land which then sold in that city for twenty dollars, is now worth 1,500.

The Broadway and Bowery road, are the two finest avenues in the city, and nearly of the same width as Oxford-street, in London. The first commences from the grand battery, situate at the extreme point of the town, and divides it into two unequal parts. It is upwards of two miles in length, though the pavement does not extend above a mile and a quarter; the remainder of the road consists of straggling houses, which are the commencement of new streets already planned out. The Bowery road commences

from Chatham street, which branches off from the Broadway to the right, by the side of the Park. After proceeding about a mile and a half, it joins the Broadway, and terminates the plan which is intended to be carried into effect for the enlargement of that city. Much of the intermediate spaces between these large streets, and from thence to the Hudson and East Rivers, is yet unbuilt upon, or consists only of unfinished streets and detached buildings.

The houses in the Broadway are lofty and well built. They are constructed in the English style, and differ but little from those of London, at the west end of the town, except that they are universally of red brick. In the vicinity of the battery, and for some distance up the Broadway, they are nearly all private houses, and occupied by the principal merchants and gentry of New York; after which, the Broadway is lined with large commodious shops of every description, well stocked with European and India goods, and exhibiting as splendid and varied show in their windows, as can be met with in London. There are several extensive book stores, print

shops, music shops, jewellers, and silversmiths, hatters, linen drapers, milliners, pastry cooks, coachmakers, hotels, and coffee houses. The street is well paved and the foot paths are chiefly bricked. In Robinson-street, the pavement before one of the houses, and the steps of the door, are composed entirely of marble.

New York contains thirty three places of worship, viz: nine Episcopal churches, three Dutch churches, one French church, one Calvinist, one German Lutheran, one English Lutheran, three Baptist meetings, three Methodist meetings, one Moravian, six Presbyterian, one Independent, two Quakers, and one Jews synagogue,

Every day except Sunday is a market day in New York. Meat is cut up and sold by the joint, or in pieces, by the licensed butchers only, their agents, or servants; each of these must sell at his own stall, and conclude his sales by one o'clock in the afternoon, between the 1st of May and the 1st of November, and at two, between the 1st of November and the 1st of May. Butchers are licensed by the mayor, who is clerk of

the market, he receives for every quarter of beef sold in the market, six cents; for every hog, shoat or pig, above 14lbs. weight, six cents; and for each calf, sheep or lamb, four cents; to be paid by the butchers, and other persons, selling the same. The sale of unwholesome and stale articles of provision, of blown and stuffed meat, and of measly pork, is expressly forbidden. Butter must be sold by the pound, and not by the roll or tub. Persons who are not licensed butchers, selling butchers' meat on commission, pay triple fees to the clerk of the market.

There are upwards of twenty newspapers published in New York, nearly half of which are daily papers, besides several weekly and monthly magazines, or essays. The high price of paper, labour, and taxes, in Great Britain, has been very favourable to authorship and the publication of books in America. Foreign publications are also charged with a duty of 13 per cent; and foreign rags are exempted from all import. These advantages have facilitated the manufacture of paper, and the printing of books in the United States; both which are now carried

on to a very large extent. The new works that appear in America, or rather original productions, are very few ; but every English work of celebrity is immediately reprinted in the States, and vendcd for a fourth of the original price, the booksellers and printers of New York are numerous, and in general men of property. Some of them have published very splendid editions of the Bible, and it was not a little gratifying to the American patriot to be told, that the paper, printing, engraving, and binding, were all of American manufacture. For several years past, a literary fair has been held at New York and Philadelphia. This annual meeting of booksellers has tended greatly to facilitate intercourse with each other, to circulate books throughout the United States, and to encourage and support the arts of printing and paper making.

Mr. Moore, speaking of the torpid state of intellect in America, is equally beautiful, severe, and unjust:—

All that Creation's varying mass assumes  
Of grand or lovely, here aspires and blooms ;  
Bold rise the mountains, rich the gardens glow  
Bright lakes expand, and conq'ring rivers flow ;



MIND, mind alone, without whose quick'ning ray  
The world's a wilderness, and man but clay,  
MIND, mind alone, in barren still repose,  
Nor blooms, nor rises, nor expands, nor flows !”

