

MEMORANDA  
OF A  
SETTLER IN LOWER CANADA;  
OR,  
THE EMIGRANT TO NORTH AMERICA.  
BEING A COMPENDIUM OF USEFUL PRACTICAL  
HINTS TO EMIGRANTS,  
Selected from an unpublished Narrative of the adventures of a large family from the North of  
England, which emigrated to America in 1818, and settled in various parts of  
the Canadas, and the Western States, as farmers, &c.  
TOGETHER WITH AN  
ACCOUNT OF EVERY DAY'S DOINGS UPON A FARM  
FOR A YEAR.

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BY AN IMMIGRANT FARMER,  
*Of twenty years experience.*

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"The wilderness shall be glad for them, and the desert shall  
rejoice and blossom as the rose."—*Isaiah.*

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**Montreal :**

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR, BY LOVELL AND GIBSON.

1842.



## FAVOURABLE NOTICES.

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THE following are among the favourable notices of the contents of this pamphlet which, I ought to premise, have appeared in not fewer than *eleven* Newspapers of the highest respectability in the Province.

*From the Quebec Mercury of January 18, 1842.*

“The Memoranda by A Settler in Lower Canada,” will furnish to the intending emigrant, a quantity of practical information, which, we trust, may prove essentially serviceable to many who may come out next season. We intend to publish a portion of these remarks in each succeeding number until complete, and recommend to such of our readers as have friends at home who purpose coming to this country, to send them the papers as a valuable present.

*From a subsequent number of the same paper.*

On his passage through this city we were favoured with a letter from Dr. Rolph, which we publish below, in justice to the gentleman to whom we are indebted for the “MEMORANDA,” which have attracted the flattering attention of this zealous but judicious promoter of Emigration:—

MONTREAL, Feb. 20, 1842.

DEAR SIR,—I have been so delighted with the “Memoranda of a Settler in Lower Canada,” lately published in the *Quebec Mercury*, that I have an idea of publishing them in pamphlet form in England, with notes and remarks of my own. You would therefore much oblige me by sending me the whole of the numbers containing it. I am obliged to you also for your frequent and kind mention of

Yours gratefully and truly,

THOS. ROLPH.

Wm. Kemble, Esq. Quebec.

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*From the Bytown Gazette, Feb. 3.*

The “*Memoranda of a Settler in Lower Canada*,” is the next subject to which we would wish to draw the notice of our readers.

As far as regards the matter of which these Memoranda treat, we need offer no comment—it is of that vital importance to a large and valuable class of our fellow subjects, that the information it conveys cannot be too widely disseminated at all times, and more particularly at the present, when a great influx of those standing in need of such information, is expected to our country.—The writer seems perfectly master of his subject—has had sufficient length of time to acquire his knowledge from experience, as appears from his Queenston letter of 1817, and has conveyed his information in such a plain and simple style as renders it comprehensible to the meanest capacity. In brief, we consider the “Memoranda by a Settler in Lower Canada,” as far more valuable to the Emigrant than all the “Histories, Recollections, Travels, Conversations, Emigrant’s Guides, Letters,” &c. &c., which he could obtain. Our readers will remark how quaintly but explicitly this writer exposes one gross omission of that arch-deceiver, Mr. Birkbeck, who, in describing the beauties and attractions of his celebrated Ohio, with a view of deceiving settlers there, has carefully omitted to mention *that there was no good water in that fine District of Country.*

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*From the Commercial Messenger of April, 1842.*

We have had occasion to allude to a series of excellent papers, which, under the title of “Memoranda of a Settler in Lower Canada,” are in course of publication in the *Quebec Mercury*. They now draw near their termination ; but we are gratified to learn, that it is intended by the Author to republish them in pamphlet form, and that, with that view, the work will immediately be put to press. It must command an extensive circulation, and should find its way into the hands of all new comers with the intent to settle. To them it is invaluable. It is capable of being extremely useful also to those who are already located in the country, from the sound practical view taken by the Author, of “matters and things in general.”

## TO THE READER.

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THE incompleteness and want of finish, not to advert to the other imperfections which this little work exhibits, require an explanation, at least, if not an apology, from the Author, not for the sake of deprecating the denunciations of the critic, which he cares nothing about, but to prove to an indulgent public, that he is not insensible to the very flattering reception he has already met with at their hands.

To begin at the beginning. It owes its origin to the great and palpable want of plain and practical information, as to the general face and appearance of the country, its climate, soil, and agricultural capabilities and resources ; its internal communications, especially its winter roads with their ancient cahots, now called *reminiscences*, (at one time a great mystery to the Author,) but above all, as to the mode of reducing the mighty forest, into such a state of subserviency to the labours of the husbandman, as to make it "bloom and blossom as the rose," when on every acre, stands a weight of solid timber, amounting to three or four hundred tons,\* which, to the total overthrow of all preconceived opinions about the value of timber, must be *burnt*. In short, as to every thing connected with a settler's life, in the woods of Canada.

To remedy the evils arising from this want of information, was the Author's primary object, and he entered upon the task, with the most sanguine and enthusiastic anticipations of success ; but obstacles and rebuffs, of which he never dreamt, although only such as are naturally incidental to similar undertakings, damped his ardour and prevented the completion of his design, when his labours were thrown aside among his useless papers, during a period of more than seven years, where they would still have remained, to share the fate of their companions, had not Mr. Kemble, of the *Quebec Mercury*, to

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\*What a glorious thing the Lumber Trade must be for clearing land in Canada ! So thought the Author, and so thought the collective wisdom of the nation when they asked an interested evidence, how many acres were annually cleared by it !!

See on this subject—in add note A.

whose consideration they were accidentally submitted, rescued them from their incipient state of oblivion, by giving them to the public, through the medium of his well conducted paper,—from whence they were copied into not less than ten or a dozen other journals; and two copies simultaneously sent home for publication in England,—when the author was earnestly requested to publish them also in this country, for the use and benefit of the great influx of Emigrants, expected out during the ensuing season; and while he was hesitating about their unfinished state, the expense of printing, &c., he received still more flattering and substantial proofs of public favour, in the shape of orders for more than a thousand copies of his pamphlet, provided it could be got out by the opening of the navigation, which, by this time, was so near at hand, that he must either publish *now*, as it is, or take another year to revise and improve it, and he has decided upon both alternatives.\*

To those who have taken an interest in these “Memoranda,” as they appeared in the public prints, it is but right to observe, what, they themselves may perhaps have suspected, that they were continued without the Author’s participation, to rather an undue length, by a zealous and indefatigable promoter of Emigration.

From this continuation, he has drawn but sparingly, and then only with due acknowledgment; not, however, he must do its author the justice to say, in consequence of its want of merit, but from his own want of time to revise and digest it, so as to suit his present plan of publishing: the more especially, as it contains some few calculations and opinions, in which, as far as his experience extends, he cannot exactly concur, not but the former may be correct enough, in the places from whence the information, upon which they are founded, has been obtained.

Grenville, L. C., April 20, 1842.

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\* See advertisement on the cover.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

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IN the following narrative, the Author has no other object in view, than to convey to the mind of the emigrant, before he leaves his native country, some idea of the nature and importance of the step he is about to take, with such hints and information as he will find useful for his guidance afterwards: to this end, an attempt is made to disabuse his mind of certain general impressions, as prejudicial to his own well-being as they are to the interests of the Province\* of Lower Canada, by bringing under his observation the hitherto neglected claims to his notice which it so decidedly possesses. Claims, which the writer trusts, he has succeeded in proving to be superior to those of any other portion of this mighty continent, as far, at least, as concerns two of the most important classes of those who seek an asylum in its bosom—the capitalist, whether large or small, and the labourer or mechanic, unencumbered with a family. To the one is held out, a bright and an immediate prospect of independence, if not of wealth; while the other, if he be careful and steady, may look forward, if not with equal rapidity, at least with equal certainty, to a state of comfort and competency.

To other classes of Emigrants, the prospect that can any where be held out, is but a sad and a gloomy one. These, however, if *sober* and industrious, (and no European knows the full importance of the former virtue, till he comes here,) by remaining in this Province, or the eastern parts of Upper Canada, would escape all that suffering and misery, which so long a journey into the interior, necessarily entails upon them, without bettering their condition.

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\* As these sheets were written before the Union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and as these terms are still not only necessary, but absolutely indispensable, to designate several places of the same name in each, I shall not make any alteration in the text. Scotland is as much Scotland now, as before the union, and so is Lower Canada, Lower Canada still. Foolish attempts are frequently made to do away with these ancient *land marks*; a circumstance which led me to think this note necessary.

But, if to the westward they *will* go, they ought at least to be informed, that there are as fertile lands, in as mild a climate, on the banks of the Ottawa, 300 miles above Quebec, and in the Eastern Townships, which may be obtained at a cheaper rate, and nearer a navigable communication with Montreal, the ultimate market for the whole country above, than in any other portion of Upper Canada, beyond the commencement of the great lakes, or in the Western States.



# MEMORANDA

OF A

## SETTLER IN LOWER CANADA.

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THE first thing a prudent family generally does, when they think of emigrating to America, is, of course, to make enquiries about the country,—to search in some geographical grammar or gazetteer for a description of every province and town in this mighty continent, when a discussion is naturally entered into, and carried on for a length of time, upon their comparative merits, till perhaps each member of the family, as was the case in ours, decides upon a different part, not in the immediate neighbourhood of one another, but some thousands of miles apart. But before we came to this decision, we ransacked all the booksellers' shops for every thing new and old, that had been published about America, in the shape of Histories, Recollections, Travels, Conversations, Emigrants' Guides, Letters to Friends, &c. &c. Indeed, we left no effort untried to obtain such information, as we thought might be depended upon. We even got a young man from the State of Ohio to stay a whole month in the house with us, in order to ensure a perfect practical knowledge of the country, which was intended to become the theatre of our future destiny. Yet, after all our labour and pains, when we landed upon its shores, we found it as different, as totally different, from what we had been

led, from the fine descriptions of it, to expect, as we could have done, had we never heard of it before. Indeed, this is a feeling that predominates over every other in the mind of the Emigrant, when he first obtains a distinct though distant view of the wild and interminable forest, which clothes in so forbidding an aspect that land of promise, which he had pictured to his imagination, as the very garden of Eden ; and he awakes once more, from his long and fondly cherished fantasies, to all the sad realities of life ; and, extending his wondering gaze over the whole face of the country, he sees that the original curse of his nature has reached it, and he reads, in characters which can neither be mistaken nor unfelt, “in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.”

After having determined upon leaving our native village, and the land of our forefathers forever, we sold our small patrimonial inheritance, consisting of a dwelling house and a few acres of land, together with our moveables, and divided the proceeds, according to the will of our father, equally between us, making a portion for each of about £300 sterling.

The oldest brother, who was considered a sort of head, and was looked up to accordingly, determined, with the consent and approbation of the whole, to sail for Nova Scotia, as a pioneer for the rest, and if he should not like that country, to proceed to Canada ; and, of course, like all emigrants, he did *not* like that country, because it turned out to correspond, in no single feature, with that paradise he had been led, from the whole course of his enquiries, to expect, and which he was now so anxiously in search of. Therefore the first, and almost the only thing, he did in that fine country—for it *is* a fine country

—was to look out for a conveyance to Quebec, to the capital of the Canadas ; at which place he arrived, in a fishing sloop, in about ten days. But here he was also disappointed, and consequently proceeded on to Upper Canada, with no better success. His prospects here, however, seemed to begin to brighten, and he imagined himself in the direct road to the “ promised land ;” but it was still “ very far off,” and this constituted, perhaps, its only attraction.

From these provinces, as he travelled through them, he sent us the following letter, which afterwards appeared in the weekly journal of the county town, a great promoter of emigration, upon political principles, the dignified designation, it was pleased to bestow, upon the discontent and murmuring, it laboured so hard, to excite in the public mind, against the then existing administration. Not that such lucubrations had any effect upon our minds, for we were no politicians ; besides, if we had been, we seldom saw it, till at second hand, when it was so bedimmed and fretted, that we could hardly read it. The letter was as follows :—

QUEENSTON, UPPER CANADA, Sept. 1, 1817.

I have just arrived at this place, where, as I must wait two days for a vessel to take me across the great lake, I shall have sufficient leisure, which I have never had before, to give you some account of my adventures and prospects.

I reached Halifax in twenty-three days, and immediately sailed for the Canadas, through a great portion of which I have travelled. I hear such terrible accounts of their winters as to convince me, that these cold and inhospitable regions are not the country for us. Besides, the woods are so thick, as not to afford even the *slightest*

*degree of pasturage.* The length of the winter too, independent of its severity, must be very disadvantageous to farming occupations. The land, however, is good, and the crops, if I may judge from the little that is yet out, appear to be tolerable.

I am determined not to stop till I reach the Ohio country, so fine a description of which is given in Birkbeck's letters. From thence, if I should not like it, I will proceed to the Missouri territory. I feel in much better spirits as I advance into the interior. The severity of the climate moderates even in the same latitude, and the whole tide of emigration seems to be flowing in this direction. We may possibly be all wrong, and it may ebb again. But the land is better—the forests easier to clear away—the communication to New Orleans, always open; whereas the rivers of this country are frozen up nearly half the year. And although New Orleans is a very distant market, yet, from its geographical position, it has such easy access to the whole of South America, the ultimate market for almost all the surplus produce of this part of the continent, that its distance makes but little difference in the prices the farmers obtain. But I am anticipating my progress. I shall of course, give you every information when I reach that fruitful land.

You will naturally expect, in a letter from this place, some account of the far-famed Falls of Niagara, whose roar booms through the welkin, to an immense distance, like the voice of the receding earthquake. I can only say, that as all the very fine, and very graphic descriptions which I had seen, have failed, completely failed, to convey to my mind any adequate idea of them, it is not for me to presume to draw a portraiture of a scene, so magnificently grand; Walter Scott ought to take a trip to this country on purpose to see them." \* \* \*

The next letter we received from him, stated, that there was one circumstance, which Mr. Birkbeck had neglected to mention, and that was, that there was no good water

in that fine district of country, he had described as so well suited, in every point of view, to the English emigrant.

