

EMIGRATION.

EXTRACTS

FROM

VARIOUS WRITERS ON EMIGRATION,

WITH

AUTHENTIC COPIES

OF

LETTERS FROM EMIGRANTS

FROM

NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, AND SUSSEX,

NOW SETTLED

IN UPPER CANADA,

CONTAINING

USEFUL INFORMATION

RESPECTING THAT COUNTRY.

BACON AND KINNEBROOK, PRINTERS, NORWICH.

INTRODUCTION.

It naturally occurs, when the condition and prospects of the working classes in one country sink beneath what they are in another, that all who can remove from the worse to the better, wish to do so. Now Great Britain is at present in the condition of a country where a great portion of the wealthy are very wealthy, and the middle orders at once larger in number and better in condition than in any other quarter of the world, yet the poor are very poor, poorly fed and clothed, and totally without hope, if they marry, of withholding their offspring from the same misery. The population of the country is yearly increasing, and even among the middle orders (the great bulwark and strength of the nation) but too many it is to be lamented are rapidly sinking into a state of pauperism; it may indeed be said, in the deeply touching language of Scripture, "the nation is multiplied, but the joy is not increased." The only remedy appears to be in flight. At this moment there are several countries at no great distance, to which the distressed workman may remove, with a reasonable prospect of bettering his condition; and of these it is the purpose of the following extracts to give some account. Although there are three regions of the earth to which the attention of emigrants is chiefly directed, viz. Canada and the other British settlements in North America, the United States, which many prefer and which hold out nearly similar advantages, and the British colonies in New South Wales and Van Dieman's Land--the following observations will be confined entirely to the Canadas, as on many accounts they appear at present to be most desirable for British emigrants.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

NORTH America, of which Canada is a part, lies at the distance of 3000 miles west from Great Britain, on the opposite side of the Atlantic ocean. This vast continent is must larger than Europe, measuring 4376 miles in length from north to south, and 3000 miles across from east to west. The more southerly civilized portion of North America consists of the United States, governed as an independent republic ; the more northerly part, with some islands, is in the possession of Great Britain, and comprehends the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, &c.

The population of these extensive colonies amounts to a million and a half of souls. The line of division betwixt the British possessions and the United States, is either the river St. Lawrence, and the lakes from whence it proceeds, or an ideal and partly contested boundary. Canada extends chiefly from 61 to 81 degrees of west longitude, and from 42 to 52 degrees of north latitude, and measuring about 1390 miles in length from east to west. The population is estimated at 700,000. Canada is politically divided into the two provinces of Upper and Lower Canada. A Legislative Council and an Assembly are appointed for each, having power to make laws, with consent of the governor. These local governments resemble, in miniature, that of the mother country, to whose supreme rule the whole are subject. In Lower Canada, or that portion next the sea coast, the greater part of the population is of French descent (this having originally been a French colony) : the laws resemble those of France, and the Roman Catholic religion is established.

Upper Canada, or more properly Inner Canada, lies to the west and south-west of the lower province. Its inhabitants are of British descent. The English law and church are here established ; but there is no ~~tax~~ for the clergy, and there is the most perfect liberty of conscience, and as great security of life and property as in England. Upper Canada is divided into districts, counties,

ridings, townships, special tracts, and allotments; together with blocks of land reserved for the clergy and the crown, and lands appropriated to the Indians.

A district contains two or three counties, and each county contains from four to 30 townships. There are 11 districts, 26 counties, and six ridings, comprehending together 273 townships. The line of division betwixt Upper and Lower Canada is on one part of the Ottawa or Grand River; nearly all the other lines of division in the provinces are straight, without regard to physical distinction, such as hills and rivers; and this peculiarity is common over the whole of North America. The average territory of each township may be estimated at 61,600 acres, making an aggregate quantity of 16,816,800 acres. About 7,000,000 of acres have been granted to different classes of settlers; 4,805,400 acres are reserved for the crown and the clergy (part of which has already been granted by the crown to the Canada company), and 5,011,400 acres remain to be granted within the townships. This extent of country chiefly bordering the north shore of the river St. Lawrence to Lake Ontario, the southern side of that lake and of Lake Erie up to Lake St. Clair, and of the communication between it and Lake Huron, a distance little short of 570 miles, and stretching northward from the water to an extent varying from 50 to 80 miles, is composed of a soil which for production, richness, variety, and applicability to the highest purposes of agriculture, may challenge competition with the choicest tracts of land in the new world.

Upper Canada is chiefly a flat country, and is for the greater part covered with timber, but possesses a number of chains or ridges of high lands running in different directions, and separating the sources and channels of innumerable rivers and brooks. The higher and level districts are called table lands. The great feature of this country is its water courses. By looking at the map, it will be perceived that there is a series of large lakes communicating with each other; these are unequalled by any inland sheets of water in the world, and are entitled to the appellation of fresh water seas, for they are not only of great extent, but are liable to be affected by storms like the ocean itself. The uppermost, called Lake Superior, is 381 miles long and 161 broad; Lake Huron, 218 miles long and from 60 to 180 miles broad; Erie 231 miles long and about 70 in breadth; Ontario, 171 miles in length and 60 in breadth. The accumulated waters of these lakes from the river St. Lawrence, which is one of the largest streams

in the world, and which after a course of 2000 miles falls into the Atlantic. This majestic river is 90 miles wide at its mouth, and is navigable for ships of the line for 400 miles from the ocean. In its upper parts its navigation is impeded by rapids, or the rushing of the stream down an inclined plane; but some of these impediments are obviated by means of canals, recently cut; wherefore there is now a continued water communication for vessels from the Atlantic into the interior, or innermost lakes. The St. Lawrence has a tendency northward in its course, therefore the further up its banks, the more mild does the climate become.

CLIMATE AND PRODUCTIONS.

