

SKETCH
OF THE PRESENT STATE
OF
CANADA.



DRAWN UP EXPRESSLY FOR THIS WORK

BY

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1823.

A SKETCH, &c.

THE geographical position of this vast country may be thus generally stated — It is bounded on the East by the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and Labrador * ; — on the North, by the Territories of Hudson's Bay ; — on the West, by the Pacific Ocean ; on the South, by unexplored Indian countries ; and part of the United States of America, viz. *Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, the District of Maine,* and by the British Province of New Brunswick.

These boundaries describe a large and magnificent portion of the globe we inhabit ; large enough for the foundation of an Empire which may become hereafter the arbitress of the destinies of the new world, embracing with her mighty arms the whole width of the great continent of America — Secured in her rear by the frozen regions of the north, and with such a front as she possesses towards the south, it is impossible but, with the adoption of wise and decisive measures, she must be able hereafter to hold a far more imperious sway, in regard to the countries of the south, than was ever held by the Tartars (in their best days) over Asia ; or, by the northern hordes of Europe, over the Empire of Rome, at the period of the overthrow of the then mistress of the world. The *foundation stone* of this Empire has been laid by the Queen of the Ocean, and it depends on the prudence and wisdom of *her* councils, and on the loyalty, ambition, temper, skill, industry, bravery, high qualities, and perseverance of Canadians, no matter of what origin, how far the fairy vision which is kindled up in fancy, may be realised. But this is not a time, nor a place, for the indulgence of reverie, however splendid or enticing, and we must be content with present realities. — To the contemplation of these realities, forming altogether so promising an embryo, let us proceed.

We have only to cast our eyes transiently over a map of North America to be immediately assured of the singularly advantageous situation of the settled parts of Upper Canada. — Seated like a gem in the bosom of a country that is neither scorched by the sultry summers of the south, nor blasted by the tardy, bitter-biting, winters of the north ; surrounded by the most magnificent Lakes, and possessing the most extensive internal navigation in the known world, it would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to find, in any other region of the globe, a tract of country of the same magnitude with so many natural advantages, as that part of Upper Canada which lies

* *Labrador* has been strangely annexed (in 1809) to the Government of *Newfoundland*, though the sea will continue to roll through the straits of *Bellisle* in despite of artificial arrangements, and unnatural connexions.

between the Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Huron, and the Ottawas, or Grand River, nine tenths of the whole extent of which are calculated for almost every description of agricultural labour, with such a prospect of success as, perhaps, no other part of this continent could realize.—A part of this tract of country, commencing in the neighbourhood of Kingston, and running westward nearly 500 miles to the Sandwich frontier, by a depth, northward, of from 40 to 100 miles, is, *alone*, capable of supplying all Europe with grain of every description; besides being rich in cattle; and producing silver, lead, copper, iron, lime, marble, gypsum, marble, free stone, coal, salt, wool, hemp and flax (of the best quality.) tobacco, and timber of every description; besides furs, game, fish, and many other valuable productions.*

Much has been said, at a distance, against the climate of this fine country. Those, however, who have removed to it from Great Britain are agreeably disappointed in finding it more pleasant, (because not so moist and unsettled) than that which they have left. It might be said, with no great impropriety, that the present † inhabitants of Canada have but two seasons,—Summer and Winter,—for Winter has no sooner disappeared, which generally happens by the middle of April, than the whole animal and vegetable creation starts into renewed life with a rapidity and vigor that leaves the season of spring with such doubtful limits as to be scarcely perceptible, or deserving a specific character; again, in the fall of the year, the months of September and October are generally so fine and summer like, and these being succeeded by what is so aptly termed the *Indian Summer*, in November, (that month which is so gloomy in England, and said to be so fatal to Englishmen) that we should have great difficulty, were it not for an artificial calendar, in saying when it was Autumn.‡

To convey a more just and certain idea of the severity of an Upper Canadian Winter, it may be well to mention that the chain of shallow Lakes which run in an easterly and south-easterly direction from Lake Simcoe, towards the Midland District, are seldom or never frozen so hard as to bear a man with any heavy burthen with much safety until about Christmas; and they are again

* It must be understood that we are always speaking of the settled parts of Upper Canada, unless especially mentioned to the contrary.

† We say *present*, because we have no doubt of a further amelioration of climate as the woods are cleared away and the waters diminish.

‡ In the Western District, the culture of both Cotton and Indigo has been attempted, on a small scale, with success; and Vineyards and Hop gardens may be laid out advantageously in almost any part of the Upper Province.

open before the middle of April. Owing to the want of a proper explanation by travellers, and others, attempting to describe this country, an erroneous idea has been formed in England that our Great Lakes are frozen over in winter; whereas they are always open, frequently exhibiting a beautiful and striking phenomenon during the inclement season, by reason of the water being warmer than the atmospherical air; in consequence of which, an evaporation resembling steam, and in every variety of shape, in clouds, columns, and pyramids, may be frequently observed ascending with uncommon grandeur and magnificence from the vast surfaces of Ontario, Erie, Huron, and Superior, as from so many immense boiling caldrons. We recollect an eminent landscape-painter and designer in England, who, when about to design a landscape, was accustomed to seat himself in an armed chair, in the centre of a large room, and, by means of tobacco and a pipe, send forth column after column of tobacco-smoke, in rapid succession, with a view of assisting his imagination in the combination of forms by noticing the new and singular and grotesque shapes into which the smoke would embody itself.—Those artists who may require aids of this description, would do well to secure some eminence overlooking one of the great Lakes just enumerated, whereon to build an observatory; for, nothing can be more grand than the spectacle to which we have alluded.

It is the small, and nearly stagnant, bays, and for a few yards only from the shores, where the water is shallow, that any part of the Great Lakes is frozen in winter. The earth too, is seldom frozen at a greater depth than from 12 to 18 inches, and the snow rarely lies in greater depth than from 18 inches to two feet, unless where it is drifted. It is very seldom the roads are in any permanent condition for the use of the *Sleigh* or *Carriole* before the second week in *January*, and they are again broken up towards the end of *March*, a fact which sufficiently indicates the duration of snow, and of sharp frosts. It is proper, however, to remark, that the winters of Lower Canada, (being in a higher latitude) are both more severe and of longer duration. There is a difference of at least one month in the length of the inclement season at Quebec; and on the shores of Lake Ontario, and farther westward, to the Sandwich frontier, this favourable difference is still greater. In Upper Canada a labouring man, if he chooses, can at all times work out of doors; but, in the Lower Province there are days of particular severity, in the winter season, in which it would be impossible for him to pursue out doors work.

There are natural phenomena in the climate of CANADA which remain unaccounted for, and are sufficiently puzzling even to the most philosophical genius. Of these, the *Indian Summer*, which almost uniformly commences and terminates in the month of November; and the *terrian intervals* of fine weather, throughout the

winter, after two or three nights of intense frost, deserve to be particularly mentioned.

The *Indian Summer*, as it is termed, consists of many days, (the Indians say there *must be fifteen smoky days* to constitute one of these summers,) of delightfully mild, serene weather, with a misty, hazy atmosphere, though the haze is dry and soft, appearing to rest chiefly on the horizon.—In the evening of these days, the sun generally goes down with a crimson flush on the western heavens. The general temperature of the atmosphere, during this season, is singularly grateful to animal sensation; and, those of the feathered tribes who are directed by an infallible guide to seek other regions more to the southward, on the approach of hoary-headed winter, avail themselves of this charming season for the prosecution of their interesting journey; and it is at this time the rivers and lakes of Canada are covered by innumerable flocks of wild fowl of every species known to this quarter of the world, gathering with their families for winter quarters.

By what is termed *tertian intervals* of fine weather, through the winter season, is meant a very extraordinary and certain phenomenon that may be relied upon with the same surety as the diurnal motion of the planets. The greatest intensity of frost is *always remittant* at the end of the *third day*; that is, the inhabitants of Upper Canada never suffer the extreme severity of their climate for more than two or three days at any one time; being perfectly assured, on feeling any extreme degree of cold, that it will mitigate within three days, and that several days of mild weather will succeed.—It may require several years of attentive observation to ascertain the number and duration of the intervals of mild or severe weather that usually occur in a Canadian winter between the 43d and 49th degrees of North Latitude; but it would prove a subject of very interesting and instructive inquiry to any gentleman of sufficient leisure to pursue it in the country.

So many persons have been deterred from emigrating to CANADA through a false notion of its climate being frightfully severe, that it seems to be a duty incumbent on those who speak or write for the instruction of others at a distance, to endeavour to remove the erroneous impression. Those who arrive from Europe, and settle in Upper Canada, uniformly express their satisfaction at the change, in this particular, at least. There is generally a clearness, dryness, and brilliancy in the atmosphere, so captivating, after the catarrhal moisture which saturates the air of northern Europe, that it is impossible for the newly inducted emigrant not to rejoice in the change—whilst the starry hosts of heaven appear with a splendor far more dazzling than any thing he has before seen, and the mode of travelling in winter in carriages or sleighs, the easiest and most delightful in the world, gives him ready access to distant markets, whether of business or pleasure.

It may be readily supposed that in such a vast extent of country every description of soil, and every variety of surface, as to mountains, hills, vallies, and plains, must occur. Speaking of the inhabited parts of Canada, the Lower Province is the most mountainous, and the Upper Province the most level and champaign; indeed, from the division line on Lake St. Francis to Sandwich, a distance of nearly six hundred miles, nothing like a mountain occurs, although nearly the whole extent of country passed through, between those places, is gently undulated into pleasing hills, fine slopes, and fertile vallies. There is, however, a ridge of rocky and generally barren country, running north-easterly, and south-westerly, through the Newcastle and Midland Districts, towards the Ottawas, or Grand River, at the distance of from 50 to 100 miles from the northern shore of Lake Ontario, and the course of the River St. Lawrence; a ridge which divides and directs the course of innumerable streams, those on one side running to the northward, whilst those on the other run to the southward, and empty themselves into Lake Ontario or the River St. Lawrence.—This ridge has an elevation of not less than 100 feet above the level of Ontario, and is rich in *Silver, Lead, Copper, and Iron.* *

Farther to the north, beyond the French River, which falls into Lake Huron, are immense mountains, some of them of vast and unknown degrees of elevation. Many of the mountains which describe the great vally of the St. Lawrence, are from 3000 to 4000 feet, above the level of the river; and that part of the chain which approaches the City of Quebec, on the northern side of the river, is worthy the attention of geologists and mineralogists, in a particular manner, from the hope there is every reason to entertain that these mountains yield several rare, and valuable, kinds of earth for pigments, which may hereafter become articles of commerce.—When in Quebec, in the year 1816, the writer of this *Sketch* was shewn several fine specimens, in the Seminary of that City, which had been procured in these mountains at no great distance from Quebec; amongst which may be mentioned a rich brown, resembling the *Vandyke brown* of artists; a yellow, equal to that of *Naples*; and an extraordinary fine blue, of a tint between that of *Indigo* and the costly *Ultra marine*. The subject is mentioned in this place with a view of exciting further inquiry, and experiment; because, at present, the artists and colourmen of London are principally supplied with their most valuable pigments

* Passing this ridge, towards the north, the explorer descends into a wide and rich valley of great extent; which is again bounded on the north by a rocky and mountainous country of still higher elevation.

from Italy.—But, as the object of this little sketch is to give the stranger a general idea of the nature of that part of the country in which we are writing, we must go back to the soil of Upper Canada, and speak of its quality; which, in its wild or uncultivated state, may be known by the species, and fine growth, of the timber with which it is covered.

The best lands are those which produce the *hardest* timber, such as *Oak, Maple, Beech, and Elm, Black Walnut, &c.* though *Bass-Wood*, when of luxuriant growth, is also an indication of good land; and so is *Pine*, where it is large, clean, tall, and thrifty.—Many of the *Cedar swamps*, where the Cedars are not stunted, and are intermingled with *Ash* of large growth, contain soil of the richest quality, and are calculated for the finest *Hemp grounds* in the world.

It may give a just idea of the general richness of the soil to state, that we have frequently heard of instances where 50 bushels of *Wheat* per acre have been produced on a farm, even where the stumps (which would probably occupy one-eighth of the surface of a field) have not been eradicated; we know, indeed, of some instances where 60 bushels, and one in the Town of York, where *One Hundred Bushels* of *Wheat*, have been obtained from a single acre; and, in the District of Newcastle, many examples may be found wherein *Wheat* has been raised on the same ground, for 16 or 18 years successively, without the application of manure!—The general average of the returns of *Wheat* crops, however, throughout Upper Canada, is not probably, more than 25 bushels *per acre*, owing to the space occupied by stumps, and the indifferent skill of the ordinary farmers. The winter wheats are found to be most productive, and they weigh the heaviest.

Of *Indian Corn* or *Maize*, from 60 to 80 bushels per acre, is not an uncommon return; and of *Pumpkins* of the largest kinds, we have instances of more than a *ton weight* being produced from a single seed.

But there cannot be a more certain indication of the depth and richness of the soil than the fine growth of the timber which it produces; and, we have not unfrequently measured particular trees of that species of *white oak* which grows in low moist places, and which is usually called *swamp oak*, that gave circumferences of 16 to 17, and 18 feet, and an altitude of from 30 to 40 feet to the first bough. And we have more than once, on the rich lands to the northward of *Rice Lake*, found *White Pine* trees that gave a diameter of *five feet*, and altitude of *two hundred*! These are facts that determine at once the depth, richness, and vegetative power of the soil, since these giants of the forest are not nourished by the heavens which they pierce, but by the earth from whence they spring.