This, it is true, is poetry,—poetry of the first class; but then, a certain author observes that “Poetry is the art of lying.” The country of Franklin, of Washington, of Jefferson, of Adams, of Randolph,\* (the Demosthenes of America) of the Author of the Columbiad, is represented as being destitute of MIND. Every spark of genius that is emitted from the western continent should be hailed with satisfaction, and instead of being extinguished by the pestilential breath of partial castigators, which, like the parching blast of the Arabian Simoom, destroys every thing within its reach. it should be fanned into a flame by the mild and gentle treatment of judicious critics. We might then hope to see the genius of the ancient world engrafted upon the new hemisphere; and if ever the day should come that the modern powerful nations of Europe are compelled to transfer their sceptres,

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\* “I heard the American Demosthenes,” says a tourist, “but I heard Demosthenes, who had sacrificed to the graces.”

like those of Greece and Rome, to a more western rival, it would be some satisfaction to Englishmen to know that that rival was descended from the ancient stock of their own nation, and had preserved the language, manners, genius, and laws of their ancestors.

Much has also been said of the deficiency of the polite and liberal accomplishments among both sexes in the United States. Whatever truth there may have formerly been in this statement, I do not think there is any foundation for it at present, at least, in New York, where there appears to be a great thirst after knowledge. The riches that have flowed into that city for the last twenty years, have brought with them a taste for the refinements of polished society; and, though the inhabitants cannot yet boast of having reached the standard of European perfection, they are not wanting in the solid and rational parts of education; nor in many of those accomplishments which ornament and embellish private life. It has become the fashion in New York, to attend lectures on moral philosophy, chemistry, mineralogy, botany, mechanics, &c. and the

ladies in particular have made considerable progress in those studies. Many young men who were so enveloped in business, as to neglect or disdain the pursuit of such liberal and polite acquirements, have been often laughed from the counting-house to the lecture room, by their more accomplished female companions. The desire for instruction and information, indeed, is not confined to the youthful part of the community, many married ladies and their families may be seen at philosophical and chemical lectures, and the spirit of inquiry is becoming more general among the gentlemen. The majority of the merchants, however, still continue more partial to the rule of three than a dissertation upon oxygen or metaphysics. Most of them have acquired large fortunes by their regular and plodding habits of business, and are loth to part with any portion of it, at their time of life, in the purchase of knowledge, or the encouragement of the arts and sciences. Some, it may be allowed, are exceptions, and others, if they will not partake of instruction themselves, are not sparing of their money in imparting it to their children. The immense property which has been intro-

duced into the country, by commerce, has hardly had time to circulate and diffuse itself through the community. It is, at present, too much in the hands of a few individuals, to enable men to devote the whole of their lives to the study of the arts and sciences. Farmers, merchants, physicians, lawyers and divines, are all that America can produce for many years to come; and, if authors, artists, or philosophers, make their appearance at any time, they must as they have hitherto done, spring from one of the above professions.

Colleges and schools are multiplying very rapidly all over the United States, but education is in many places still defective, in consequence of the want of proper encouragement and better teachers. A grammar school has recently been instituted at New York, for the instruction of youth upon a similar plan to the great public schools in England.

A taste for reading has of late diffused itself throughout the country, particularly in the great towns, and several young ladies have displayed

their abilities in writing. Some of their novels and fugitive pieces of poetry and prose are written with taste and judgment. Two or three, at New York, have particularly distinguished themselves.

It seems, indeed, that the fair sex of America have within these few years, been desirous of imitating the example of the English and French ladies, who have contributed so much to extend the pleasures of rational conversation, and intellectual enjoyment. They have cast away the frivolous and gossiping tittle tattle which before occupied so much of their attention, and assumed the more dignified and instructive discourse upon arts, sciences, literature, and moral philosophy.

Some of the young men too, whose minds have not been wholly absorbed by pounds, shillings, and pence, have shown that they possess literary qualifications and talents, that would, if their time and fortune permitted, rank them among some of the distinguished authors of Europe.