My brother, however, so far from despairing, thought the prize he was in search of, so nearly within his reach, that we might venture to sail in the following spring, and he would meet us at Philadelphia. But his promised land appeared to be still so doubtful and distant, that it threw disunion, if not discord, into our councils. Some slight mention was made, too, in some of his letters, of intermittent fevers; cheapness of farming productions, and one or two other trifling circumstances, which led, at least the oldest that remained, to break the compact they had entered into, and, with his youngest brother, whom he considered as more especially under his guardian care, to seek in the Canadas, that fulfilment, of those high hopes we had, perhaps foolishly, formed; and which had hitherto been sought for but in vain, on the banks of the mighty tributaries of the far-famed Mississippi.

Thus we parted, not in anger—far from it—but in the most devoted affection, with the warmest wishes for each other's welfare; not unmingled, however, with commiseration for the hardships to be endured in those hyperborean regions, on the one part,—and on the other, for their wilful and needless exposure, to agues and intermittents, with their never-failing train of diseases, superinduced by the miasmæ of that unhealthy climate.

Young as we were, we argued the point like philosophers. On the one side, it was urged, that with bad health and a broken constitution; nay, without such positive evils, what was life itself, if exposed to such hourly danger, but “dying a thousand deaths in fearing one.”

While, on the other hand, it was as strenuously argued, that sickness, and sorrow, and death, were the natural inheritance of humanity, and, consequently, inevitable, wherever we went; and that the annoyances of such a climate as this, would more than counterbalance those objections, which, on this continent, are incidental to a milder climate.

But arguing and deciding are two very different things, seldom having any connection with each other. So at least it proved in this instance, as one party sailed for Philadelphia, in the spring of 1818, and the other for Quebec.

The writer of these sheets, with his brother, (b) formed the party to the latter place, and having no instructions, as to what would be suitable for the Canada market, we brought out our money in gold, and bills of exchange. While the others, being better informed, took out quite a venture in different articles of merchandise with which they made out but indifferently; escaping, however, with less loss than could have been anticipated, from their ignorance of mercantile affairs and matters of business.

The voyages of both parties were prosperous, nothing having occurred but what is common to all such adventures, and we reached our several destinations in safety.

Our small patrimony was not sufficient to enable us to live together at home\*; the education we had received, through the industry and good management of our worthy parents, although better than befitted our rank in life, was not such as could be turned to a profitable account, but only tended to render that kind of employment we

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\* This endearing term is always applied by the Emigrant to his native country.

must occasionally have been subjected to, in some measure degrading, and consequently, more irksome than laborious : whereas, by coming to America, we could unite our little funds, purchase a good farm, and cultivate it together. How soon, in the cold realities of after life, are the Utopian schemes of youthful visionaries thwarted and forgotten. Two of our number, after losing their little all, in some speculation in the lead mines, in the far West, fell victims to those fatal diseases, so common in that climate. Of the others, one pitched his tent on the Mississippi, another in the Ohio country, a third in Upper Canada, and myself in Lower Canada ; not nearer than from four to seven hundred miles to each other. I am thus particular about our dispersion, not for the sake of troubling the reader with circumstances, in which he can feel but little interest, but for the purpose of conveying to him, in a short history of each, some idea of the comparative claims these different countries ought to have upon his notice, as the point of destination, to which he may direct his course, when any of the thousand and one stimulants to emigration, shall have induced him to leave his native land, in search of that comfort and independence which at home are beyond his reach.

I shall begin with my own history, in which that of my brothers will be interspersed, as it came to my knowledge, by letters or otherwise.

As I write chiefly from memory and am no book maker, my desultory style and manner, I trust, will be overlooked, by the ingenuous searcher after that information he stands so much in need of, and which publications of this kind, frequently, if not generally, fail to

convey, owing to their being so deficient in detailing the minutiae, the every day circumstances, occurring in the life and occupations of a settler in this new country, without which, no adequate idea can be formed of the difficulties to be encountered, of the varieties to be met with, nor even of the advantages to be expected: the first are generally overlooked; the second, too little regarded; while the last, are always magnified beyond measure.

When I reached Montreal, which is one hundred and eighty miles above Quebec, (to this port, emigrants should always take their passage, if they possibly can, at the same rate as to Quebec, and more is seldom asked,) I put my money, which had suffered but a trifling diminution, into the Bank at five per cent interest, and immediately went out into that part of the country inhabited by English settlers; when I say English, it is in contradistinction to French Canadians, and comprises also, Irish, Scotch and Americans, all in short, who speak the English language. After travelling about forty miles, through the intricate mazes of Canadian roads, made about as crooked as they can be, without turning directly back again, I reached the settlement I was in search of, thanks to the carter who took out my things, and acted as my pilot. As it was too late in the season to commence upon land of my own, and as my little capital would have suffered no small diminution, had I gone about the country hunting for a farm,—a practice as common as it is ruinous—after making some enquiries into the character of the inhabitants among whom my lot had thus accidentally been cast, I attached myself to the family of



one of them, a substantial farmer, a native of the country, being the son of a United Empire loyalist, as those who remained true to their king and country, during the war with the North American Colonies, now the United States, were designated. I did not actually hire myself as a labourer, but by making myself as useful as I could, I was to pay nothing for my board; this was certainly a foolish bargain; but as I happened to fall into good hands, I suffered no loss by my imprudence; for he gave me, in stock and seed-grain, as much as I could have expected, had I stipulated for regular wages.

I thought, like all English farmers, I could teach the people every thing, and had myself nothing to learn; but I must now confess, that I cannot help attributing all my subsequent success, to the knowledge and experience I obtained, during this my year of probation. There were many things, it is true, I *could* have taught them, had they been as willing to learn as I was; but they had no confidence in their teacher; indeed, how should they, when he did not even know how to cut a tree down, or to hoe a hill of Indian corn, the very first thing a farmer's boy, in this country, learns.

In the following spring, I purchased in that neighbourhood, a farm of three hundred acres, about fifty of which was cleared, with a log hut, as a dwelling-house, and a good-frame barn upon it; the price was £300, £100 of which was paid at the time, and the remainder, I was to pay in annual instalments of £50 with interest after the first year, which was free, at six per cent., being the rate allowed by law, till the whole was paid. This mode of paying for land is very common throughout every part of North America, and not unfrequently in the end, turns

out to be more advantageous to the seller than to the buyer, as farms so sold, after a year's labour or more in improving them, sometimes revert back to the original proprietor from the purchaser's inability to complete his payments; when he loses, besides, all he may have paid, such being a general condition of the bargain.

I now bought a yoke of oxen, £15 or 60 dollars; three cows for £15; ten sheep for £5, and a horse for £17, several implements of husbandry, some little furniture, a few kitchen and dairy utensils, pigs, poultry, &c.

The first summer was spent in getting in a little crop, putting up fences, and in clearing up three and a half acres of wood-land, which I sowed with wheat in September, after my earliest crops were saved; the rest of the autumn (here invariably called the fall) was occupied with my late oats, potatoes and Indian corn. I then hired another man, and commenced clearing away the underbrush, and as soon as the snow came, I cut the trees down, and into lengths of from twelve to fifteen feet, for piling in heaps to burn: this work, by the 10th April, was completed upon about thirty acres, besides several hundreds of rails cut, split and hauled out of the bush, as the woods are called, as well as my winter and summer fire-wood; but as I intend to insert a whole year's diary, for I have always kept one, and I would advise every farmer in any country to do the same, I need not here enter into further particulars.

The produce of my farm this year did not amount to more than was sufficient to pay its own expences, and keep me and my family, until the following harvest, nor hardly as much, as I had some provisions to buy.

In the spring I began to feel rather uneasy about my

prospects, my money wasting away very fast;• I had only about £50 left, and still owed more than three times that sum for my farm; and the thirty acres, my chief dependence for a crop, looked like any thing rather than producing one, covered as it was so thickly with felled timber and heaps of brushwood, as to preclude the possibility of passing through it; and to add to my apprehensions, the rain fell in torrents for nearly a fortnight, soaking it so completely that I thought it would never dry again, not at least, in time to be burnt over for a crop, and to perplex me still more my horse died, and two of my sheep were killed by the bears or wolves, or perhaps by my neighbours' dogs; but what annoyed me more than all these,—perhaps because it was the last misfortune that befel me, or probably because we are more apt to be distressed at trifles, by not preparing our minds to bear up under them, whereas in greater evils, we rouse up our energies, place our back against a rock and resolve to overcome or die,—was a circumstance, however, of a na-

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\* It is necessary to observe, that money is always reckoned here, in Halifax currency, in which a pound is not quite eighteen shillings sterling. My £300 sterling accordingly amounted to something over £333, this money besides some £16 premium on my bills of exchange, in all about £350, out of which I paid for my farm when

I bought it . . . . .	£100	0	0
For my horse, oxen, cows, &c. . . . .	95	0	0
For provisions, seed grain, hay, &c. . . . .	15	0	0
Besides what I bought in Montreal, as mentioned in my diary of April 10, amounting to . . . . .	21	0	0
Wages . . . . .	25	0	0
Second instalment on my farm, . . . . .	50	0	0
	£306	0	0

Leaving a balance of £44, together with 6 or £7 of interest over and above what made up the amount of my passage out and travelling expenses.

ture hardly serious enough to excuse the grave reflections of this digression, unless I couple what I felt with what it led to; it was nothing more nor less, than a ravenous old sow that I had, getting into the place where my goslings were kept, and crushing them all up, as if they had been so many raw potatoes; the old thief! I immediately went to my old friend the farmer I have mentioned, and laid before him all my misfortunes; the whole family felt due commiseration for my distresses, but when I mentioned my last, the old man said I was rightly served, as I could not expect better luck without a wife to look after such things: he might, possibly, I thought afterwards, have been in earnest, for he had a daughter, that he would naturally like to see married in the neighbourhood, and I knew I stood high in the estimation of the parties concerned; be that as it may, in less than three months, I had some one to take better care of my next brood of goslings; but before this important event took place, the weather cleared up, and my prospects brightened with the brightening sun, as it shed its scorching rays upon my *Slash*,—as the timber I had cut down, is here, significantly called,—for it was soon dry, when I set fire to it, and had an excellent burn; all the brushwood and branches, as well as the scurf, formed by the accumulation of leaves, small roots and weeds, were completely consumed, and nothing left but the heavy timber: I then planted Indian corn among these logs on about twenty acres of it; this is done by striking the hoe into the earth, raising it up loaded with soil, then dropping about five grains into the hole and covering it up again, with the soil taken out (the holes three or four feet apart as the logs will permit,) when nothing more is necessary but to gather it in harvest:

half of the remaining ten acres, for it will be remembered there were thirty in all, I cleared for oats and spring wheat, the latter of which was sown before planting the Indian corn, and the other half I left to be cleared for fall wheat.

Other crops upon the old cleared land, though of little consequence compared with those in the new, were all well got in, and while they were growing I commenced clearing up the five acres for wheat, in which work I spent the remains of my last £50, depending upon the sale of my produce, together with some pot ash I had made, and intended to make, to meet my next instalment, which would become due in the following spring; and in order to subject myself to as little risk as possible, and my mind to the less anxiety, I turned my oxen into good feed, (after my wheat was sown in the beginning of September,) to fatten them for the Montreal market, by the latter end of winter; but my crops were good, my pot ash brought a good price; in short I succeeded so well in every thing, that I was able to purchase another yoke of oxen, in time to get out my fire wood, and fencing timber, before the expiration of the winter.

In the midst of all my difficulties and distresses I received the following letter from my brother, which tended, as may well be supposed, not a little to increase them :—

CARLISLE, ILLINOIS STATE, *February* 10, 1820.

My Dear Brother,—Your letter of last March only reached me about three months ago; I am extremely sorry to learn from it, that you have purchased a farm, but sell it again immediately, at almost any sacrifice, and come here, where you can get as much land as you like, and of the very best quality, for a mere nothing, and what is better still, perfectly free from wood. We can raise upon it, without any other expense than fencing and

ploughing, upwards of one hundred bushels of Indian corn to the acre; the climate is rather too warm for wheat, though we do raise it in small quantities; but grazing is our chief dependence. I have already upwards of one hundred head of cattle, which did not cost me much more than half as many pounds. The climate is not so unhealthy as your fears have made it. Europeans, generally, however, are subject, on their arrival, to slight attacks of ague and intermittent fevers. And in order that you may not be disappointed, if you should come, I will give you a faithful account of the few disadvantages we labour under, which you can balance against those of the country you now live in. The price of farming produce is certainly rather low, while clothing, and what you have to buy is very dear; but then an economical farmer will make his own clothes, and live within himself as much as possible. Labour is also very high;—indeed, such are the facilities for a man to set up the farming business himself, it is hardly to be had at any price. We have also some few taxes, but where is the country without them?

You have certainly one great advantage over us, in having a church in your neighbourhood, as we are, in this respect, totally destitute, and the demoralized state of society, I confess, is dreadful: but recollect, we have none of the severities of your hyperborean climate to contend with; and if our produce fetch but a small price it costs but little to raise it, and the market is at our doors, for we find a ready sale for every thing, in the vessels as they descend the river to New Orleans; therefore, sell every thing and come.

I have written for Henry, in Ohio, and James, in Upper Canada, and have little doubt but they will also come, as they both seem a little dissatisfied with the part of the country they have settled in. I rejoice in the prospect of our being again united; and living comfortably together, in this fruitful and happy country; in the full anticipation of so desirable an object, I am, &c.

GEORGE W. ———.

“Fruitful and happy country!” “none of the severities of your hyperborean winter!” these two remarks struck my fancy very forcibly, and I could think of nothing else, overlooking all the drawbacks of agues, fevers, and the demoralized state of society, &c. What a paradise, I said to myself, and what a fool I was to be so stubbornly bent upon coming to this miserable country; and had I met with a purchaser, at almost any sacrifice, I should certainly have taken my brother’s advice, had there not been circumstances, with which the reader is acquainted that prevented me from exerting myself to accomplish an object, otherwise apparently so desirable: I might, it is true, have gathered from his letter quite enough to have deterred me from going there, but my mind was harrassed and perplexed with difficulties I was just then labouring under, so that, at the moment, any change appeared likely to afford relief, but it was well for me I did not take his advice.

