

STANFORD'S EMIGRANT'S GUIDES.

CANADA :

ITS PRESENT CONDITION, PROSPECTS,
AND RESOURCES,

FULLY DESCRIBED

FOR THE INFORMATION OF
INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

BY

WILLIAM HUTTON,

A Resident Agriculturist in that Colony for the last twenty years ;
Author of the " Prize Essay on the Agriculture of Canada," &c.
and now Secretary to the Government Board of Statistics.

SECOND EDITION.

WITH

THE GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

RELATING TO THE FREE GRANTS, AND A MAP SHOWING THEIR
POSITION, AND THE RAILWAYS.

L O N D O N :

EDWARD STANFORD, 6. CHARING CROSS.

1857.



CANADA
AND
LOWER PROVINCES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Scale of English Miles
0 50 100 200 300

Railways thus

Longitude West of Greenwich

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INTRODUCTION.

FREE GRANTS OF LAND FOR SETTLEMENT IN CANADA.

THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT have recently opened out THREE GREAT LINES OF ROAD, now in course of completion, and have surveyed and laid out for Settlement the Lands, through and in the vicinity of which those Roads pass.

The Roads, as advertised by the Agents of the Government, appointed to the respective localities to afford information to the Settler, are known as "the Ottawa and Opeongo Road," "the Addington Road," and "the Hastings Road."

THE OTTAWA AND OPEONGO ROAD*

Commences at a point on the Ottawa River, known as "Ferrall's," a little above the mouth of the Bonchere River, and runs in a westerly direction, passing through the northerly part of the county of Renfrew.

It is intended to connect this road with a projected line of road known as "Bell's Line." leading to the Lake Muskako, and Lake Huron, by a

* Coloured Green in Map.

branch which will diverge from the Opeongo Road in the Township of Bradenca, at a distance of about 53 miles from the River Ottawa, forming with "Bell's Line," a great leading road, or base line from the Ottawa to Lake Muskako, 171 miles in length, passing through the heart of the Ottawa and Huron Territory, and opening up for settlement a vast extent of rich and valuable land.

This road, and the country through which it passes, now open for settlement, is easily accessible, and the Agent for the granting of Lands, in this district is Mr. T. P. French, who resides at Mount Saint Patrick, near Renfrew, on the Opeongo Road, a few miles from the Lands which are to be granted. To reach the section of Country under Mr. French's charge the Settler must go from Montreal up to the Ottawa River to a place called Bonchere Point, and thence by land some twenty-five or thirty miles westward to the Township of Grattan, in which Mount St. Patrick is situated.

THE ADDINGTON ROAD,*

Commencing in the Township of Anglesea, in the northern part of the County of Addington, near the village of Flint's Mills, in Kaladar, runs almost due north to the river Madawaska, a distance of 35 miles, and is to be continued thence for the distance of 25 miles till it intersects the Ottawa and Opeongo Road.

* Coloured Yellow in Map.

The Agent for the granting of the Land in this district is Mr. E. Perry, who, for that purpose, is now resident at the village of Flint's Mills. The outlines of five townships of very superior land are already surveyed and ready for settlement within the limits of the Agency lying north of Lake Massanoka, and between it and the river Madawaska. The townships are called respectively Abinger, Denbigh, Ashley, Effingham, Anglesea, and Barrie.

The direct route to this section is by way of Kingston, Canada West, thence to Napanee, either by land or steamboat, and thence north to the township of Kaladar, and the village of Flint's Mills where Mr. Perry resides.

THE HASTINGS ROAD,*

Almost parallel to the Addington Road, and at a distance west from it of about thirty-two miles is the Hastings Road. This road, beginning at the northern part of the County of Hastings, and running a distance of 74 miles, almost due north, also intersects the Ottawa and Opeongo Road and its extensions.

The Government agent is Mr. M. P. Hayes, who resides at the village of Hastings, lately called Madoc, about 28 miles north of the town of Belleville. The road between these places is in good order—the land to be granted by the Crown under the agency extends from 15 to 70 miles north of the

* Coloured Blue in Map.

village of Hastings. The road through this large extent of land is passable for 40 miles, and money is now being expended to extend it 30 miles further, so that settlers can get in and out without difficulty, and find a good market for surplus produce, as well as convenient facilities for bringing in whatever supplies they may require—abundance of which can be had at the village of Hastings, where the Government agent resides.

The direct way to reach this section, which is easily accessible, is by Kingston, Canada West, thence by steamboat up the bay of Quinte to Belleville 56 miles—and thence by a good road to Hastings, 28 miles.

In order to facilitate the settlement of the country, and provide for keeping in repair the roads thus opened, the Government has authorized Free Grants of Land along these roads, not to exceed in each case ONE HUNDRED ACRES, upon application to the Local Agents, and upon the following

CONDITIONS :

That the settler be Eighteen years of age.

That he take possession of the Land allotted to him within one month, and put in a state of cultivation at least twelve acres of the land in the course of four years,—build a house (at least 20 by 18 feet), and reside on the lot until the conditions of

settlement are duly performed ; after which accomplishment only shall the settler have the right of obtaining a title to the property. Families comprising several settlers entitled to lands, preferring to reside on a single lot, will be exempted from the obligation of building and of residence, (except upon the lot on which they live) provided that the required clearing of the land be made on each lot. The non-accomplishment of these conditions will cause the immediate loss of the assigned lot of land, which will be sold or given to another.

The road having been opened by the Government, the settlers are required to keep it in repair.

The Local Agents, whose names and places of abode have already been given, will furnish every information to the intending settler.

The Log House required by the Government to be built of such a description as can be put up in four days by five men. The neighbours generally help to build the Log-cabin for newly arrived settlers, without charge ; and when this is done the cost of the erection is small ; the roof can be covered with bark, and the spaces between the logs plastered with clay, and whitewashed. It then becomes a neat dwelling, and warm as a stone house.

The lands thus opened up and offered for settlement, are in sections of Canada West, capable, both as to Soil and Climate, of producing abundant crops of winter wheat of excellent quality and full weight,

and also crops of every other description of farm produce, grown in the best and longest cultivated districts of that portion of the Province, and fully as good.

There are, of course, in such a large extent of country as that referred to, great varieties in the character and quality of land—some lots being much superior to others; but there is abundance of the very best of land for farming purposes. The lands in the neighbourhood of these three roads will be found to be very similar in quality and character, and covered with every variety of Timber—some with hard wood, and some with heavy pine.

Water for domestic use is every where abundant; and there are throughout, numerous streams and falls of water, capable of being used for Manufacturing purposes.

The heavy timber land is almost always the best, and of it, the ashes of three trees—well taken care of and covered from wet—will produce a barrel of Potash, worth from £6 to £7 currency. The capital required to manufacture Potash is very small, is very simple and easily understood.

The expense of clearing and enclosing heavily Timbered Lands, valuing the labour of the settler at the highest rate, is about FOUR POUNDS Currency per acre, which the first wheat crop, if an average one, will nearly repay. The best timber for fencing is to be had in abundance.

■

A Settler on these lands, possessing a capital of from £25 to £50, according to the number of his family, will soon make himself comfortable, and obtain a rapid return for his investment. The single man, able and willing to work, needs little capital, besides his own arm and axe—he can devote a portion of the year to clearing his land, and in the numerous lumbering establishments, he can at other seasons, obtain a liberal remuneration for his labour.