*Rates of Postage.*

*Rates of postage for single letters to be*

Cents.

For any distance not exceeding 40 miles	12
Over 40 miles and not exceeding 90 do.	15
Over 90 .....do.....150 do.	18 3-4
Over 150 .....do.....300 do.	25 1-2
Over 300 .....do.....500 do.	30
Over 600 .....	37 1-2

Double letters, or those composed of two pieces of paper, double those rates.

Triple letters, or those composed of three pieces of paper, triple those rates.

Packets, or letters composed of four or more pieces of paper, and weighing one ounce or more, avoirdupoise, are to be rated equal to one single letter for each quarter ounce.

*Newspapers.*

Each paper carried not exceeding 100 miles, or for any distance, not carried out of the state in which it is printed. 1 1-2

If carried out of the state where printed,  
and over 100 miles. 2 1-4

*Magazines and Pamphlets*

Carried not over 50 miles, for each sheet,	1 1-4
Over 50 and not exceeding 100 miles.	2 1-4
Over 100 miles.	3

But pamphlets are not to be received or conveyed by post on the main line or any cross road where the mail is large.

Letters and newspapers are derived out of the office every day, (except Sunday) at all hours, from the rising to the setting of the sun; and on Sunday from 9 to 10, and from 1 to 2.

Newspapers, to be forwarded by the mail, should be inclosed in a cover and left open at one end, and the number of free papers, and of those for subscribers respectively, endorsed on each packet; and all newspapers for each post-office, should be inclosed in one package, provided they do not exceed twenty in number. If a *letter* or *memorandum* in writing, is contained in any

newspaper, the person who deposits the same, forfeits *five* dollars, and the package becomes liable to letter postage.

Letters to be sent by mail, should be addressed to the places of their destination *in the clearest manner*—they should always be directed to the nearest post-office, if the person to whom addressed does not reside where there is an office; and the name of the state ought not to be omitted; letters are often mis-sent from their ambiguous direction; a punctual attention to this rule may prevent delays and miscarriages.

Letters to be forwarded by mail, ought to be delivered at the office, at or before the time of *closing*, to ensure their going by the mail of the day; as before the departure of a mail, all letters composing it are to be *rated* and *marked*, accounts of them entered, and those accounts made out to be transmitted to the respective post-offices—and newspapers should be delivered at the office an hour *at least* previous to the hour of *closing* the mail.

If an abatement of letter postage be claimed,



the letter must be opened, in presence of the post-master, or one of his assistants; and if such letter should, instead of being *overcharged* happen to be *undercharged*, the deficiency must be made up by the applicant.

All letters which are lodged to go by the British packets, should be distinguished by writing *per packet*—for there are places of the same name in the United States, similar to those in Europe.

Letters going out of the United States, must be paid for when lodged in the post-office.

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A society is established at New York, formed of republican citizens *of all nations*, who have published an interesting pamphlet, entitled “Hints to Emigrants.” These philanthropists observe—

“ All that a first conversation with an emigrant can properly embrace, will fall under three heads:—

- I. What relates to his personal safety in a new climate.
- II. His interest as a probationary resident ; and
- III. His future rights and duties as a member of a free state.

Under the first, will be comprised, some directions for your mode of living, and the preservation of your health. The second would demand some description of this extensive country, which may direct your choice and industry. Under the third should be contained a brief abstract of such civil or political matters, as it behoves you to understand.