Shortly after this eventful period in my little history, I was informed that two of my brothers, Robert and Edward, who were also in the far West, had died of those diseases, which George mentioned in his letter, and that I may not subject myself to the imputation of putting a construction upon it, twisted into accordance with the change in my opinions, I must give his own practical illustration, which I received from him five years afterwards in the following letter:

CARLISLE, ILLINOIS, *Sept. 5, 1825.*

My Dear Brother,—I have not written to you now for a long time—sorrow and sickness, and misery and disappointment, must plead my excuse; and as they must have formed the only subject of my letters you may the less regret my silence. Indeed I could not find in my

heart to mar, with a detail of my own sufferings, so much comfort and happiness as seem to have fallen to your envied lot : my continued silence should still have saved you from the painful commiseration I know you will feel for me, had not the thought struck me that you might possibly be able to find some one in your neighbourhood who would exchange farms, &c., with me here, if the rage for coming to this fine country has reached you, of which I make little doubt, as it seems to have reached everywhere.

If I cannot dispose of my property in some such way, (selling it is out of the question) I am doomed, I was going to say, to live in this country, but rather to die : I have had more than a hint of this during the summer : I have suffered dreadfully—you would hardly know me—I am literally and really an old man ; but this is not all, my farm has been totally neglected, as I could do nothing, and hiring being impracticable ; I have consequently no crops, no hay saved for my cattle, of which I have more than 150 head ; and I cannot sell them—not even at 10s. a piece : bread corn I can get, for my own consumption, as much as I want for nothing, as every body who has not been sick all summer like myself, has more than they can sell, even at  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d a bushel ; I mean, of course, in the ear.\* Last year when it was a little more saleable, I had to give fifteen bushels for common cotton cloth enough to make a shirt. We have no money in the country, and our Bank notes but ill supply its place ; some of them are at seventy five per cent. discount, while others will not even pay a hopeless debt. I offered three bushels of Indian corn to the post master in payment of the postage of your last letter, which he refused to take, and I had to pay him 1s 3d in hard cash. I was at first entirely carried away with the fruitfulness of the country—the fineness of its soil—the cheapness of land, cattle, &c., as all

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\* Indian Corn is here meant, which constitutes the staple bread stuff of that part of the country. A buhsel in the ear is only half as much when thrashed, or shelled, as it is termed.



Europeans are, without duly considering that they must also sell at such low prices ; but the difficulty of selling at all is the principal obstacle.

I have lately heard from Henry, in the Ohio country, who had just returned from a visit to James in Upper Canada,—they both complain of the unhealthiness of the climate, the want of markets, and the high price of labour. I have often wished to hear from you a detailed account of all the circumstances that led you to make choice of so happy a country, maugre all the prejudices prevailing against it.

I am, &c.

G. W.

I will take up neither my readers' time nor my own about this part of the country, longer than to make an observation or two upon the letters he has just read, trusting that he will already feel convinced that this is not the region of comfort and competency he is in search of.

I am fully aware that there is a very different opinion so generally prevailing as to become (as my brother terms it) a rage, and people with such a bias, previously entertained, may fancy, on a cursory view of the last letter, which I consider conclusive, that it is only the ebullition of a mind struggling under disappointment, and sinking under bodily disease ; but let them compare this letter with the former one, and they will find the principal facts mentioned in each, exactly to correspond,—viz. the high price of labour and the low price of farming produce ; besides, even the first letter appears to me, and I do not think I judge too unfavorably, to give a clear and comprehensive, although a succinct account of the country, as adapted to farming purposes, evidently framed under a predisposition to view every thing in the most favourable light. Still he does look at every thing, but miscalculates

the chances against the fulfilment of his almost unbounded hopes, and the accomplishment of his exaggerated expectations. In his second letter, admitting that he was equally predisposed to look at every thing in the most unfavourable point of view; still again he does look at every thing. The same data are given in both from which very different deductions are drawn—as different as practical ones are from theoretical in a variety of other cases; and in none is this difference more manifest, or more frequent than when applied to farming, or settling in America.

If I thought this was not sufficient to turn away any emigrant from that grave of Europeans, I could enlist under my banner a whole host of other evidence; but this having come so immediately under my own notice, naturally forming part of these memoirs, I mention it as such: I would not sully these sheets with garbled stories, about this or that country, framed perhaps at first, by speculators and land jobbers, to suit some interested purpose, and propagated afterwards by the ignorant and book making traveller: let not this be construed into an assumption of superior wisdom to which I prefer no claim.

At the time I received my brother's last letter, I could not help comparing my circumstances with his; not only as they then were, but as they would have been, had all the fine expectations in his former one, been realized.

We had a church and a Church of England clergyman, in the settlement—not that every settlement has one, though few are destitute of the labours of a minister of some persuasion or other, and I would strenuously advise all well disposed emigrants not to overlook this circumstance in deciding upon their location: few there are,

if any, who come to this country, having never been so situated as to be unable to attend the public worship of God, however negligent they may have been in availing themselves of the privilege that would not feel most poignantly if they were deprived of the opportunity ; nor would they see without some annoyance, so little respect paid to that day, set apart for relaxation and rest from the cares and labours of life, even admitting they forgot the nobler purpose for which it was intended, and to which it ought to be devoted, because it would at least be a constant witness to him, on its weekly return, that he was, if not a houseless exile, a stranger in a strange land. Indeed, I have myself seen men, whom I knew to have seldom entered the precincts of the sanctuary, travel, what in England would be considered an incredible distance, upwards of 20 miles, to attend divine service, or perhaps to get his children baptized, or the clergyman to visit the sick of his family, or to "bury his dead out of his sight," consoling himself in his affliction, with the idea, that there was one so near. It is in circumstances such as these, that the heart of the exile yearns after his native land ; he therefore ought to secure to himself in the home of his adoption, as many of those favourable features in the home he has left, as can possibly be found, and they will be to him as household gods ; they bring with them associations that beguile into the tale of other years ; and if they do not revive in our memory those scenes of pure and unmingled happiness in the bright and buoyant season of youth, they occasionally throw a transient halo of delight over our existence by leading us to forget that we are away from them. Every emigrant may feel assured, that however anxious he may be to leave his native country,

and however much it may be to his advantage to do so, he will retain a painful recollection of it, to the latest hour of his existence ; no one brought up in a country like England, where such order and regularity prevail, can form any idea of the demoralized state of society in many portions of the United States, whereas the part of the country where I had located myself, might challenge the whole world, for its superior in orderliness and morality.

My brother mentions, as a disadvantage, some few taxes ; I never heard from him a detailed account of these taxes, but I can give one from my other brother, in the State of Ohio, where they are lower, than in almost any other portion of the Union :—there is first a tax for the support of the United or General Government ; then a State tax ; and a town tax, exclusive of the Road duty, which must be a tax every where ; besides which he cannot well avoid paying something towards the salaries of the Minister and School Master, amounting, without the last, to about one per cent upon his whole property, or two shillings in the pound upon his annual income, supposing his property brings him ten per cent upon his outlay.—I leave it to the Emigrant himself to compare this with the taxes he pays at home. In Upper Canada, the taxes, to which I shall have occasion to advert hereafter, are much lighter, but in Lower Canada, the case is very different : at this moment (1837) I have increased my property by care and industry, under the blessing of an overruling Providence, about nine fold, as I consider it worth little less than £3,000, and I might have made it much more, if I had not remitted in my exertions to increase it, and indulged in more of the comforts and luxuries of life than were absolutely necessary ; yet in all the course of

my progress to wealth and independence, I never paid one farthing neither of direct taxes, nor to Ministers' or School Masters' salaries, which are provided for from other sources, and all the indirect taxes would hardly amount to a moiety of what is thus paid by the inhabitants of any other civilized country upon earth.

As to markets, a very material and important consideration, I may assert at once, without the fear of contradiction, that Montreal is the best on the whole continent of North America, sufficient proof of this, is exhibited in the well known fact, that great numbers, from hundreds of miles within the limits of the United States, resort to it. Our produce fetches a fair remunerating price, the necessities we have to purchase are cheaper than any where else on this side the Atlantic. The facilities of conveyance to this market are very great, by roads tolerably good in summer, superb in winter; by navigable rivers, canals and one Rail Road; and if we cannot produce so much upon an acre of land here, nor so easily, as in warmer latitudes, we can cultivate it at so much less expence, in consequence of the price of labor being so much more reasonable, so that if a farmer in this Province were to pay for the tillage of an acre out of its own produce, he would have as much left, or nearly so, as a farmer in the Western States after doing the same thing, which would sell for three or four times as much as it would in the West; this also applies to the more distant parts of Upper Canada though not to the same extent.

The length and severity of our winters, of which so much is said, form generally the chief, if not the only argument ever attempted to be used against this part of the country; and to look only at the state of the thermometer

and the depth of snow, it would appear rather a formidable one, but the thermometer and our feelings do not unfrequently measure heat and cold, especially the latter, very differently.—I have actually suffered more from cold in England, while closely shut up in a mail coach, during a night in July, when the thermometer could not be so low as the freezing point, than ever I suffered in this country when it has been near zero : and this is easily accounted for by the fact, that, in the one case, the atmosphere was saturated with moisture ; while in the other it was dry. From which it would appear that our feelings, as far as the cold is concerned, would correspond more nearly with the range of the hydrometer than with that of the thermometer. It must however be admitted that the thermometer is so low for a day or two every winter, as to indicate such an intense degree of cold, as to require care to avoid suffering from its effects.

As to the snow ; its depth and long continuance on the ground, are such a convenience and benefit to the farmer, that he is anxious for its coming, and sorry when it leaves him ; it also acts as manure and pulverizes the land, superceding in a great measure the necessity of fallowing.

Half at least of what is said about this climate, has no other foundation than what is to be found in the imagination and credulity of travellers ; according to these, to be frost bitten is of so frequent occurrence as to become the subject of a necessary and almost daily salutation, “ Sir, your nose is frozen ! ” I have been a farmer in this very severe climate, now nearly 20 years, and have never seen or heard of, a single instance of material suffering from the cold : people may have lost their way in a stormy night

and perished, but I do not consider these exceptions peculiar to this country, as such cases have happened in Great Britain, and even in Spain, as a sentinel on duty at Madrid, was frozen to death in his sentry box. The length of our winter too, has been much exaggerated: while now writing, this 29th November 1827, my cattle are out grazing night and day, not yet having had any snow, nor scarcely any frost; I have sometimes not been obliged to take them in or to feed them till a few days before Christmas, though this is rarely the case: and by the middle of April we commence sowing our grain, so that our winter is on an average not of more than four or five months duration, instead of six or seven, as people have been led to suppose.

Hitherto it will be observed I have been comparing Lower Canada with the United States in general, and with the Western part of them in particular; we will now examine the claims, the other Provinces of this mighty continent, belonging to Great Britain, have to the consideration of the emigrant. Such as lie on the shores of the great Gulph of the St. Lawrence, will easily be disposed of, as the climate is so uncongenial to farming purposes, and otherwise so disagreeable from the prevalence of fogs, and consequently so much colder, as to render them little worthy the notice of the emigrant, if farming be his object. The lumber trade and the fisheries may hold out encouragement to the merchant and trader, superior for anything I know, to what may be found in any other country; but as it is only for the information of the farmer and labourer I am writing, I shall confine my observations chiefly to Upper Canada, as the only Province which can at all compete with this.

Upper Canada has certainly some advantages, which at first sight may appear to outweigh any corresponding ones here ; at first sight I say, and it is this that has led the numerous manufacturers of emigrants' guides, if they have not been influenced by other motives, to hold out unqualified encouragement to emigrants to go there. The soil is considered generally to be better, but this is very problematical,—the climate is less severe, though in a very trifling degree—the price of labour is much higher, and the price of produce much lower, owing to the greater distance from market. Then again the necessities, the settler has to purchase, are proportionably dearer, making a very unfavourable difference to the farmer, and no advantage to the labourer—and if the climate be less severe, it is less healthy, few sections of it being free from the periodical visits of agues and intermittent or Lake fevers. Some one has observed that a tolerably correct idea of any country may be gathered from the advertisements in its newspapers ; if this be true the following for private pupils from a newspaper of each Province, will give some weight to the observation :—

“ A married Clergyman residing in a *healthy* part of the country, &c.”—*Cobourg paper, Upper Canada.*

“ A married Clergyman residing in the country, &c.” *Montreal paper, Lower Canada.*

Now if the former had left out the word *healthy* he would have got no pupils, whereas if the latter had put it in, he would have made himself ridiculous, as every part of his country is healthy. (See appendix note D.)

The expence, trouble and fatigue in travelling so great a distance, by so many changes in the mode of conveyance, form altogether no small objection to the Western



portion of the Upper Province, which is considered so much the finest : the long exposure in open boats, to which the poor emigrants are of necessity subjected, not unfrequently leads to disastrous consequences, and if they do all reach their destination in safety, and in health, their means are so much reduced, as to prevent them from purchasing a farm, while many of them spend their last shilling, travelling on and on, in search of the paradise promised in some emigrants' guide. The difficulties, dangers, privations, and sufferings, in a voyage from Liverpool to Montreal, where the emigrant supposes his journey at an end, are nothing, compared to those he has yet to endure and surmount, in his journey from thence to the new settlements in Upper Canada, though not a quarter of the distance. There are some parts of Upper Canada to which these observations do not apply, those for instance, that are contiguous to Montreal, on the Ottawa River ; those on the River St. Lawrence being old settlements, inhabited by a class of people who hardly ever sell their farms.