Vegetation is so rapid in this country that *Barley* sown the last

week in *July*, has been reaped in the second week of *September*, for several years successively, and on land that was deemed poor and exhausted, and a more abundant crop has been seldom witnessed.

From every observation and experiment that has been made, no doubt can be entertained of the great fertility of this happy soil, not only every vegetable production which thrives in similar latitudes in Europe prosper here; but others, which require either greater heat, or greater care, are found to succeed in CANADA, without any particular attention. The finest *Melons* and *Cucumbers* are brought to perfection in the open fields, and *Tobacco* is cultivated with the greatest success. Even the *wild Grapes* become ripe by the first or second week in *September*; so that there is every reason to believe, if vineyards were cultivated, the inhabitants of this country might add a variety of choice wines to their list of articles of home consumption, and foreign trade. We have drunk of a wine very nearly resembling, and but little inferior to, that of *Oporto*, which was made from the common wild grape of the country.

It is remarkable, throughout this country, that the soil and growth of timber upon the immediate banks of the rivers and lakes is inferior to that of the country farther back; and it appears that all the larger rivers and lakes have a second bank at some distance behind that which at present bounds the waters. This is even the case with the *St. Lawrence* and the *Great Lakes*. On another occasion, when our limits are not so circumscribed as they necessarily are at present, we may venture upon an explanation of these phenomena.

In all newly discovered countries, that are thickly wooded, the navigable waters are the great thoroughfares along which the inhabitants must conduct their business. The first settlements are therefore formed along the banks of the principal rivers and lakes; extending backwards, only by slow degrees, as the lands in front are occupied. In Canada, a remarkable exemplification of this kind of progress has been seen. A long straggling settlement from a hundred and fifty miles below *Quebec*, to *Sandwich*, being a distance of more than a thousand miles, was formed before the people ever thought of penetrating into the interior for any other purpose than that of hunting, or bartering with the *Indians*. Even at this day the most remote settled *Townships*, from the frontier waters, with the exception of the road from *York* to *Penetanguishene*, is not more than from 40 to 60 miles. It is not, therefore, in this country, as it is in the back parts of the *United States*, where an emigrant, purchasing land, has frequently the painful necessity of commencing his establishment at a vast distance from any neighbours. In Canada there is abundance of the most fer

tile land in every variety of situation, in the midst of, or closely adjoining to, active settlements, that may be had from Government on the payment of the undermentioned fees.

50 ACRES,	.	.	.	Gratis.	
100	—	.	.	£ 12	Sterling.
200	—	.	.	30	
300	—	.	.	60	
400	—	.	.	75	
500	—	.	.	125	
600	—	.	.	150	
700	—	.	.	175	
800	—	.	.	200	
900	—	.	.	225	
1000	—	.	.	250	
1100	—	.	.	275	
1200	—	.	.	300	

The Provincial Government have it not in their power to grant more than 1,200 Acres to any single individual without a special order from the Imperial Government of Great Britain. The above fees are payable in three equal instalments; the *first*, on locating the land; the *second*, on the completion of the settlement duty; (for the performance of which a period of two years is allowed.) and the *third* when the Deed is executed, until which time a Location Ticket given by the Surveyor General is held by the occupant.*

The settlement duty required, is to clear and fence five acres on every hundred acres granted; to build a house not less than 16 feet by 20; and, to clear one half of the road in front of each lot: an allowance for road, independent of the full quota granted being left by the Surveyor in every instance; so that no lot is without a public high-way.—On the 21st of February, 1820, His Excellency, the present most exemplary LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR was pleased to direct that the clearing of half the road, and cutting down without clearing, *one chain* in depth from the road, along the front of each lot, should be considered, and admitted, as part of the five acres per hundred; so that, now, there is about 3 1 2 acres of what is called *slashing*, and only 1 1 2 acres of perfect clearance upon each lot required. The present expense of mere settlement duty,

* It must be continually borne in mind that we are to be supposed as *always* speaking of the Upper Province.

if hired, and paid for in money, is about \$25 for every hundred acres.

There is a line of very fine Townships, beautifully watered, running through the Newcastle and Midland Districts, now under survey, that are to be granted on the *old fees*, as ordered in Council on the 5th of January 1819.—These townships are named.

<i>Eldon,</i>	||	<i>Lake,</i>
<i>Enclon,</i>	||	<i>Tudor,</i>
<i>Verrulam,</i>	||	<i>Grimsthorpe,</i>
<i>Harvey,</i>	||	<i>Anglesea,</i>
<i>Douro.</i>	||	<i>Barrie,</i>
<i>Dummer,</i>	||	<i>Clarendon,</i>
<i>Belmont,</i>	||	<i>Palmerston, and</i>
<i>Burleigh.</i>	||	<i>Methuen</i>

and contain about 66 000 Acres, each. The fees payable, on Grants made in any of the above named Townships will be, for

100 ACRES, . . .	£ 5 14 1	<i>Sterling.</i>
200 — — . . .	16 17 6	
300 — — . . .	24 11 7	
400 — — . . .	32 5 8	
500 — — . . .	39 19 9	
600 — — . . .	47 13 10	
700 — — . . .	55 7 11	
800 — — . . .	63 2 0	
900 — — . . .	70 16 1	
1000 — — . . .	78 10 2	
1100 — — . . .	86 4 3	
1200 — — . . .	93 18 4	

Some of these Townships are on the same level with, and others of them are even to the southward of, lands granted long ago; so that the advantages secured by those who may be inclined to settle in these new Townships. (on account of the low fees and the excellent water communication which they possess,) are important. Those of the above Townships which are situated upon the larger Lakes, and upon the river Otonabee, which falls into the Rice Lake, are the most attractive to settlers whose pursuits are those of Agriculture.

Every facility is given to the Settler, who can take the numbers of vacant lots, in any particular Township, and go and judge for himself as to the situation and quality of the land, before he makes his location; so that if he makes an improper choice, he has no one to blame but himself. To save trouble and expense to

the poor emigrants, who arrive in this country for the purpose of settlement, County Land Boards are established in every District where there are any vacant lands belonging to the Crown, for location; and these Land Boards are empowered to grant Tickets for 50, 100, and 200 acres; but not for a larger quantity.—If more than 200 acres is required, the applicant must petition the Land Council at York. The applicant must satisfy the Board that he is not an *Alien*, and he is required to take the Oath of Allegiance.

The New Townships are formed out of recent purchases by Government from the *Indians*, who receive their payments annually, in cloathing ammunition, and such articles as they require. It must be interesting to many readers to see a statement of some of these purchases; the following are the most recent:—

1818, October,	The LAKE HURON purchase, of 1,592,000 Acres,	<i>per Annum.</i> £ 1,200 0
	The MISSISSAUGA purchase, of 648,000 Acres,	522 10
November,	The RICE LAKE purchase of 1,867,200 Acres.	740 0
1819, April,	The LONG WOOD purchase, of 552,100 Acres,	600 0
1820, February,	The MOHAWK purchase, (<i>Midland District.</i>) of 27,000 Acres,	450 0

Being 4,680,390 Acres, at the annual charge of £3,512 10s. which is defrayed by an appropriation of part of the amount received for fees on the Grants of Land to Emigrants. This system prevents any complaints, or even a murmur of any kind, from the *Aborigines* of the country, who live on the best terms with their white neighbours.

Whilst engaged in this part of the subject, it may not be amiss to give a word or two of advice to Emigrants of all classes, from one who has seen a good deal of the country.

It must always be taken for granted that whoever leaves England, no matter where he goes, he must experience some change for the worse; for if he is no otherwise affected than in his feelings, he must suffer a temporary laceration that may jaundice every first view he may take of the new country to which he goes; and it is not pretended that even CANADA is so heavenly a land as to do away at once with all such views and feelings, although the writer of this account has but little hesitation in stating that it speedily takes fast hold of the affections of the new comer; and that, if a fair comparison is made between the advantages and disadvantages possessed by the various Colonies of Great Britain in different parts of the world, and that those things are coolly and candidly weighed, the decision *must be* in favour of CANADA;

which is undoubtedly, one of the most fertile and magnificent regions of the Globe; peopled by the subjects of Great Britain; in the full possession of British Laws, and immunities; and, with a Constitution nearly on an exact model with that of England; but without the vexatious operation of a *tythe system*, with scarcely any taxes, and with many other privileges it would be tedious to name on this occasion. Were it not for the difference of scenery and climate, a man emigrating from England to this country would scarcely feel sensible of any immediate change, since he finds the same laws, manners, customs, language, and very often the same faces, which he had formerly known.

With all these superior advantages and enjoyments, which are such as can be had in no other colony, some individuals may be found to undervalue them, and be discontented, but these instances serve as lessons to others.—Let one of them be here named.—A man who arrived in this Province from the north of England with a few pounds in his pocket settled on a farm between York and Lake Simcoe; the industry and economy of five or six years, in this new situation, made him comparatively independent.—He had a sufficient quantity of land cleared, and a saw mill, to bring him a handsome income; and he lived at his ease, and with plenty.—But it is the nature of man to be restless and dissatisfied; so it was in this instance.—Although he had never enjoyed so much affluence at any former period of his life, this man grew uneasy; he thought of England, of his former abodes, his home, his ancient friends, and his recollections became insupportable; he sold his farm, his mill, his stock, and once more set his face towards England:—the voyage was passed, a few hours brought him into the midst of the scenes of his youth; he again took a farm, stocked it, again tried the fluctuations of markets and fairs, and was again bankrupt, *fatally* bankrupt, for now there was *nothing* left, and this foolish man ended his days in a work house! Frightful exchange for the ease and independence of a CANADIAN YEOMAN!

Those who are labouring under the bitter feelings of expatriation should consider that the same sun, and the same moon and stars which shine on the scenes they have left behind, gladden creation here; and that the *Great Father of all*, who is the same yesterday, today, and for ever, is alike present every where. Let the beautiful reply of the immortal HOWARD, which he gave to an ex-postulating friend on the eve of his departure for the southern parts of Russia, where he died, be always in our recollection. "*The road to Heaven is quite as short from Cairo, as it is from London*"!! And let them consider themselves as the workmen employed by Omnipotence to lay the foundation of what is to become hereafter a mighty Empire, in which their children's children are to have an inheritance and a name, and that what are now the beautiful fields and gardens of England, once looked as a wilderness in

the eyes of our forefathers. Of what value is that religion, or philosophy, which for ever chains its possessor down to present, and to painful, realities? Let us be wise, and learn how to appreciate those advantages and blessings which we actually enjoy in this our adopted country, and sorrow, regret, and despondency will be for ever banished from our dwellings!

But the instances of men taking the gloomy side of the question, (notwithstanding the exertions of some evil disposed persons to induce such a view.) in this fine country, are rare; particularly amongst the lower class of society, to whom the advantages are much greater than any other country affords. His land, (a Freehold of Fifty Acre-) costs him nothing; a few months labour for others should he have no money at all, (at the high rate of wages, hitherto, in this country) enables him to stock his farm, on which he may keep a yoke of Oxen, or a pair of Horses, constantly employed, besides leaving timber sufficient for fire wood for many years. He should however, be careful not to destroy his timber in a heedless manner, by burning it in large log heaps, after he has a few acres cleared. Some of the finest timber in the world is often considered so great an eye sore, that the sooner it can be utterly destroyed the better it is thought; but if, in making the clearance, the top and under brush only, were burnt in the field, and the heavy timber was cut into cord wood, or split into rails, instead of being consumed in one universal conflagration, it would be much better for the small freeholder; and afterwards, when the whole projected clearance was made, and it became necessary to attack the reserved trees, only to thin them out, in the same manner that is practised in the wood lands of England, taking those trees only which have arrived at maturity, and leaving the young thrifty wood to improve.—several generations must appear and disappear before any serious inconvenience could arise from the want of fuel. Of course there is not the same necessity for such economy on the larger grants. After all, there is the comfortable assurance of abundance of coal in various parts of the country; and, from the many navigable waters intersecting it in almost every direction, that useful article can never be very expensive.

For a great number of years to come there will be an ample range for a large stock of cattle and pigs in the woods, and on the plains; so that the small occupier will be freed from the necessity of having any part of his fifty acres in pasture, unless it should be his choice to have it otherwise. Swedish Turnips are found to answer extremely well, and to stand the utmost severity of the climate; with a couple of acres under a crop of this invaluable root, and the trow of his *Maize, Wheat, Barley* or *Oats* he may maintain, comparatively, a large stock of horned cattle through the winter; and in the summer the only expense attending them will be an oc-

casional visit, to see that all are going on well. Pigs grow very fat whilst running at large in the woods, especially towards the fall of the year. All the taxes, or assessments, put together, which a man of this description has to pay, would not amount to more than a few shillings; and, as to raiment, it is customary to grow wool and flax sufficient for the cloathing of his family. Sugar he manufactures himself, so that he has only a little *tea* to purchase, should he require, through custom, the use of that luxury. Many of the people in country situations use the young shoots of the *Hemlock Tree*; and others, herbs of the forests of agreeable flavour, in lieu of tea, without any bad consequences, or disrelish. If he is a *Tobacco-smoker*, or *chewer*, he may raise as much as he pleases in his own garden.