“Emigrants from Europe, usually arrive here during summer, and, every thing considered, it is best they should, for, in the middle and eastern states, the winter is long, fuel very dear, and employment comparatively scarce at that season. In winter they will expend more and earn less. But if arriving at this time bear more upon their pocket, the heats of the summer are more trying to their health. In the middle states, namely, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, a northern European usually finds the cli-

mate intensely hot from about the middle of June till towards the first of October. The thermometer frequently varies from 84 to 90, and sometimes to 96 in the middle of the day; this, to a stranger who works in the open air, exposed to the burning sun, is certainly dangerous, and requires some precautions on his part. First of all he should regulate his diet, and be temperate in the quantity of his food. The American labourer, or working mechanic, who has a better and more plentiful table than any other man in the world of his class, is, for the most, a small eater, and we recommend to you his example. The European of the same condition, who receives meat, or fish and coffee, at breakfast, meat at dinner, and meat or fish, and tea, at supper—an abundance of animal food to which he was unaccustomed—insensibly falls into a state of too great a repletion, which exposes him to the worst kind of fever during the heats of summer and of autumn. He should, therefore, be quite as abstemious in the quantity of food, as of strong drink: and, in addition to this method of preventing sickness, he should take a dose of active physic, every now and then, especially in the hotter months of July

and August. By this prudent course an ardent climate will have no terrors; and, after some residence here, he may preserve his health by regimen and exercise alone.

The labourer, or mechanic, should put off his ordinary clothes, and wear next his skin a loose flannel shirt, while he works; it should be taken off again as soon as he is done.

The stranger, as well as native, must be particularly careful not to drink cold water after being heated by exposure to the sun or exercise. Sudden and severe pain at the stomach, and even death, are frequently the consequence of such imprudence.

The Humane Society of this city has published the following directions to be observed in such cases:—

1st. To avoid drinking water while the body is heated, or during profuse perspiration.

2nd. Wash the hands and face with cold water before drinking.

3rd. If these precautions have been neglected.

and cramps or convulsions have been induced, let a teaspoonful of laudanum be given immediately in a cup of spirits and water, and repeat the dose in half an hour, if necessary.

4th. At the same time apply hot fomentations of spirits and water to the stomach and bowels, and to the lower extremities, covering the body with a blanket, or immerse the body in a warm bath, if it can be immediately obtained.

5th. Inject into the bowels a pint of warm spirits and water, mixed in the proportion of one part of the former to two of the latter.

Do you ask by this time with a view to the ordinary business of life, What is America? What sort of people may be expected to succeed in it? The immortal Franklin has answered this question; "*America is the land of labour.*" But, it is emphatically, the best country on earth for those who will labour. By industry they can earn more wages here than elsewhere in the world. Our governments are more frugal, they demand few taxes; so that the earnings of the poor man are left to enrich himself; they are nearly all his own, and not expended on kings or their satellites.

Idlers are out of their element here, and the being who is technically called a man of rank in Europe is despicable in America.—He must become a useful member of society, or he will find no society; he will be shunned by all decent people. Franklin, whose sage counsel is the best that can be given, or observed has said, that it is not advisable for a person to come hither “who has no other quality to recommend him but his birth.” In Europe, indeed, it may have its value; but it is a commodity which cannot be carried to a worse market than that of America, where people do not enquire concerning a stranger, What is he? But, What can he do? If he has any useful art, he is welcome; and if he exercises it and behaves well, he will be respected by all who know him. The husbandman is in honour here, and so is the mechanic, because their employments are useful.” “And the people,” he adds, have a saying, that “God Almighty is himself a mechanic, the greatest in the universe.” Franklin further illustrates the generality of industrious habits, by the Negro’s observation, “That the white man makes the black man work, the horse work, the oxen work, and every thing

works except the hog, which alone walks about, goes to sleep when he pleases, and lives *like a gentleman*."

"The only encouragements we hold out to strangers are, a good climate, fertile soil, wholesome air and water, plenty of provisions, good pay for labour, kind neighbours, good laws, a free government, and a hearty welcome. The rest depends on a man's own industry and virtue."

"It would be very prudent for new comers, especially labourers or farmers, to go into the country without delay, as they will save both money and time by it, and avoid several inconveniences of a seaport town. By spending some time with an American farmer, in any capacity, they will learn the method of tillage, or working a plantation, peculiar to this country. No time can be more usefully employed than a year in this manner. In that space, any smart, stout man, can learn how woodland may be cleared, how clear land is managed; he will acquire some knowledge of crops and their succession, of

usages and customs that ought to be known, and perhaps save something into the bargain. Many European emigrants who brought money with them have heretofore taken this wise course, and found it greatly to their advantage; for at the end of the year they knew what to do with it. They learned the value of lands in old settlements and near the frontiers, the prices of labour, cattle, and grain, and were ready to begin the world with ardour and confidence. Multitudes of poor people from Ireland, Scotland, and Germany, have by these means, together with industry and frugality, become wealthy farmers, or, as they are called in Europe, *estated men*; who, in their own countries, where all the lands are fully occupied, and the wages of labour low, could never have emerged from the condition wherein they were born.