Immigrants, notwithstanding, they may be so well accommodated in many parts, within a distance of two hundred miles from Quebec and Montreal, equally eligible for settlement as Upper Canada, will still flock to the most remote parts of that province ; and this is owing, in some measure, to the misrepresentations I have mentioned, but more, to that portion of Lower Canada, which falls under their immediate observation, as they pass through it, on their route to Montreal, being inhabited by a people whose language they do not understand ; whereas, this only applies to a narrow stripe of country on each side of the great St. Lawrence, and forty or fifty miles, and sometimes even less, from each bank, will lead to the very

heart of English settlements, in the finest parts of the country, much better adapted to grazing and the general purposes of farming. It is to these districts I would most strenuously advise the Emigrant to direct his steps, and I trust I have said enough to convince him of the high and unequalled claims they have upon his consideration, and let it be remembered, that these remarks are the result of the long experience, and the personal observation of an immigrant, and a farmer like himself, except what has been gathered from letters, and from persons whose veracity I can most fully rely on, and which I consider equal to my own experience. What I have said, concerning the Western States and Upper Canada, has been from the former, although I have not thought it necessary to give the letters from Upper Canada in the same formal manner, as they would have lengthened out these remarks, to such an extent, as to have rendered me liable to the same accusation, which I have preferred against some of my fellow-labourers in the same field ; although I cannot have the same motives, as I have no lands for sale in those portions of the country I am recommending.

I am not prepared to give advice so well as the author of *one emigrants' guide*, who states, that he has read every thing that has been published on the subject, during the last ten years ; whereas, I have read scarcely anything of the kind, during a much longer period ; yet do I hesitate not, to claim from the emigrant, for these observations of mine, an equal, if not a greater share of his confidence and attention ; not because they are faultless, far from it, the writer is by no means blind to their blemishes ; but because of their plain practical truth ; being the ungarnished history of many years experience, with conclusions, result-

ing from mature consideration. With such means and opportunities, another could unquestionably have produced something of the kind equally useful, and perhaps better calculated to answer the purpose for which this is designed ; but how difficult would it be to find a person, with the same opportunities of information, that I have had the good or bad fortune to have had thrown in my way.

One person makes a hasty journey through the Canadas, to the Western States, and back again, and publishes an account of it, as a guide to the poor emigrant with a large family to those distant regions ; another, who was perhaps never out of his counting-house, or from behind his counter, farther away from some large town in which he had resided from his boyhood, than a Sunday morning's ride into the country would take him ; and he forsooth, must needs point out to the weary pilgrim, the very spot, in this wild wilderness of woods, where his foot might rest : there are others still more likely to mislead emigrants, than either of the scribblers I have mentioned, who, not satisfied with writing alone, have agents at every port to direct and cajole as many as possible, into certain districts where they have large tracts of land for sale at a very cheap rate. The best and only remedy for all such evils would be found in the establishment of a board of emigration, an object no less desirable from other and more important considerations. See note E in Appendix.

There is, I trust, another advantage, which this little pamphlet will possess, at least over some of a more imposing appearance, and it will consist in affording the emigrant, before he leaves his native country, what he has hitherto anxiously sought for but in vain, namely an idea of the every

day transactions and occurrences of a settler's life ; the common trifles, that have never yet been thought worth mentioning by more learned writers, but which, notwithstanding, constitute the greater portion of our employment, and occupy most of our time. Indeed what is it that renders the works of the most popular writers so interesting to men like me, but the happy talent they display of describing, so familiarly, the common fireside nothings of real life ; but as I neither possess, nor pretend to any such excellence, I must make up for the deficiency as far as such a thing may make up for it, by giving an account of my daily occupations, during the first and most anxious year of my life, in the woods of Canada, as noted down by me at the time. Sometimes it will be observed, that a few days are omitted, this is generally owing to their being no variation in the work, or else that they were forgotten.

April 10th.—Returned, with my hired man Richard, and a load, with a horse and ox cart, from Montreal, 40 miles, 2 days on the road, which is very bad, the frost not quite out of the ground—my loading all safe, consisting of the following items ; a plough \$17, 2 axes 8s. each—harrow teeth—8s. for a bush harrow, in shape of the letter A.—2 logging chains 10s. each—2 scythes and stones 9s. 8d.—1 spade 3s.—1 shovel 4s.—1 dung fork 2s. 6d.—2 steel forks 3s. 6d. each—3 augers 1, 1½, and 2 inches, 15s.—1 bbl pork \$20—1 bbl. N. shore herrings \$5—2 bbls. flour 27s. 6d. each—20 apple trees, and 6 plumb trees, at 2s. each—16 gooseberry bushes and grape vines, at 1s. 3d. each, amounting to £21, 2s. 2d.

Put my apple trees, &c., into a hole in the garden—

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\* The 1st of this month may be considered generally as the commencement of the agricultural year.

got a good cup of tea, saw my horse and oxen well taken care of, and went to bed—thus ended the first day of my new mode of life.

April 11th.—My man Richard fed and watered the cattle—got breakfast with some difficulty, owing to the want of many things we ought to have got in Montreal; we had no frying pan for instance—herrings superb—being Sunday, went to church morning and afternoon.

April 12th.—Up at daylight—reprimanded Richard for being out too late the night before, planted my apple, plumb trees, &c., in what had been an apology for a garden—mended the fence round it—broke open our pork barrel, found it good—had some for dinner—knocked the spout off the new tea kettle, of course cracked before—worse off than ever for cooking utensils—borrowed a frying pan, and boiled potatoes for dinner in a forty gallon pot—2 cows calved and a ewe yeaned 2 lambs.

April 13th.—Got a supply of cooking apparatus at a shop in the neighbouring village—commenced ploughing for wheat, making garden, &c. Hired another man for the summer at \$10 a month, same as I gave Richard, another cow calved. This was considered a very early spring, but I have since sown wheat, on this day, two years consecutively, and might have done so oftener, had it been otherwise convenient.

April 14.—Hired a house-keeper at \$4 a month—sowed onions, beets, sallad, &c.,—new man Charles, mending fences—drawing rails with the horse and cart—Richard still ploughing with the oxen—myself at the garden—bought 4 cows at \$18 each—2 of them calved a month before—made a harrow.

April 15th.—Sowed wheat after washing it with brine

and drying it with lime—Charles harrowed it in with the horse—4 bushels (our measure which is a gallon more than Imperial) upon  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres, according to the custom of the country—planted early peas and sowed garden seeds—Richard still ploughing—2 ewes yeaned.

April 16th.—Charles and myself making fence—one of the new cows calved—ploughing for potatoes and corn, first time.

April 17th.—Same as yesterday, and same to the end of the month, except that we sowed about four acres of oats and peas mixed.

May 1st.—All at work on the roads—finished our highway duty.

May 2nd.—Sunday.—All to church.

May 3rd.—One of the men churned before breakfast, with a swing-churn, lately invented—cut up a little firewood—too warm to plough with oxen in the middle of the day—all making fence.

May 4th and 5th.—Wet days—made four rakes and handled and ground the new axes, one having been partially ground and a temporary handle in it before—cleared out and repaired the barn.

May 6th.—Fine again—land too wet to plough—making fences—Richard went to the mill with a few bushels of oats to be made into meal—got the horse shod.

May 7th.—Very warm and sultry—ploughing for Indian corn by day-light, left off at 10 and commenced

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\*The intelligent reader might discover from this mention of the swing churn so lately invented, as well as from a reference to mills for making oat meal so recently established that this diary was not written at the period referred to. To which I can only reply that in correcting it for the press, such important discrepancies were introduced for the better information of the Emigrant, being more in accordance with the present time.

again at 4, P. M., continued till dark—carting stones off the corn-Land—finishing my garden—got home the grist, sent away yesterday.

May 8th.—One of the principal farmers of the settlement killed by a tree falling upon him. Work same as yesterday until noon, when we all went to assist in raising a wooden building for a barn 40 feet by 30 for one of our neighbours.

May 9th.—Sunday.—All went to Church—I need not again mention this, as we never allowed anything to interfere with this duty. A tremendous thunder-storm.

May 10th and eleventh.—Drawing manure for Indian corn, ploughing it in, &c.

May 12th and 13th.—Same work as two preceding days—and planting Indian corn and pumpkins—attended funeral of the neighbour killed on the 8th.

May 14th and 15th.—Sowed more oats and finished planting Indian corn—killed a fat calf—sold one quarter for 5s. and the skin for the same.

May 16th.—Sunday.

May 17th.—To end of month clearing up an old "Slash," which term has previously been defined; drawing the logs together with the oxen; then piling and burning them. One wet day, sheared the sheep, which were got in before the rain came on. Commenced planting corn on the new clearing.

June 1st and 2nd.—Sowing  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres of oats on the clearing; Richard ploughing the potatoe land second time; Charles drawing out manure and spreading it before him; myself planting potatoes with a hoe after him: it may be here remarked, that before the stumps are all out, or nearly so, it is not possible to drill up land for this crop.

June 3d to 15th.—Finished the potatoes and reckoned up my crop—stands as follows: wheat  $3\frac{1}{2}$ , peas 3, oats 5, Indian corn 6, potatoes  $5\frac{1}{2}$ —in all, 23 acres—meadow 20, pasture 13, partially cleared 20, added to the 23, makes 76 acres. It may be remembered here, that I said my farm contained about 50 acres of cleared land, whereas I make out 76 acres, but I did not then take into the account neither the 20 acres partially cleared, nor the 6 or 7 I cleared myself.

June 16th to end.—Hoeing corn and potatoes—excessively hot, thermometer, one day, 86 in the shade; sowed an acre of turnips on new clearing.

July 1st, 2d, and 3d.—Finished hoeing and making fences.

July 5th.—Wet day—ground scythes and *hung* them.

July 6th.—Commenced mowing—continued and finished haying in ten days, without a drop of rain—very hot.

July 16th.—A fearful thunder-storm—burned a log-barn in the neighbourhood, or, as some suppose, the accident happened from a man going into it with a lighted pipe, to prevent which has been a great source of trouble to me whenever I have employed Canadian labourers—killed another fat calf.

July 17th.—Finished off my hay-stacks.

July 18th—Sunday.—To church—clergyman absent at a distant settlement—prayers and a sermon read by the school-master—weather quite cool, as is usual after a violent thunder-storm.

July 19th.—Commenced hoeing corn the second time—sold 200 lbs. butter at 8d. per lb.—cut first cucumber.

July 20th to end of month.—Finishing hoeing corn



and potatoes—commenced clearing new land, by cutting down the under brush, and piling it in heaps ready for burning—this I did upon 30 acres of wood-land, during the rest of the summer, when I found I could spare a day for that purpose, and in the winter cut down the large trees, and then into lengths for piling in heaps to burn. The summer is the best season for commencing to clear land, because the brush is in full leaf, which, when dry, helps to burn it, all which a person soon learns when he comes to the country, but he would doubtless like to know something about it before he does come.

August 2d.—Attending a meeting of the principal inhabitants, about repairing the roof of the church-steeple ; gave a dollar towards the expense—bought a pew, £6—the two men underbrushing—first new potatoes—bought a sickle and a cradle scythe—made the cradle, having had the fingers blocked out before—a very difficult thing to make.

August 4th to 7th.—Clearing part of the underbrushed land, for winter wheat—same until 10th, when I began reaping and cradling—continued till 21st—finished harvesting, except  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acre of late oats and the Indian corn—cut first melon, but I am very late.

August 31st.—Resumed clearing land—killed a lamb.

September 1st to 10th.—Same work, and sowed three acres of winter wheat—commenced making potash from the ashes I had saved when clearing the land.

September 11th to 22d.—At the underbrushing—continued at the potash till I made two barrels, which I sold for something over £15—my neighbour's cattle broke into my Indian corn, but did little damage.

September 23d.—Wet day—threshing and dressing up

1½ bushel of wheat and 8 of oats—sent them to mill at night—oats weighed 48 lbs.

September 24th.—Got home grist—oats produced 2 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lbs.—got a certificate from the miller and a farmer of the weight of the oats—40 lbs. being the general average weight of good oats—made a wooden box as a steamer for my boiler—box containing 12 bushels.

September 25th.—Commenced ploughing—had a cow dried up and bled, and turned into the best feed to make beef.

An ox, belonging to my neighbour being one of the cattle which broke into my corn, died of a surfeit, as was supposed, of such rich succulent food as the green corn. This made him mend his portion of the line fence between my farm and his, which I never could get him to do before.

27th.—Commenced steaming pumpkins for my hogs—shut them up, threshed 5 bushels of peas and oats, had them ground to mix with the pumpkins—fed the hogs with raw food for some weeks before—made a hog-trough, by hollowing out a pine log. Went to a squirrel hunt which I must give some account of.

Some years, when the nuts in the woods are plentiful, the squirrels are so numerous as to do great damage to the Indian corn, when a conspiracy like the following, is entered into, for the destruction of them, as well as of all enemies that may be met with, whose depredations are chiefly confined to this valuable crop: all the men, young and old, for miles round, form themselves into two bands, each under a Captain, whichever gets the least quantity of game, has to pay for a hall and supper, at the

village tavern, for the whole—each kind of animal being reckoned according to its importance, thus the right paw of a bear counts for 400—of a raccoon 100—squirrel 1—right claw of a crow, woodpecker, or blue jay, 1 &c.—by daylight of the morning of muster, the woods were all alive with the eager hunters, and in the afterpart of the day, the fields were swarming with groups of women and children, with provisions and ammunition for the several partizans, and to disburthen them of their spoils—it was truly a season of merry and joyous holiday, in which all business and work was suspended; many a small party spent sleepless nights watching for bears and raccoons, for it is only then they come out—this lasted for 3 days, when we all met at the tavern to count up our spoils, in trembling anxiety for the award of two judges appointed to decide upon the claim for victory—the party I belonged to had 2 bears, counting 800—4 raccoons, 400—473 squirrels—27 crows—105 blue jays and woodpeckers—counting altogether 1,835, and yet we lost, as the other party had nearly the same, and one more bear.

September 29th and 30th.—Richard ploughing—Charles and I gathering Indian corn; at night had a “bee,” a term used for a mustering together of the neighbours, to assist in any work, which would puzzle an individual to do alone, when all the young men and boys in the settlement came to help me to husk it. Got the first premium for it from the Agricultural Society.

October 1st and 2d.—Same work—evening to husking bee at a neighbours.

October 4th to 7th.—Ploughing—finished getting in the Indian corn—cutting the corn stalks—husking ourselves at night what little we had gathered during the day: collected and brought home pumpkins,

October 8th and 9th.—Binding corn stalks, and stacking them up to dry,—collected and got in pumpkins.

October 11th.—Got in remainder of pumpkins and the onions.