The climate throughout these Districts is essentially good. The snow does not fall so deep as to obstruct communication ; and it affords material for good roads during the winter, enabling the farmer to haul in his firewood for the ensuing year from the woods, to take his produce to market, and to lay in his supplies for the future—and this covering to the earth, not only facilitates communication with the more settled parts of the District, but is highly beneficial and fertilizing to the soil.

In all the locations above named, wherever settlers have surplus produce, there is a good market for it near to them—farm produce of all kinds being in great demand by the lumber or timber merchants who are carrying on extensive operations throughout these parts of the country.

According to the ratio of progress which Canada West has made during the last ten years, the value of property on an average doubles within that period,

irrespective of any improvements which may have been made by the Settlers.

In many Counties the value of land, once opened for settlement, has increased FIVE FOLD in the period named, but the average value of such land, according to the statistics of Canada West, **DOUBLES EVERY TEN YEARS** in the mere lapse of time, exclusive of any expenditure thereon—and it is not too much to expect that this ratio will not diminish for generations to come.

The Sections of Country opened by these roads lie in and to the southern part of the Great Ottawa Region, stretching from and beyond them to the shores of Lake Huron, to Lake Nipissing, and to the Ottawa River—an immense extent of country whose resources are now seeking and will rapidly obtain developments.

THE OTTAWA COUNTRY, lying south of Lake Nipissing and of the great River Ottawa, and embracing a large portion of the land offered for settlement, is capable of sustaining a population of **EIGHT MILLIONS OF PEOPLE**, and it is now attracting general attention, as the more western portions of Canada are being rapidly filled up.

The Parliament of Canada in its last Session, incorporated a company for the construction of a Railway to pass through this Ottawa country from the shores of Lake Huron to the City of the Ottawa, and thence Eastward.

A survey of the River Ottawa and the neighbouring Country has been undertaken, and will be completed in the present year: its principal object being to ascertain by what means the River Ottawa can be rendered navigable and connected with Lake Huron, so as to enable vessels to pass by that route from the most Western waters into the River St. Lawrence and the Ocean. These projected works are alluded to, in order to shew that the attention of the Government, Parliament, and people of Canada has been fixed upon this important portion of the Province.

P. M. VANKOUGHNET,

Minister of Agriculture.

Bureau of Agriculture and Statistics,
Toronto, C. W., Nov. 29, 1856.

T. P. FRENCH, ESQ. ON THE CHARACTER AND
CAPABILITIES OF THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE
FREE GRANTS ARE SITUATED.

Mount St.-Patrick, 5th Dec., 1856.

MY LORD,

Owing to the fact of there being but a weekly mail to this office, I had not the honour of receiving your Lordship's letter of the 26th ultimo until the 31st; and I lose not a post in replying to the several questions which you have favoured me by submitting.

I shall take the queries in the order in which

your Lordship has placed them, and answer them separately, in as brief terms as may be compatible with accuracy and the clear understanding of all the points upon which I am asked to supply information.

Your Lordship asks,

“ I. Is the District in which you reside such as you would recommend Emigrants to settle in? If so, state its advantages.”

If “ the District in which I reside” be confined to a radius of ten or fifteen miles from Mount St. Patrick, my reply to this question would be *no* ; because I could not then look beyond the surveyed and organized townships in which most of the good land is already bought or settled on, and where, if there be any good lots still unsold, newly arrived immigrants would experience much difficulty in finding them. If however I am permitted to regard the lands lying north of the Bonne Chère river, those between the Bonne Chère and Madawaska, and south of the latter, together with that south of Lake Opeongo, as being within the compass of “ the District in which I reside,” then I would give a decided affirmation to the interrogatory ; as I believe the section of the country comprising those tracts affords advantages to the industrious farmer fully equal, if not superior to, any other portion of the Province. These may be stated as consisting of a most healthful climate, a comparatively short win-

ter, a good soil, innumerable small streams with some larger ones, lakes teeming with excellent fish of various kinds, venison and partridges easily procured, and lastly a certain and profitable market for their surplus produce at the lumber shanties. Such are the chief advantages which I believe this district of the country offers: but in opposition to them I must set down the difficulty of penetrating a large portion of it for want of roads. This, however, will be to a great extent obviated by the opening of the new line now being cut from Madoc to the Madawaska, and the extension of the Opeongo Road to Georgian Bay, which I believe is contemplated.

“II. What is your opinion of that portion of it where free grants are offered by Government?”

At present the only place where free grants are being given is the Opeongo road, which is under my charge, and of it my opinion is favourable as offering to the farming Settler all the advantages I have already enumerated.

“III. What is the nature of the soil? Is the country hilly or flat, sandy or stony? Is the timber very heavy, and consequently hard to clear away? What sort is the timber? Is there much maple?”

Presuming the questions contained in this paragraph refer also to the Opeongo Road, I shall answer them accordingly, remarking at the same time that I believe my replies *will be alike applicable to the other tracts* to which I have alluded. The soil is a sandy

loam; in some parts light, but in others rich and deep. There are some flat blocks of land on the line, and also some that are undulating, hilly and stony. Generally speaking the timber is heavy hardwood of the various kinds indigenous to this country, viz: Birch, Basswood, Elm, Beech, Ironwood, Ash, Oak and Maple, the larger portion being Maple. It is an error to suppose that heavy hardwood land is the most difficult to clear: on the contrary the trees are less numerous than large, and there is but little underbrushing or polling on what is termed "heavy hardwood land." There are also many cedar swamps, but these are rather regarded as an advantage, for although such are the most difficult to clear, yet when cleared the soil is excellent for meadow, and the cedar is the most useful timber for fencing and farm buildings.

"IV. How far are those free grants from the settled parts of the country? What is your opinion of the land on the Opeongo Road? How far is said road from the City of Ottawa, and what is the mode of travelling?"

The road is divided into four ranges, viz.: A, B, C, and D; the latter contains 72 free lots, and it is altogether within the organized and partially settled Township of Grattan, in the Co. of Renfrew. For twenty miles beyond the district line of this township, there are several settlers already on the road, and there is also the large settlement on Lake Clear,

on the north of and close to the line, some eight or ten miles above Grattan. My opinion of the land on the road I have already given in my reply to paragraph no. 3. From the City of Ottawa to Aylmer is nine miles; the road is macadamized, and there are daily stages plying between these places. From Aylmer to Bonne-Chère Point on the Ottawa is a distance of about forty miles, and may be travelled in summer by steamboat. From Bonne-Chère Point to the Village of Renfrew is nine miles, and there is seldom any difficulty in procuring a mode of conveyance at the former place to come on to the latter. From Renfrew to the first free lot on range D is thirteen miles, and may be travelled on foot, on horseback, or by waggon. As yet, however, it is a very bad waggon road, but I expect it will be soon improved. The entire distance then from the City of Ottawa to the first free grant on the Opeongo Road is about seventy-one miles.

“V. What Capital do you think it necessary for an industrious family, say of five, to be possessed of in order to settle down on wild land in that part of the country?”