“It is invariably the practice of the American, and well suited to his love of independence, to purchase a piece of land as soon as he can, and cultivate his own farm, rather than live at wages. It is equally in the power of an emigrant to do the same, after a few years of labour and economy,



From that moment he secures all the means of happiness. He has a sufficiency of fortune, without being exempt from moderate labour: he feels the comfort of independence, and has no fear of poverty in his old age. He is invested with the powers, as well as the rights of a freeman, and may in all cases, without let or apprehension, exercise them according to his judgment. He can afford to his children a good education, and knows that he has thereby provided for their wants. Prospects open to them far brighter than were his own; and in seeing all this, he is surely blest.

“Artisans receive better pay in America than in Europe, and can live with less exertion and more comfort; because they put an additional price on their work, equal to the cost of freight and commission charged by the merchant on importation. There are not many of the laborious classes whom we would advise to reside, or even loiter, in great towns; because as much will be spent during a long winter as can be made through a toilsome summer, so that a man may be kept a moneyless drudge for life. But this is not per-

haps the worst; he is tempted to become a tippler, by the cheapness and plenty of liquors, and then his prospects are blasted for ever. In few countries is drunkenness more despised than in this. The drunkard is viewed as a person socially dead, shut out from decent intercourse, shunned, despised, or abhorred.

The pernicious habit is to be guarded against as scrupulously for political as moral considerations.

Civil liberty every where rests on self-respect, while degradation or voluntary debasement is one of the causes of despotism. These remarks are general; we have no reason to suppose that one people are more ignorant than another of moral duty or propriety.

It deserves notice, that two sister States have made laws vesting the estate of an habitual drunkard in trustees; and it has been proposed to deprive such persons of suffrage and the privilege of giving evidence in courts of justice. An ancient lawyer was even more severe; he affixed a double penalty to crimes committed in

a state of intoxication. Such have been the methods of legislators to preserve the dignity of man.

Men of science, who can apply their knowledge to useful and practical purposes may be very advantageously settled; but mere literary scholars, who have no profession, or only one which they cannot profitably practise in this country, do not meet with much encouragement; in truth, with little or none, unless they are willing to devote themselves to the education of youth. The demand for persons who will do this is obviously increasing; although many excellent preceptors are every where to be found among the native Americans, there is still considerable room for competition on the part of well-qualified foreigners."

There is an astonishing press of emigration *westward*, from the ports in the United States. A lively idea of this vast movement may be obtained from the following remarks of an intelligent traveller:—

" We are nine in number, and thirty miles of mountain country between us and Pitts-

burg. We learn that the stages which pass daily from Philadelphia and Baltimore, are generally full, and that there are now many persons at Baltimore waiting for places. No vehicles of any kind are to be hired, and here we must either stay or walk off; the latter we prefer; and separating each our bundle from the little that we have of travelling stores, we are about to undertake our mountain pilgrimage, accepting the alternative most cheerfully after the dreadful shaking of the last hundred miles by stage.

We have now fairly turned our backs on the old world, and find ourselves in the very stream of emigration. Old America seems to be breaking up, and moving westward. We are seldom out of sight as we travel on this grand track towards the Ohio, of family groups behind and before us, some with a view to particular spots, close to a brother (perhaps) or a friend who has gone before, and reported well of the country. Many, like ourselves, when they arrive in the wilderness, will find no lodge prepared for them.