Wages, compared with what they are in Great Britain, are still very high in this country; and hitherto, in the Upper Province, it has not been difficult to procure work. In many parts indeed, there is yet a scarcity of labourers. It is true that money is not now plentiful; but there is scarcely any thing that the older residents have to spare in payment of wages that is not useful, nay absolutely necessary to one going onto a new farm; and two years being allowed by Government for the performance of settlement duty. (which in favourable weather may very often be done in one month) the poor emigrant has plenty of time to earn a yoke of oxen, and a cow or two, a few pigs, seed corn, and potatoes, &c. &c. besides the necessary provisions in pork and flour, until his own crops are ready; and should he not prove an expert axeman, even to hire men to do his settlement duty for him, which is often the case. Several instances have occurred where English rustics, by *strashing alone*, (where every ninth or tenth bushel was allowed for the labour) have earned wherewithal for the cropping and stocking their new farm.

In consequence of these advantages, there are many individuals, particularly in the new settlements in the district of Newcastle, who have abundance and to spare, upon the smallest Grants, of fifty acres, after being no more than three years in the Province. All the poor emigrant, who arrives at Quebec or Montreal, has to do, is to push forward as speedily as possible for the Upper Province; he must not suffer himself to be deterred by its apparent distance, and he must stop his ears against all the insinuations and seductions that will be used in his passage up the country, especially by Americans, along the whole course of the St. Lawrence, who will try every art to seduce him into the United States. Let him ever bear in mind what he may have been frequently told, — and with much truth, that Upper Canada is the best, "poor man's country in the world;" and let him determine on making actual experiment for himself; and, if he has only industry, perseverance and integrity, we will not only answer for his success, but that neither himself nor children will ever have occasion to repent the

choice which he has made. Such a man may in a short time realize every object of a reasonable ambition, and become one of the most free and independent men on earth.

In many places, particularly at *Port Hope*, and at *Cobourg*, in the District of Newcastle, preparations have been made for the reception of poor Emigrants by the erection of suitable buildings, and every facility being in readiness for securing an early location in a desirable situation amongst the new Townships back of the Rice Lake, to which there is an excellent road from *Port Hope* — This fine part of the country is principally settled by persons from Scotland and Ireland, and from the English counties of Yorkshire and Cumberland.

The Court-House, where the Land Board for the District sits regularly once in every fortnight, is between the two villages of *Cobourg* and *Port Hope*, in both of which there is a handsome church of the established religion, besides a School house ; and fairs are held twice a year at both places. There are two excellent grist-mills, one at each village ; and, at *Port Hope* there are, besides a Saw mill, Oil mill, Fulling mill, three Breweries and Distilleries, two Tanneries, a Hat manufactory ; Millwrights ; several excellent Stores, in which every description of useful merchandize may be had on moderate terms ; two blacksmith's shops, Pot and Pearl Asheries, Cabinet-makers, Carpenters, Masons, Coopers, Shoemakers, Tailors, and several other useful mechanics. *Cobourg* and *Port Hope* are only seven miles distant from each other, by a good road ; and between the two another village, named *Amhurst*, in which the Court house is situated, has been laid out by Capt. BURNHAM, in which are already two taverns, several mechanics, and some neat houses.

Port Hope, at which a wharf and commodious harbour on Lake Ontario is now projected, is the most convenient depot for the Townships in the rear of *Hope* and *Hamilton*, and for the Upper Ferry on Rice Lake, and is the place where the greatest trade is carried on. *Amhurst* is the most convenient for the Middle Ferry on the Rice Lake, and for those who may have to ascend the river *Otonabee* ; *Cobourg*, in which there is also excellent accommodation, and several good stores, is the most convenient for the Lower Ferry on the Rice Lake, and to those who may have business in the lower parts of the Township of *Otonabee* and *Asphodel*, with the new Townships in the rear, and down the River *Trent*.

It will be seen by a reference to a Map of this country, that the villages just mentioned are most advantageously situated nearly in the centre of the north coast of Lake Ontario ; and it is impossible they can fail to become, with the gradual improvement of the country, places of great public consequence hereafter. It should not be forgotten, likewise to mention, that these villages, with their respective neighbourhood, and the Rice Lake, already possess an extensive circle of good, and even polished, society.

We have been the more particular in these remarks, because we are quite satisfied that the District of Newcastle offers the finest field for enterprize, and merits more attention from emigrants, than any other part of Canada.

Should this slight and hasty sketch fall into the hands of any of the poorer class of emigrants, before they can have made any settlement, it may be well to give them some idea of the expense they must be at, before they can be said to be at all comfortable in their new abode.—At the present time it will cost the emigrant pretty nearly as follows:—

For building a Log-House, with a shade for his Oxen, and a Pig sty,	} 7 10 0
—For this sum his house may have two apartments, a stone chimney and hearth,* and two glazed sash windows.	
Clearing, Fencing, and Sowing five acres of land, if he has to pay cash for it,	} 15 0 0
Seed for the first crop, with the price of two axes, two hoes, two brush hooks, two forks, one spade and one shovel,†	} 4 0 0
Yoke of Oxen and Chain, from £10 to	15 0 0
An Ox Sleigh,	1 10 0
A Cow £3, Sow with Pigs, £1, 5,	4 5 0
Two Ewes with Lamb, \$2 each,	1 0 0
† Some necessary articles of Household Furniture,	10 0 0
Putting up a Log Barn,	5 0 0
Two Kettles for making Sugar,	3 0 0

Prov. Cur'y.—£66 5 0

* This expense of a stone chimney, &c. has been questioned by several persons unacquainted with the work required, and from parts of the country where the proper materials are scarce—but we know, from experience, that where workmen accustomed to the laying of misshapen stones, and the materials are at hand, the labour can be done for the price here stated.

† A Plough should not be required for several years, because the best management of cleared lands is to sow down with good grass seed, either with the second or third crop, and to keep it in grass until the stumps begin to rot, when the plough may be put in with full effect.

‡ We would say to the emigrant, about to embark, *bring no furniture*, the carriage of which will cost more than it is worth in this country, but be provided with plenty of good substantial wearing apparel, which is here generally flimsy and very expensive.

Any able-bodied man may earn the above amount within the two years allowed him for the performance of settlement duty, and if he should choose to work himself, with his oxen, in clearing, sowing, fencing, or in erecting the buildings, a considerable part of the above mentioned sum may be saved. But it is now supposed that the man is a stranger to the sort of labour required, and that he has no money but what he earns in this country. The two first crops, with the increase of his stock, ought to go far towards paying the whole of the above amount.

A friend of the Author's has published a plan in London, by which he conceives that a number of these people now subsisting on parochial relief in England, may be removed to, and employed in, this country with great advantage, both to the public and themselves.*—The money required in aid of this scheme, is not to be paid to the people, but is to be laid out within two years, in provisions and supplies of implements and stock, under the direction of certain managers. The cleared lands to constitute a mortgage to secure the payment of what is then the debt of the colonist. "During the laying out of the money and the clearing of the lands, some slight restrictions on the employment and alienation of the property will be imposed on the owners of it; but, after the repayment of the capital employed, each individual in the settlement will be free from all interference. The time of such repayment, within ten years, will depend on the exertions of the settlers, who may receive their deeds on redeeming their lands."

The projector assumes a family, of the description to which he alludes, to consist of five persons, and that the sum of £200, managed with ordinary prudence, will enable such a family to acquire a prosperous settlement in Canada in two years, without any exposure to privations, and within ten years the money might be repaid, without inconvenience, by the family to which it was loaned. The author gives a detailed account of the expenses, with the manner in which he conceives the important business should be conducted, and sums up the total expenditure for 100 such families, thus:—

For the journey to the coast for 100 families, at	}	£2000
£20 each family, 1st February, 1822,		
For the voyage to Montreal, March 1822,	}	3000
For the expenses to be incurred between May and		
June, 1822,	}	5000
Item, between June and October, 1822,		
		4500

* This plan differs from those lately suggested for diminishing the public burthens of England, as it relies for success on the personal exertions of the colonist, uncontrolled by the perpetual presence of superintendants; and as a boon or charity is not intended to be given them.

<i>Item, between October, 1822, and January, 1823,</i>	2100
<i>Item, between January and May, 1823,</i>	1500
<i>Item, between May and July, 1823,</i>	1000
<i>Item, in July, 1824,</i>	900
	<hr/>
	£20,000

The quantity of land required for 100 families, on this plan, is half a township, or 31,500 acres; which will be divided in the following proportions:—

	<i>Acres.</i>
For the Settlers	10,000
For the Managers,	5,000
For the Clergy and Schools,	4,000
For the Crown and Civil Government,	4,000
For the Town Plot, to belong to the Parish and Managers,	2,000
For the Surveyors,	1,500
For the Parish advancing the Capital	5,000
	<hr/>
	31,500

The Managers should be competent to give the settlers proper directions for the sale of so much of their household goods as cannot usefully be carried with them; and, for the purpose of the present sketch, the whole party will be assumed to be safely landed at Montréal, in May.

Under favourable circumstances, the people will be placed on their lands early in June, prepared to clear away for a spring crop. With common industry, three such persons as we ought to presume our able settlers to be, will not find it difficult to get five acres sown in proper time in 1822; from which they may expect to raise about 50 bushels of wheat 80 bushels of Indian Corn, with the usual quantity of Pumpkins, musk and water melons, 100 bushels of potatoes, and a quantity of corn stalks and straw, with garden productions; during the summer, before the crops are harvested, the people will be employed in preparing five acres more for an autumn season, and this cleared ground, with the former five acres, will be ready for wheat in the first autumn. After having sent a proportion of this first crop to market, a certain quantity turned into flour, salted their pigs, and put up a warm hovel for their cattle, they will in the winter of 1822—23 again be occupied in clearing more land for the ensuing spring. The quantity which may be then prepared will be about 10 acres which will be sown with oats, Indian corn, harley pumpkins, and turnips, and planted with potatoes. Besides this work, they will sow the first ten acres, with seeds for a meadow; during the second summer, 5 acres more will be pre-

pared for the second autumn ; and the several seasons will bring their own works on the lands previously cleared.

Having thus, in the second autumn, 10 acres of wheat land, and 10 acres of meadow, with additional occupations for the winter of 1823.—24, on this increase, they will be able to clear for the third spring only 5 acres more ; so that in the third harvest of 1824. such a family as we have assumed will possess 30 acres of cleared land, and 70 uncleared ; 10 acres of the 30 will be sown with wheat, 10 with spring crops, and 10 will be in meadow.

Their produce at the close of the third autumn, may be stated thus, at a low estimate :

From 10 acres of wheat, about	250 bushels
2 ditto of oats	70 ditto
2 ditto of Indian corn	100 ditto
2 ditto of barley	70 ditto
2 ditto of potatoes	300 ditto
2 ditto of turnips	200 ditto

Pumpkins, in number about 5000, which are planted in the Indian corn hills.

Not more than ten tons of hay can be expected from the meadow, incumbered as it will be with stumps of trees, for several years. To this must be added the natural increase of the stock, together with the abundance of water and musk melons in the corn fields, and of garden productions, and an ox and several hogs in salt.

After this third autumn of 1824, the repayment of the capital advanced will begin ; it will arise out of the production of the harvest of 1825 and the rate at which it will be made, may be judged of by the foregoing statement.

“ It appears to me impossible,” continues this ingenious writer, “ that upon equal capital any set of men of the class here contemplated, can be placed so advantageously, both to themselves and to the country, in any other part of the world as in UPPER CANADA.”

The author illustrates his argument by an example, after the following manner —

“ In 1795, the parish of Barkham, in Berkshire, contained 200 inhabitants, of whom about 40, besides the sick, received relief to the amount of £75 a year. The average expense of supporting the families of labourers in Barkham was then about £25 each ; making the rate of £75 to be divisible amongst a number of people equivalent to three ordinary families. which may be said to be the number in excess in the want of employment.—If the parish could be disburdened of these three families, and employment should not vary, those left behind would receive wages equal to their full support, until paupers again super-abound:

"The means for settling three families in Upper Canada is assumed to be a loan of £600, to be repaid in ten years, as before stated, and this sum will be raised easily by a mortgage of the rates under the sanction of an Act of Parliament — Thus the rates will be lowered forthwith to the interest of that loan; viz: to £30 a year from £75; and they will decrease continually in proportion as the loan shall be repaid, and as the town plot and other land apportioned to the parish shall become marketable. This will be variable in point of time; and the amount of the proceeds will depend on the general prosperity of the whole settlement; it can hardly fail of making a very considerable return within seven years of the colonists quitting England. According to the expenditure of Barkham, the rates for a surplus population of one hundred families is £2500 a year. Upon this income it would be easy to borrow £20,000 under the authority of an Act of Parliament. The interest on which being taken at £1000 a year, the parish from which the colonists could proceed, would make a present annual saving of £1500.

"Since the publication of the foregoing sketch, several individuals in England, in Canada, and in Nova Scotia, otherwise well disposed towards the views of the writer, have objected, that "under the present depressed state of agriculture, the settler will not be able to repay the capital advanced." This should not, certainly, be a subject of mere conjecture. In fact, it may be reduced to calculation. The "York Market prices for the preceding week" are given in the Upper Canada Gazette of the 23d of May, 1822, now before the writer; from which it can easily be shewn, in the article of wheat only, that there will not be any difficulty for an industrious man to raise the required instalments

Suppose a farmer and his two able sons such as the writer has known many in the country, and who left England four years ago, nearly destitute, about to clear and to fence off, for a crop, ten acres of good, heavily timbered land, in order to raise a small sum of money. The question will be, can they "in the depressed state of agriculture," produce, not a surplus of corn, but a surplus of money?