Your Lordship has scarcely been sufficiently explicit in stating this question. You cannot fail to observe that it will make a serious difference in “the Bush” whether the family of five be composed of males or females, or whether the children are old enough to render any assistance to their parents. I

will however put the case myself, and suppose your Lordship means the family to consist of a sober and industrious father and mother, and three young children incapable of doing any outdoor work. And as I conceive this to be a point about which there should be no possibility of mistake, I will give a careful estimate of the quantity and cost of the provisions calculated to supply such a family for *eighteen months*, together with a list of all the articles usually in use by settlers, with their prices attached, observing that I have taken this year's prices—which is rather a high average—for the provisions, and that the figures affixed to the other articles are such as they may be purchased for in the village of Renfrew or any other in this county.

Provisions necessary for a family of five for *one year*, viz :

| | | | |
|--|----------------|----|---|
| 10 barrels of Flour at 8 dollars (£2) per barrel . | £20 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 do. " Pork " 15 dols. (£3 15) " do. . | 7 | 10 | 0 |
| 80 bushels of Potatoes at 2s. " bushel. | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| 30 lbs of Tea at 2s. 6d. " lb. . | 3 | 15 | 0 |
| 1 barrel of Herrings: | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ do. " Salt | 0 | 7 | 6 |
| | <hr/> £41 12 6 | | |

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| 20 bushels of Potatoes at 2s. 0d. | £2 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 do. " Wheat " 7s. 6d. | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 10 do. " Oats " 2s. 0d. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> 4 2 6 | | |

Other Necessaries.

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| 1 Grindstone | £0 | 7 | 6 | 1 Frying-Pan | £0 | 3 | 0 |
| 1 Axe | | 8 | 9 | 1 Kettle | | 5 | 0 |
| 1 Shovel | | 1 | 10 | 1 Tea-Pot | | 2 | 6 |
| 2 Hoes at 3s. 6d each | | 7 | 0 | 6 Small Tin Vessels | | | |
| | | | | at 4d. each . . . | | 2 | 0 |
| 3 Reaping-Hooks at | | | | | | | |
| 1s. 6d. each . . . | | 4 | 6 | 3 Large Tin Dishes | | | |
| 1 Scythe | | 5 | 0 | at 2s. 6d. each . | | 7 | 6 |
| 1 Inch Augur | | 5 | 0 | 6 Spoons at 2d each | | 1 | 0 |
| 1 Inch and half | | | | 6 Knives and Forks | | 5 | 0 |
| Augur | | 7 | 6 | 1 Smoothing Iron . | | 2 | 6 |
| 1 Handsaw | | 7 | 6 | 3 Pairs of Blankets | | | |
| 2 Water Pails at | | | | at £1 5s. | 3 | 15 | 0 |
| 1s. 6d. each . . | | 3 | 0 | 2 Rugs for Quilts at | | | |
| 1 Window-Sash and | | | | 2s. 6d. each . . . | | 5 | 0 |
| Glazing | | 5 | 0 | 2 Pairs Sheets at 3s | | | |
| 1 Bake-Oven | | 5 | 0 | per pair | | 6 | 0 |
| 2 Pots at 5s. each . . | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 Pig | | 15 | 0 |
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and planted with potatoes by the 24th of June. By the 24th August six acres more may be underbrushed and cropped. It would take him an equal time (two months) to log it, were he to do it alone, but as the logging is usually done in a day by "making a bee"—which means the calling together of his neighbours, who gratuitously assist him—and as he is naturally expected to go to each or many of them for a day upon similar occasions, I will give him until the 24th October for this exchange of labour. I then allow him until the 1st December to chop firewood and leave matters snug for the winter, when I suppose him to go to a shanty for four months at \$10 (£2 10s) a month, which will bring him £10. His eight acres of land should have produced him 480 bushels of ashes, and taking it for granted that he had neither time nor a kettle to melt them into potash, I allow him to sell them at 3d. a bushel, and they will realise £6. Now, this sum, with the £10 earned at the shanty, will, at the prices already quoted, leave an overplus of 7s. 6d., after paying for pork, flour, and tea, for the six months ending 1st November, 1857, by which time his harvest will be over. This produce can be made available for future support. After his return from the shanty on the 1st April 1857, he can clear two acres more, which, with the two acres cleared the previous spring, and the six acres during the summer, gives him ten acres of cleared land. In this he may plant three acres

of wheat, five of oats, and two of potatoes—for which I have already set down cost of seed—and as a fair average yield of spring wheat sown in new ground will bring him at least 20 bushels to the acre, he will have enough to produce 12 barrels of flour; and allowing as before 10 barrels for his own use, he will still have a surplus of two barrels, which being sold at \$7 (£1 15s.) each, gives £3 10s., and this sum laid out on pork, would, with his own pig, leave him quite as much as I allowed him the first year. Here then, he is supplied with pork and flour until November, 1858. Now, the five acres of oats should produce 175 bushels, and this sold at his barn door for 2s. a bushel would bring £17 10s. The yield of his four acres of potatoes—that is two acres in each year—should be 800 bushels, and leaving him half that quantity for home consumption, and the feeding of two or three hogs, 400 bushels will yet remain, and at the low figure of 1s. 3d. per bushel, they would bring £25. Thus making, by surplus oats and potatoes alone, £42 10s. From this sum I must now deduct £8 5s, for the year's tea, herrings, salt, and seed wheat and oats, as before, and there will still remain £34 5s. Thus is the family provisioned for two and a-half years, and £34 5s. realised besides, from the capital of £56 2s. 1d., by the judicious working of 10 acres of land—say in two years—as I give him up to May, 1858, to sell his stuff. Taking it for granted that the summer of 1857 has

been spent as industriously as that of 1856, and as the man cannot go for a second winter to a shanty, but must spend it in chopping, thrashing, grinding his corn, &c. &c., he should have, in all, at least 20 acres ready to crop by 1st June, 1858. The land before cropped will now require ploughing, and as the poor children will be the better of a little milk, £20 must go for a yoke of oxen, and £5 for a cow, which reduces the £34 5s. to £9 5s., and this sum, together with the proceeds of sale of his ashes I allow for clothing and other incidental expenses. For soap and candles I have made no allowance, because the former is invariably home-made from the house ashes and refuse grease without incurring any expense, and until circumstances improve dry pine may be used as a substitute for the latter. The third year will, of course, bring much larger profits, than the two preceding, and as they will enable him to add some sheep, a horse, and more cattle to his stock, I consider him independent, and think that on the 1st May, 1861, he should be able to repay, without any inconvenience, at least the half of the capital lent him. The remaining half, with the interest, should be refunded the year following.

I have thus endeavoured to shew your Lordship, in plain figures, the advantages that appertain to the occupation of farming in this part of the Province, and I trust that the calculations I have made will be found intelligible and reasonable. For my part

I am perfectly satisfied I have not over-estimated any item to the *advantage* of the settler ; and I think I have made it apparent that the valley of the Ottawa offers the great inducement of a happy home, and the certainty of ultimate independence to the sober, honest, and industrious farmer. Indeed, so persuaded am I of the success that would attend such a man, that if I had confidence in his character, and could afford to do so, I would have no hesitation in lending him the amount of capital required to give him a fair start, upon getting a guarantee for repayment, with interest, in seven years ; and taking the precaution to insure his life for that period, the premium also to be paid by him.

Permit me to add that in any other manner in which—consistently with my duty as a public officer—I can befriend the poor emigrant to Canada, my humble assistance may be relied upon.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient Servant,

J. P. FRENCH.

TO THE LORD BISHOP OF OTTAWA.