A small waggon (so light that you may almost

carry it, yet strong enough to bear a good load of bedding, utensils and provisions, and a swarm of young citizens,—and to sustain marvellous shocks in its passage over these rocky heights) with two small houses; sometimes a cow or two comprises their all, excepting a little store of hard earned cash for the land office of the district, where they may obtain a title for as many acres as they possess half dollars, being one fourth of the purchase money. The waggon has a tilt or cover, made of a sheet, or perhaps a blanket. The family are seen before, behind, or within the vehicle, according to the road or weather, or perhaps the spirits of the party.”

Can any description be more interesting than this? Travellers from all the nations of Europe—persons of both sexes—of all ages and conditions, pressing forward to some favourite spot on which to pitch their tent. The Americans themselves are great travellers, and in general better acquainted with the vast expanse of country spreading over their twenty states, (of which Virginia alone nearly equals Great Britain in extent) than the English with their little island.

They are also a migrating people; and, even when in prosperous circumstances can contemplate a change of situation, which under our old establishments, and fixed habits, none but the most enterprising would venture upon when urged by adversity.

To give an idea of the internal movements of this vast hive, about 12,000 waggons passed between Baltimore and Philadelphia, in the last year, with from four to six horses, carrying from thirty-five to forty Cwt. The cost of carriage is about seven dollars per Cwt. from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, and the money paid for the conveyance of goods on this road, exceeds £80,000 sterling. Add to these the numerous stages loaded to the utmost, and the innumerable travellers on horseback, on foot, and in light waggons, and you have before you a scene of bustle and business extending over a space of three hundred miles, which is truly wonderful.

The emigrant must not think of settling in the districts adjacent to the ports of the Atlantic. The state of Ohio, for instance, contains all that

is beautiful and fertile, all that nature has decreed for the comfort of man. Rich land, good water, wholesome air, lime, coal, mills, navigation. But then there has been an advance of a thousand per Cent. in about ten years. At Richmond, in Virginia, ground sells currently on building speculation, at 10,000 dollars per acre, and in some of the streets near the river, at 200 dollars per foot in front! The stranger must press on *westward*, where good land is to be purchased at the government price of two dollars per acre; the amazing influx of emigrants is constantly opening new markets.

America, said Franklin, "*is the land of labour,*" but then it is also the land in which labour is properly and abundantly recompenced. The mechanic and peasant do not after a long life of drudgery, retire to a workhouse, or drop into the last refuge of misery—the grave, *as into the bosom of a friend*. There is no country in the world which exhibits such delightful instances of old age basking in the rays of content and competency as the United States. And the children of the aged peasant, rising round his table like

olive branches, have the heart cheering assurance that by treading in the steps of their venerable and prudent ancestors, they also shall certainly attain to competence, and even to wealth.

There are few instances in the United States of industrious persons not meeting with the success which their exertions deserve. Want of prudence in speculations, will of course sometimes produce corresponding effects, but in no country do the enterprising and the industrious rise with such elasticity from misfortune, as in the United States. Slothful and improvident men will be found in all countries: the following description of journeymen at Pittsburg is in point:—

“ Journeymen, in various branches—shoemakers, tailors, &c. earn two dollars a day. Many of them are improvident, and thus they remain journeymen for life. It is not, however in absolute intemperance and profligacy, that they in general waste their surplus earnings, it is in excursions, or entertainments. Ten dollars spent at a ball is no rare result of the gallantry of a Pittsburg journeyman. Those who are steady



and prudent, advance rapidly. A shoemaker of *my acquaintance*, that is to say, whom I employed, left Ireland, as poor as an Irish emigrant four years ago,—staid one year in Philadelphia, then removed hither, and was employed by a master practitioner of the same calling, at 12 dollars per week. He saved his money, married, paid his master, who retired on his fortune, three hundred dollars for his business, and is now in a fair way of retiring too, as he has a shop well stocked and a thriving trade, wholesale and retail, with vast profits !”