In what follows, the farmer and his sons are presumed to buy every article at the market price, and to dispose of the produce at the same; any practical man will at once notice that, if the party were established on their farm, and living upon their own produce, as in Canada the farmers universally do, the money expenditure would not be one third of what it is here estimated at; for instance instead of giving five pence for a gallon of flour, the farmer would send wheat to the miller, and receive in return his proportion of flour, toll being detained for working it. The same in regard to his whiskey; and with respect to his beef and pork, he would never have occasion to go to the butcher, as he has here been sup-

posed to do, and so forth.

The first expense will be for axes, about	£2 10 0
Brush hooks	0 10 0
Provision, &c. for seven weeks for three men, (the time required for the job in question) and for one man during one week, which will be necessary in order to 'drag' the wheat in	3 10 0
Seed wheat	2 5 0
Provisions, &c. during the time they are reap- ing the wheat	0 16 0
Provision for carrying the wheat -----threshing	0 5 0 1 0 0
Keep for the oxen when lodging and getting in the seasons, independent of 'browse,' a most capital feed well known to the 'ester- noon' Canadian farmer, as well as to the early settler	1 0 0
Taxes of all descriptions for 10 acres of land, and a yoke of oxen	0 1 6
Wear of clothes, &c. and trifling incidental ex- penses	2 0 0
<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expense, according to the York market	13 17 6
Wheat off 10 acres, 250 bushels, at 2s. 6d. per bushel, or £5 a load	31 5 0
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Clear surplus for the settler	£17 7 6

In the next year the expenses will be diminished.

Provision for a man whilst burning the stub- ble, and dragging in the seed on the same 10 acres	1 0 0
The oxen this year can keep themselves in the woods entirely, as they have not to work in the spring.	

	£	s.	d.
Seed wheat,	2	10	0
Provision whilst reaping,	0	16	0
Ditto. ditto. carrying,	0	5	0
Ditto. ditto. threshing	1	0	0
Taxes	0	1	6
Wear of clothes, &c.	£2	0	0

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Total, supposing the oxen to belong to the farmer,	6 12 6

Supposing he has to hire the oxen twenty days	
at 2s. 6d.	2 10 0
	<hr/>
	9 2 6
Wheat off ten acres, 250 bushels, at 2s. 6d.	31 5 0
	<hr/>
Clear surplus for the settler,	£22 2 6
	<hr/>

If these simple calculations be not correct, they may easily be contradicted and exposed. If it should be thought a high estimate, let half this surplus be taken, as nearer the probable result; and it cannot then be doubted that in the course of ten years the great majority of the settlers will be free from any incumbrance. The only objection to this calculation seems to be, that "the York market prices," may be reduced by the access of so many new growers of corn.* But it is conceived that a very great falling off may be admitted without risk of destroying the prospects of these colonists, who have ten years allowed for the repayment of their debt.

"To a settlement of this description, the managers should devote their whole attention; and a leader of intelligence would be amply remunerated by the share of wild lands to be apportioned to him in respect of a colony of from 500 to 2000 families." The necessity of a personal residence amongst the people during the time of distributing the lands, needs little illustration, after the excellent example shewn by Capt. Williamson, in the settlement of a part of Sir W. Pulteney's estate in the Genesee country, in the State of New York, a short notice of which deserves a place here.

Mr. Morris had bought the land at 5 pence per acre, and, in 1791 sold one million of acres to Sir Wm. Pulteney at 1 shilling per acre, or for £50,000. With other purchases, Captain Williamson, the manager, had possession of 1,500,000 acres of land, bounded on the north by Lake Ontario. After building 10 mills, with a great number of houses, and making several hundred miles of road 800,000 acres were re-sold at the price of from one to three dollars per acre before the summer of 1795. The produce not only refunded the purchase money and the whole amount of the o-

* It is a very favourable evidence in support of the author's plan, for us to state, that the prices quoted from the York Market in the spring of 1822, were very unusually low, and such as may be scarcely expected to recur. The average price of wheat for the last seven years in Upper Canada cannot be taken at less than four shillings currency per bushel.

ther expense incurred, but also yielded a net profit of £50,000 Sterling.

The *Plan* here alluded to is not altogether original on the part of our friend B—, since that famous *Patriot Mr. Gourlay*, projected a scheme nearly similar in the year 1817; and it has always been a subject of regret to the writer of this *sketch*, that one so well qualified to promote the agricultural interests, and encourage fresh accessions to our population, from other parts of the British Dominions, should have intermeddled with politics; since, on many questions of political economy, and especially on the subject of the *Poor laws* of England, that eccentric Being was a perfect adept, whilst in *Politics* he became not merely bewildered, but actually insane. However, as to the introduction of British Paupers into the forests of Canada, no one anxious to witness the prosperity of this country can have any objection, at least on this side the water, if they come as well provided as our friend B— proposes, viz; with £200 sterling for each family of 5 persons; but we think the expences are over rated, and have no doubt that such a family, (particularly where this species of emigration was carried on extensively) could be removed, and settled down comfortably, with all that was necessary to preserve it from becoming any kind of burthen whatever to others, for £100 sterling.*—We are quite certain there are many persons, on whom the most perfect reliance could be placed, who would be very glad to undertake the removal and settlement, in this country, of 200 such families for the sum of £20,000 sterling.

Whilst on this subject, it ought to be mentioned that there is now a man in the District of Newcastle, who came out a little more than two years ago, without a single shilling in his pocket, his health and the use of his hands were all his dependence. A short time since, this same man disposed of a yoke of capital Oxen and a fine Cow which he had earned over and above what he required upon his little farm, on which he had besides, two excellent Cows and a large stock of Pigs, left for store pigs and for breeding, after having packed fourteen barrels of pork. He had also purchased a Reserve Lot from a neighbour, on which he had sown several acres of Fall Wheat; and in the following year, (his third,) he proposes building a good framed house, together with a large barn. The means for accomplishing all these results, so vast for one in his original mean circumstances, have been earned in an honest and fair way by farming on shares, as it is here termed, that

* In the *second edition* of "Sketches of Plans for settling in Upper Canada, &c." the author admits that he had over-rated the expense for the passage and settlement of each family upon his arrival in this country.

is, he has a certain share, as may be previously agreed upon, of the produce of a farm (whose owner cannot conveniently work it himself,) for his labour and expense in cultivating it, a practice that is common in many parts of Canada.

Here, then, is an instance of a man who, without friends, without capital, without credit, realizes what is, comparatively, a comfortable independence in three years! Many more instances of a similar kind might be adduced, were it necessary, to shew with what rapidity and ease an industrious, honest man, though poor, may elevate himself above the reach of want in this bigly favoured country; and if a single unaided individual can so prosper, surely, half the sum mentioned by our friend B—already alluded to, expended with prudence and economy, would establish a family of five persons in Canada, so as to be no longer burthensome to the parish which sent them out, or, to this country which received them into her bosom. Enough, it is conceived, has now been said to shew the advantages held forth in Canada to the poorer classes of society, on an occasion where the limits for discussion are so much narrowed by the necessity of regarding other subjects.

The field which is here presented to men of an higher order, and to capitalists, is so extensive, and requires so much detail, as well as argument and illustration, to demonstrate, that we cannot pretend to enter upon it with any fullness on this occasion; nor would it, indeed, be altogether a fit subject for discussion in a mere sketch like this; However, as it is not improbable this little work may fall into the hands of persons anxious for some information on this head, a few brief remarks shall be added, reserving a fuller statement for another, and a more enlarged opportunity.

Of the liberal professions, Clergymen are the most required, and Lawyers the less needed. Such a provision has been made by the Imperial Government for the established Church, without any demand or tythe from the people, as must eventually make the Canadian Clergy (should things remain so happily constituted as they now are) the most powerful, wealthy, and influential body to be found in any country, ancient or modern, no less than *one seventh of the whole soil* being set apart for its use and support. It is true the income, at present derived from this vast appropriation, is scarcely worth the naming; but it is every day increasing, and it is impossible to say to what extent it may hereafter arrive. There are a great many situations in various parts of the Province, where Clergymen who *would be active* in the performance of their important duties are much wanted.

An act of the provincial parliament prevents English or Scottish Attornies from practising here until they have served a Clerkship of the same duration as is required from Law Students in this country, viz. — *Five years actual service*, under articles, to a Practising

Attorney of this Province. Regular Barristers, however, or any person who has been called to practise at the Bar of any of His Majesty's superior Courts, not having merely local jurisdiction in England, Scotland, or Ireland, or in any of His Majesty's Provinces in North America, on producing testimonials of good character and conduct, to the satisfaction of the Law Society of this Province, may be called by the said Law Society to the degree of a Barrister upon his entering himself of the said Society, and conforming to all the rules and regulations thereof.

There are several openings in country situations, in different parts of the Province, where skilful *Medical Men* are much wanted, and in which they could scarcely fail to realize handsome properties; but the labour in such situations is severe. A *Medical Board* is established at York to examine all candidates who have not graduated in the regular manner at some eminent British, or Foreign University; and no pretender to knowledge in this important profession is allowed to practise here without having previously satisfied the *Board* of his ability, and obtaining a licence for that purpose.

Of all professional men, or those of the middle ranks of Society who are not possessed of much wealth, there are none to whom so many advantages are offered in this country, as to the *Half Pay Officers* of the British Army and Navy. They become immediately independent. Entitled by the regulations of Government to receive from 500 to 1200 acres of land, according to their rank, from an Ensign to a Colonel, if in the Army; and, from a Midshipman to a Captain, if in the Navy; on payment of a Fee scarcely worth the naming (£2 18s. 6d.) they are immediately placed on a footing with the Country Gentlemen, as to real estate, whilst their half pay, drawn at stated intervals, gives them an advantage possessed by very few in this country.—Their Bills almost always bear a premium of from 5 to 10 per cent. this, with the difference of Currency, and the certainty that *One Hundred Pounds*, will go farther in the purchase of all the little luxuries for the table, and for the conveniences of life, than *Two Hundred Pounds* will obtain in England; besides the almost total freedom from Taxes, Assessments, and many other expenses that must be incurred by Gentlemen of this class in Great Britain, altogether give them extraordinary advantages; and we have often thought, that in no other part of the Globe could they settle down so advantageously as in this Province. Besides, by their attainments, and rank in life, they are immediately eligible for many honorable stations and employments, which add to their influence and consequence, if not to their wealth; and such Gentlemen will have the additional satisfaction of finding much of that kind of society to which they have been accustomed, in almost every part of the Province, for there are now but few of the settled Townships in which there are not some half pay officers, either of the Army or Navy.

We purposely neglect saying any thing of Merchants and Tradesmen, because if any such persons embark *speculatively* in this country without being previously well acquainted with it, and the mode of transacting business, it will be undoubtedly to their severe cost and loss.—Mechanics of almost every description are certain to do well, if honest, *sober*, and industrious.

To the small capitalist of from £5000 to £20,000, and upwards, the field that is opened in Upper Canada is *alluring, splendid, and dazzling!!* But it is such a subject that it is difficult to know where to begin, and, still more so, where to stop! neither do we feel very willing to open the stores of our budget in this particular to the whole world, further than by touching generally on a few of those subjects to which such a capitalist should direct his attention, and by earnestly requesting him "*to come and see,*" when we promise him he shall know more. Capital alone is wanting to place Canada in the rank which her natural wealth and position entitle her to maintain in the scale of nations; and, as the right arm of Great Britain; and we would venture to insure a certain number of capitalists to the amount above named, a quadruple return for the sum expended, within the term of ten or a dozen years! It cannot be expected we should state the mode of procedure on this occasion.

There is a great deal in knowing the signs of the times, and in being able to take advantage of those signs.—He who has a spare capital, and wishes to increase it, should be "a discerner of the times."—General WASHINGTON is said to have excelled in this particular, and to have secured many advantages from the adroitness with which he managed his own interests in the fluctuations of the land market, which at a certain period engrossed the attention of all classes in the United States of America.

The buying and selling, the parcelling out and settling, and locating land, may be called the staple business of all new countries, and that in which both individuals and the State are most deeply concerned. Much therefore, nay, almost every thing, depends upon the way in which it is managed.—It is an idle and absurd opinion that land jobbing is injurious to a country. When carried on extensively it is the very best thing that can happen to any young district, or territory; it imparts life, spirit, and enterprize, and converts what would otherwise become a stagnant, putrid marsh, into a living fountain of all that gives strength and power to Empire. The whole history of the United States, and especially the account of the settlement of the Genesec Lands in the State of New York, to which we have already alluded, afford striking illustrations of this argument. The present times are very favourable for making extensive purchases of land in Upper Canada:—the price, owing to that general depression in the value of all kinds of property which succeeded the late war, being nearly as low now

as it was at the first settlement of many parts of the country. The Province is now just emerging, like a new creation, into that general notice which it deserves, and the value of lands *must speedily rise in an extraordinary ratio*. The growth of Canada has never been forced; and, though it may have been considered tardy in comparison with that of the United States, its advancement has been natural, wholesome, and regularly progressive.