It will prove both important and interesting to persons who have any intention of emigrating to Upper Canada, to have some knowledge regarding the climate of the country. On this subject Howison gives the following account:—

The nature of the climate is a consideration of the greatest importance to all those who propose to remove to a foreign country, and deservedly so, for a malignant atmosphere exerts an influence over the mind and body which it is impossible to evade. But he who takes up his residence in Upper Canada runs no risk of suffering in this way. The climate, in the western part of the province particularly, is alike healthful and agreeable. In winter, the thermometer occasionally stands several degrees below zero, but this intense cold seldom continues more than three or four days at a time, and is by no means unpleasant. The temperature, during January and February, may in the generality of seasons average 15 degrees Fahrenheit. The snow usually lies six or seven weeks; but the time of course varies according to the quantity that falls. While it remains upon the ground, the carriage called a sleigh or cariole (which is too generally known to require description) is exclusively used, and forms a delightful mode of conveyance, one pair of horses being able to draw several persons 50 or 60 miles in the course of a day without much fatigue. Often, for some weeks in winter, the sky continues bright and cloudless; and though the air is intensely keen, yet its bracing and exhilarating effects enable one to bear the cold without any inconvenience. At these times the public roads are crowded with sleighs, and the farmer conveying his produce to market, the wood-cutter hauling wood,

the quack doctor, the merchant driving for pleasure, and the jogging traveller, all meet the eye in varying succession.

Spring commences in March, but the early part of this season is seldom agreeable, being damp, tempestuous, and rainy, and occasionally very cold. Towards the end of April the ground becomes dry, vegetation commences, the fields afford a little pasture to the cattle. In May the earth is covered with verdure; and if the weather is genial and warm, the buds of the trees expand with astonishing rapidity, while the forests exhibit an innumerable variety of hues, all resplendently bright and exquisitely pure.

In June the orchards are in full blow, and a transparent atmosphere and cloudless sky prevail from the rising to the setting of the sun. During July and August, however, the heat becomes so intense, that it is unpleasant to leave the house, or take the least exercise; and mosquitoes abound wherever there are woods, which prove a torment to those who are exposed to their attack. The heat in the course of the summer has several times been found to exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade; but it usually averages from 82 to 90 degrees.

The autumns of Upper Canada very much resemble those of Britain. October is usually a delightful dry month, with mild days and clear frosty nights. The early part of November is generally characterised by a peculiar state of the weather, which the Canadians term Indian summer. The atmosphere has a haziness and smokiness which makes distant objects appear indistinct and undefined, and a halo often encircles the sun. At the same time a genial warmth prevails, and there is seldom any wind. The Indian summer is so delightful that one would almost suppose the country where it takes place to be transported for a season to some celestial clime, where the elements ever existed in harmony and acted in unison.

The climate of Upper Canada has not yet attained that salubrity and purity which will eventually characterize it. Thick forests cover nine-tenths of the inhabited parts of the province, and these by preventing the evaporation of water from the surface of the earth, produce marshes, swamps, and collections of water, which in their turn generate mists, chilly winds, and agues. When the woods are cleared away, the air, although perhaps colder, will be even more dry than it is at present. The lakes will then attract the clouds towards their surface, and Upper Canada will seldom be exposed to heavy falls of rain or violent storms of snow.

I have already mentioned (he continues) that the soil and climate of the province are very favourable to the growth of fruit. The cultivation of orchards, however, has hitherto been almost entirely neglected. The kinds of fruit most common in the country are not well chosen, and they appear to degenerate from want of care and attention. Wild grapes grow abundantly in the forests, and would, I believe, by proper culture, become equal in size and flavour to the garden grape, and also fit for making wine. Hickory nuts, walnuts, butter-nuts, plums, wild strawberries, cranberries, &c. are found in profusion almost every where, and might all of course be improved in value and quality by suitable cultivation.

The soil of Upper Canada is in general excellent, and likewise of easy cultivation. Wheat is the grain that is raised in greatest quantity. A bushel and a half of seed is generally allowed for an acre, and the return averages from 25 to 35 bushels. Buck-wheat is also cultivated, to a considerable extent, and an acre yields about fifteen bushels. Rye succeeds well, the crop being generally 20 bushels an acre. Oats are very indifferent, and much inferior to those raised in Europe, being small and light in the grain, and comparatively not nutritious. An acre yields on an average from 30 to 40 bushels. Barley is but little known in Upper Canada; however, it would appear that the seasons are rather too warm and dry to be favourable to its growth. Indian corn is much cultivated in the western parts of the province, and yields largely, if it is not injured or destroyed by late frosts. Potatoes succeed well in most soils, but are much inferior in quality to those produced in Britain. Turnips also form a profitable crop, and are used to feed live stock during winter; but the vegetable best adapted for this purpose is the squash or gourd, which affords an abundant crop, is much liked by the cattle, and never communicates any unpleasant flavour to the milk of the cows, as turnips invariably do.

But while examining this general estimate of the returns made by different crops, it must be recollected that in Upper Canada the land is scarcely ever made to produce nearly as much as it would do, were it under judicious cultivation. The Canadian farmers have no system in their agricultural operations, or in the management of their lands, and they prepare the soil for the reception of the seed very imperfectly. These circumstances are generally the result of ignorance, but often arise from a want of capital, and a difficulty of procuring labourers to

assist them in the business of the farm. Were an enlightened English farmer to subject a portion of the best lands in Upper Canada to the British system of agriculture, making of course those deviations which the climate, soil, and other circumstances might render necessary, he would raise crops infinitely superior, alike in quantity and quality, to those that are generally yielded at present throughout the province.

The question of most importance as regards emigration, seems to be that referring to the description of persons who ought preferably to take the great step of leaving their native country. This is a point of great moment, and should be well weighed by intending emigrants, for it is obvious that success will in a great measure depend upon previous habits and occupations. "The persons who may be inclined to emigrate to Upper Canada (says Howison) are of three different descriptions, viz. the poor peasant or day labourer, the man of small income and increasing family, the man possessing some capital and wishing to employ it to advantage.