I have another instance before me of the success attendant on industry in the United States: The person to whom I allude, is about 30, he has a wife and three fine children; his father is a farmer, that is to say, a proprietor, living five miles distant. From him he received five hundred dollars, and “began the world,” in the true style of American enterprize, by taking a cargo of flour to New Orleans, about two thousand miles, gaining a little more than his expenses, and a stock of knowledge. Two years ago he had increased his property to 900 dollars;

purchased this place; a house, stable, &c. and two hundred and fifty acres of land, (sixty-five of which are cleared and laid down to grass) for three thousand five hundred dollars, of which he has already paid three thousand, and will pay the remaining five hundred next year. He is now building a good stable and going to improve his house. His property is at present worth seven thousand dollars; having gained or rather grown, five thousand five hundred dollars in two years, with prospects of future accumulation to his utmost wishes. Thus it is that people grow wealthy without extraordinary exertion, and without any anxiety.

The working farmer by the amount of capital required, as a *renter*, may *own* and cultivate a *much better one* in this country. Let this be well understood: the emigrant on repairing to the Government office where land is sold, pays down one-fourth of the sum agreed on at two dollars per acre, and discharges the rest at several instalments, to be completed in five years. Thus, what is RENT in Europe is here discharging the Purchase Money. I am, in fact, working for *myself*, and not for another. Is it surprising, then, that with a rapidly increasing population,

with new markets arising around him, and with the heart cheering impulse of conscious property and independence, the American peasant should attain ease and competence, and even wealth to shed their benign influence on the evening of his days.

A *large* family is, in England, another term for a *large share of poverty*—in America the birth of children is hailed as in the patriarchal ages—they are towers of strength. They assist in agricultural and other duties when young, and when arrived at manhood, the parents feel no solicitude respecting their settlement.

Little farms, from eight, to one hundred and sixty acres, with simple erections, a cabin, and a stable, may be purchased at from 5 to 20 dollars, per acre, the price being in proportion to the quantity of cleared land.

Land (government land) is sold in sections of 160 acres, being one-fourth of a square mile. The poor man who enters his quarter section of 190 acres, pays down his eighty dollars, pursues his road to the spot which he has bought, builds a cabin for himself and family, and having cleared his ground, proceeds to sow Indian corn, which is the first year's support. With his gun he pro-

cures game in the evening, and at the end of five years generally succeeds in paying the rest of the purchase money, besides laying by two or three thousand dollars. Such is the natural progress of a settler. There is no part of the Union, in the new settlements or the old, where an industrious man need be at a loss for the comforts of good livelihood.

It has already been observed, that this *Work* was almost exclusively undertaken for information of persons about to embark in America; and the Author flatters himself that he has attained the object which he had in view, and has compressed much valuable information in a small compass. Having himself visited America, he is enabled to vouch for the correctness of general facts: he does not however hesitate to acknowledge that he has occasionally availed himself of the remarks of others, when he found these remarks to agree with what had fallen under his own personal observation.

Among the thousands that are about to leave the United Kingdom, for America, there are doubtless many, who have formed extravagant, unfounded notions relative to the land which they purpose to adopt as their future residence. Th

may be others hesitating between their wishes and their fears, and perhaps there are few who are so well informed on American affairs, as such an important step as emigration demands. This unassuming publication, may, therefore, by its undeviating attention to **TRUTH**, be of service, in preventing the visionary from experiencing sensations of disappointment and regret, in giving confidence to the timid, and in diffusing at a moderate price, that information to all which cannot fail to prove of singular utility.

Circumstances prevented the author from sending this Work to the press, until within a fortnight of his second embarkation for America. Owing therefore to the uncommon rapidity with which his publication passed through the press, he has most respectfully to claim the forbearance of the public, in regard to his column of errata.

#### ERRATA.

In the title page, for, "sociatem," read, *societatem*.

In the address, for, "evidently," read, *earnestly*.

Page 6, line 20, for, "scarcely," read, *severely*.

— 7, — 10, for, "unable," read, *able*.

— 8, — 5, dele the word, "mill," before machinery.

— 14, — 18, for, "come," read, *came*.

— 15, — *Note*, omit the word, "better."

— 63, — 15, for, "send," read, *find*.

— 64, — 13, for, "in America," read, *on*.

— 65, — 16, for "that which," read, *those which*.