The usual mode of setting apart the Crown and Clergy Reserves in Upper Canada, is certainly very much against those Capitalists who may wish to embark in undertakings of this kind, and even against others who may desire to settle down together, and form a little community of their own. But it is probable the Provincial Government might be induced to vary from the common practice of allotting Reserves, on being convinced that it would be productive of public and private advantage, to any material extent, in any particular vicinity.

Sometimes an entire Township is offered for sale, as is the case at present, in the District of Newcastle, in that of *Seymour* through which the River Trent, one of the finest streams in the Province, and abounding with Mill seats, runs in its course from the Rice Lake to the Bay of Quiete, on Lake Ontario. This Township is admirably calculated for the formation of a beautiful and rich settlement; it is in the immediate neighbourhood of the *Marmora Iron Works*, and surrounded on all sides by thriving settlements; this tract of land, a great part of which is of the first quality, may now be purchased at a price, and on terms, that would insure a noble fortune to a Capitalist of sufficient means to carry the proper plan of settlement, and resale, into full effect.

In this Township there are about 47,000 acres, exclusive of Reserves. There are also the following additional tracts, now advertised for sale, on very liberal terms, viz:—

<i>Blandford</i> , about	20,000	<i>Acres.</i>
<i>Houghton</i> , - -	19,000	
<i>Middleton</i> , - -	14,000	
<i>Southwold</i> , - -	17,000	
<i>Yarmouth</i> , - -	11,903	
<i>Westminster</i> - -	9,237	
<i>Sheffield</i> , - -	56,688	

The whole of which, together with *Seymour*, are appropriated for the endowment of a College in this Province.

But there is scarcely any part of the Province where a man of judgment, and with the necessary funds, might not lay out his money with a certainty of enormous advantage. As we have before hinted, it would not be quite proper to go into *detail* on an occasion like this; but we should be rejoiced to hail the arrival of men of capital in this Province, not merely for their own sake,

but for the general good of the country, which would naturally grow in wealth and power, in the same ratio with the success of private individuals.

To those who might wish to embark in a commerce of raw material, or in the extensive manufacture of staple articles of home consumption, there is here also a fine field for enterprise; since there are none of those restrictions which gave so much umbrage in the *United States* before their separation from the British Crown, and which were so much dwelt upon by the famous Dr PRICE, in his work on *Civil liberty*, as being a just cause of discontent and remonstrance. Of the precious and valuable metals Government reserves *Gold and Silver*, only. Grantees are put into the full, free, and uncontrolled possession of all the *Copper, Lead, Iron, Tin*, or other *metallic*, or *mineral* substances which may be found on their lands, together with *Coal*, and all other substances whatever; and the more this country is searched, by men properly qualified, the richer it will be found in valuable mineral productions.

The history of the Establishment of the *Marmora Iron Works*, now the property of the enterprising & patriotic CHARLES HAYES, Esquire, is alone sufficient to shew the liberality of Government, and the hopes that any other capitalist may reasonably entertain of success in laying the foundation of future wealth, so far at least as the patronage, and encouragement of Government in this country is concerned or desired.

There are several Manufactories of a domestic nature in which large capitals are required, the want of which is at present seriously felt by all classes of people in this Province. Of these, *Salt*, (which may be obtained by going to a sufficient depth in almost every part of the country) stands the first in the list of *necessity*, since the Upper Canadians are not only supplied with great irregularity, but they pay at least *double* what they ought to pay for this indispensable article, and are under the control, in this res-

* A great deal of enterprise and public spirit has been shewn of late in the *Western District*, where the *Tobacco crops* have been increased so considerably as to allow the exportation of *many hundred hogsheads*, during the last season;—We have heard of a single cultivator having 40 acres under this valuable crop—It is hoped some provisions, favourable to the Canadian grower will be made by the Imperial Parliament at home; as the markets of the Lower Province are much too limited for the disposal of a tenth part of what will shortly be raised in the West.

Amongst the Domestic Manufactories, that of coarse woollen cloth is one of the most considerable. In the narrow District of *Gore*, alone, from 2 to 3000 pieces are annually made; and, throughout the country it is a trade, together with the weaving of *linen*, rapidly increasing.

pect, to a serious and alarming extent, of a people who are always rivals, and sometimes enemies. At one period, during the last war, SALT was sold in this country at from \$10 to \$15 per bushel, and even now it is frequently 5, 6, & 7\$ per barrel, in situations, where it ought not to exceed \$2 per barrel. The culture of *Tobacco*, *Hemp*, *Flax*, and *Wool*, and *Wool* for the manufacture of Oil for exportation, also, the establishment of *Paper Mills* (which are very much wanted); of *Nail*, and *Screw Factories*; *Glass-Houses*; *Potteries*; and a *Manufactory of Coarse Print*. All promise abundant returns for the outlay of capital; and, to be of the most beneficial consequences to the country.

Nature has designed this country to become rich, not merely by her agricultural, but also in her commercial advantages; for no country in the world is possessed of so many public highways, by water communication, as Upper Canada. The rivers of a country may be compared to the arteries and veins of the human body, as being alike the channels for communicating health; and vigour, and life, between the respective parts.

The *River St. LAWRENCE*, which we shall here consider as arising from the Great and Magnificent Basin of LAKE SUPERIOR, (more than 1500 miles in circumference,) has a course to the sea of nearly 3000 miles, varying from 1 to 90 miles in width, of which distance, including the Lakes ONTARIO, ERIE, and HURON, it is navigable for ships of the largest class, very nearly 2000 miles, and the remainder of the distance is navigable for barges, batteaux, and vessels drawing little water, of from 10 to 15, and even 60 Tons burthen. Into this great *artery*, as it were, of the finest part of the country, fall many other rivers of such extent as would be esteemed waters of great magnitude and of the highest importance in any other country.

Some of these Rivers are the outlets of regions of vast extent which are watered by a countless number of Lakes and minor streams. Of these the *Saguenay*, which falls into the St. Lawrence below Quebec; and the *Ottawa*, or *Grand River*, whose embouchure is divided into two branches by the Island of Montreal; and the *Trent*, or *River Otonabee*, which is the outlet of a long chain of Lakes, in the north west country towards Lake Huron, and which falls into Lake Ontario near Kingston, are the most considerable.*

But it would be impossible in a sketch like this to mention or describe a fiftieth part of the Lakes and rivers which open and fer-

* The Bay of Quinte is, in fact, rather the mouth of the River Trent, or Otonabee, than a Bay of Lake Ontario; as there is not only a perceptible current down its centre—but it has no side communication with the lake for many miles, until it arrives at what is termed the *upper gap*.

the extensive region of Upper Canada. No one who looks at any existing map of the Province can form any idea either of their number or magnitude. Such a detail must be reserved for another occasion, and for a larger work.

The principal new Settlements that have been formed, are the Perth, on the waters of the Rideau, in the District of Bathurst; the Rice Lake Settlement in the District of Newcastle; and the Talbot Settlement, in the London District. But, during the administration of the present Lieutenant Governor, nearly fifty new Townships, averaging upwards of sixty thousand acres each, have been surveyed within a space of five years, and there are very few of these without some inhabitants. The population of Canada is increasing with great rapidity. Including the Military, and also the Aborigines of the country, both Provinces cannot contain much less than One Million of Souls *

But it is very difficult to get at the truth, in this respect, notwithstanding an Act of the Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada compels the inhabitants of each Township, through their Town-Clark, to make an annual return. The census is usually taken in so careless and slovenly a manner, in the country, that it is seldom or never accurate, and the error is always in under-rating: In the Lower Province, the census is generally made by the resident Clergy.

It is probable the settled parts of Upper Canada contain about 200,000 souls. The largest towns are York and Kingston, of which Kingston is the most populous, containing 2300 inhabitants. Many other towns are growing into note, of which the following are the principal:—

Cornwall,	Port Hope,	Niagara,
Pfscott,	New Market,	St. Davids,
Brookville,	Penetanguishene,	Queenston,
Perth,	Dundas,	Chippeway,
Gannanoque,	Aucaster,	Waterloo,
Bath,	Barton,	Port Talbot,
Belville,	Grimshy,	Ambertsburgh,
Hallowell	St. Catherines,	Sandwich,
Goburg.		

The Militia of Upper Canada has become formidable, not merely for numbers, but for quality and metal; and there are not more loyal, nor better disposed men towards the British Government in any part of the Empire; no, not in the heart of England: and

* A return has been lately made for Lower Canada, which, if true, will oblige us to be more moderate in calculating the round numbers for both Provinces; but, believing our present estimate to be near the truth, we shall await a more perfect return before we alter the amount here calculated;

the last war with the United States having given them immortal honour their spirit is of so high and confident a character, that it will be extremely difficult for any foreign enemy to subdue it.— It is no longer a problem whether the Canadas will prove an easy conquest to the United States of America. One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Canadian Militia, (which both Provinces have now at command) as well disposed as they certainly are, with the troops of Provincial Cavalry and Riflemen which have been voluntarily raised, under the orders of an able General, from the nature of the country may bid defiance to any number that may be brought against them.—And here we purposely say nothing of His Majesty's Regular Troops, and the aid to be derived from the Indians.

The ABBE du PRADT was never more mistaken than in his assertion, at p. 479. of his famous work on the Colonies, where he says, in his usual pompous and conceited phraseology —“ Acadia and Canada will have ceased to belong to England on the day that the United States will be able to establish an army of 50,000 men.” That experiment has been tried; even whilst the Canadian Hercules was as an infant in his swaddling clothes. We hope it will be long before it may be necessary to evince a greater maturity of strength, either defensively or offensively.

Nothing is more tempting, and nothing is more dangerous and fallacious, to minds of a certain grasp than analogous reasoning.— It requires a penetrating and comprehensive genius, especially in politics, to apply such a mode of reasoning with any hope of drawing safe and just conclusions. DU PRADT adds to the assertion just quoted, “ The English will find themselves in a position, with respect to the Americans, equivalent to that which they formerly found themselves in France. They will be in the same circumstances in Canada as they were in France during the time that they held possession of Guienne and Normandy, as the Swedes were in Finland since a Petersburg existed, but with this difference, that Guienne and Finland are situated only at the distance of a few leagues from England and Sweden, whereas the United States are by the side of Canada, and England is distant a thousand leagues from it.”

This amusing and interesting Frenchman forgets a very important fact; that a given extent of country, (especially one like Canada possessing so much wilderness, with strong natural boundaries or barriers,) like a fortress of certain extent, requires only a certain number of men to garrison it; more than the number wanted is generally an incumbrance, (when straightened in a siege,) rather than a benefit, as they only serve to consume the means of a protracted defence. We think it was the famous GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS of Sweden, who said that he would not desire a larger army than 40,000 men fit for actual service, to accomplish any military object; as such a force would always enable him to chase his positions. It is indeed worthy of remark how few men,

comparatively, were actually engaged in all the most memorable battles, both of ancient and modern times. But to return, M. du PRADT never reflected that, unlike Guienne or Normandy, or Finland, the Canadas were destined to become in a few years a match single banded, against any neighbouring foe; and of this fact there cannot now be much doubt, whilst nothing could be more preposterous than to suppose the two French provinces which have been named were a match for all France; or, that Finland was capable of defending itself against the enormous power of the Russian Autocrat. Enough, however, has been said on this subject here.

The exports of Canada are already considerable; and, from the encouragement held forth by the "*Trade Act*" passed during the last Session of the Imperial Parliament, in favour of this country, it is but reasonable to expect they will be greatly increased in a short time. Since the last war with the United States the exports from the two Provinces have averaged (including Furs and Peltry*) about £1,500,000, and from 600 to 700 ships are now employed every year in the foreign and coasting trade. The tonnage employed during the present year (1822) by the Custom House returns at Quebec, is no less than £145,942!

The prices of Provisions in the Upper Province are at present (1823) still rather low. In the York Market, Beef 2d.—Mutton 3d. to 4d.—Veal 3d. to 3 1/2,—Pork 2d.—Turkeys 2 1/2 6d.—Geese 1s. 10d. 1/2 to 2s. 6d.—Ducks 1s. 10d. 1/2 per pair.—Fowls 1s. 3d. per pair.—Butter 7d. 1/2—Eggs 3d. 1/2 to 6d.—Fine Flour 4s to 5s per Barrel.—Salmon of 15 to 16 lb. wt. about 1s. 3d. each,—abundance of other fish cheap.

Many of what, in some countries, may be called luxuries can be had here in their proper season, at very moderate price, such as Oysters, Cod fish, Venison, and Game in abundance.

The domestic animals of Canada admit of great improvement, and it is strongly recommended, from the success of some experiments which have been already made, to attend to this improvement rather by judicious selection and crossing, than by importing fine breeds from the too highly refined stock of England; excepting only a few Stallions of the large improved Coach, or Cart Horses of England, which are much wanted to give weight and power to the spindleshanked, flimsy, horses imported into the Upper Province from the United States; and, to give size to the tight, compact, bardy, invincible, little horse of the Lower Province.

* These valuable products to a very large amount are annually carried into the United States, from various parts of Upper Canada, in a way that is unknown at Montreal or Quebec, and consequently do not appear in the Custom House Books there.