Persons of the first class never would repent if they emigrated to Upper Canada, for they could hardly fail to improve their circumstances and condition. The poorest individual, if he acts prudently and is industrious, and has a common share of good fortune, will be able to acquire an independence in the space of four or five years. He will then have plenty to eat and drink, a warm house to reside in, and no taxes to pay; and this state of things surely forms a delightful contrast with those hardships and privations which are at present the lot of the labouring population of Great Britain.

It is evident that some descriptions of emigrants will succeed better in Upper Canada than others. Those who have been accustomed to a country life and country labour, are of course more fitted to cultivate land and endure the hardships at first attendant upon a residence in the woods, than manufacturers, whose constitutions and habits of life are somewhat unfavourable to the successful pursuit of agriculture. But every individual, who to youth and health joins perseverance and industry, will eventually prosper. Mechanics cannot fail to do well in Upper Canada; for when not employed in clearing lands, they will find it easy to gain a little

money by working at their professions ; and they likewise have the advantage of being able to improve their dwelling-houses and repair their farming utensils, at no expence. Weavers being ignorant of country affairs, and unaccustomed to bodily exertion, make but indifferent settlers at first, and their trade is of no use to them whatever in the woods. Married persons are always more comfortable and succeed sooner in Canada than single men, for a wife and family, so far from being a burden there, always prove sources of wealth. The wife of a new settler has many domestic duties to perform ; and children, if at all grown up, are useful in various ways."

Every candid traveller in Canada concurs in these views. " Of this I think (says Fergusson) there can be no doubt, that either the moderate capitalist, or the frugal, sober, and industrious labourer or artizan, cannot fail of success. *Fortunes* will not be rapidly or even readily acquired, but it must be the settler's own fault if he does not enjoy, in large abundance, every solid comfort and enjoyment of life, and rear around his table even a *forest* of ' olive plants,' without one anxious thought regarding their future destination or provision."

LETTERS.

From Mr. John Freeman, residing at Goderich, to Mr. Wm. Dove, Leiston, near Saxmundham, Suffolk, dated 21st June, 1832.

Goderich, Lake Huron, Upper Canada, 21st June, 1832.

DEAR COUSIN WILLIAM,

I shall be happy to give you all the information I possibly can, in reply to your letter which I received the 19th inst. You wish for a description of this country. This new country, as you may suppose, is covered with trees as thick as they can stand—quite a forest. There are plenty of deer, but no venomous animals to hurt any one. There are no rattle snakes here, and no vipers, excepting what is called a garter snake, which is very harmless indeed. Wolves are to be heard howling in the woods, and we have the black bear also travelling there, and if they can, they will

take away pigs; if they see any of us they will take themselves away; they are more afraid of us than we are of them. I know not one thing to make us afraid. We are troubled this month with musquitoes, I think they are small gnats, but let not a gnat frighten us.

We had a long winter, which lasted four months, the snow was two feet in depth; it was beautiful sleighing. Winter is a good time for farmers to take their grain to market, and is also the best time to clear the land.

Dear William, when I arrived here, this country had not the same appearance as it bears now. Where I now live, it was all a wood, and there was no road; now there is a beautiful large opening intended for a market house and public buildings, and also a good road to York Town, six rods wide. There is an opening of eight acres for a market place, it is in the shape of an octagon.

I have sold my house on the market square, by which I cleared upwards of one hundred dollars. If you were to offer me the sum of one thousand pounds to live again in England, it would not in the least tempt me. I intend giving up my carpentering trade in November next, and working wholly upon my farm, as I have an excellent farm lot of 163 acres. I shall have three acres of wheat in ready for harvest. Clearing and fencing of three acres cost me only fifty dollars. If all is well, I shall have ten or twelve acres more for next spring. If I clear ten acres every year, I shall soon have a good large farm. I shall not build a good house the first year, only a shanty, about 16 feet by 20 feet, which is built with logs and covered in with bark, which makes it very comfortable. It is built in one day by making a "*Bee*," viz. all neighbours come and help us for one day.

My trade is very good here, I and my brother Thomas have earned 24 dollars in one week, and I should wonder and murmur if we did not make 18 dollars per week. We do not always stick to work, for sometimes we are called away to "*Bees*." Lazy men can do themselves no good here; pray advise no lazy men to come, for I hate to see a lazy fellow. We in general get cash for work. When I work for the Canada Company, I take half cash, and the other half I set off towards paying for my land. Land is sold for 7s. 6d. an acre not cleared. Our money runs 5s. a dollar, four dollars one pound; a sovereign makes 24 shillings here. It is best to bring all sovereigns. If you buy wild land, it will cost 15 or 16 dollars an acre to get it ready for crop. Fencing is included in that sum.

You mention building. You would not like to build a good house at first, it would take so long a time. A shanty will do very well for the first year or two, for it would not do to neglect getting in a crop. When your crop is in, then attend to building as much as you please. I will take the job for you, build you up a good hewed log house, 20 feet by 30 feet, with a good brick chimney, and finish it complete, for one hundred pounds; but you must find bricks. There is a gentleman going to make one hundred thousand bricks on my land this summer, I give him leave to do it, and charge him nothing for "*messing*" on my land.

Men in this country understand clearing land better than your labourers. If you were to bring out labourers with you, they would soon think themselves independent; particularly if they were not lazy men; they would not stay with you long, they would soon work and get 100 acres of land and turn farmers themselves. This is a good thing for industrious men; encourage industrious men all you can.

Wheat is not less than one dollar a bushel, ready money as soon as delivered, and there are merchants to buy all kinds of grain. The price of flour is seven dollars per barrel, of 196 pounds. We sow all the wheat here. Indian corn is hoed in. The land is not ploughed for the first three or four years. We use no horses the first three or four years, excepting for pleasure. Oxen answer the purpose much the best. A yoke of oxen costs 60 dollars. A cow 16 dollars. Our wheat is very poor. Pray oblige me and send me half a peck of good fall wheat, half a peck of spring wheat, half a peck of good barley, and a few good oats. Tell my brother Richard to send me some of all kinds of seeds, which I hope he will not neglect. Send me one ounce of quinine, it is the only thing that will cure the ague and fever (it is extracted from Peruvian bark) be sure you do not come without some, as it is much cheaper in England than here.