October 12th.—Stacked corn stalks, and fenced them round together with the hay stack.

October 13th.—Commenced digging potatoes.

October 14th to 20th.—Finished taking up potatoes—800 bushels—ploughed over the land to the end of the month—ploughing—clearing land, &c.—hired Charles for the winter, for \$7 a month.

November 1st.—Same work, and getting in turnips and cabbages, and all other garden stuffs—took in the cows at night. 350 bushels turnips.

November 2d.—First hard frost—could not plough till noon—clearing, &c.

November 3d to 30th.—Under brushing—cutting fire wood—cattle out all day and only the cows in at night—hard frost, no more ploughing I suppose.

November 21st.—First snow,—took in all the cattle.

November 22.—A thaw and wet day—threshing more grain for the hogs—sent it to the mill.

November 23 to 30th.—Ploughing again one day—clearing—killed a sheep—hard frost again, but fine weather called the Indian Summer, with a slight smoky haziness in the atmosphere, through which the sun is seen with a deadened lustre—something like a full moon.

December 1st to 4th.—Indian Summer continues—clearing and chopping.

December 5th.—Killed my hogs.

December 6th.—Fall of snow—threshing—cutting up and salting pork.

December 7th.—Drawing wood home for fuel, in the

log, with the horses and oxen, not being snow enough to draw it on the sled.

December 8th and 9th.—Made an ox sled—cutting fire wood.

December 10th and 11th.—Drawing fire wood as on the 7th.

December 13th.—Snow storm—threshing.

December 14th.—Drawing in stack of corn stalks to give to the cattle instead of hay, which I cannot yet get at in my barns, it being covered with grain, and not wishing to cut into my hay stack till I should have room enough to take it all in at once.

15th Dec.—commenced cutting down the trees on the land I had underbushed, and chopping them into lengths for piling—cutting firewood and drawing it—cutting, splitting and drawing out rails for fences, and timber for a new barn—threshing and tending the cattle—getting out hemlock logs for the saw mill, for boards for the new barn—drawing them home, and making shingles occupied our time all winter with the exception of my journey to Montreal with butter and a few bushels of grain which I sold and, with the proceeds, bought some groceries and other necessaries, preparatory to my anticipated change of circumstances.

In the following spring it was the 20th of April before the snow was all off the ground when vegetation commenced and progressed with a rapidity unknown to the British Isles, it is indeed a disadvantage for the snow to go away earlier.

Had this diary been kept in some other locations, on the Ottawa for instance, the winter would have been much more advantageously employed, by getting out wood

for the steamboats, as with a yoke of oxen or a pair of horses could easily clear £20 or £30 besides doing the work already mentioned, by being constantly employed and well fed. In that section of the country there is also a ready market in every village, perhaps the best in America for all kinds of agricultural produce.

For directions on leaving home see note F.

And now having brought my diary to an end these being the last friendly hints I had to give the Emigrant, I must for the present take my leave of him, not however without the hope of shortly meeting him again, in a more finished and interesting dress. Till then, I would say to him from my heart, in the broadest acceptation of the term,—farewell!

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•We have now concluded “the Memoranda by a Settler in Lower Canada” and we sincerely hope it may be the means of arresting the progress and attention of some deserving Immigrants, that they may not unnecessarily incur a waste of time and money by undertaking a long tedious journey in search of that, which may be found almost at the threshold of the country:—it may still more safely be recommended to the serious consideration of those who have the means to regard but little the expenditure, when compared with their desire to suit themselves as nearly as possible with their preconceived notions of the country—and by examining the Eastern Townships and the country on the Ottawa, if they do not there discover that which comes quite up to the mark of their hopes and expectations of perhaps more disappointed after a travel of hundreds of miles further to the Westward, they will have the satisfaction of knowing what they have left behind them, and can return to it, if they please, as has been the case with some, who continue to rejoice in their having determined on the retrograde movement.—*Quebec Mercury.*

P.S. When an emigrant first attempts to cut down a tree, to make use of a homely but characteristic simile, he seldom succeeds, even to his own satisfaction, and I feel that the same may be said of a first attempt at book-making, if it should not apply to first attempts at every thing else ; and this is my principal reason for promising to revise and improve this little work against the ensuing spring, from an earnest desire to render it more deserving the reception it has already met with from an indulgent public, and, in accordance with this wish, I must not allow the present opportunity to escape me of correcting an erroneous impression, which these memoirs, without such explanation, might produce. I allude to their apparent exclusive recommendation of Lower Canada to the notice of the emigrant. I say apparent, because I do equally recommend to his notice, not only both banks of the Ottawa, the left of which is in Upper Canada throughout nearly the whole course of that stupendous river, which now forms the best and most commodious communication with the interior, and will doubtless become, at no very distant period, what it has been not inaptly termed, the very back bone of this mighty Province ; but I also speak as favourably of the whole of Upper Canada, below and away from the Great Lakes, whose shores, in some places, are unhealthy.

I have said more, it is true, about Lower Canada, where I myself, and others that I know, have succeeded so well : at the same time I wish it to be distinctly understood that the objects I had in view, were first, to shew that certain portions of Lower Canada had as good a claim to the notice of the Emigrant, as any portion of Upper Canada, and secondly, to prove that either had a

much better than any portion of the United States could pretend to, or why do such numbers of their citizens flock to this country while so few are found to migrate from hence to theirs, and that few I believe generally return, or would do so if they could.

This is strikingly illustrated by the following reflections, from the *Bytown Gazette*, upon an observation of my own, bearing upon this point, supported and strengthened by explanatory facts :—

“We could mention many other instances in which the oldest settler even, as well as the strange emigrant, have been deceived by either over-colouring the advantages of remote sections of the country, or concealing important objections to which they were liable for settlement. Within the last month we were favoured with the perusal of a letter from a family who were a few years ago allured by these deceptive misrepresentations to go from this neighbourhood to the State of Michigan. The father, pretty well advanced in life, has been for some years comfortably settled on a lot of land (100 acres) on the bank of the Ottawa, had what is termed a good clearing, well stocked with comfortable buildings, within eight miles of this town, the best market for the farmer in British North America, and to which he had access by a good road. The old gentleman paid a good share of attention to the cultivation of a small spot of a garden, and being generally the earliest in the market, commanded the highest price for his garden stuffs, so much so that he informed us in one season he realised £60 currency, from the produce of his garden alone, besides what his farm yielded him. All this would not do; he had some sons grown up, and fearing that the extent of his farm would not be sufficient for his family, and flattered by the accounts of the cheap rate at which lands could be procured in Michigan, and the great returns it yielded, he abandoned all his present flattering prospects and deter-



mined to transport himself and family to that country. As might be expected, his property here, by a forced sale, brought a price under value. The whole was however converted into cash, and the unfortunates, as they may be truly called, set out for the land of promise in the State of Michigan. It was from this family, being their joint production, that the letter was sent to one of their old neighbours, and with which we were favoured with a perusal. It was filled with murmurings and regrets at their having left Canada. True, they obtained land at what they considered a fair rate; higher however, than it would have cost them in Canada, but they were promised larger returns of crops from it. When they came to purchase the other requisites, it was then they suffered from the exorbitant charges. The soil was of that deep alluvial clay description, that no less than four or frequently six oxen were required for a plough. The usual price of each yoke was from £40 to £50, and every other description of farming stock high in a like proportion. To procure these, drained them of all their pecuniary resources; and if, as not unfrequently happens with new comers, they had been obliged to purchase a part of their stock upon credit, many years of hard and almost helpless toil had to be endured before they could be freed from their debt, the low price they obtained for the produce of their land far overbalancing the larger returns in these crops when compared with the state of these matters in Canada. To similar ills many others, equally deceived, have become the unfortunate victims.

John S. Evans, a native of the State of Vermont, came into this province, and settled in a seigniori bordering on the Eastern Townships: as he had no money, he took a wild lot of land, upon which he made, in a few years, rather a valuable improvement, and acquired some little stock, sold out, and returned to the States, under the impression that although this country was better than his own without a capital, (no mean praise,) yet, with a

capital small even as his own, he would do better there, found out his mistake, and in two years returned, no better than he went, to the vicinity of his old location, and is now doing well.

The following is a case I feel pleasure in recording:—

Elon Lee settled in the Eastern Townships, got dissatisfied, sold out, and returned to his native country, one of the States—I believe Massachusetts—failed in his attempts to establish himself there, got over head and ears in debt, made a moon-light flitting again into Canada, came to the banks of the Ottawa, at that time little known, (for this occurred long ago,) where he was not likely to be found, took a wild lot of land, which by his own exertions with persevering industry, he cleared, built a house, barn, &c., upon it, and then sold it for a considerable sum of money, with which he paid off all his old debts in the States, and had enough left to set him up anew. He is now an old man, well provided for during the remnant of his days, which are wearing away, under the consoling reflection that he has, under great and voluntary sacrifices, acted the part of an upright and honest man.

David Gillanders came to Quebec in July, 1831, went out to Broughton, bought a lot of land, got dissatisfied sold out, and went to the State of New York—disappointed—returned and bought another lot, in Broughton, and is now doing well.

John Reinhart left Broughton also and went into the State of New York—found by comparison, that all things considered, he had changed for the worse—stayed away only a few months—returned to Broughton, bought a lot

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\* This and the following cases are from the continuation.

of land, and is now one of the most thriving farmers in the neighbourhood—is of opinion, that better places *may* be found than Broughton, but thinks a man must be very hard to please, who could not be as well satisfied with it as he is.

Nicholas Reinhart, brother to the above, also left Broughton and went to the State of New York, where he remained three years—thought he had tried it long enough, so he returned, and is now doing well.

Robert Ross also fancied he could suit himself better in the States—tried it, and found it was a mistake, and after remaining there three years, returned to Broughton, and is now content to remain, and is in a thriving condition.

John Koyle went to the States, worked hard for three or four years, found he could not “go ahead,” returned to Broughton very poor, is now on land of his own, and doing well.

I would here direct the reader’s particular attention to the following caution against re-emigrating from the British Colonies into the adjoining States, as more to the purpose than any thing I could say.

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Extract of a Despatch dated 30th September, 1841,  
from the Consul at New York to the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick.

“I beg to say that my office is daily beset by numbers who have landed at Quebec, St. Johns, and other ports from the United Kingdom, who merely remain as long in Her Majesty’s possessions as they can either earn by their labour, or as they can obtain without labour, as much money as will pay their passage to the States. I may state that in nine cases out of ten the poor people deplore how they have been duped, while, from their

having left Her Majesty's possessions, I do not feel it my duty to render them any pecuniary aid.

"Several Emigrant Associations have been formed in this city, but they have been short-lived from being so borne down with applicants, and one established last year will, I presume, expire with the year.

"It may appear extraordinary to your Excellency that more persons receive charitable aid in this city than in Dublin, or any city in Her Majesty's dominions of the same extent of population. The numerous charitable institutions have entailed this evil upon the city.

"There is continually arriving in this city a class of British emigrants, whose condition here is truly distressing, viz., persons above the rank of the labouring class, the sons and daughters above the scale which furnish servants, some of them who have been well educated; some are well qualified to act as teachers in various branches, but all such are miserably disappointed; not a few are provided for by death, in the unhealthy climate of the Southern States, to which they have to resort, while many enter the service of the United States army.

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"For above 25 years I have witnessed the misery and disappointment of thousands who have arrived here, while the most deplorable sufferers are females, and those men who will not labour. I know not how it is in New Brunswick, but in Upper Canada females are sure of employment, and if prudent and well conducted, certain of getting comfortably married, while their distress drives hundreds to the most degrading haunts of prostitution. If females are good looking, and out of employment, they are picked up at the office for servants, and carried to the South for prostitution, without their being aware of it, until entangled in a net from whence they cannot extricate themselves, and houses of ill fame are generally supplied by girls from these offices.

"A labouring man may work hard all his life in the United Kingdom, or Ireland, and never will acquire 50 acres of land, while five years of such labour, if he avoids

spirituous liquors, will enable a labouring man in Canada, and I presume also in New Brunswick, to acquire 50 acres, if not more, with a dwelling; I speak from actual observation. Labouring with the axe and hoe is so different, I may say so gentlemanly a description of labour, that our respectable young men do not view it as working with a spade and reaping-hook in Ireland is considered, while in a short time an active young man may obtain £3 per month,\* steady wages, with board, and be regarded as one of the farmer's family."

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\*The Consul must, I think, refer only to the harvest months.

## APPENDIX.

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The following are from a wide and undigested mass of materials, which, if time had allowed, should have been interwoven with the text. They will however serve in some measure to illustrate the portions to which they refer.

### NOTE A.

#### THE LUMBER TRADE.

Every individual unconnected with the Lumber Trade that I have heard speak of it, as well as not a few who are engaged in it, consider it as highly detrimental to the best interests of the country.

The Agriculture of Canada must ultimately be its sole dependence ; and there cannot be, there never has been two opinions upon the propriety of fostering and cherishing it. Why then paralyze all its energies by such an undue and partial encouragement of a branch of trade so pernicious and demoralizing in its effects, so prejudicial to the future prosperity of the country, while even a doubt can be entertained of its contributing to its present welfare.

If all this be true, a stranger would naturally exclaim, why is it so supported ? Simply because when any attempt is made to take off the duty upon timber from the Baltic, an agitation is immediately got up in England, by a number of influential merchants in this country who have extensive connexions at home, these are the only class who can, so to speak, be privately represented in the imperial

Legislature, and the trade from its contingent and fluctuating character having a natural tendency to fall into the hands of the capitalist, there only will it be found to exist, at least, to any material extent.

We farmers, however, should look upon this trade in a less unfavourable point of view, if any portion of our interminable forests were cleared by it, according to an opinion which appears at one time to have obtained in a high quarter, as will be seen by the following extract from the minutes of evidence in a report of the Committee of the House of Commons on this subject, I think in 1823.

*Question.* Are you extensively engaged in this trade? (in Canada?)

*Answer.* Yes rather extensively

*Q.* How many acres are annually cleared by it?

*A.* I could not say.

*Q.* 500,000?

*A.* No, I should think nothing like that quantity.

*Q.* 400,000?

*A.* No, not so much as that; but I am unable to speak with any degree of precision.