It has often been asserted that the pony of Wales, and the Gal-
 loway of Scotland, are superior, for their size to any other horses
 in the world. But the writer of this article has no doubt that horses
 can be found in Montreal and Quebec of 14 hands high, and under,
 that for drawing, or carrying heavy weights, and for bottom, and
 sheer hardihood, would far surpass the horses of any other country,
 not even excepting any part of Great Britain, so justly renowned
 for the excellence of its Ponies as well as for the matchless charac-
 ter of its Hunters and Race Horses;—since the little horses of
 Lower Canada are every day performing what would be deemed
 great exploits were they recorded in the Sportsman's Magazine—
 But excellent as these horses are, their inferior size renders them
 unfit for many purposes of draught.

The horned cattle of this country merely want good wintering,
 and more attention, than is now generally paid, to a judicious
 cross in breeding, to be every thing that a farmer could desire.

Sheep are for the greater part imported from the United States,
 and have more or less of the 'Merino' in their breed; too much
 so, in our opinion, to be so profitable in this climate, and with the
 careless management they receive, as they may be. It is thought
 that the improved 'Cheviot', whose fleece is weighty, and possesses
 a long staple, might be introduced into Canada with great success,
 and it is well worth while to make the experiment.—It is to be la-
 mented that the different breeds of sheep are not more generally
 cultivated than they are in Canada, as the climate is very favorable
 to the growth of wool, which might hereafter become a valuable
 article of export.

There are those who wish for an importation of the largest
 breed of English Hogs, to give weight to those of this country, as
 well as to render them of a more 'kindly nature,' as a breeder would
 term it. But, there is not the smallest doubt that a skilful and at-
 tentive farmer, who is a good manager, may have a breed of Hogs,
 without leaving Canada, equal to every thing that he may desire.
 Hogs which arrive at the weight of 300 lbs are surely heavy enough
 for ordinary consumption, and we have frequently known instan-
 ces of their arriving at such a weight in Canada, without any par-
 ticular attention being paid.

So much has now been said on subjects that may be deemed, in
 general, foreign to a publication of this nature, that the writer is a-
 fraid of enlarging his sketch until he knows how far it may prove
 acceptable to the public. Should he have the happiness to find
 his plan approved, he will undertake to work up, by degrees, what
 is now nothing more than a rough outline, very hastily sketched,
 into a more finished picture, for the succeeding volumes of this
 work, which he is desirous of rendering as useful a companion as
 he can make it to all ranks of people who visit, or who may intend
 to visit, as well as to those who reside, in this Province.

Before he concludes, however, as a great deal has been said, of late, in disparagement of the plan, adopted by Government, which grants no more than 50 Acres, without the payment of Fees, to ordinary applicants, the writer cannot help repeating that the liberality of the British Government, in this particular, is without a parallel in the history of the world, ancient or modern. What man has ever been more highly extolled than the famous WILLIAM PENN? whom all writers, of all parties, and opinions, have agreed to characterize as a liberal, humane, and virtuous legislator; and even PENN did not think fit, in that golden day of cheap gifts, in land matters, to part with portions of his vast territory without a price, which even then was deemed so trifling as to be little more than nominal, and his fee upon his larger grants of 1000 acres was 430 *livres**; and, to those who could not pay for more, he granted 50 acres, "for the annual quit rent of one sol, ten deniers and a half per acre," equal to one penny, or four shillings and two pence, on the whole fifty acres, annually quit rent—NOT A FREE-HOLD!*

The example of WILLIAM PENN is chosen, because no one has ever yet objected to the wisdom of his policy.—However, not to go further into this subject on the present occasion, as the wealth of Upper Canada is at this time chiefly agricultural; we will conclude in the eloquent language of the author from whom we have just quoted.

"Every thing depends upon, and arises, from the cultivation of land. It forms the internal strength of states; and draws riches into them from without. Every power which comes from any other source except the land, is artificial and precarious, either in natural or moral philosophy. Industry and commerce, which do not act immediately upon the agriculture of a country, are in the power of foreign nations, who may either dispute these advantages through emulation, or deprive the country of them through envy. This may be done either by establishing the same branch of industry among themselves, or by suppressing the exportation of their own unwrought materials, or the importation of those materials in manufacture. But a state well manured, and well cultivated, produces men by the fruits of the earth, and riches by those men.—This is not the teeth which the dragon sows to bring forth soldiers to destroy each other; it is the milk of Juno, which peoples the heavens with an innumerable multitude of stars."

YORK, U. C. }
December 1st. 1823 }

* See RAYNAL.

† And the difference in the value of money from that time to the present is no trifle!

TABLES
OF THE ANCIENT KINGS,
AND OF
THE PRESENT ROYAL FAMILY
OF ENGLAND.

WITH AN INTRODUCTORY VIEW OF ITS GOVERNMENT, FROM
THE INVASION OF JULIUS CÆSAR,
FIFTY FIVE YEARS BEFORE CHRIST,
TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE SAXONS, A. D. 449.

ALSO,

A TABLE
OF THE SOVEREIGNS OF EUROPE,
AND
A LIST OF THE BRITISH MINISTRY,
WITH A CONCISE ACCOUNT
OF THEIR VARIOUS DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES.

A BRIEF VIEW
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITAIN
DURING THE PERIOD IN WHICH IT RANKED AS A PROVINCE OF THE
ROMAN EMPIRE,
FROM THE INVASION OF JULIUS CÆSAR,
FIFTY-FIVE YEARS BEFORE CHRIST,
TO THE
ARRIVAL OF THE SAXONS, A. D. 449.

SKETCHED EXPRESSLY FOR THIS WORK, BY
CHARLES FOTHERGILL.

WE agree with the learned BORLASE, who has adduced unquestionable evidence of the fact, that the large and beautiful Island of Great Britain, the most renowned in the world, was known to, and partially settled by, the *Phoenicians* at a very early period, even when the greatest part of Europe remained an unexplored wilderness, rude and wild as the remotest fastness of America.—It was inhabited for many ages; and, as Dr. HENRY observes, was the scene of many wars, revolutions, and other important events, before it was invaded by the Romans under JULIUS CÆSAR in the year, before CHRIST, 55.

But it is not our purpose to plunge into the gloom and doubt of so remote an antiquity.—We have no desire, especially in this place, to peer and pry into the darkness of unwritten History, or to gaze on the creations of fancy, when unimpeachable records, and substantial forms, are near.

From the retreat of JULIUS CÆSAR, to the invasion of CLAUDIUS, a period of *ninety seven years*, but little is known of the Monarchs, Princes or Chiefs of the Island—Neither AUGUSTUS, TIBERIUS, nor CALIGULA, (although the latter Emperor had collected an army of no less than 200,000 men on the opposite coast of *Gaul*) attempted the invasion.

At the period of the invasion of CLAUDIUS, we hear much of CARACTACUS, a native Prince, who seems to have been worthy of the name which has been bestowed upon him by every historian of that age; and, after him, the renowned BOADICIA, Queen of the *Iceni*,* who was at one time, and in one engagement, at the head of 230,000 men.—From the defeat of this immense army to

a* The *Iceni* inhabited the Counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridge, and Huntingdon

A. D. 207. the southern parts of Britain were chiefly under the rule of Governors sent thither from Rome; amongst whom, **AGRICOLA** was the best, and the most famous:—he not only defeated the *Caledonians* in many battles, but was the first who circumnavigated the island, and determined its entire coast.

It was in the year 207 that the emperor **SEVERUS** arrived in England, where he remained for four years, and built the stupendous wall, from sea to sea, across the island towards the north, which bears his name:—it was for the purpose of checking, if not to prevent, the inroads of the Scots; and vestiges of the vast undertaking may still be traced,—*Severus* died in the city of York, on the 4th of Feb. 211, and three immense *Tumuli*, called *Severus's Hills*, which were raised by his army, remain as an imperishable monument, within a mile and a half of the city walls, to this day.*

After the departure, from Britain, of the two new Emperors, **CARACALLA** and **GETA** to the accession of **DIOCLESIAN** in 284, the Government remained in the hands of a regular succession of Roman Vicegerents, though but little is known of that long and dark period of our history.

It was about this time that the *Franks* and *Saxons* began to figure on the stage of politics, and of war, acting chiefly as pirates. We hear of considerable numbers of these people distinguishing themselves under *Alecus*, in his opposition to **CONSTANTIUS**, when *London* was fortunately preserved from utter destruction, in the year 296.

CONSTANTINE the Great, began his reign and splendid career at York, A. D. 306. His mother *Helena*, is said to have been a daughter of **COIL**, one of the native Kings of Britain.—Many have affirmed that this Emperor was born in the island, † and his warmest panegyrist exclaims, with much energy, “*O fortunate Britain! more happy than all other lands, for thou hast first beheld Constantine Caesar!*”

After the death of this great Prince, the government of Britain fell to his eldest son, who was likewise named *Constantine*, and who was slain in the year 340.

Gratianus Funarius, the father of *Valentinian*, appears as the Roman Governor of Britain, under the Emperor **Constantius** in 354.

* There is a tradition amongst the country people of that part of Yorkshire, which the writer of this sketch has often heard, still remaining, which affirms that these hills were raised by earth carried from a hollow. (in which a village called *Hole gate* now stands) in the helmets of the whole Roman Army!—Two of these Hills or *Tumuli*, are not less than 100 feet high, with proportional base!!

† *Vide* Usser. de primord. Eccles. Brit. c. 8.

From the year 367 to 375, the excellent and brave Theodosius was Governor. From that period to 381, when he assumed the Purple, the Emperor Maximus, who had married the daughter of a British Prince, held the government. Both Theodosius and Maximus were very much beloved by the people.

From the date of 393 to 412 we hear of Chrysantus, and Victorinus as the military representatives of imperial Rome; and, from 418 to 421 we find Gallio, a general of great ability, acting as governor. — Afterwards, to the arrival of the Saxons in 449, began the most disastrous and melancholy period in the whole history of our country, harassed by incessant attacks from the marauding Scots, and the yet more barbarous Picts, she became the prey of horde after horde of lawless savages from the north, till she had little left for the breechless vagabonds to plunder.

During this unhappy period, the Britons appear to have been without either order, law, government, or any chiefs worthy of the name; all was confusion, famine, pestilence, rapine, and plunder. The Roman had turned pale, and his empire, and name, and greatness, were tottering before the threats, and actually falling before the power, of the terrible ATTILA!

OFFICERS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT,

WHILST UNDER THE DOMINION OF ROMAN EMPERORS.

THAT the reader may form some distinct idea of the state of the country and its government, in the early part of its history, we here subjoin some lists of Officers, and notes from the *Notitia Imperii*, a work of great antiquity and rarity.

Under the government of the Honorable the Vicegerent of Britain are

Consular governments of those parts of Britain, called,
Maxima Cæsariensis,*
Valentia;

Presidial Governors of those parts of Britain, called
Britannia Prima,
Britannia Secunda,

This honorable Vicegerent hath his Court composed in this manner;

† A Principal Officer of the Agents, chosen out of the Ducenarii, or under Officers,

* The two most northerly provinces were governed by consuls, as being most exposed to danger.

† Under the lower empire there were many incorporated bodies of men of different professions; and these incorporated bodies were called Scholæ.

A Principal Clerk, or Secretary,
Two Chief Accountants, or Auditors,

‡ A Master of the Prisons,

A Notary,

A Secretary for despatches,

- An Assistant, or Surrogate,

Under Assistants,

§ Clerks for Appeals.

Serjeants, and other inferior Officers,

There were also *Nine Military* stations, with the necessary officers, under the command of the Count of the Saxon Shore.

The Count of Britain had also a court, composed after the manner we have mentioned, with the addition of a *Register*.

Under the Government of the honourable the Duke of Britain, were the *Prefects*, viz:—

—	—	Prefect of the Sixth Legion	—	—	Prefect of the Scouts
—	—	Dalmatian Horse	—	—	Directores
—	—	Crispian Horse	—	—	Defensores
—	—	Cuirassiers	—	—	Solenses
—	—	Burcarii Tigresiensis	—	—	Pacenses
—	—	Nervii Dictenses	—	—	Longovicarii
—	—	Watchmen	—	—	Dervationenses

Also, along the line of the *Wall*,

The Tribune of the 4th Cohort

a Cohort of Carnovii

1st Cohort of Frixagi

1st Cohort of Batavi, and Tungri, and

of the 4th Cohort of Gauls, and the 2d of *Dalmatians*, *Dacians*, *Moors*, *Spaniards*, and many others.

He had also a body of men in armour; and in his court was a principal officer from the courts of the Generals of the Soldiers in ordinary attendance, who was changed yearly.

OF THE SAXON HEPTARCHY.

Upon the establishment of the *Saxons* and *Angles*, in South Britain, after the year 450, the whole of that part of the Island was divided into the seven following Kingdoms; viz:—

I.—*KENT*, founded by *Hengist* in 455 — It terminated in 823.

II.—*SUSSEX*, or the *South Saxons*, was founded by *ELLA* in 491, and ended about the year 600.

‡ The master of the Prisons was called *Comentariensis*, from his keeping an exact calendar of all the prisoners in all the prisons under his inspection.

§ The *Exceptores* were a particular order of Clerks or Notaries, who recorded the proceedings and sentences of the Judges upon appeals.