Cattle are not much trouble, they keep quite fat all the summer by running in the woods; during the winter they live upon wheat straw; should a person have no straw, they will live well upon the tops of trees, when chopped down. A great many cattle have nothing all the winter but the tops of trees, of which if they have plenty, it will keep them quite fat.

We live upon pork, beef, pigeons, fish, venison, (we had some venison for dinner to day), plenty of eggs, butter, custards, pies, hams, milk, tea, and coffee. We grow our own vegetables. Butter

and cheese are made the same as in England. If a person takes one or two hundred acres of land and goes upon it at once, he needs 100*l.* which sum will supply him and family well, if industrious—they might make out with a less sum, only they would have to work for different people to get such things as they would want. This sum of money would supply them with provisions the first year.

Farming implements are not worth bringing, such as ploughs, for they are not required for three or four years. Bring a set of harrows' teeth, for they are the first article required. Do not bring any axes with you, for we have the best axes here. Bring all light irons that are useful, ropes, &c. and all the tools you have. Bring plenty of bedding, blankets, and clothes; and supply yourself well with all kinds of wearing apparel, shoes, &c. Bring no furniture with you, only what is small, such as a portable writing desk, and a few little things. We use no coal, but burn wood. We burn all the wood off the farm. Where I shall live, is the most respectable neighbourhood on the Huron Tract, and is situated about eleven miles from town. I have given up the land I first took, and have situated myself much better. A stage coach runs past my farm to York Town once a week. Four schooners sail regularly. Goderich will be a good place for trading and farming, much better than Guelph on account of the water. The best way to come here is to come by Quebec, which is a much cheaper passage, and your chests are not searched. The Canada Company have a conveyance from Quebec. If you come by New York, your chests will be searched. The steerage passage is good enough for any one, and you are as safe there as in the cabin. Take on board some flour, sugar, raisins, and some pork lard, one or two dozen eggs, some lemons, a few oranges, some oatmeal, &c. you will find these things very useful during the voyage, and be provided against sickness.

A grist mill would answer and pay well; I believe it would be the best thing a young man could speculate upon, and if I had capital sufficient, Goderich should not long be without a malting house and brewery. Let no young man fear to venture upon this undertaking, for in a few years it would pay for itself. We cannot buy malt under one dollar a bushel at York, and I am sure it would sell here for 1½ dollar. If there be not a malting house erected here within three years or less, I shall build one on my farm. It is what I have been thinking of for some time, and there is no one in Goderich knows any thing about malting, which is a very profitable business. If you think about building a mill or malting, I should not be afraid

to go with you half parts. I could myself erect the frame and complete the building, except a few of the works or machinery, and one millwright could complete any thing of the kind. Should you think of taking this alone, (or any one else) make no delay in letting me know; then I will secure you a good lot of land for the purpose about 200 acres, with a little river running through the centre of the two lots. The lots consist of 100 acres each lot. This is a most excellent place for machinery. Write to me as early as possible, for I am fearful these lots will be taken before I hear from you.

I have endeavoured to answer your letter to the best of my ability, and what I have written I should not be afraid of publishing, for it is truth. When you come to Goderich *bring this letter with you*, then you will need no greater proof of its truth. On the spot its truth will be self demonstrated.

You will oblige me by letting my family peruse this letter; I should have written to them, if you had not particularly requested me to write to you

Your well wisher, &c.

(Signed) JOHN FREEMAN.

TO MR. WILLIAM DOVE,
*Leiston, near Saxmundham,
Suffolk.*

*From Martin Martin, late of Felpham, Sussex, Carpenter,
who emigrated with the Petworth party, under the
patronage of the Earl of Egremont, and sailed from
Portsmouth in the ship Lord Melville, April 11th,
1832, taking with him his wife and six children.*

SIR,

You have, no doubt, expected to hear from me long before this time, but the reason I did not send sooner was, that I had not seen enough of the country. To give you a short description of our voyage, we had a very rough one, continually winds blowing against us so much, that before we arrived at the banks of Newfoundland, we was above 700 miles too far to the south; and on the 2nd May, about half-past four o'clock in the morning, all at a sudden crush, the

whole of the births on the larboard side of the ship fell down, but no one happened to be hurt, but caused a confusion in the ship; this brought the captain to his senses, for he never laid the ship to till this happened; but from this time, till the next morning, she was laid to under a close reefed main top sail. But I hope what I have said about this will not dishearten any one from crossing the Atlantic, for I assure you that I had so much confidence in a ship, that I would give the preference to travelling by water.

We were just eight weeks from Portsmouth harbour till we arrived at Montreal, which town is a large, flourishing, and very fast improving place; immense quantities of merchandize exported and imported to and from this place. We staid there a few days, and then we started in the boat for York in Upper Canada, which we reached in about a week. This passage is a very difficult one, on account of the different rapids in the river St. Lawrence; and whoever should come this way to America, I should advise them to travel by land from Montreal to Prescott, and wait there for their luggage; and from Prescott to York there is steam boats which will take luggage and passengers in about a day and a half. But this land travelling will not do for a poor person. The expence from Montreal to York for one passenger, which is 450 miles, 19s. 6d. I arrived at York, the capital of Upper Canada, and was much surprised to see such a large town: the trade, and the many great shops of all sorts, is quite equal to Chichester, but the town I think is larger, some of the streets $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length; there I stayed about a week, but did not like to settle there. I again set off in the steam boat for Hamilton, which is quite at the west end of Lake Ontario, and this is also a flourishing place, but a small town: here you will see the farmers come riding in and out of this place with as good breed of horses as in England. I staid here six weeks, travelling by land from Hamilton to Guelph, where I may perhaps settle; and I made it my business as I went along to make all enquiries about land, and its price and quality, &c. &c. I went through several different townships, and the farther I got to the west, the better is the land. You may always judge the depth of mould where the trees are blown down. The present price of land in the township of Guelph is $3\frac{1}{2}$ dollars or 17s. 6d. currency; in the township of Nicholl is three dollars and better land; in Woolwich township four dollars; in the township of Garrafraxa is two dollars an acre; in the township of Wilmot is $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars an acre; and in the Huron Tract is $1\frac{1}{2}$ dollars. This