*Q.* Say 200,000?

*A.* Oh yes! that at least!

I write from memory, but vouch for its being in substance and very nearly in words a true copy.

What weight they attached to this important discovery I do not know, but the duty on Baltic timber was not taken off.

To an inhabitant of the country this could require no comment, but to the emigrant, for whose information it is chiefly intended, it may.

To the former then, if the same query had been put, he would unhesitatingly have answered, "Not one." But if he had been further asked, how many acres the lumber trade annually prevented from being cleared, he would as readily have answered, "At least 200,000." And what an immense quantity of agricultural produce would such land, now lying in a state of utter unproductiveness, have enabled us to have exported, far surpassing, surely, any thing we can ever expect from the lumber trade. For, as we now produce enough for our own consumption, and a little over, the fruits of our labour, upon nearly four millions of acres, would, in case the Baltic duty had then been taken off, have been ready to be added to our exports during the approaching season.

This, however, is taking a more comprehensive view of the subject than any individual settler may think he has any thing to do with ; but when he finds that this unfair protection, which the lumberer receives from the Government, enables him to give higher wages than the farmer can afford to pay, and that the land he has purchased must therefore remain comparatively unproductive, he will view it in a very different light, and agree with me that it is the heaviest and worst evil ever inflicted by an enlightened Government upon so great a majority of its quiet and industrious subjects.

I could, and will, on some future occasion, (D.V.) say much more on this interesting subject. At present I am no advocate for sudden and violent changes ; I would merely suggest, what much wiser men have already recommended, that the duty on Baltic timber, after due notice, should be gradually taken off, and that in the mean time the duty upon our agricultural produce be im-



mediately repealed,—a boon which, although we have a right to expect from the Imperial Government, we have for years prayed for, but in vain.

See the very able letter to his Excellency Sir Charles Bagot, upon this subject by John Gamble, Esq.

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#### NOTE B.

In the hope that the reader will feel an interest in the fate of every individual member of our little family, I would observe that my youngest brother is not otherwise alluded to, than by this casual and solitary notice in consequence of his having turned his attention to trade and commercial pursuits, with which as a farmer I have no concern, not but that his history might be considered of more importance to some Immigrants with a little capital, than my own, and I intend, therefore, in my next edition to give it from himself.

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#### NOTE C.

So much for settling in Lower Canada with a small capital. But as I have recommended the country to such as have none, for the satisfaction and encouragement of emigrants of this class, I submit to his consideration the following instances of the success of sober, steady, industrious men, and, I ought to add, whose conduct and deportment was decent, orderly, and moral, not to say religious; qualities, which I conceive essential to worldly prosperity, as I never yet knew an instance, (and I am no fanatic,) of a man succeeding in the world to an extent at all commensurate with his means, who paid little or no regard to the Lord's day, and who did not constantly attend his church.

## NOTE D.

The following cases, having an important bearing upon my whole narrative, will also particularly illustrate this fact:—

CASE 1.—Mr. Old, an Englishman, a mill-wright, in constant employ at 6s. 8d. a day, in the neighbourhood of the Ottawa. He sold a lot of land for about half what it was worth, and having saved a little money besides, set out for the West, in 1836. Went first to Niagara—then up the Grand River towards Brantford—then travelled to Seneca, in which neighbourhood he found employment at a nominally higher rate of wages than he had received near the Ottawa. When he received his pay, it was one half in Upper Canada notes, at 2 per cent. discount—the other half in Welland Canal paper, at 80 per cent. discount. He remained there a year and eight months, before he could save as much as would bring him back, although he had constant employment. At one time he was, for five weeks, the only one out of four strong men, (who had come to the place in good health,) who was able to do a day's work. He had long seen enough of the Western country to determine him to return as soon as he could scrape sufficient together to bring him back to his old neighbourhood. He returned with one child more than he had taken away, but minus his money, it having cost him £30, besides all he had earned, in travelling out and home. This was not quite all he paid for his experience, as there was much sickness in the family immediately after his return, all decided cases of fever and ague, evidently the effects of the malaria of the country they had left, as no such disease is known anywhere for many miles in the vicinity

of the Ottawa. The Eastern Townships are also equally free from it.

With care and economy, and constant persevering industry, he has overcome all his difficulties, and saved sufficient to enable him to furnish a house, and establish a comfortable small inn, known as the Union Hotel, at Hawkesbury, on the south side of the river Ottawa, opposite to Grenville, where the barges in which the emigrants travel frequently stay a day or so, waiting for steamboats to tow them. Mr. Old has a brother, who went to Seneca with him, and would have returned at the same time, but he had a farm on his hands, and some crop in. Mr. Old has since received sad accounts from his brother, that himself and wife had been sick for eight weeks, and were not then recovered; he only waits till he has the means, of returning to the Ottawa. Mr. Old is "at home," at the Union Inn, Hawkesbury, and will be glad to see any emigrant on his way up the Ottawa to whom he will freely communicate all the knowledge he has so dearly purchased.

CASE 2.—John Gibson left the Ottawa with his wife, and went to Detroit in 1837; afterwards he went 40 miles further west; did not find what he went in search of, and thought it more likely to be obtained by returning to the place from whence he had taken his departure. He is now residing in the vicinity of Mr. Old. His adventures are similar to those of Mr. Old, and need not be recapitulated. We will only add the satisfactory information that he is doing well, and ready to answer for himself.

CASE 3.—My man Richard is the son of a settler who had been peculiarly unfortunate and consequently very poor, but

as his misfortunes and poverty had nothing to do with emigration or farming, it is unnecessary further to advert to either; suffice it that such was the fact, which had something to do with Richard's history, for he was a good young man and a dutiful son:—he devoted the whole of his wages, during the first two, of the three years he was with me, after clothing himself in the cheapest possible way to be at all decent, to the support of his father and his family, and I have no doubt would have continued to do so much longer had they required such assistance, but they did not, and Richard found himself enabled to purchase a small farm at Abbotsford, on the borders of the Eastern Townships, for which he was to pay £40, £10 down, ready money, and £10 a year with interest, till the whole was paid. The first instalment he paid out of the savings of his third year's wages, and got my oxen and plough for a few days to break up some five or six acres, (which was all that had been cleared upon it,) for which he paid me in his own work. This he planted with Indian Corn, and cleared an acre or two for potatoes, planted them, hoed them and his Indian corn in due season: harvested his corn, took up his potatoes, making cribs for the former and pits for the latter. During the spring and summer of that year he was thus occupied, he worked for me all the rest of his time, at \$8 a month, which, with the proceeds from the sale of part of his potatoes and corn, enabled him to meet his second instalment, add something to his stock of clothes, and pay the carpenter for building a barn; the timber for which he prepared during the winter, squaring what was required for the frame, and drawing to the mill sufficient for the necessary quantity of boards. Just about this period, the second

spring of Richard's being on his own farm, I was desirous of increasing my stock of cattle ; and having heard of a farmer in the neighbourhood, who was giving up business and selling off, I went to purchase, and took Richard with me, considering him a better judge than myself ; he bought for himself a pair of young oxen for £7 10s, on a credit of six months, upon my security. This he punctually paid, as well as the other instalment for his farm. In the course of two or three years he built a small dwelling house, and married the daughter of the person who was killed by the fall of a tree, mentioned in a former chapter. The young woman had a little fortune in farming stock, of some £90 or £100 value. After this he bought another small lot, of 60 acres, adjoining his farm ; which together, he sold for £260, and bought a much larger and more valuable property for half that amount ; it having been sold at Sheriff's sale, and he having ready money to pay for it. Bargains of this kind are by no means uncommon. This property he has greatly improved—his stock has greatly increased—his wife is an excellent and economical housekeeper ; and notwithstanding they have a number of children, he is quite independent, and never works himself, contenting himself with superintending ; and I consider him worth at least £1,000 ;—so much for poor Richard's history.

4TH CASE.—John Bone came to this country, I believe without a shilling. I rented him a small farm for two years, upon which he made out very well, and he managed to save £50 or £60, with which he went into the French country—as we call that portion of the Lower Province, which is inhabited nearly exclusively by

French Canadians—and bought a small farm ; and there—in short—he enacted Richard's history over again, with nearly the same success, and with nearly the same result ; but of course not in so short a space of time, as he had no fortuitous assistance ; in fact nothing but his own unaided exertions and good management. He now lives at a place called Charzil on the Chateauguay River.

It will be observed, that *these* are very striking instances of success, by persons who began *without one farthing of capital* ; and are quite enough, (although I could mention many others of a similar kind,) to stamp the character of the country, as to its eligibility for the location of an immigrant, who is sober, steady and industrious ; not that I would have it to be inferred that capital is not necessary ; on the contrary, a comfortable independence, or at least a competency, is doubtless much sooner acquired *with* a little capital than *without* it, as I trust I have fully shewn, in the account of my own adventures.

The following are extracted from the “ continuation ” referred to in the preface :—

Mr. John Malvina arrived in Canada from Ireland about 18 or 19 years ago—I hope he will not be offended at my stating, that when he first came out he was very poor, though he is now rich,—soon after he came to the country he went on a farm near Sherbrooke, whether on shares or at a rent, I do not now recollect : he was assisted with the necessary means to work the farm by Mr. Goodhue, (and when was Mr. Goodhue *not* ready to help a poor man ?) By industry, perseverance and good conduct, Mr. Malvina found himself in the course of no very long time in a condition to become a proprietor instead of a tenant, and made arrangement for the purchase of a lot

in Shipton, where Mr. Malvina *may now be found*, worth not less than £3,000, besides his own worth as a respectable man.

CASE 3.—Mr. Hugh M'Cafferty, from Ireland, 7 or 8 years since, was very poor—he found his way out to Eaton and settled upon a lot with a very small clearing, in the East of the town, then quite in the bush, although he has now a good forty foot road passing his door to the new settlements in Bury : on his first settlement here he went out to labour, *returning occasionally with a load of potatoes* (the only food for his family) *on his back, which he had to carry several miles*, and after preparing firewood and doing other 'chores' about the house, started again to his labour, far from his family, again to return to them with their provision (potatoes) on his back. M'Cafferty is a sober, civil; well behaved, industrious man—he has now a span of horses, a waggon, a yoke of oxen, plenty of pigs—he has five or six children who are always decently and tidily clothed, and do great credit to their industrious mother.—M'Cafferty has lately bought a lot in the rear, is doing well and is the neatest farmer in the neighbourhood.

In the fall of 1838 several Scotch families arrived at Quebec and were sent forward to the Township of Bury ; it was towards the close of October when they reached the spot intended for their location. The weather was particularly disagreeable, wet and cold ; and, combined with other circumstances, I think it is scarcely possible, that any settlers have at any time heretofore, or ever will hereafter, commence their first labors in an American wilderness under greater or more numerous disadvantages. A gentleman who had formerly been resident in

the neighbourhood from whence these people had lately come, accompanied them to the place of their destination ; he had been sufficiently long in this country to have a practical knowledge of the necessary operations in effecting a first settlement—he assisted and instructed them in cutting, notching, and laying up the logs for the walls of their huts, splitting and dressing shingles, covering in the huts, and many other useful points in woodcraft. *They were totally destitute of money and provisions.*—The Commissioner of the British American Land Company caused them to be supplied with tools, and a quantity of oatmeal for their subsistence ; and I can undertake to say, that, except when any of them were away from the settlement, *none of them for many months tasted food of any kind, except oatmeal and potatoes*, and a little milk sent from the nearest neighbours, occasionally. By the liberality of some Scotch gentlemen in Montreal, they were supplied with sugar kettles, with which they made a small quantity of sugar in the spring of 1839, and afterwards used them to make black salts, which may be termed the currency of the back country, and with which they obtained some few necessaries. To sum up in brief the result of the labours of these people, in the course of *a couple of years*, having gathered in two harvests:—I passed through the settlement in the autumn last year ; I found the poorest among them had at least five acres clear, and one cow,—most of them had two, some of them three cows ; and two of them a yoke of oxen each. I saw some sheep, and numerous pigs. Some of the grown up young men, who had married since they went to the bush, and others who were looking forward to that happy state, had taken fresh lots, and



were vigorously making further inroads on the dense forest, leaving the first clearing to the old folks, and their younger people. These people, at the end of *a couple of years*, had decidedly ceased to be properly classed under the denomination of poor men. The debt incurred for oatmeal in 1838 was in great part liquidated in 1839 and 1840. Their improvements and stock, *considered as capital*, are worth very considerably more than the remainder of their debt, including the amount charged for their land. They are now decidedly in a thriving way, and may be visited by any person desirous of ascertaining the correctness of this statement, and of having the satisfaction of witnessing the results of successful industry.

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#### NOTE E.

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BOARD OF EMIGRATION, &c.

A great deal has been said, and I think very foolishly, concerning some grand system of Emigration to be carried into effect by the Government at home. I say foolishly, because Emigration, to be beneficial, on a scale at least at all commensurate with the important end in view, must be general; and, to be either, must be voluntary. Whereas, whatever the Government attempted to do towards the promotion of this object, would, in the eyes of that class from which we receive the most numerous and valuable portion, have the semblance of compulsion, and thus its purpose would be defeated, as the people will not submit to be, what they consider, *driven* out of the country; but to be *led*, they have, by no means, the same objections.

Whatever, therefore, can be done to promote this desirable object, must be done in this country ; and it would appear, from one of the first public acts of our present Governor, that he entertains the same opinion ; I refer to the appointment of Dr. Rolph, from whose talents and exertions important results are anticipated. But something more is surely necessary,—some efficient plan on a large and liberal scale, for the immediate provision and location of the crowds expected during the approaching season ; and this, I conceive, can only be effectually accomplished by a Board of Emigration, composed of plain practical men, well acquainted with the feelings and prejudices of the Emigrant, and fully empowered to *settle* him at once, in such a manner as would evidently be for his advantage.