- III.—EAST ANGLES, founded by UFFA, in 751, and ended in 792.
 IV.—WESSEX, or the *West Saxons*, founded by CERDIC in 519, and ended about 1012.
 V.—NORTHUMBERLAND, established by IDA in 547, and ended in 827.
 VI.—ESSEX, or the *East Saxons*, founded by EREENWIN in 527, and ended in 810.
 VII.—MERCIA, founded by *Cridda*, in 584, and ended in 824.

TABLE I.

ENGLISH MONARCHS BEFORE THE CONQUEST.*

EGBERT, Began to Reign, A. D.	801	Reigned	37	years.
Ethelwolf,	838	. . . . .	20	
Ethelbald,	858	. . . . .	2	
Ethelbert,	860	. . . . .	6	
Ethelred,	866	. . . . .	6	
ALFRED, the GREAT,	872	. . . . .	28	
Edward I. a Saxon,	900	. . . . .	25	
Ethelstan,	925	. . . . .	16	
Edmond I.	941	. . . . .	7	
Edred,	948	. . . . .	7	
Edwin,	955	. . . . .	4	
Edgar,	959	. . . . .	16	
Edward II. a Saxon,	975	. . . . .	4	
Ethelred,	979	. . . . .	37	
Edmond II.	1016	. . . . .	1	

TABLE II.

ENGLISH MONARCHS OF THE DANISH LINE.

CANUTE I Began to Reign, A. D.	1017	Reigned	19	years.
Harold I.	1036	. . . . .	3	
Canute II.	1039	. . . . .	2	
Edward, the Confessor,	1041	. . . . .	24	
Harold II	1065	. . . . .	1	

* Ancient Geographers aver that previous to the invasion of the Island by the Romans, that part which was afterwards named England, was peopled by seventeen different tribes, each of which was governed by a Prince of its own.—These tribes were independent of each other, except when a common danger threatened them, when they united under the authority of a single Chief, a man of the greatest renown amongst them.—*Pomponius Mela*, Lib. III.

TABLE III.

KINGS AND QUEENS OF ENGLAND.

FROM THE CONQUEST TO GEO. IV.

KINGS.	Began to Reign	Reigned.			Years Since Reigned	
		Y.	M.	D.		
Wm. Conqueror,	Oct. 14 1066	20	10	26	737	Sept 9
Wm. Rufus,	Sept. 9 1087	12	10	24	724	Aug. 2
Henry I.	Aug. 2 1100	35	3	29	689	Dec. 1
Stephen,	Dec. 1 1135	18	10	24	670	Oct. 25
Henry II.	Oct. 25 1154	34	8	11	635	July 6
Richard I.	July 6 1189	9	9	0	625	April 6
John,	April 6 1199	17	6	13	608	Oct. 19
Henry III.	Oct. 19 1216	56	0	28	552	Nov. 16
Edward I.	Nov. 16 1272	34	7	21	517	July 7
Edward II.	July 7 1307	19	6	18	497	Jan. 25
Edward III.	Jan. 25 1327	50	4	27	447	June 21
Richard II.	June 21 1377	22	3	8	425	Sept. 29
Henry IV.	Sept. 29 1399	13	5	20	411	March 20
Henry V.	March 20 1413	9	5	11	402	Aug. 31
Henry VI.	Aug. 31 1422	38	6	4	363	March 4
Edward IV.	March 4 1461	22	1	5	341	April 9
Edward V.	April 9 1483	0	2	13	341	June 22
Richard III.	June 22 1483	2	2	0	339	Aug. 22
Henry VII.	Aug. 22 1485	23	8	0	315	April 22
Henry VIII.	April 22 1509	37	9	6	277	Jan. 23
Edward VI.	Jan. 28 1547	6	5	8	271	July 6
Mary I.	July 6 1553	5	4	11	266	Nov. 17
Elizabeth,	Nov. 17 1558	44	4	7	221	March 24
James I.	March 24 1603	22	0	3	199	March 27
Charles I.	March 27 1625	23	10	3	175	Jan. 30
Charles II.	Jan. 30 1649	36	0	7	139	Feb. 6
James II.	Feb. 6 1685	4	0	7	135	Feb. 13
Mary II.	Feb. 13 1689	5	10	15	130	Dec. 29
William III.	Feb. 13 1689	13	0	28	122	March 8
Anne,	March 8 1702	12	4	24	110	Aug. 1
George I.	Aug. 1 1714	12	10	10	97	June 11
George II.	June 11 1727	33	4	14	64	Oct. 25
George III.	Oct. 25 1760	59	3	4	3	Jan. 29
George IV.	Jan. 29 1820	<i>Vivit Rex.</i>				

TABLE IV.

THE PRESENT

ROYAL FAMILY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE KING.

His Most Excellent Majesty GEORGE AUGUSTUS FREDERIC IV of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, Duke of Lancaster and Cornwall, and of Rothsay in Scotland, Duke and Prince of Brunswick Lunenburg, King of Hanover and Arch-Treasurer of the Holy Roman Empire, Sovereign Protector of the United States of the Ionian Islands, Sovereign of the Orders of the Garter, Bath, Thistle, St. Patrick, and the Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Knight of the Orders of the Holy Ghost of France, Golden Fleece, Maria Theresa, Charles III. of the Royal Orders of Portugal, Black Eagle of Prussia, Elephant of Denmark and many others. Born August 12, 1762. Birth Day kept on St. George's Day, April 23.

Duke of York, Bp. of Osnaburgh, <i>Heir ap.</i>	August	16—1763
Duke of Clarence,	August	21—1765
Queen Dowager of Wirtemberg,	September	29—1766
Princess Augusta Sophia,	November	8—1768
Princess of Hesse-Homburg,	May	22—1770
Duke of Cumberland,	June	5—1771
Duke of Sussex,	January	27—1773
Duke of Cambridge,	February	24—1774
Duchess of Gloucester,	April,	25—1776
Princess Sophia,	November	8—1777
Duchess of Clarence,	August	13—1792
Duchess of Kent,	August	17—1786
Duchess of Cumberland,	March	20—1778
Duchess of Cambridge,	July	25—1797

The *Presumptive Heiress to the British Throne, in the first collateral Branch, is*

The Princess ALEXANDRINA VICTORIA, of Kent, (Born May 24,
 &c &c) 1819

CHILDREN of the Late DUKE of GLOUCESTER: who was UNCLE to
 His present MAJESTY.

The Princess SOPHIA MATILDA born. May 29—1773,
 Prince Wm. FREDERICK, D. of GLOUCESTER, Jan. 15—1776

TABLE V.

The Sovereigns of Europe.

COUNTRIES.	SOVEREIGNS.	When Born.	began to reign
BRITISH EMPIRE,	George IV	Aug 12 1762	Jan. 29 1820
France, &c.	Louis XVIII.	Nov 17 1755	May 3 1814
Russia,	Alexander.	Dec 24 1777	Mar. 24 1801
Spain,	Ferdinand VII.	Oct. 14 1784	Mar. 19 1808
Portugal,	John	May. 13 1767	Mar. 20 1816
Prussia,	Frederick III	Aug 3 1770	Nov 16 1797
Sweden & Norway,	Charles John,	Jan. 20 1764	Feb 5 1818
Denmark,	Frederick VI	Jan. 28 1768	Mar 13 1808
Austria,	Francis II.	Feb. 12 1768	Mar. 1 1792
The Popedom,	Leo XII.	Aug. 2 1760	Sept. 27 1823
Sardinia,	Charles Felix.		
Ottoman Empire,	Mahmud.	July 20 1785	July 28 1808
Naples and Sicily,	Ferdinand IV	Jan. 12 1751	Restor'd 1815

HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTERS WHICH FORM THE CABINET.

EARL OF ELDON.—*Lord High Chancellor.*

The office of the Lord Chancellor is to keep the Great Seal; not to judge according to the common Law, as other Courts do; but to dispense with such parts as seem in some cases to oppress the subject, and to judge according to equity, conscience and reason. Wherefore he is said to have two powers—the one absolute, the other ordinary; the meaning of which is, he must observe the form of proceeding in other Courts; yet, in his absolute power, he is not limited by the written law, but in conscience and equity. He may issue Writs of Habeas Corpus at all times. He has power to collate to all Ecclesiastical Benefices in the King's gift rated under £20 per annum in the King's books; his oath is to do justice to all persons, poor and rich; to the King truly to counsel; and to keep the King's counsel, and not to suffer the rights of the Crown to be in any way diminished. The Lord Chancellor and Lord Keeper are the same in power and precedence. Both are appointed by the King's delivery of the Great Seal; they differ only in

this—the Lord Chancellor hath also letters patent, the Lord Keeper none.

EARL OF HARROWBY,—*Lord President of the Council.*

The Lord President of the Council holds his post by Letters Patent *durante bene placito*. By the Stat. 21 Henry 8th, he is to attend the King's person; to manage the debates in Council; to propose matters from the King at the Council, and to report to the King the resolutions thereupon.

EARL OF LIVERPOOL, K. G.—*First Lord Commissioner of the Treasury.*

The Lord Treasurer, whose office is now executed by five Lords Commissioners, hath the appointment of all Officers employed in Collecting the Revenues of the Crown; he hath the nomination of all escheators, and the disposal of all places and ways relating to the Revenue, and of the Kingdom; and power to let Leases of the Crown Lands. The office of Chancellor of the Exchequer is always held by one of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. (except upon some very particular occasions when the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench is appointed to act as such) He is styled Chancellor and under Treasurer of the Exchequer; he has custody of the Exchequer Seal; he has also the controlment of the Rolls of the Lords of the Treasury; and he sits in the Court of Exchequer above the Barons of Exchequer. He has many lucrative offices in the Court of Exchequer in his gift.

EARL OF WESTMORELAND, K. G.—*Lord Privy Seal.*

This great officer is so called from his having the Privy Seal in his custody, which he must not put to any grant without warrant under the King's Signet. This Seal is used to all Charters, Grants, and Pardons signed by the King before they come to the Great Seal.

Right Hon. ROBERT PEEL,—*Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

Until the Reign of Henry VIII. there was only one Secretary of State; and until the Reign of Elizabeth, the Secretaries were never of the Privy Council. From that time to the present there have been two Secretaries of State, and sometimes three; and thus a Council has seldom been held without the presence of at least one of them. From the death of Queen Anne to the Rebellion of 1745, there was a third Secretary for Scotland; and from 1766; to the loss of America in 1782, there was one for the Colonies. In 1795 there was another appointed under the denomination of the War Department. The Department of the two Secretaries,

were, previous to 1782, divided into Northern and Southern; but are now divided into one Foreign, and the other, Domestic: with the Home Secretary, all grants, pardons, and regulations in civil matters of any kind are made and executed. To the Foreign Secretary belong all dispatches to and from other Courts, and all business appertaining to the same. They have the custody of the Privy Signet, because the King's private letters are sealed with it. There are four Clerks of the Signet, who are to make out grants, patents, &c. which have the sign-manual, to which the Signet being added, it is a warrant to the Privy Seal; as the Privy Seal is a warrant to the Great Seal. The Paper Office belongs to the Secretary of State, where all letters, papers, memorials, and negotiations, are deposited and preserved.

Right Hon. GEORGE CANNING,—*Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.*

EARL BATHURST, K. G.—*Secretary of State for the War Department and the Colonies.*

DUKE OF WELLINGTON, K. G. G. C. B. &c.—*Master General of the Ordnance.*

Right Hon. F. J. ROBINSON,—*Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

VISCOUNT MELVILLE,—*First Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty.*

THE power of Lord High Admiral hath, since the Reign of Queen Anne, been executed by Commissioners. The Statute of Charles II, ascertains his authority in these words:—"That the Lord High Admiral for the time being, shall have full power and authority to grant Commissions to inferior Vice Admirals or Commanders in Chief of any squadron of ships; to call and assemble Courts Martial, consisting of Commanders and Captains; and no Court Martial where pain of death shall be inflicted, shall consist of less than five Captains at least,—the Admiral's Lieutenant to be, as to this purpose, esteemed as a Captain, and in no case wherein sentence of death shall pass (by the articles for regulating the Government of His Majesty's Ships of War, or any of them, except mutiny) there shall be execution of such sentence without leave of the Lord High Admiral, if the offence be committed in narrow seas; but, in case any of the offences aforesaid be committed in any voyage beyond the narrow seas, then execution shall be done by order of the Commander in Chief. He appoints Coroners to view dead bodies found on the coasts, and Judges in the High Court of Admiralty. To him belong all fines and forfeitures of all transgressions at sea, and at the sea shore; and in ports from the first bridge on rivers to the sea, goods of Pirates, wails, wrecks, &c. Since the revolution, the maritime laws have undergone alterations and revisions, and the office of Lord High Admiral has been considerably abridged of its perquisites. Of late years this high office has always been in commission, and still remains an

office of great honor, power, and emolument. The first Commissioner of the Admiralty has a salary of £3,000 per annum, and the six Commissioners £1,000 a year each, and all of them (the youngest Commissioner excepted) has a house in the Admiralty.

Right Hon. CHAS. WATKIN WILLIAM WYNNE,—*President of the Board of Control.*

Right Hon. C. B. BATHURST.—*Treasurer of the Navy*

Right Hon. LORD BEXLEY,—*Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster*

Right Hon. THOMAS WALLACE.—*Master of the Mint.*

NOT OF THE CABINET.

Secretary at War,—Right Hon. LORD VISCT. PALMERSTON, M. P.

Pay-Master General of the Forces—Right Hon. SIR C. LONG, G. C. B.