land is not so difficult to clear as you might suppose, as the trees all grow up very straight, and there is no bushes grow amongst the trees. The way of clearing the land is, they chop, with a very superior sort of axe, off the tree about three feet above ground; as soon as 'tis dry they burn it, leaving the stumps still standing on the land, which will rot in about six years; and when they have burnt the brush wood and the logs they spread the ashes. They sow the land with wheat, and the produce is from 25 to 35 bushels, which now sells for a dollar a bushel; and this first crop generally clears the whole expence of buying and clearing and burning. Suppose you say the purchase to be three dollars; the price of chopping, burning, and fencing, is from 12 to 14 dollars, so that your land will not cost you when chopped, more than four pounds per acre; and when harvest comes, there is your money again. Here is no expence of ploughing the land the first nor the second year; they harrow the seed in for the first 2 crops. Oxen is mostly used for this, because they are more steady than horses. A yoke of oxen is worth from 50 to 70 dollars; a horse about 100 dollars; a cow about 20 dollars. Mutton and beef is about 3½d. per lb. English money, butter 7½, sugar the same, tea is 4s per lb. Whisky is mostly the drink. The whole of the taxes for 100 acres is about a dollar a year, but no poor's rates, nor any other taxes to a farmer. Here is all sorts of farming implements suitable to the country, from the spade to thrashing machine, as well as the fanning ditto. And for about five gallons of whisky you can get a loghouse built; this is done by what they call a "*Logging Bee*." When you have cut your logs, you invite all your neighbours round you to a certain distance, and they will raise the house in one day, rearing high, but you must roof it yourself, which is covered with shingle, and when finished, looks like slate; all this you can get on your own land. Mr. Heming has bought 365 acres in this township, with some improvements on it, and he is next week a going to have his "*Logging Bee*," and I am just a going to finish the inside of his house, such as sashes and doors. And you would be surprised to see what a quantity of respectable people daily a coming and settling, some buying 700, some 1000 acres of land. Here is a tailor that came from Oxfordshire, that brought £600; he has 600 acres of land, 60 cleared; he has a capital framed barn, and a good

dwelling house, and out houses—in short, his premises are very complete. Here is plenty of work for labourers, at about a dollar a day; and will be while there is so many settlers coming out; and no labouring man need to be afraid to come, when he gets to York, Captain Fitzgibbon will forward them to Hamilton; but almost all the labourers get farms; and I have never seen any body in distress since I have been in the country. There is a great many people that goes to the United States, but that is not so well for a farmer, the taxes are so much higher, I believe I may say as much as eight to one more than it is here; but for all that, provisions is much cheaper there than here; but for a mechanic, the United States is the best, but not so healthy. The climate here in the summer is much the same as in England, but more fine weather; we had about a fortnight's very hot weather in the beginning of July, but not but what we could work as well as you could in the old country; but the winter, from what I can learn from people that has experienced it, it is colder, but not at all unpleasant. I am very much deceived in the idea that I had formed about this country, as you may travel from the east to the west part of the province in tolerable good roads; through towns and villages, and not at all lonesome. Whoever comes to this country, should pack all their luggage that is not wanting in the voyage, in casks; and it is best for poor people to board themselves, and to bring plenty of flour; it will be better than so many biscuits, and plenty of potatoes. Since I have been writing of this, I have heard about the quality of the land in the Huron Tract, which it exceedingly good at $1\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per acre. I think of going to see it. Mr. Huntly, the bearer of this, is waiting for it. I shall write to you again before the winter is over, and let you know what it is. I would thank you to make it known that I intend to fulfil my promise in writing to several friends in Felpham, and its neighbourhood. Here is certainly a good chance for farmers and labourers. The cholera has been very bad in several parts this summer, but it is a little better now. So no more at present, from your obedient servant,

M. MARTIN.

Guelph, Upper Canada, North America.

Sept. 24th, 1832.

P. S.—Mr. Huntly, the bearer of this, has bought a good deal of land in this township, and is going to England to take to a wife. I think that this conveyance will do away with the idea

of letters being intercepted: I know there is several people silly enough to think that all letters are broken up—there is no such thing. Tom Stuart gave me a piece of foreign money to put under his seal when I wrote to him for that purpose—please to tell him I will shortly write to him and Tate at Bognor. I forgot to mention a chance for labourers; as soon as they arrive at York, that is the capital, they may have 50 acres of land at Lake Simcoe, six years to pay for it, nothing the first three years, and sent to the place free of expence, and the price of the land is only a dollar per acre.

TO MR. SPARKS, *Felpham, Sussex.*

*From Wm. Scott, Bricklayer, Hamilton, Gore District,
Upper Canada, to his Father at North Walsham.*

DEAR FATHER,

After a long absence I take the opportunity of writing to you, hoping this will find you all in good health as it leaves me at present—praise the Lord for it. Dear Father, you wonder I suppose that I did not write to you before, I will now explain the reason. We had a very difficult passage over, and when I landed at Quebec I had but 7s. 6d. and that made me very uncomfortable—but praise the Lord he hath given me enough and to spare. I never intended to write but to come—but I did not know when, for I have so much work I do not know what to do—but the coppers come in prettily, which makes me stay here.