To this end a sufficient fund should be placed by the Provincial Government under proper and necessary precautions, at the disposal of such Board for the purpose of intersecting new Townships with good roads, not to the extent of 150 miles according to the present mode of laying out a township 9 miles by 12, but 48 comprising 4 roads from front to rear, upon which all the lots except the front would abut, which would not only bring such lands to immediate sale, but would induce a higher and more respectable class to purchase them, by which means the greatest and most important obstacle in the way of carrying such a plan into successful operation, would be effected, viz, the refunding of the money. Another beneficial effect would accrue from my scheme. The making of such roads, which in all cases ought to be of plank, would afford employment for the poor labouring emigrant, and enable him also to pay at least one instalment upon his land, as in no case he ought to get it free.

Many facts have come under my observation, which would illustrate my meaning and give weight to my suggestions. I will therefore submit one of them to the consideration of the intelligent reader.

A half pay officer bought a block of land of 5000 acres in the 10th and 11th concessions of a Township in my neighbourhood for 1s 3d an acre, while the lands in the 9th, 8th, &c., brought an increase of price at the Government sales in the ratio of their approach to the front, while those in the 2d concession were sold for 10s, and in the 1st, which a good road intersected for from 5 to 6 dollars an acre, according to their quality.

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#### NOTE F.

In case any Emigrants should agree with the very flattering opinion expressed by the Quebec Mercury, that these memoirs would be a valuable present to their friends at home, who may be desirous of coming to this country. I here subjoin, for their information a few practical remarks, as directions, which they would do well to attend to, on taking their departure.

Let them take their passage to Quebec or Montreal, it matters not which, provided there be a difference in the charge, of five per cent, as that would take them from the former to the latter town.

If they find their own provisions for the voyage; (say for one) let him take a couple of loaves of bread, 60 lbs. of well cured bacon or hams, as many of biscuit, 10 lbs. of cheese, 1 lb. of tea, 8 lbs. of sugar, 30 or 40 lbs. of oatmeal, 20 lbs. of salt butter, a bushel and a half of potatoes, two or three dozen eggs, and a leg of fresh mutton, or a small portion of other fresh meat, which he may

consume while good, and above all a good deal chest, and take care to keep it locked. A few bottles of ale or porter, he would also find a great luxury.

This is for a single man. With a wife and family, he may reckon upon about half the quantity more for each of the rest, even although they may all be nearly grown up, as a wife, in such cases, would manage things better and make the provisions go farther.

He ought also to provide himself with a good cod line or two, with hooks, with which he can in general, add materially to his stock of provisions on the Banks, where vessels generally lay to, for a short time, for the purpose of fishing. When I came out, we lay to but 17 minutes, in which time, I caught three, one weighing 39 lbs.

He must choose a good tight vessel, and enter, in his agreement with the Captain, to be supplied with 3 quarts of good fresh water a day.

The next thing he will want, if a single man, will be a mattress, a couple of blankets, and a coverlet, and let him take care that they are good. The mattress filled with curled hair, and it will serve as a bed for him for years after he gets to his destination.

If any of his provisions should be left, after he lands, let him take them also with him wherever he goes, and they will be a great saving to him.

Whatever money he may have, let him take it to some bank which will give him a letter of credit on some bank or merchant in Quebec or Montreal, keeping, however, a few sovereigns in case of contingencies.

When he arrives here, whatever doubts and fears and misgivings he may have, and I can assure him he will have many, all he has to do, is to call at the Offices.

of the Emigrant Agents, and he will receive every assistance in his difficulties, and all the instruction and advice necessary for his guidance afterwards, or, he may apply to J. H. Kerr, Esq. of Quebec, who is not connected with any Company, or with the Government, and he will gratuitously receive every information which Mr. Kerr's long experience and extensive knowledge enable him so well to bestow. Or when in the country, if he have no private friend with whom to advise, let him apply to the clergyman, if there be one, or, if not, to the minister of any dissenting congregation, who will give him all the information he may require, and upon which he can depend.

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## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO EMIGRANTS.

### No. I.

In the course of these memoirs I have given such information to Emigrants, possessing a capital of £300 sterling, as will enable them, with prudence and good management, to accomplish this object, viz., a comfortable competency. To those who have larger means it is only necessary to observe, that they can do all that I have done, and more, in much less time. But, as those who have less, say £100 sterling, may feel that their circumstances have not been taken into consideration sufficiently to form even the ground plan of that substantial and matter of fact edifice which they perceive, on their arrival in the country, they *can* erect upon the ruins of those air built castles they had formed on the commencement of their pilgrimage, I would propose the following mode of laying it out :

£100 sterling, at the present rate of exchange, will amount to something more than £120 currency.

A farm of 150 acres may be purchased, one-fourth cleared, with a small house and barn upon it for £150, £25 down, and £25 a year with interest, until all be paid, thus :

## DR.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To first payment for farm, say April 1, . . .				25	0	0
To Stove, Kitchen and Dairy Utensils, and some little Furniture, . . . . .				12	0	0
To Provisions for a man and his wife, be- sides milk and butter from his cows, for half a year, . . . . .				7	5	0
To Seed, Grain and Potatoes, . . . . .				5	2	0
To a Yoke of light Oxen and Yoke, . . . . .				14	10	0
To half a ton of Hay for them, 2Qs. and Pro- vender 20s. . . . .				2	0	0
To Ox Cart and wheels £5, Plough £3, Harrow 20s. . . . .				9	0	0
To Sled 15s, two Chains 30s, 2 Cows £10, 4 Sheep £2, . . . . .				14	5	0
To Axe 10s, 2 Hoes 7s, Spade and Shovel 7s, Dung and Hay Fork 5s, . . . . .				1	9	0
To 2 Rakes 3s, 2 Sickles 2s, Cradle and Sythe 15s, . . . . .				1	0	0
To 2 other Sythes 15s 6d, a few Carpen- ters' tools, flails, &c. 15s, . . . . .				1	10	6
To 2 Shoats 30s, 3 Pigs 15s, Poultry 10s, Garden Seeds 5s, . . . . .				3	0	0
To a Man's wages, 1 month in Summer, and board, . . . . .				3	15	0
To ditto in Autumn, 2 months, . . . . .				4	10	0
To sundry trifles and contingencies. . . . .				2	10	0
				<hr/>		
				£106	16	6

To amount brought forward, . . . . . 106 16 6  
 CR.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Cash, £100 Stg. say Currency, . . . . .	120	0	0			
By Proceeds from two Cows, besides consumption, . . . . .	3	10	0			
By sale of 150 bushels of Potatoes, at 1s 6d,	11	5	0			
By do. 7 bushels of Wheat for seed, at 6s,	2	2	0			
By do. 10 cwt. of Oat Meal, at 15s, . . .	7	10	0			
By do. 20 bushels Indian Corn, at 4s. . .	4	0	0			
By remainder of produce, feeding Pig, Provender, Provisions, &c. . . . .	0	0	0			
Balance in hand, . . . . .				41	10	6
				<hr/>		
	£148	7	0	148	7	0

## SECOND YEAR.

DR.

To second payment on Farm with interest,	32	10	0
To another Cow £5, 4 young Pigs 20s, 2 additional Sheep 20s, . . . . .	7	0	0
To Grass, Turnip and Garden Seeds, . . . .	1	5	0
To Wages, 3 months in Summer, and 2 in Winter, . . . . .	10	15	0
To Kettle to make Salts, Sugar, Soap, &c.	1	10	0
To another Axe 10s. Sundries 20s. . . . .	1	10	0
	<hr/>		
	54	10	0

CR.

By Balance on hand from last year, . . . . .	41	10	6
By sale of Produce, besides consumption, Seed, &c. . . . .	43	10	0
Balance on hand carried down to Cr.	30	10	6
	<hr/>		
	£85	0	6
	85	0	6

## THIRD YEAR.

## DR.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To third instalment for farm,.....				31	10	0
To a Man's wages during Summer and Winter,.....				19	0	0
To Doctors' Bill 35s, Shoemakers' and Tailors' Bills 70s,.....				5	5	0
To Subscription for building a School House				1	0	0
To a pair of Horses, £25, Harness £7,....				32	0	0
To a pair of wheels for a Waggon, with Ox Wheels,.....				4	10	0
To Waggon Body 20s, Horse Sled 25s, box for ditto, 15s,.....				3	0	0
To Blacksmiths' Bill 50s, Sundries 25s,....				3	15	0
				<u>£100</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

## CR.

By Balance on hand from last year,.....	30	10	6			
By sale of Grain and Potatoes,.....	68	0	0			
By do Butter 85s, Pork 75s, Onions 30s,	9	10	0			
By do of Oxen, Stall-fed through Winter	20	0	0			
By do of 9 cwt. Black Salts at 15s,....	6	15	0			
By do of a Fat Calf 20s, and two Fat Sheep 17s 6d,.....	2	15	0			
Balance on hand carried down,...				37	10	6
	<u>137</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>

## DR.

Fourth year's Instalment with interest,.....	29	10	0
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Leaving a balance of £8 15s in hand to carry on the farm during the spring ; but it is unnecessary to carry the account further ; indeed I cannot do so without anticipating the real history of the person from which it has been taken, who has now a good stock of cattle, with his clearing doubled, and every prospect of good crops, besides a stack of hay of 10 tons, remaining over from last year, and only two more instalments to pay on his farm, when he will build himself a new house, in which to enjoy a comfortable competency for the remainder of his life.



## No. II.

Table shewing the price of conveyance to Quebec from the different parts mentioned below, in the cabin with all necessaries except bedding, and in the intermediate and steerage, the passengers to provide themselves with every thing.

To Quebec.	Cabin.	Intermediate.	Steerage.
From London,	£20	£5	£4
Liverpool,	18	3	2
Leith,	12		2 10
Greenock,	15	4	3
Dublin,	11		2 5
Belfast,	14		2 5
Londonderry,	12		2 10
Sligo,	10		2 15
Limerick,	14		2 10
Cork,	14		2 10

*List of the Government Emigration Agents in the United Kingdom.*

Lieut. LEAN, R.N., London, (Office, East Smithfield.)  
 Lieut. HENRY, R.N., Liverpool, (Office, 33, Union-street.)  
 Lieut. FORREST, R.N., Leith.  
 Lieut. HEMMANS, R.N., Greenock.  
 Lieut. HODDER, R.N., Dublin.  
 Lieut. FRIEND, R.N., Cork.  
 Lieut. STARKE, R.N., Belfast.  
 Mr. LYNCH, R.N., Limerick.  
 Lieut. SHUTTLEWORTH, R.N., Sligo.  
 Lieut. RAMSAY, R.N., Londonderry.

These officers act under the immediate directions of the

Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and the following is a summary of their duties :—

They correspond with any magistrates, clergymen, parish officers, or others who may apply to them for information as to the facilities for emigration from their respective stations. They procure, and give gratuitously, information as to the sailing of ships, and means of accommodation for emigrants ; and whenever applied to for that purpose, they see that all agreements between ship-owners, agents, or masters, and intending emigrants are duly performed. They also see that the provisions of the Passengers' Act are strictly complied with, viz., that passenger-vessels are sea-worthy, that they have on board a sufficient supply of provisions, water, medicines, &c., and that they sail with proper punctuality.

They attend personally at their offices on every week day, and generally they afford, gratuitously, all the assistance in their power to protect intending emigrants against fraud and imposition, and to obtain redress where oppression or injury has been practised on them.

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*Government Emigration Agents in Canada.*

<i>Montreal</i> , .	{	A. C. BUCHANAN, Esq., Chief Agent for Eastern (Lower) Canada.
	{	JAMES ALLISON, Esq.
<i>Bytown</i> , . . .		GEORGE BURKE, Esq.
<i>Toronto</i> , . . .		DR. D. R. BRADLEY.
<i>Kingslon</i> , .	{	A. B. HAWKE, Esq., Chief Agent for Western (Upper) Canada.

## No. III.

TABLE showing the difference of Mean Temperature in Lower and Upper Canada, during one year, and the number of Fine and Wet or Snowy days—from Mr. Evans' Work on Agriculture.

	LOWER CANADA.				
	Max.	Min.	Mean	Fine Days.	Rain or Snow.
For the months June, } July, and August. }	99.33	58.83	77.57	75	17
Winter Months . . .	38.66	24.32	11.25	..	21 Snow.
For the Year . . . .	65.25	11.75	42.1	309	56
	UPPER CANADA.				
	Max.	Min.	Mean.	Fine Days.	Rain or Snow.
For the months June, } July, and August, }	99.66	57.33	7.37	76	16
Winter Months . . .	46.33	4.67	22.49	..	34 Snow.
For the Year . . . .	73.8	25.72	48.37	276	89

## No. IV.

CAUTION TO EMIGRANTS AGAINST REFUSING  
OFFERS OF GOOD WAGES,

The following is an Extract of a Report from the Chief Immigration Agent at Quebec, to the Governor General of Canada, dated 31st July, 1841.

“The most important measure is, first to endeavour to undeceive the emigrants in the very erroneous ideas which they almost all entertain as to the remuneration which they will receive for their labour on arrival in this country. Instances occur almost daily of persons who, in their own country (Ireland,) were glad to work for 10d. to 1s. per day, refusing employment here at 3s., and they do not consider that for the first season, until they become acquainted with the labour of the country, their services are worth little more than one-half to the farmer. Many, to my certain knowledge, have been offered advantageous engagements in this neighbourhood, but refused permanent employment, preferring to proceed in hopes of better wages, but in which very many are disappointed.

“Wages for agricultural labour in the Eastern Townships, and in almost every section of the western division of the province, are higher than in the neighbourhood of Montreal: six to seven dollars per month is as much as farmers will or can afford to give to newly arrived emigrants, with board and lodging. Good hands, after a year or so of residence, will generally command from 10 to 12 dollars, and found. Labourers who board themselves receive here from 12 to 15 dollars per month. Day labourers always get 2s 6d to 3s. and at this season oftener the latter than the former, but if they possess the

means of proceeding further, they will seldom work for this.

“It is most desirable to impress on the intending emigrant the necessity of their being in possession of sufficient means to enable them to proceed to where a demand for their labour exists, and it is extremely difficult, I may say impossible, when from 2000 to 3000, and in some instances 5000 people arrive here in a week, (as was the case this season for several weeks in succession) that employment can immediately be found for all who stand in need.

“Facilities have occurred this season which were not formerly to be obtained in the neighbourhood of this city (Quebec) and Montreal, viz., immediate employment to all classes of emigrants on the public works and road improvements. This, however, cannot be relied on in future beyond another season.”