QUALITIES OF THE LAND IN THE FREE GRANTS.

The following remarks on the character of the land on the Addington Road are from the pen of Mr. Perry, the Government Agent, who has traversed the country of which he speaks. His remarks are in answer to the following questions submitted by a friend who wished to make use of the information in a publication he is preparing.

QUESTIONS.

1st. Are the lands in the Back Country of Addington and Frontenac, of a quality to reward the agriculturist for his labours ?

2nd. Are the lands so broken by the granite hills as to isolate the Settlers, and thus mar the social interchanges of life ?

3d. What chance has the settlement in getting supplies, and which is the best road to the land ?

4th. How and where will settlers dispose of their surplus if they have any ?

5th. What is the probable future of the settlement ?

To question 1st—"Are the lands in the Back Country of a quality to reward the Agriculturist for his labours ?"

In my opinion they are. The soil is a sandy loam, more or less covered with vegetable mould. It is made up of the decomposed granite hills that crop out at stated intervals all over the back regions. The silica of these rocks is crumbled to atoms by the agency of the acids contained in rain and snow waters—by the solvents in atmospheric air; and by the aid of a little obtrusive plant called lichen, which thrives in our driest weather on the bare granite, and without seeming effort, by the action of its root detaches small particles, and then deposits them at the base of the rocks in debris. Thus, in my opinion, the soil is made up of the silica or sand of the neighbouring rocks. There is a feature in the growth of the timber on the lands in question, in connection with the fertility of the soil, that I do not understand. Where hard wood predominates, the soil is a dark loamy sand; where pine takes the lead, a pale yellow sand is found. The whole drift has one common origin. The yellow sand bears by far the most lofty and gigantic trees; some having yielded to the lumbermen seven thirteen feet logs, the lumber of which was fit even for the American market; and one stump which I measured I found to be five feet two inches across, not including the bark; and yet the yellow sand gives a much less yield to the farmer. Where dark loams have a fair trial, the yield has been equal to the most favoured of the frontier Townships—

wheat, rye, oats, pease, barley and Indian corn all flourish; potatoes and other bulbous roots exceed the growth in older townships. I have in no instance seen clover tried, but am of opinion that at no distant day, if attention be turned towards it, that clover seeds will be one of the staples of the country.

The next or second question asked—"Is not the land so broken by the granite hills as to isolate the settlers, and thus mar the social intercourse of life?" I think that if I say no to this question, I shall be fully borne out by facts; the granite ranges run nearly east and west, and consequently the valleys between here and the Madawaska; the first and largest valley is found beyond the rocky range, or fourteen miles north of the river Clare. This range of rocks, over which the Addington road runs by winding through its gulches, is nearly a barren waste; then you come on land that is not fit for settlement; it is about five miles from where the rocky range loses itself, to the rear of Kaladar; about six miles of the road lots are entered for settlement, making a distance of eleven miles across the valley, that in all probability will be settled. Nor is this all; many lots beyond those taken, afford a sufficient amount of plough land to insure their settlement before you come to the next broken range, which occurs at the head of the Massenoga Lake; and even there some redeeming

qualities are found. You remember that I said the valleys run east and west, so that a large settlement will find its way in there ere long. I do not wish to be understood to say, that all the area here spoken of, is fit for cultivation ; there is too much broken land abounding through this district to suit me, but I wish to say that the Township of Kaladar has a fair portion of excellent land—that of Barrie, Denbigh and Ashley will be, when cleared and tilled, equal in quality of plough land, in proportion to their area, after deducting the water, to either Camden or Earnestown. Anglesea, Abenger, and Effingham are more broken. After you leave the head of the Massenoga Lake, the road passes over a rough range of rocky ground covered with fine groves of pine interspersed with patches of hard-wood land, sufficiently numerous to induce settlers to occupy probably the road line through this range ; but as you approach the Madawaska river, as large in appearance as the Trent, you pass a rich rolling country watered with springs, whose tiny brooks are filled with speckled trout, and whose hills are clothed with red beech, that have innumerable marks of bear's claws, those animals ascending and descending annually for the Mast. If you ascend a high hill that skirts the valley at whose base the road runs, you would see down on both sides of the river the pale green foliage of the hard-wood in strong contrast with the deeper

tints of the evergreens. The hard-wood land on this side occupies seven or eight miles in width, and to all appearance is as wide on the other side of the river.

The third question is, "What chance has the Settlement in getting supplies, and which is the best road to the land?" There are two ways for Settlers to approach the lands, and supplies can be got by either. First, up the Madawaska from Bytown and Perth—this is but a winter road, and cannot be travelled unless the frost sets in and bridges the lakes and rivers; by this route up to this time, all the provisions and provender has been sent to supply the lumbering districts on the Madawaska; and the supplies have to be got in one year before they are used; this route is expensive and unsafe, as an open winter or a general thaw closes the road. The other is the Addington road itself: this is much the cheapest and safest, and the shortest route, it being about 40 miles nigher the bridge over the Madawaska, from Kingston, than from the city of Ottawa, and the Addington road is securely bridged; so that when the snow sets in, the road is available, and ere long it will be a summer road as well. The main obstruction at the present time is the first sixteen miles from Clara, on which some 40 or 50 men are engaged with bars, picks, barrows, cars, &c., and with the aid of fires and sledges, are battering off the high points of the

granite rocks, and filling up the low places, so that in a few weeks both settlers and lumber merchants can receive supplies any day in the year. The best way at present for people at a distance to approach the land is, to take Hayes' stage, which starts on the east side of the Market House in Kingston, every Tuesday and Friday, and it will set them down within five miles of the commencement of the Addington road ; but as soon as the cars start, Mr. Hayes intends to run his stage to Napanee, which will then be the shortest and cheapest route to the and on the Addington Road. Tamworth, Centreville, Newburgh, and Napanee, all villages through which the stage will pass afford facilities to obtain furnishings for the settlement of shanties.

The fourth question is, "How and where will they dispose of their surplus if they have 'any?'" Every intelligent man knows that if there be no avenues to dispose of the surplus produce when raised, that it will destroy the energies of any man, however industrious he may be ; he will not put forth his physical strength merely to raise grain to rot in the stacks, or perish in his granary. I assure you that this alternative will never take place in my opinion ; and if it do, the time is so remote that this generation need not entertain any fear about the matter ; not that there is to be no surplus raised, for if its settlers use but common and industrious habits, in the space of three or four

years a large surplus must be the consequence ; for the rich lands of that region will pay the farmer with no niggard hand, but the demand will for years exceed the supply ; new settlers will be consumers before they are producers, and the vast amount of lumbering all along the Madawaska and its tributaries will require more than the Settlement can yield for years. Last winter, a score of sleighs passed daily at the end of the bridge I was helping to build over the Madawaska, loaded with pork, flour, oats, hay, and groceries ; and I was informed by some of the lumber merchants, that the supplies had hardly commenced going up. There are 40 miles of pine-growing country between here and the Madawaska, not cut off ; and if two miles per year should be taken, it would last for 20 years yet ; and if the supply shall exceed the wants of the lumberers and settlers, the excess can be converted into beef, pork, and mutton, and pass the frontier markets.