I have saved from three hundred and fifty to four hundred pounds. In April 1832 I built a house 40 feet long, 18 feet wide, and 18 feet high, which I have let ever since for 2*l.* 5s. per month English currency, I mean 12 pence to the shilling, and 20s. to the pound. I have two building lots in Hamilton, a quarter of an acre each; the house and one building lot is all paid for. I have also two hundred acres of land, and have cleared thirteen acres; I reaped seven acres of wheat this last August, and three acres of barley and oats. I pay for this land by instalments once a year, and get ten years to pay for it all—it cost 15s. per acre with interest.

Please to remember me to all enquiring friends. Pray let Mr. and Mrs. Slap see this letter, hoping it will find them all in good health.

'This is the country—the Lord blesses the labours of the industrious, temporal and spiritual, for they here reap the full benefit of their labour—we have no tithes or taxes to pay and no poor rates; if a man did but know what good he could do himself here with industry, he would not stay in England—but a lazy man may stay where he is. They come and beg and pray for me to work for them here, and say, there's a good soul, do come; all these nice words I get. I have never done a day's work for less than 7s. 6d. per day, and from that to 25 shillings per day. I am now master for myself, I only worked journeyman one summer, and then I commenced for myself, and have always had plenty of work since. Now I desire my kind love to all my brothers and sisters; I hope to see Adam's face in the spring, and I hope he will not disappoint me, for I can do him some good if he will only come and be ruled by me and take my advice. I do hope he will come if he has to sell his clothes; pray sell them and come, for I am able to buy him more and willing. It will cost him two sovereigns to get from Quebec to me; he will enquire for Burlington Bay at the head of the Lake Ontario, then he will soon see me. I sent a letter to my wife in the month of December, wishing her to come, and I hope she will come with Adam, and I hope I shall see them both in the spring, and that Adam will take good care of her. Do not bring more things than they are forced, for they can get plenty here very cheap; mind and bring plenty of provisions, the best that can be got, for if they are sick they cannot eat the bad bread on board ship; bring plenty of potatoes. If John Willer has a mind to come I think he will not repent, for here is plenty of work and good wages—he may earn as much as he likes.

The climate is rather hotter in summer and colder in winter. You will send me an answer as soon as you can make up your minds, and send me all the particulars about every thing you can think of. Please to send me word where Mr. Rushmore is, for I have never heard from any one since I left Quebec, that is about three years ago; I now begin to long to hear from some one or other; please to hasten on your letters. I hear a very bad account of England of things going very bad; no one can wish for better times than they will find in Canada, for those that mind their business and keep sober, for a drunken man is greatly despised. I would not come back to live again in England if you would give me £500 directly I landed, to be forced to stay, for I can soon save that if I like, and live well too; this is a good country, for

Jack is as good as his master. All trade and profit on goods are two-thirds better than at home; for what you would get 2s. 6d. for there, you would get 7s. 6d. here. I never could get a labourer for less than 3s. 6d. per day, and think yourself well off that you can get him for that, for they are very saucy. I must now bid you all farewell, dear father, brothers, and sisters.

WILLIAM SCOTT, Bricklayer.

Hamilton, Gore District, Upper Canada.

*From William Jex, to Mr. James Basingthwaite, Hun-
worth, Holt, Norfolk, who was sent out principally by
the bounty of the Lady Suffield, of Blickling.*

Cobourg, October 12th, 1833.

SIR,

In pursuance of the promise I made you, I take this opportunity of a person coming over the Atlantic to England to send this by him, and to inform you that we arrived here, at my brother's house, on the 3d day of September, after a long but pleasant passage (I mean so far as no accident occurred to any one and no particular bad weather), and we had all of us our health as usual. I have to inform you that I am at work for my brother, who gives me 3*l.* per month and board; he wishes you could persuade his son Robert to come, in case you send any more people here as he is getting property about him, and not likely to have any other child to leave it to. He sent a letter to his mother sometime ago with an account of what he had got, and that I know to be strictly true; and when he landed at Prescott, he had but 2*l.* in the world; these things speak more for what this country is than any thing else. William Brettingham is now getting 11 dollars per month, Solomon Bays 5 dollars, and Samuel Bays 8 dollars, and all boarded and went to work the first day they landed in Coburgh; and Solomon was engaged in the steam-boat. The dollar here is 5*s.* currency. The young man that brought this letter is but a farmer's labourer, and came out last Spring twelve-month; he is leaving here with 35*l.* in his pocket, to fetch over his wife, and when he landed he had but 2*s.* in his pocket; these are facts that cannot be contradicted, and they speak volumes. Please to give our duty to Mr. Pearson, and tell him that if he

intends coming here, the sooner the better, for land is rising so rapidly that any person with property may double it in four years; the price of land is from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 dollars per acre, according to the quality and situation; the cost of clearing an acre of land is 3*l.* 5*s.* or 3*l.* 10*s.* but the first crop generally pays for it, as the land generally grows 10 coombs per acre, and the only out-goings from it is about 3*d.* per acre to repair the roads. No tithes, no poor's rates; and if a person choose it, he may purchase cleared farms, with house and barns on them. The best wheat here sells for 1*l.* per coomb or a dollar a bushel; that is what my brother is now giving for it, as he buys the wheat and gets it ground, and the miller has 1 bushel in 12 for grinding and dressing. Barley is 4*s.* per bushel, and peas the same; all white here. Beef $3\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* a pound; Pork the same. Apples 1*s.* a bushel; Rum 6*d.* per pint; Brandy 1*s.* 3*d.* but wearing apparel is dear. Pray Sir be so kind as to give our duty to Mr. Funnell, and beg him to transmit our humble thanks to the Right Hon. Lady Suffield, as she has been the means of the happiness and I hope the independence of thirteen of us, who must otherwise have been paupers all our lives. Pray give our respects to all our partners, and tell them if they cannot live there to come here. I remain, with wishes for your welfare and all in the parish, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

WILLIAM JEX.

Extract of a Letter from William Cooper, late residing at Graffham, Sussex, addressed to Mr. James Cooper, of Graffham, and dated Adelaide, Upper Canada, 28th July, 1832.