Joint Post Masters General—EARL OF CHICHESTER and MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, K. G.

Master of the Rolls,—Right Hon. SIR THOMAS PLUMER, Knight.

Attorney General,—SIR R. GIFFORD, Knight, M. P.

Solicitor General,—SIR J. S. COPLEY, Knight, M. P.

ACCOUNT OF SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S HOUSEHOLD.

Lord Chamberlain,—DUKE OF MONTROSE.

The office of Lord Chamberlain is to take care of all the officers and servants (excepting those belonging to the King's bed-chamber, who are under the Groom of the Stole) belonging to the King's chamber, who are sworn into their places by him. He hath the oversight of the officers of the wardrobe at all His Majesty's houses; and the removing of wardrobes or beds; of tents, revels, music, comedians, huntsmen, messengers, of all handicrafts and artizans; and what is not common to other nations, although a layman, he hath the oversight of the King's Chaplains, and of all the Heralds, Physicians, Apothecaries, &c.—It is his place to inspect the charges of coronations, marriages, public entries, cavalcades, and funerals; and all furniture for and in, the Parliament houses, and rooms of addresses to the King.

Lord Steward—MARQUESS OF CONYNGHAM.

The Estate of the King's Household is entirely committed to the Lord Steward, to be ruled and governed by his discretion; and all his commands in Court are to be obeyed; his authority reaches over all officers and servants of the King's Household, except those of the King's Chamber, Stable, and Chapel. Under the

Lord Steward, in the country-house, are the Treasurer of the Household, Comptroller, Cofferer, Master of the Household, Clerks of the Green Cloth, &c. It is called the Counting-House, because all the accounts and expences of the King's Household are daily taken and kept in it. The Board of Green Cloth was kept in it.

Master of the Horse.—DUKE OF DORSET.

The Master of the Horse hath the charge and government of all the King's stables and horses—He hath also power over equeries and pages, footmen, grooms, farriers, smiths, saddlers, and all other trades in any way relating to the stables. He has the privilege of applying to his own use one coachman, four footmen, and six grooms, in the King's pay.—In any solemn cavalcade he rides next behind the King.

SUMMARY OF THE WHOLE HOUSE OF COMMONS
IN ENGLAND.

40 Counties in England, send	- - - -	80 Knights,
25 Cities (Ely, none; London, 4)	- - - -	50 Citizens,
167 Boroughs, 2 each,	- - - -	334 Burgesses,
5 Boroughs, (<i>Abingdon, Banbury, Bewdly,</i> <i>Higham Ferrars, and Monmouth,</i>) 1 each,	} - - - -	5 Burgesses,
2 Universities, 2 each,	- - - -	4 Burgesses,
8 Cinque-Ports, viz. <i>Hastings, Dover, Sandwich,</i> <i>Romney, Hythe, and their three branches,</i> <i>Rye, Winchelsea, and Seaford,</i>	} - - - -	16 Barons,
12 Counties in Wales, 1 each,	- - - -	12 Knights,
12 Boroughs in do. 1 each,	- - - -	12 Burgesses,
Shires of Scotland,	- - - -	30 Knights,
Boroughs of do.	- - - -	15 Burgesses,
Shires of Ireland,	- - - -	64 Knights,
Boroughs of do.	- - - -	96 Burgesses,

TOTAL,——718

<i>The first Returns of Representatives, for</i>		
Counties, and some Cities, was in the	- -	49 Henry III.
Shires, (<i>on record</i>)	- -	13 Edwd III.
Cities and Boroughs,	- -	23 Edwd. I.
The Principality of Wales,	- -	27 Henry VIII.

MINISTRY OF IRELAND.

LORD LIEUTENANT,—The Most Noble the MARQUESS OF WELLESLEY, K G. K. C. K. S. L. and D. C. L. &c &c. &c. *Grand Master of the Most Illustrious Order of St. PATRICK*

Lord High Chancellor,—Right Hon. THOMAS LORD MANNERS

Chief Secretary.—Right Hon. Henry GOULBOURN.

Morocco, per skin	0	1	6	U S. of A for every £100 of the
Beer, per gallon	0	1	0	value thereof. the sum of £10.
Cider, per gallon	0	1	0	<i>The following Articles allowed to</i>
Distilled spirits, per gal.	0	2	6	<i>be imported free of duty; that</i>
Shoes, (men's and wo-				<i>is to say:—</i>
men's) per pair	0	2	6	Raw Hides, Tallow, Wool, Print-
Boots, per pair	0	5	0	ing Paper, Cotton Yarn, and
Childrens' boots& shoes,				Personal Baggage.
per pair	0	0	9	Free from the payment of any
Nails, per pound	0	0	2	duty such articles intended for
Scythes, each	0	0	7	exportation only, with the ex-
Oxen per head	1	5	0	ception of such a- are subject to
Young cattle from 2 to 4				duty by the provisions of an Act
years old, per head	0	15	0	of the Imperial Parliament of
Cows, per head	0	15	0	Great Britain, passed in the 3d
Live hogs, per head	0	10	0	year of His Majesty's Reign,
Pork, per barrel	0	10	0	entitled, "An Act to regulate the
Pork, not in barrel, per				Trade of Lower and Upper Ca-
cwt	0	5	0	nada. and for other purposes re-
Flour, not in barrel, per				lating to the said Provinces.
cwt	0	2	6	In addition to the above com-
Beef, per barrel	0	10	0	mmercial information, it may be
Beef, not in barrel, per				proper to remark, in this place,
cwt	0	5	0	that the <i>Navigation Laws</i> , in re-
Hams and Bacon, per lb.	0	0	3	gard to an intercourse with the
Iron castings and Tin-				great lakes are very strictly in-
ware, for every £100				forced.
of the value thereof	20	0	0	
Saddles, Bridles, & Har-				<i>Exports and Imports, at Quebec</i>
ness, for every £100				<i>for 1823.</i>
of the value thereof	15	0	0	Arrived,
And on all other goods, wares,				569 Vessels
and merchandize not herein be-				132,634 Tons
fore enumerated, which are not				6 130 Men
subject to the payment of duties				Merchandize, £737,596 7 4
by the provisions of any Act of				Emigrants & Passengers 10,258
the Imperial Parliament of Great				Cleared,
Britain, the growth, &c. of the				138,219 Tons
				6,330 Men

THE Account of a TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE, which convulsed and ravaged a great part of Canada, in the year 1663.—Written and preserved by the JESUITS in their College, at Quebec; now republished in this place, for the purpose of endeavouring to procure further confirmation of so extraordinary a catastrophe, either by geological evidence, or traditionary lore from the Indians.

IT was on the 5th of February, 1663, about half past five o'clock in the evening, that a great rushing noise was heard throughout the whole extent of Canada.—This noise caused the people to run out of their houses into the streets, as if their habitations had been on fire; but, instead of flames and smoke, they were surprised to see the walls reeling backwards and forwards, and the stones moving, as if they were detached from each other. The bells sounded by the repeated shocks.—The roofs of the buildings bent down, first on one side and then on the other. The timbers, rafters, and planks, cracked. The earth trembled violently, and caused the stakes of the palisades and palings to dance, in a manner that would have been incredible had we not actually seen it in several places. It was at this moment that every one ran out of doors. Then were to be seen animals flying in all directions, children crying and screaming in the streets; men and women seized with affright, stood horror-struck with the dreadful scene before them, unable to move, and ignorant where to fly for refuge from the tottering walls and trembling earth, which threatened every instant to crush them to death, or sink them in to a profound and immeasurable abyss.

Some threw themselves on their knees in the snow, crossing their breasts, and calling upon their saints to relieve them from the dangers with which they were surrounded. Others passed the rest of this dreadful night

in prayer; for the earthquake ceased not, but continued at short intervals, with a certain undulating impulse, resembling the waves of the ocean; and the same qualmish sensation, or sickness at the stomach, was felt during the shocks, as is experienced in a vessel at sea.

The violence of the earthquake was greatest in the forests, where it appeared as if there was a battle raging between the trees; for not only their branches were destroyed, but even their trunks are said to have been detached from their places, and dashed against each other with inconceivable violence and confusion—so much so, that the Indians, in their figurative manner of speaking, declared that all the forests were drunk.

The war also seemed to be carried on between the mountains; some of which were torn from their beds, and thrown upon others, leaving immense chasms in the places from whence they had issued, and the very trees with which they were covered sunk down, leaving only their tops above the surface of the earth; others were completely overturned, their branches buried in the earth, and the roots only remained above ground.

During this general wreck of nature, the ice, upwards of six feet thick, was rent and thrown up in large pieces, and from the openings, in many parts, there issued thick clouds of smoke, or fountains of dirt and sand, which spouted up to a very considerable height. The springs were either choked up, or impregnated with sulphur. Many rivers were totally lost; others were diverted from their course, and their waters entirely corrupted. Some of them became yellow, others red, and the great river of St. Lawrence appeared entirely white, as far down as Tadoussac. This extraordinary phenomenon must astonish those who know the size of the river, and the immense body of water in various parts, which must have required such an abundance of matter to whiten it.

They write from Montreal that during the earthquake, they plainly saw the stakes of the picketing, or

palisades, jump up, as if they had been dancing; that of two cooes in the same room, one opened and the other shut, of their own accord; that the chimneys and tops of the houses bent like the branches of trees agitated by the wind; that when they went to walk, they felt the earth following them, and rising at every step they took, sometimes sticking against the sole of the foot, and other things, in a very forcible and surprising manner.

From Three Rivers they write, that the first shock was the most violent, and commenced with a noise resembling thunder. The houses were agitated in the same manner as the tops of trees during a tempest, with a noise as if fire was crackling in the garrets.

The first shock lasted half an hour, or rather better, though its greatest force was properl not more than a quarter of an hour; and we believe there was not a single shock which did not cause the earth to open more or less. As for the rest, we have remarked, that though this earthquake continued almost without intermission, yet it was not always of an equal violence. Sometimes it was like the pitching of a large vessel, which dragged heavily at her anchors; and it was this motion which occasioned many to have a giddiness in their heads, and qualmishness at their stomachs. At other times, the motion was hurried and irregular, creating sudden jerks, some of which were extremely violent; but the most common was a slight tremulous motion, which occurred frequently with little noise.

Many of the French inhabitants and Indians, who were eye-witnesses to the scene, state, that a great way up the river of Trois Rivieres, about eighteen miles below Quebec, the hills which bordered the rivers on either side, and which were of a prodigious height, were torn from their foundations, and plunged into the river, causing it to change its course, and spread itself over a large tract of land recently cleared: the broken earth mixed with the waters, and for several months, changed the colour of the great River St. Lawrence, into which that of Trois Rivieres disembogues itself.

In the course of this violent convulsion of nature, lakes appeared where none ever existed before; mountains were overthrown, swallowed up by the gaping earth, or precipitated into adjacent rivers, leaving in their place frightful chasms or level plains.—Falls and rapids were changed into gentle streams, and gentle streams into falls and rapids. Rivers in many parts of the country sought other beds, or totally disappeared.—The earth and the mountains were violently split and rent in innumerable places, creating chasms and precipices whose depths have never yet been ascertained.—Such devastation was also occasioned in the woods, that more than a thousand acres in our neighbourhood were completely overturned; and where, but a short time before, nothing met the eye but one immense forest of trees, now were to be seen extensive cleared lands, apparently just turned up by the plough.

At Tadoussac, (about 150 miles below Quebec, on the north shore,) the effect of the earthquake was not less violent than in other places; and such a heavy shower of volcanic ashes fell in that neighbourhood, particularly in the River St. Lawrence, that the waters were as violently agitated as during a tempest.

Near St Paul's Bay, (about 50 miles below Quebec, on the north shore,) a mountain, about a quarter of a league in circumference, situated on the shore of the St. Lawrence, was precipitated into the river; but, as if it had only made a plunge, it rose from the bottom, and became a small island, forming, with the shore, a convenient harbour, well sheltered from all winds.

Lower down the river, towards Point Alloüettes, an entire forest of considerable extent was loosened from the main bank, and slid into the River St. Lawrence, where the trees took fresh root in the water.

There are three circumstances, however, which have rendered this extraordinary earthquake particularly remarkable —The first is its duration, it having continued from February to August, that is to say, more than six

months, almost without intermission! It is true, the shocks were not always equally violent. In several places, as towards the mountains behind Quebec, the thundering noise and trembling motion continued successively for a considerable time. In others, as towards Tadoussac, the shock continued generally for two or three days at a time with much violence.

The second circumstance relates to the extent of this earthquake, which, we believe, was universal throughout the whole of New France, for we learn that it was felt from l'Isle Percée and Gaspé, which are situated at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, to beyond Montreal, * as also in New England, Acadia, and other places more remote.

As far as it has come to our knowledge, this earthquake extended more than 600 miles in length, and about 300 in breadth. Hence 180,000 square miles of land were convulsed on the same day, and at the same moment.

The third circumstance, which appears the most remarkable of all, regards the extraordinary protection of Divine Providence, which has been extended to us, and our habitations; for we have seen near us the large openings and chasms which the earthquake occasioned, and the prodigious extent of country which has been either totally lost or hideously convulsed, without our losing either man, woman, or child, or even having a hair of their heads touched.

* It appears from this, that the Jesuits at Quebec had not then received any account of the devastation which the earthquake had committed in Upper Canada, and of course were unacquainted with its real extent.