The last question is, “ The probable future of the Settlement ? ”

The answer to this in some measure must be like a fancy sketch. The imagination must stretch forward, and predict the future ; it must unfold the leaf of fate, and read events that are locked up in the *escritoire* of time. Sages tell us that we may judge the future by the past : if so, I look forward at no distant day, for an industrious, intelligent,

and rich population to be spread over the lands of our interior. The first half of the nineteenth century has changed the destiny of the human race, and in no place has its effects been more visible than in our Province. We are just emerging into manhood, untrammelled by customs or manners made venerable by their antiquity. The first settlers in our country had to contend with many obstacles that have no existence now; they had no Roads, nor Mills, nor Mechanics, nor had they any place to apply to for bread for their famishing children, or seed grain if a crop failed them, nor had they any teams to assist them to move the ponderous loads from their new chopped fallows. Yet, by incessant labour, perseverance, and economy, they prevailed and made homes worthy of themselves. And shall we, the sons of such sires, hesitate to leave the refuse shallow soils that overlay the limestone beds of the frontier townships; and go on in the rich loams of the interior, where Government is constructing a good summer road over a barrier that would have eternally shut out private enterprise. Our forefathers plunged into the forest with a scanty stock of provisions on their back, followed by our mothers, with the wardrobe and cooking utensils, threading their way by untrodden paths to the place where they intended to plant their vineyard. Contrast the events of their settlement with the facilities that we

enjoy; we jog along by steam, we converse by lightning; and think you, that our new Settlement will be debarred the privilege of partaking of the recently developed impetus that impels forward the destinies of the human race? I tell you no! A decade will suffice to reform what formerly consumed a century: in ten years the rich valley of the Madawaska, and the no less rich tufts or valleys that lie scattered among the granite ranges between here and there, will teem with life and the bustle of commerce. The stroke of the axe, the noise of the shuttle, and the ring of the anvil, will commingle with the bellowing of the herds and bleating of the flocks; villages will rise, having churches, whose tinned steeples reflect the rays of the morning sun; and as each succeeding Sabbath appears, call forth by the reverberating sounds of their bells amongst the hills and valleys, well-dressed youths, the children of the present race, to worship the God of their Fathers.

THE EMIGRANT'S GUIDE TO CANADA.

CHAPTER I.

Canadian Climate and Seasons—Their Effects on Labour and Wages—Mineral Wealth of Canada—Timber available for useful purposes.

AFTER a residence of very nearly twenty years in Canada, I find myself once more in my native country. Whilst here the thought has occurred to me, that I might explain to my countrymen the position in which Canada now stands, and the prospects which that colony presents to intending emigrants of every class. It is my purpose, therefore, to give a succinct and truthful exposition of her present state and condition:—Agricultural, Manufacturing, Commercial, Statistical, Political, Educational, and Moral.

My desire in this undertaking, is to add to the happiness of my friends and fellow-countrymen in my native land; and if, by so doing, I can at the same time *legitimately* advance the prosperity of the

land of my adoption, I shall be well pleased that both can be accomplished, and a happy result obtained.

Without intending to adhere closely to the consideration of the different branches of my subject which I have specified, I propose generally to consider the several interests in the order I have suggested; viz. the Agricultural, the Manufacturing, the Commercial, the Statistical, the Educational, and the Moral.

It is not my intention to go into the history of Canada from its first discovery, however interesting it might be. My object is, to explain its present capacity for affording a happy and comfortable home to the industrious settler. It may, however, be not unimportant to state, that very little was known, even as to the fact of there being such a country, until the year 1534, when Francis I. of France established a colony there. The emigrant will scarcely care to be told how far and for how long the French Canadians held possession of that country, nor yet to learn of the struggle by which the whole of the Canadian territory eventually passed to the British Crown. I will therefore pass to the real object of this book.

In a country extending about 900 miles from east to west there must necessarily be a great variety of climate in the localities distant one from the other, and also a climate that varies very much in its nature, in the lapse of a few years.

Where the woods remain in a state of nature, and

the land is uncleared, the sun cannot absorb the moisture from the earth, or from the swamps which are covered from its rays by dense forests, nor can it deposit heat in the soil. In proportion as clearances are effected in the country, and these swamps exposed to the action of the sun, the climate becomes more moist, and less subject to intense cold. There has been a very material improvement in the climate of Canada within these last twenty years, and there is no doubt it will continue to improve in the ratio of its settlement.

The snow which falls in the Upper Province generally early in December, and in the Lower Province late in November, is with the inhabitants a season of rejoicing rather than of lamentation. It gives the farmers a natural railroad for drawing their produce to market, or their supplies of firewood, lumber, &c., home from the woods, and affords facilities for travelling in sleighs with an ease and rapidity such as your best roads do not afford.

As to the extremes of cold, which seem to be so great a bugbear to the inhabitants of these islands, no real inconvenience is suffered by it. We can always protect ourselves against the cold, and even drive about for pleasure during almost the whole winter in our sleighs, with the aid of buffalo robes and furs. I have never known any winter in which there were more than six or seven days that the cold was so intense as to preclude the enjoyment of sleigh-

driving, even by ladies; nor have I ever known one winter in which teamsters were stopped that number of days from their usual avocations. I have been out travelling on one or two occasions when the thermometer stood ten or sixteen degrees below zero; but such intense cold is of very rare occurrence, even in the Lower Province, and never heard of in the western part of Upper Canada; and there is much that is exhilarating and delightfully cheering even in the cold of our atmosphere, and its clearness and unclouded brightness are no sooner felt than they are appreciated.

Persons desirous of settling in Canada can choose the climate that suits them. With the experience that I have of the country, I prefer that portion of it where there is snow and frost enough to afford facilities of communication in every direction, for about three months of the year. The country is yet too new to have good roads in every direction. The snow and frost furnish this desideratum, and enable the manufacturer of lumber to draw out of the woods into the rivers, his timber of every description, whether for masts and spars, or square timber for building and exporting, or saw-logs for cutting into planks and boards, or staves for exportation; and I have excellent reasons for desiring, as a farmer, a locality within reach of these manufacturers. They are very extensive consumers of our farm produce of almost every description. The immense number of teams

of horses and oxen which they employ as long as the snow remains on the ground, causes a very large consumption of hay and grain, pork, &c., which the farmer can no longer supply in the woods when the snow and the ice have disappeared, there being no roads by which wheeled vehicles can have access to their *shanties*.

Intending settlers who have terrific ideas connected with ice and snow, ought to settle in the far west of Canada ; here they will not be much troubled with it. They may, perhaps, have rather more mud than in the more easterly parts, but this evil is in some degree remedied by the increased exertions which are made to provide good roads, and also by the extra amount of *acreable* produce, which, perhaps, enables them to pay more attention to the state of their roads ; but of this more hereafter.

During the four winter months, December, January, February and March, the thermometer ranges, on an average, in Toronto (about the centre of the Upper Province) at 20 degrees of Fahrenheit, and during these four months, I venture to say, there are not seven days in any one year in which ladies may not be seen walking for pleasure and health in that beautiful city ; and not two days to prevent them in Quebec or Montreal. The air is clear and bracing, and the snow is not attended with that moistening effect which in this country gives such an idea of discomfort, in the shape of wet feet and garments.

Snow, in Canada, instead of being the bugbear that it is imagined to be by old country people, is, in fact, the delight of the inhabitants. No resident in Canada would voluntarily relinquish the snow-clad road, and the sound of the merry sleigh-bell, for the best carriage road that ever was made of McAdam's materials.