“I have been very well ever since I left England, we were seven weeks coming to Montreal, and five weeks more coming up to Kettle Creek, I have got 100 acres of land, at two dollars per acre, and one-fourth to be paid for at the end of three years, and the rest in three years more. In English money it comes to £41. 13*s.* 4*d.* in all. Tell my brother James, I saw Richard Carter and his wife, at Little York; they are doing very well, and said this would be a good opportunity for them to come out to this country. I should like for all my brothers to come here, for here is plenty of work, and no doubt but we shall do very well after next harvest.

Edward Boxall and his wife, and William Phillips, from Merston, and we have built us a shantee, and live and work all together on our own land; we have got above two acres cleared, and shall sow six or seven acres of wheat this autumn and more in the spring."

Extract of a Letter from Richard Neal, late of Sutton, Sussex, to his Friends at home, dated Dundas, North America, July 1832.

"I was offered 5s. 6d. per day at Montreal, but I did not wish to stop; we went into the woods and found plenty morels just like them in England, but the people did not know what they were, then we started for Little York, which is about 500 miles further, all by water. When we landed at York, some went one way, some the other, I stopped there. Elias and Joseph Leggett went on with Hutton, 180 miles further; they promised to write to me, but I have had no letter from them, but I saw two men that went up with them; they told me that they both got work from one man, and Sefton Charman's wife's brothers; they have got a good place, 12 dollars a month and their board. A man will get more a month here with his board, than in England without. I have not seen any game here, but there are pheasants, hares, thousands of pigeons, and a few bears, and wolves but a very few; there are a great many cherries in the woods, currants, and gooseberries. I promised to send you the state of the country; I will as well as I can. This is a good country for one thing, the people are all one sort pretty much, their servants live with their masters, and they get good wages. I left York and went to Dundas, and got a job there for an Englishman the name of Pope, he has been here five years, and is doing very well; I have 5s. a day board and lodging, for which I have to take 2s. 6d. a day in store what they call, you must take clothes, shoes, or hats, or any thing that your master work for. I take 15s. a week paid in money. Clothes are very dear here. Any man can earn enough in three days to keep a wife and family a week. Dear father and mother, do not make yourselves uneasy about me, for I am doing very well; bricklayer is a good trade here, and can earn a good deal of money after you

get known. Tell James Clark that I do not persuade him to come over and stay here, but here is plenty of work and good pay."

*Extract of a Letter from George Hill, late a Labourer,
at Sullington, Sussex, dated Ancaster, Upper Canada,
5th August, 1832.*

"We have been here five weeks; I like the country here very much, but my wife don't seem to be quite so well contented yet. I got work the first day I got here, and have had plenty of work ever since. I got six shillings per day (New York currency), which is 3s. 9d. English money, and be boarded. Farmers and labourers all sit at one table here. We got 5s. English money per day in harvest and boarded. I know that a poor man can do a great deal better here than he can at home, he is sure to get plenty of work if he is steady, and he can live cheaper. Puddock and me have rented a very good house at £1 per month English money.

I have bought a cow for £5. and a young sow for 12s. 6d. We work here from sun rise to sun set, but we don't work so hard as we do at home, we rest through the day very often; they are not so particular here about losing a little time as they are at home. Jane (she is 12 years old) is out at service for a year, at 10s. per month, English money. George (aged 10) is with a Mr. Gabriel Gurnett, late from Horsham, Sussex, a Saddler. Dear father and mother, we left you almost broken hearted, but you may be satisfied that we have bettered our condition by coming here."

*Extract of a Letter from Wm. T. Upton, who emigrated
with the Petworth Party; to Mr. G. Warren, Pet-
worth, dated Andross Mills, Niagara District Grand
River, 16th September, 1832.*

"I dare say you have had bad accounts of Canada, from the Petworth Party, for I know that they wrote home in the midst of their trouble in travelling, before they knew what it was, or had time to get situations. I went from York to Hamilton, and after a

week's illness and quite broke down for money, I got a situation at Mr. Kersey's Saw Mills, on the banks of the Grand River, at 12s. 6d. per week, board and lodging. I am the lowest, not [understanding it, the others from 1*l.* to 1*l.* 12s. per week. I enquired at York and Hamilton, Cabinet-makers wages, which is 30s. per week, board and lodging, and plenty of trade to be got. I have been in my place now nine weeks, and what with my wages, and what I have made with them, I am now worth 8*l.* 10s. there is a man of property in nine weeks. if trade is as bad as it was, any one would do better in Canada, for here any one can soon get an independency.

Tell J. Lucas, that his brother Ned and C. Edwards, are living close to me; they get 1*l.* 3d. per week, board and lodging, and are quite steady. Write as soon as possible. I cannot give you a more true account of the price of provisions than Doyle's 'Hints to Emigrants.' There were plenty given to the people about Petworth."

The letters appear to differ in a trifling degree on the subject of the price usually paid for labour; this is accounted for by the circumstance of the writers having settled in different districts, where prices not only of labour but of provisions vary. The following account, from a comparison of all the documents perused on this subject, may be relied upon, as about the average rate in Upper Canada.

WAGES—BOARD NOT FOUND.

Stonemasons earn from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day.

Bricklayers from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. per day, or 12s. 6d. to 15s. per thousand bricks laid.

Brickmakers from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day.

Plasterers 7s. 6d. do.

Carpenters and Joiners 6s. 3d. do.

Cabinetmakers 7s. 6d. do.

Sawyers 7s. 6d. per day, or 7s. 6d. per 100 feet pine, and 8s. 9d. do. oak.

Painters and Glaziers 5s. per day.

Coopers 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. do.

Blacksmiths 5*s.* do.

Labourers and Farm Servants 3s. to 4s. 6d. do.

Do. in harvest time 6s. 3d. do.

Reaping an acre of wheat 12s. 6d.

Cradling do. 6s. 3d.

Mowing hay 5s.

House Servants (Men) 30s. to 50s. per month—Women do. 20s. to 35s.