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#### No. V.

Currency.  
£. s. d.

On arriving at Quebec, the Emigrant should on no account leave the vessel, unless it be to go with the long-boat direct with his luggage to the steamer for Montreal; and not unfrequently the steamer comes alongside the Emigrant ship, and thus facilitates the re-embarkation of the Emigrant. The captain of the ship can easily arrange this with the steamer. Very little difficulty is experienced by the Emigrant at Quebec—a few hours suffice to provide his family with the necessaries of life, if his supplies are run out. The Steamboat goes up the river to Montreal in about 24 hours, a distance of 180 miles. The charge for deck passengers is 7s 6d, and no charge is made for luggage..... 0 7 6  
The fare is reduced, when there is any competition, to

5s., and less. Next year it may be reduced much more, as new steamers are preparing for this route. The Emigrant, before going on board the steamer, should boil as much pork or beef as will serve him for a day or two, which he can do before leaving the ship; in a few minutes he can procure fresh bread; and if he has a large tin tea-pot, with a few tins, he can with ease get hot water in the steamer to make some tea, to refresh the members of his family on the way up. On his arrival at Montreal he should, with as little delay as possible, get his luggage transported to the barges of the forwarding company. He will find many carters in readiness for this purpose, and must take care not to be imposed upon by them; 1s. 6d. should be sufficient to take all his things to the station of the barges. Here the fare is, from Montreal to Bytown, per adult, 8s. Allowance for luggage, 1 cwt. or 1½ cwt., free; ..... 0 1 6  
and for any quantity over and above this, 2s. per cwt. The barges\* arrive at Bytown about 72 hours after leaving Montreal. The same barges continue through to Kingston. The fare from Bytown to Kingston is, per adult, 10s.; same allowance of luggage as above, and 2s. 6d. for each cwt. extra: add 1s. per day for meals from Quebec to Bytown, say 8 days, ..... 0 8 0  
When the Emigrant gets on board the barge at Montreal, his luggage need not be moved until he reaches Kingston. He will find utensils for cooking, and the female part of his family will find shelter in the cabin of the vessel.  
The barges there take seven or eight hours in getting through the locks, and getting up to Grenville. On the way, the Emigrant can buy a few potatoes from the farmers on the canal. The prices of provisions do not vary from Montreal to Kingston; potatoes 1s 6d and

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\* There are now several small steamers which go the whole distance, and in much less time. These are more comfortable, and charges the same.

2s per bushel; pork 5d. to 7d per lb.; butter 8d to 10d; flour 2½d to 3d per lb.; tea 4s per lb.; sugar 7d per lb.; eggs 6d per dozen; butchers' meat 3½d per lb. All these articles are easily procured on the way. From Grenville to Bytown is 68 miles, and the barges are towed by a steamer, and reach in about 15 hours. On their arrival at Bytown the barges have again to pass through the locks, which causes a detention of some hours. The passage from Bytown to Kingston is rather tedious; but as it affords to the Emigrant various opportunities of seeing the country, and many of engaging as farm servants, he should not look upon it as altogether lost time. Indeed at any of those stopping places he can locate himself whether with a capital, or without one as advantageously as any where else, and perhaps more so.

A great error is committed by the Emigrant in asking exorbitant wages on his arrival; he should content himself at first with from 6 to 7 dollars a month with board, which is all he can expect for the first year.— See No. 4. Many Emigrants on arrival at Quebec and Montreal, have not the means to carry them forward, but they find no difficulty in getting work about the coves at Quebec, and are very soon enabled to lay up sufficient to carry them up the country. They should on no account remain in Quebec or Montreal during winter, as they will assuredly have much privation and hardship to contend with. However high the wages may be in the busy season, the winter presents to them a barren field.

At Kingston there are steamers for Toronto, distant 170 miles, and for Hamilton, at the head of Lake Ontario, distant from Kingston 210 miles. The time occupied at Toronto is 24 hours; the deck fare is usually 7s. 6d. Last season it was only 5s. for each adult, exclusive of provisions. Two children under 14 years of age are charged as one passenger. The distance from Quebec to Toronto is 606 miles; time occupied in performing it last season about 10 days, and the total expense for each adult, including provisions, is, including 2 days' provisions from Kingston to Toronto,.....

0 7 6

0 2 0

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 £2 4 6

## No. VI.

Mr. Widder, one of the Commissioners of the Canada Company, has furnished the following statement with reference to tillage, which he states he procured from a very intelligent and respectable yeoman, settled in the London District, Upper Canada :—

Cost of clearing 10 acres of heavy timbered land, in the usual Canadian fashion, with an estimate of the crops to be produced therefrom during the first three years after clearing :—

## UPPER CANADA.

	FIRST YEAR.			<i>Dr.</i>			<i>Cr.</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Chopping, clearing, and fencing 10 acres, so as to leave it fit for the drag, at £4 per acre, . . .	40	0	0						
Seed, 1½ bushel wheat to the acre, say 15 bushels, at 5s. . . . .		3	15	0					
Sowing and dragging, at 5s. per acre, . . . . .		2	10	0					
Harvesting, at 7s. 6d. per acre, . . . . .		3	15	0					
The value of the straw, tailing wheat hulls, &c. on the farm, are supposed to be equal to the thrashing and cartage to the barn.									
To timothy and clover seed, at 2s. 6d. per acre, . . . . .	1	5	0						
Cr. By 20 bushels wheat per acre—200 bush- els, at 3s. 9d. . . . .							37	10	0
SECOND YEAR.									
Mowing and taking off hay, at 7s. 6d. per acre, . . . . .		3	15	0					
Cr. By 1½ ton per acre of hay, at 6 dollars per ton, . . . . .							22	10	0
THIRD YEAR.									
To mowing and taking off the hay, at 7s. 6d. per acre, . . . . .		3	15	0					
Cr. By 1½ ton hay per acre, at 6 dollars per ton, . . . . .							22	10	0
							<hr/>		
Balance in clear profit, . . . . .	23	15	0				82	10	0
							<hr/>		
	£82	10	0				82	10	0
							<hr/>		



THE SAME, FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE IN LOWER  
CANADA.

	FIRST YEAR.			<i>Dr</i>			<i>Cr.</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Chopping, clearing, and fencing 10 acres, so as to leave it fit for the drag, at £3 per acre,	30	0	0						
Seed, 1 1-10 bushel wheat to the acre, say 11 bushels, at 6s. 6d.....				3	11	6			
Sowing and dragging, at 2s. 6d. per acre,....				1	5	0			
Harvesting, at 5s. per acre,.....				2	10	0			
The value of the straw, tailing wheat hulls, &c. on the farm, are supposed to be equal to the thrashing and cartage to the barn.									
To timothy and clover seed, at 2s. 6d. per acre,.....				1	5	0			
Cr. By 16½ bushels wheat per acre—200 bushels, at 5s.....							41	5	0

SECOND YEAR.

Mowing and taking off hay, at 7s. 6d. per acre,.....	3	15	0			
Cr. By 1½ ton per acre of hay, at 6 dollars per ton,.....				22	10	0

THIRD YEAR.

To mowing and taking off the hay, at 7s. 6d. per acre,.....	3	15	0			
Cr. By 1½ ton hay per acre, at 6 dollars per ton,.....				22	10	0
	46	1	6	86	5	0
Balance in clear profit,..	40	3	6			
	£86	5	0	£86	5	0

FINIS.



THE PASSENGER ACT.

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The following is an abridgment of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners' Bill, adopted by Lord Stanley, for the amendment and enlargement of the existing Passengers' Act:

1.—The first clause repeals former acts, 5 and 6 William IV. c. 53, and 3 and 4 Victoria, c. 21.

2.—The number of passengers to be carried in each vessel is limited; vessels proceeding from the United Kingdom or the Channel Islands to any place out of Europe, not being within the Mediterranean sea, shall carry no more than one passenger for every two tons of the registered tonnage. In the lower deck or platform ten clear superficial feet are to be allowed for each passenger; or if the ship pass within the tropics, the voyage not being computed at more than twelve weeks, twelve feet are to be allowed; at more than twelve weeks, fifteen feet. One passenger may be carried under the poop for every thirty passengers. The master incurs a penalty of £5 for every passenger in excess of the proper number.

3.—Every ship must have a lower deck or platform above or level with the top of the lower beams, properly secured to them, of an inch and a half in thickness.

4.—There must be a height of at least six feet between the upper and lower decks.

5.—There must be only two tiers of berths; the lower 6 inches from the deck.

6.—A supply of no less than three quarts of water

must be issued to each passenger per day, and seven pounds of bread-stuffs per week ; of the latter, one third may consist of potatoes, reckoned at the rate of five pounds for one of bread stuffs. No ship to be cleared out without having on board sufficient supplies of provisions and water.

7.—Regulations for securing the supply of water and for its preservation on the voyage.

8.—The length of the voyages is to be computed according to the following rule : to North America, 10 weeks ; West Coast of Africa, 12 weeks ; Cape of Good Hope or the Falkland Islands, 15 weeks ; Mauritius, 18 weeks ; Western Australia, 20 weeks ; other Australian colonies, 22 weeks ; New Zealand, 24 weeks.

9.—Two children under 14 years of age, to be reckoned as one adult person.

10.—The Emigration Agent at the port where the vessel leaves, or in the absence of such a functionary, the officers of the customs are to examine the provisions and water as to quantity and quality, and the allotment of space ; and to ascertain that there is an ample supply of water and stores for the crew of the ship or other persons on board, over and above what is provided for the passengers.

12.—Every ship of 150 and under 250 tons must carry two boats ; under 500 tons three boats ; more than that four boats.

13.—Masters to carry two copies of the act, open to the perusal of the passengers.

14.—With every ship carrying 100 passengers a medical practitioner is to sail ; in every ship carrying a

smaller number, medicines of sufficient amount and of proper kind to be carried.

15.—Spirits are not to be laden on board by way of stores, except for the master and crew and cabin passengers, or as medical comforts; but the sale of spirits to any passenger during the voyage is absolutely prohibited, under a penalty of not less than £50 nor more than £200.

16.—The masters are to keep a list of passengers according to a given form, to be countersigned by the officers of customs at the port of clearance, and deposited with the officers of customs or consul at the port of discharge.

17.—A like list is to be kept of additional passengers, who may be taken on board during the voyage.

18.—Written receipts for passage-money to any place in North America are to be given to steerage passengers, according to a given form, under a penalty of £2.

19.—Passage-brokers contracting for passages to North America are to be licensed by justices in the petty or quarter sessions of their district; and will incur a penalty of £10 for every passage contracted without a license.

20.—All brokers who contract for a passage without due authority from the parties to whom the vessel belongs, incur a penalty not exceeding £5; with the liability on the part of the licensed broker to have the license taken away.

21.—If a contract for passage is broken, the aggrieved parties, unless maintained at the expense of the contractor, shall recover the amount of passage-money, with a sum not exceeding £5 for each passage, by way of compensation.

22.—In case vessels are detained beyond the appointed day of departure, lodgings and rations are to be provided for each passenger, or he is to be allowed 1s. a day as subsistence money.

23.—At the close of the voyage, persons are to be entitled to remain on board for forty-eight hours after the arrival in port, and are to be provided for in the same manner as during the voyage; unless in the ulterior prosecution of her voyage, any such ship shall quit any such port or place within the said period of 48 hours.

24.—The master of the vessel is to afford every facility to the proper officers for the inspection of the ship.

25.—This clause enumerates many of the foregoing regulations, to the breach of which special penalties have not been affixed, and enforces them under a penalty of not less than £5, nor more than £50.

26.—The right is reserved to passengers to proceed at law for any breach of contract.

27.—The mode of recovering penalties is directed.

28.—Owners or charterers and masters of vessels carrying more than fifty passengers are to enter into a bond, without stamp, for the due performance of the regulations prescribed by the Act.

29.—Vessels not carrying more than twenty passengers, and ships in the service of the Admiralty or East India Company, ships of war, or transports, are exempted from the operations of this Act.

30.—The Act is extended to the carriage of passengers by sea from any of the British West Indies (in which terms are included the British West India Islands, the Bahamas, and British Guiana,) from Malta, British possessions on the west coast of Africa, and from Mauritius, or to any other place whatsoever.

31.—Governors of colonies not already enumerated, may adopt this Act by proclamation.

32.—Those Governors are empowered to declare the computed length of voyages from their own colony to any other place for the purposes of the Act; but short voyages of less than three weeks are reserved for particular enactment below.

33.—The Governor may substitute different articles of provisions from those specified in the Act.

34.—The proclamation is to be transmitted to the Queen in Council for confirmation or disallowance, but until disallowed, it is to be in force.

35.—Governors are to possess the powers vested in customs' officers for determining the seaworthiness of vessels.

36.—Bonds are not required in respect of voyages from colonies.

37.—And such voyages are exempted from the regulations as to the keeping copies of the Act, the form of receipts for passage money, the licensing of passage-brokers, the return of passage-money and compensation, and the payment of subsistence-money.

38.—With these exceptions, the Act is extended to voyages from the West Indies of less than three weeks' but not less than three days' duration, except as relates to the construction or thickness of the lower deck, the height between decks, the surgeon and medicine chests, and the maintenance of passengers for forty-eight hours. In such short voyages from the West Indies the owner or charterer may contract with passengers to provide themselves with food, not including water; but nevertheless the proper officer must ascertain that the passengers have provided an adequate quantity of food.

39.—Governors of colonies others than the West Indies may adopt these regulations respecting short voyages.

40.—This Act is not to prevent local Legislatures in the ~~West Indies~~ <sup>Islands</sup>, the Bahama Islands, and Bermuda, or the Queen in Council, from establishing necessary rules and regulations, unless counter to the provisions of the Act.

41.—The Governor-General of India is empowered to extend the Act, from time to time, to any ports or places within his jurisdiction.

42.—Foreign vessels engaged in any voyages specified in the Act are to be subject to its provisions.

43.—The term “passengers” in the Act is not held to include *cabin* passengers.

44.—In all proceedings it shall be sufficient to cite the Act by the title of “The Passengers’ Act.”