With all the pleasure and benefits, however, which we derive from the snow, there are disadvantages when it tarries too long, which I have no desire to conceal. Our agricultural pursuits are often delayed too long in the spring, so that we have not time enough to sow our spring grain in good order, nor to prepare our land for green crops, as a good farmer would desire.

For three years, out of the nineteen, I have known the snow remain so long that we could not plough a furrow of land until the first of May, on which to sow our spring grain; that is grain that will not bear the winter's frost (contradistinguished from winter grain, such as wheat and rye, which remain in the ground without being winter killed), and though on these occasions nature provides that the increased rapidity of growth somewhat atones for the late season, yet the farmer, in a general way, has not, in such late seasons, strength enough of team or of hands, to cultivate the quantity of acres which the extent of his farm requires.

These three seasons were, however, exceptions to

the general course of nature. The average time for commencing ploughing is, from the 20th of March to the 20th of April, always bearing in mind that within these two periods the season is earlier, as you proceed further west, and also bearing in mind that where I do not particularize localities I allude to the *central* part of Canada West.

There are also other disadvantages when the snow remains too long, and those chiefly connected with the condition of our cattle and horses. When our winters are very long we, of course, require much more food for our cattle, and, upon some occasions, there have been scarcities of straw and hay, which have caused the loss of numbers of cattle, especially if the snow happens to be so deep as to prevent the oxen and cows from going to the bush to browse on the tops of the trees which are felled by the axeman, unless he too has been prevented by the depth of the snow. The winter of 1850 was the only one in which I knew this to be the case, during my residence, and that winter the loss of life amongst the cattle was very extensive; but this very circumstance has been the means of creating a very general and wide-spread desire, on the part of the farmers, to economise their winter feeding, by building warm houses for their cattle, by growing increased quantities of turnips, mangel-wurtzel, and clover, and by making freer use of chaff-cutting machines, which are very great economisers of hay and straw; but the

great exertion seems to be to provide warm houses ; for with these, three tons of hay or straw goes further, and does much more good to the cattle, than four tons given without shelter.

If we have then this evil, the effect of long and severe winters, we can provide the antidote, as there is no scarcity of timber for the purpose of building in any portion of Canada with which I am acquainted ; and straw-cutters, as well as every other labour-saving machine, are to be had of the very best description, and at reasonable rates ; and the soil and climate are specially adapted for the growth of succulent root-crops, turnips, mangel-wurtzel, &c.

In speaking of our summers, I may fairly state that they are in general too dry—the clouds do not drop fatness as they do in Great Britain. We are three, four, and sometimes five weeks together without a shower, and I think I have known even six weeks together without any but a sprinkling. Other summers, such as that of 1851, have been abundantly moist, with copious showers every three or four days ; but such summers as these are certainly the exceptions. This, it is true, is a great drawback from our prosperity ; but the very same causes that will render our winters milder, will also render our summers moister.

As the clearances become more extensive, the sun exhales more moisture, which must return to the earth that gave it ; and the proof of this is clearly

discernible by every farmer of five years standing. Portions of his bush-land which continued swamp so long as the bush remained dense, have, soon after being cleared, been converted into rich and arable land, even without the aid of artificial draining. The sun and air do their work, and the swampy places become dry and fertile; the land, too, that lies between large bodies of water, is less affected with drought than land otherwise situated. The counties of Welland, Lincoln, and Haldimand, for instance, lying between Lakes Erie and Ontario, suffer less from drought than any other portion of Canada West, except perhaps the most westerly portions having Lake Huron to the north, and Lake Erie to the south. Perhaps in these portions particularly, but I may say indeed in all Canada West, all kinds of grain which are among the productions of the mother-country are cultivated with great success, and indeed very many of those descriptions of fruits and vegetables which cannot be raised in Great Britain or Ireland without immense expense, and the care of professed gardeners, attain without this aid a richness, and size, and height of perfection, entirely unknown on this side of the Atlantic.

But, with these acknowledged disadvantages of too dry a climate, we have also advantages that in some degree compensate.

For instance, the dryness, and what is in general termed the excellence of our climate, enables the

farmer to harvest and store his hay and grain crops at a lower acreable rate than the same description of crops can be harvested in any part of Great Britain or Ireland. Our wheat, for instance, though we pay 5s to 6s 3d currency per day to harvestmen, without reference to the weight of the crop, can be safely housed in the barn at 6s sterling per acre, including all expenses.

We are very seldom, indeed, obliged to move the shocks, or go to any expense in unbinding or moving the grain, other than the mere cutting down, binding, and drawing in.

Two men, one cradling and the other binding, will complete two acres of heavy wheat in a day; and fully one-third of the best wheat of the Upper Province *can be* carried to the barn as soon as it is bound in sheaves, without having to undergo the operation of stooking even. I do not say that that proportion is so carried, but that it might be with safety, and a very large portion is so carried off the very cradle.

Our hay, too, is ready for putting into hand-cocks the same day that it is cut, and can be drawn in good order to the barn or stack in two days following, thus saving an immense amount of labour, which would be necessary if the weather were unsteady or damp—and there is also some *waste* always attendant upon damp. This saving of labour is truly, in Canada, a very material point, where we pay 4s currency per

day for mowers, and 5s to 6s 3d for harvestmen in the grain-field. One reason why grain-harvestmen have higher wages than mowers is, that the season being short, the winter-grain all over the country comes nearly at the same time, and the barley-harvest follows very close, and consequently there is a great demand for harvestmen at that season.

The grass, and peas, and oats, on the contrary, will keep without much injury for a few days uncut; and by thus extending the time of hay-harvest, increases the supply of labour in this branch of harvest-husbandry.

The expense of cutting meadow is about 2s per acre with us, whereas here it is probably 3s 6d sterling per acre; but I have no desire to conceal the fact, that though the *acreable* price of *cutting* meadow is much lower with us than with you, yet the price per ton comes rather higher. The expense of saving is about the same price *per ton* in both countries, our warm climate balancing your low wages. Your *acreable* produce is, probably, two tons per English acre, whilst ours does not exceed $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons on an average. I have often seen and had two tons per English acre, but $1\frac{1}{2}$ is about the average of the country, and for this the average price is 35s currency per ton, the same weight as your ton—20 cwts. of 112 lbs. We have an advantage, probably, in our price per ton being higher than yours.

On our old and well-cleared lands we make very

free use of the horse-rake, gathering cleanly and well with one horse and one man fully ten acres in a day, and raking the ground to our entire satisfaction. We have admirable labour-saving machines, and we make free use of them. We have also introduced within the last two years, reaping-machines of a very superior description. One pair of horses and eight men will with great ease cut down and bind up and stook ten acres of fine wheat, having thirty bushels to the acre; and so beautifully is the work done, that you do not see a head of wheat lost, and the stubble is as level as a floor. This instrument (like the horse-rake) cannot, of course, be used to advantage where there are stumps or stones; but last harvest it was extensively and successfully used in the Upper Province amongst the old settled farmers.

Some of you will probably ask what I call an *old settled* farmer. In reply to this I may state that many of our townships, such as those along the navigable waters, have been settled partially for thirty, forty or fifty years. On my own farm, in the Bay of Quinte, the man is still living, and not an old man, who cut the first tree on it, about forty-five years ago; and this is perhaps the average age of the clearances on the front next the navigable waters: one of twelve or thirteen years, however, in Canadian parlance, would be called an old clearance.