Extracts from Cattermole "on the Advantages of Emigration to the Canadas," May 1831.

Page 2.—For the purpose of agriculture, the upper province is decidedly preferable, the climate being much milder; however, to go there with any reasonable prospect of success, some capital, or a labouring or mechanical employment, connected with the every-day pursuits and necessities of life, are indispensably required.—*See Titmouse, &c.*

Page 2 and 3.—To persons in the possession of these requisites, and of sober and industrious habits, poverty loses all its terrors, or rather so far as it implies want, it has no existence whatever in that fertile land. I believe there is no place in the known world where individual exertions are so well requited by the bounties of Nature as in Upper Canada; high wages are paid to the labouring classes by such as need and can pay for their services.—*See Neal, Hill, Philips, Elliott, Martin, and Stedman.*

Page 4.—One serious drawback, however, to all these advantages must not be concealed; it is an evil of that magnitude that it cannot be too strongly animadverted upon—I mean drunkenness, by yielding to which the transition from decent sober men, to the opposite extreme, is effected in that country with a celerity much to be deplored, and I am fearful this degrading and destructive vice will continue, while ardent spirits are sold at the cheap rate they now are. Such as are already addicted to this vice, or who distrust their power to resist its temptation, I would seriously advise to stay at home; the land teems with slaves to this profanation of all the moral and intellectual powers of mankind. This remark applies both to Canada and the United States. A further reason for advising all who think of the Canadas, to go direct to the Upper Province, is, that Lower Canada is too hot in summer and cold in winter to suit the general habits and constitution of English emigrants.

Page 9.—The western part of Upper Canada is decidedly the finest portion of British America that I have seen, particularly along the sides of Dundas Street, for 30 or 40 miles on both sides of the road; it is also particularly fine about Ancaster, Dundas, Hamilton, up to Brantford, Flambro-west, and all the way up, to the township of Guelph, being well cultivated, affording good society, and tolerable roads; all this extensive tract of country will produce wheat crops, I think better in quality, and more abundant than the opposite shores of Ohio and Michigan, and is not behind Pennsylvania in productiveness, although a much older state, the land in Canada lying rather higher above the lake.—*See Goutcher, Hewing, Rapson, &c.*

Page 10.—Deer abound in the woods; all persons capable and willing to hunt them do so, there being no game laws.—*See Cooper, Bozall, &c.*

Page 15.—The Newcastle, Home, Gore, and London districts, from the easy access of communication now opened with the other parts of the province, are rapidly settling, and from the climate being milder, and the soil much superior in the western parts of the province, it is greatly to the advantage of emigrants to settle to the west of York.—*See Martin.*

*Extracts from Statistical Sketches of Upper Canada, by
a Backwoodsman.*

Page 6.—Who then are to go to Canada? In the first place, all who cannot comfortably support themselves by their labour at home; because let a man be ever so poor in this country, his wages as a labourer will more than support his family—and if he be prudent and sober, he may in a short time save money enough to purchase for himself a farm, and if he has a family, so much the better, as children are the best *stock* a farmer can possess, the labour of a child seven years old being considered worth his maintenance and education, and the wages of a boy of 12 or 14 years of age, being higher than those of a stout and skilful ploughman in most parts of Great Britain, generally from three to four dollars a month, with bed, board, and washing besides. At home they talk of ‘a poor man with a large family;’ but such a phrase in Canada would be a con-

tradition of terms; for a man here, who has a large family, must under ordinary circumstances soon cease to be a poor man.—*See Titmouse, Neal, Smart, &c.*

Page 7.—Mechanics and artizans of almost all descriptions—millwrights, blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, bricklayers, tailors, shoemakers, tanners, millers, and all the ordinary trades that are required in an agricultural, and partially shipowning, and commercial country, will do well to come to Canada.—*See Neal, &c.*

Page 8.—Of these trades the blacksmith, tailor, shoemaker, and tanner are the best. If there were in nature (which is doubtful) such a being as a sober blacksmith, he might make a fortune.—*See Philips, &c.*

Page 17.—Emigrants would find their account in bringing out small quantities of seeds, particularly those of the rarer grasses, as lucern, trefoil, &c. for if they did not need such articles themselves, they would find plenty who would buy them at a high price. To these may be added some small parcels of potatoe oats, and of the large black out of the south of Ireland, for seed, as that grain if not renewed degenerates into something little better than chaff in the course of time.—*See Boxall, Heming, &c.*

Page 21.—If you have no money to throw away, and wish to have snug quarters for yourself and family next winter, you will not stay one hour in Quebec, or in any other town longer than you can possibly avoid, but get your luggage on board the Montreal steamboat, and be off, if possible, in ten minutes after anchor has been let go; for by daudling about Quebec, Montreal, and Kingston, you will spend more money and lose more time, than, if properly employed, might have lodged and fed yourself and family, during the first and worst year of your residence in the new world.

The foregoing documents, together with other authentic reports of the favourable state of the British North American Colonies for the settlement of emigrants, have induced Lord Suffield to offer some pecuniary assistance to such persons as may wish to settle in Canada, and who are now resident on his Lordship's property in the capacity of labourers in agriculture, artizans, &c.

The aid to be given by Lord Suffield will depend in a considerable degree upon the interest his Lordship may have in the property of the respective parishes to which such persons may belong.

Should any considerable number of persons be desirous of emigrating under the patronage of Lord Suffield, a vessel will be engaged to convey them to Quebec or Montreal—and a superintendent, who will accompany the ship to see that every thing necessary for the comfort and convenience of the passenger is provided, will then proceed up to the head of Lake Ontario, and land the different parties at York, or any other intermediate port that might be desired.

If, therefore, any persons are desirous of availing themselves of Lord Suffield's proffered assistance, application must be made on or before the 25th day of March next, to Mr. H. Smith, at Gunton, from whom all particulars may be had, as it is not his Lordship's intention to engage a ship, unless the number of applications should be considerable.

28th February, 1834.