No clearance loses its title to *new* till the stumps are pretty well rotted out, and this requires nine

years to effect, even with the most industrious. Hard wood stumps, such as beech, maple, oak, iron-wood, elm, &c., rot out in that period, pine stumps will remain much longer sound, and require to be undermined and burned out with the aid of other wood.

It is too much the custom to tax the virgin soil too severely by double cropping, and when the richness of the top vegetable mould is exhausted or deteriorated, the farmer too often finds that the subsoil is not as fruitful as he expected, and for this most natural reason—that the wide-spreading roots of the mighty forest trees have made their natural and unceasing demands for nurture on the soil that surrounds them.

The roots of trees must be fed in Canada as well as in any other country, and no wise farmer will exhaust the vegetable supersoil so that it will not improve the subsoil when incorporated with it. It is much easier to keep land rich when you find it so, than to exhaust and then be obliged to recruit it. People are generally very much mistaken when they talk of the *inexhaustible* riches of the virgin soil, and much more so when they practise severe cropping to avail themselves of these boasted riches. It is killing the goose for the golden eggs.

I do not wish you to understand by this that the virgin soil is not rich, but merely that its riches should not be exhausted before the plough comes to be used,

which is generally not till about six years after the first clearing of the land.

Having here connected my observations on the Climate of Canada with the subject of Wages of Labour, with which it has a close affinity, as I have shown by comparing the facilities of harvesting and haymaking in Canada with those of Great Britain, and the smaller acreable cost of labour in the former country on account of its climate, I may pursue the subject of wages of labour, which is a very interesting one to every individual of every rank contemplating emigration to that happy land; whether he be capitalist, farmer, merchant, manufacturer, mechanic, or labourer.

Canada is the country perhaps above all others where the diligent practical man, no matter to which of these callings he belongs, reaps an ample reward for his industry.

Wages of labour, in fact, are so high that none but working men, in the wide sense given to that word, can possibly prosper—mere *overseers* cannot breathe in our atmosphere.

The chief profit that the farmer makes is by doing his own work by himself and family, and thus not only saving outlay of cash for wages, but earning those wages for himself; thus, for instance, the man who hires another to do his work, say at 5s per day, and remains idle himself, loses the 5s which might

have been the reward of his personal industry, and is tempted by that very idleness to spend still more ; and his neighbour, perhaps, who performs his own work himself, is 10s richer than he when night comes.

It is thus that Canadian farmers, who are a most industrious class, soon accumulate means to pay for their holdings and render them freeholds.

In the Upper Province there is scarcely such a thing known as a tenant-farmer; we are almost all our own landlords, or working our way up to that proud position ; not one farmer in 500 pays *rent so called*.

There may be some of my readers who may wish to know something of the mineral wealth of Canada. I will not enter into details, but merely show that Canada is not deficient in the treasures of the mine, as well as of the forest and the inland sea.

We have Gold-fields of considerable promise within a very few miles of Quebec, near the Chaudiere Falls, in the county of Sherbrook, and on the property of the British American Land Company, the shares in whose stock have risen nearly cent per cent, owing to the prospect of finding gold, as well as to the contemplated railroads, which next year will intersect a large portion of their lands. There has also been gold found on the shores of Lake Superior, at a place called Prince's Location.

We have also a great abundance of very rich

iron-ore in the county of Hastings, in two townships called Madoc and Marmora, where there are works erected, and in the latter place in very excellent working order. The Company owning them is at present looking out for a purchaser, or persons to lease them, their capital being too limited to carry them on to advantage: excellent iron-ore is also to be found on Lake Huron, and in very many places in the Lower Province.

There are also many very valuable copper-mines on Lake Huron and Lake Superior, and the stock of the Montreal Mining Company has lately risen from 6*d* per share to 26*s* 6*d*, and promises to afford large profits to the shareholders.

We have also lead mines, and zinc and ochres of all colours, and soapstone and lithographic stones, and sandstone, and a never-failing supply of gypsum and shell-marl for manures and plaister good enough for statuary, and most beautiful descriptions of marbles—white, black, brown, gray and mottled, variegated green and white and verd antique: potters' clay and fullers' earth, and even agates and jasper, and rubies and sapphires, and amethysts and ribboned chert for cameos have been found on the shores of Lake Superior and elsewhere; and many other descriptions of minerals have been mentioned by Smith as abounding in Canada. Limestone is the general substratum of all Canada West.

With regard to the products of our forests, the

unbounded supply of the valuable, the ornamental, and the beautiful descriptions of timber which our woods produce, is too well known to require more than a passing comment. In an Essay on the Vegetable World, as contributing to the Great Exhibition, Professor Forbes, of King's College, London, says, "The Black Walnut of North America is a rich purple-brown hue, but little used by cabinet-makers in this country. Its capabilities are well shown in the chairs and tables made of it, exhibited by the Canadians, and highly creditable to their taste and skill." It can be obtained in very large planks, and he might have added, in very great abundance, as in the western portion of Canada West, there are tens of thousands of acres, having a very large proportion of woodland consisting of trees of this kind of timber, of immense growth, especially the country of Lambton and the Huron tract. Latterly, the Americans have been very anxious to procure it, not having any of their own, and it is so abundant, that they can procure it at about £3 for every 1000 superficial feet, counting the foot twelve inches square, and *one* inch thick, and the export of it is likely to become a very extensive trade. Our best and most beautiful furniture in Canada is made of it, and it even supersedes mahogany.

The *Hickory* is also a tree of the walnut tribe, remarkable for its excellence and toughness, though not, perhaps, for its beauty. It was exhibited at

the World's Fair, in the shape of axe and tool handles, and was much admired ; being so tough, the handles of tools can be made lighter and more handy than with any other wood, not even excepting White Ash. We have also a very large supply of Bird's-Eye Maple, so called, from the polished wood resembling bird's-eyes, and which I have seen in large quantities condemned to the log-fire, along with other very valuable woods, such as Rock Elm, White Oak, White Ash, Black Cherry, Bass, or White wood, (the Lime-tree of this country), and Black Birch and Black Oak and Beech, and many others, ruthlessly dragged to the mighty pile to be burned, to make room for the growth of human food.

Timber, however, has of late become a much more valuable article, and there is not now the same ruthless destruction that there used to be. The saw mills of the country, now so wonderfully increased in number and power, supply a demand for the best descriptions of timber, for which the manufacturers find a very ready sale in the United States, and the railroads will, in their *formation*, create some demand, as well as in the facilities of furnishing supplies to other consumers, which they will everywhere present.

This is a very important feature in the advancement of Canada, that our splendid forests containing the timbers I have named above, as well as red and white Pine to an unlimited extent, and also Tamarac

(or Larch) and Cedar, both red and white, and many other varieties which I have not enumerated, are now yielding a return to the manufacturer (or lumberer), which could not have been even imagined some five years since, so greatly has the demand increased, and with it the facility of supply. It is a most happy circumstance for us, that in the State of New York, and the New England States, there is a very short supply of timber, and the inhabitants of those States are depending almost solely upon Canada for the immense quantities which their "go-a-head" building propensities are constantly absorbing.

I shall not attempt to give any "generic" description of our giants of the forest; most of them are now pretty well known, at least by timber merchants. Our Pine, Elm, Oak, Ash, &c. have been long known, and the more ornamental woods, such as the Black Walnut, Butternut, the Bird's-Eye and Curled Maples, &c. are now rapidly becoming favourites for cabinet and ornamental work.

The *Oak*.—Of this we have several varieties, but the White Oak (*Quercus alba*) is the most valuable for general purposes; extensively used for ship-building and wheelwright's work. The wood of the others is not so valuable, but the bark is used for tanning.

The *Maple*.—Besides the two varieties named, the Curled and Bird's-Eye, we have the Sugar Maple

(*Acer saccharinum*), yielding a sap from which delicious sugar is abundantly made. Its ashes are rich in alkali and furnish most of the potash made in the country. They all afford excellent fuel.

The *Walnut*.—Black and Butternut ; the Black (*Juglans nigra*) attains the height of seventy or eighty feet, and three or four feet in diameter, and the wood is most beautifully grained, susceptible of a high polish, and highly prized for furniture, and gun-stocks. The nuts are very good if kept for some time. The Butternut (*Juglans Cinerea*), is of infinitely less value, but the nuts are preferred to those of the former.

The *Hickory*.—This wood possesses great tenacity, and is much used for tool-handles, handspikes, &c. and its nuts are much esteemed.

The *Elm*.—(*Ulmus Americana*), grows to a prodigious height, and in size, perhaps, exceeds every other tree, but its wood is not much used. There is another variety (*Ulmus Fulva*), or Slippery or Red Elm, whose bark is used medicinally.

The *Pine*.—Of this we have two or three varieties, all growing to a vast height. The White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), attains a height of one hundred and sixty feet, but the wood of the Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*) is far more valuable ; the former is much used for masts, but it yields timber of larger size, which is adapted to a greater variety of purposes than any other tree.

The *Ash*.—Of this there are several kinds, but the most valuable is the White Ash (*Fraxinus acuminata*). This wood is greatly used for carriage building, possessing great strength and elasticity.

The *Tulip Tree* (*Liriodendron*), is found in the south-western district, and attains the height of eighty or ninety feet. Its wood is useful.

The *Button-wood*, or Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), called also Cotton Tree, is one of the largest of our forest trees, but its wood is of little value.

The *Birch*.—There are two or three varieties of this; one the Canoe Birch (*Betula papyracea*), so called from its being made by the Indians into canoes; this tree is only found in the north; the wood of all is highly prized for fuel.

We have also the *Chesnut* (*Castanea Americana*), bearing an excellent fruit, and the wood producing good charcoal. The *Beech*, red and white, (*Fagus ferruginea* and *Americana*), affording excellent fuel, and a very tough and compact wood. The *Iron-wood* (*Ostrya Virginica*), called also Hop-Horn-beam, from its flowers resembling those of the hop; the wood of this is amazingly heavy, and used for the heads of mallets and other purposes. We have various *Willows* and *Spruces* (*Abies*). *Hemlocks* (*Abies Canadensis*), a beautiful tree attaining a height of from sixty to eighty feet; wood not good, but the bark valuable for tanning. The *Black Spruce*

(*Abies nigra*), equally large and extensively used in ship-building, and almost always for spars ; from the young branches of which is made the spruce beer. The *Balsam Spruce* (*Abies Balsamifera*), from the trunk of which exudes a turpentine, vulgarly called " Balm of Gilead." The *Larch* or *Hachmatah* (*Laris microcarpa*), attains one hundred feet in height : also used in ship-building. The *Cedar* (*Cupressus*).—Of the white variety excellent charcoal is made, and the red is very durable ; used for ship-building, and for posts and rails ; the berry is used in the manufacture of gin. The *Sassafras* (*Laurus Sassafras*), a fine aromatic, and producing an alterative medicine. The *Wild* or *Bird Cherry* (*Cerasus Virginiana*) attains an enormous size ; the fruit small, and only useful as an infusion ; the wood highly prized for furniture. In the south-west, the *Safran* (*Asimina triloba*) is occasionally to be met with ; it is a small tree, but produces a fruit which resembles the Banana in shape and flavour.

CHAPTER II.

Government Regulations affecting Land Sales—Value of Land—Validity of Titles—How to Invest Money—Tools, Wearing-apparel, &c.—Cost of Farm-buildings—Labourers and Artificers' Wages—Routes to the New Districts, &c.—Who should Emigrate, and when—Prospects of Canadian life.

BEFORE proceeding to any details respecting the culture and management of Canadian farms, it will be very desirable that some information be afforded to the intending settler as to the price of land in different localities, the circumstances influencing the value of the same, as well as the suitability of various districts for especial purposes, and other matters which, though they may appear trivial in the eyes of some, will be found by experience to have an unmistakeable importance to the emigrant when he finds himself on the other side of the Atlantic.

To begin with land, one of the most important elements in emigrant calculations, I may mention, that the smallest quantity of land which can be bought of the Government in the colony is 100 acres, except in a few localities where fifty acres are

sold for the performance of certain settlement duties, and on condition of actual residence thereon ; in these cases the adjoining fifty acres is reserved for ten years, to enable the holder of the first fifty acres to purchase the remainder of the half lot.

The general upset price is 8*s* currency, or 6*s* 6*d* sterling per acre for the best Government lands ; but there are abundance of very excellent lands to be had at from 1*s* 6*d* to 4*s* currency, or 1*s* 3*d* to 3*s* 6*d* sterling per acre ; and there are very many lots in the possession of private individuals which cannot be purchased under 35*s* currency, or 30*s* sterling per acre ; and I have seen wild land sold for £3. currency, or £2. 10*s* sterling per acre, in excellent situations.

There is no difficulty whatever in ascertaining the validity of titles to private lands. In the county town of every county there is a registrar, by whom every transaction affecting the title to each lot must be registered, in order to make it valid ; and *priority* of registry secures the title, even if the owner had previously disposed of the property to another party. The expense of searches in these offices is only 1*s* 3*d* sterling for each search.

The cost of clearing a field of heavy timbered-land in the usual Canadian fashion, leaving the larger stumps, three feet high, above the ground, and cutting all under six inches diameter level with the ground, and burning all the cut timber off, and building a substantial fence eight feet high, *i.e.* with

seven rails not less than four inches at the thinnest part, and also riders at each corner to keep the wind from blowing the fence down, and in fact leaving the field ready for wheat-sowing, amounts to £3. 15s or £4. currency, say £3. 5s sterling per acre—not so much as it would cost in England to manure and prepare *old land* for the wheat-crop; and it should be remembered, that when a summer-fallow is prepared for wheat in England, it is only for that crop and partially for two succeeding ones; but when a new fallow is prepared in Canada—it ranks in the farmer's assets for ever at the value of its cost of clearing, as when once a field is cleared and burned off and fenced, it is so much reclaimed from the forest, and with good management not likely to require manuring or fencing for fourteen or fifteen years—it will, in fact, be improving every year according as the stumps rot out, when it will become gradually level, and subject to the same tillage as the old lands of other countries. This cleared land is raised in value to the extent of the cost of clearing and fencing, and will generally sell freely for that sum extra the price of the same land wild.

The best lands generally cost most in clearing, more particularly heavy pine-lands.

A capitalist, on arrival, can see by charts and maps what lands are open for sale, so far as Government lands are concerned. If he require information about lands of private individuals, he must find out to whom

they belong near the spot ; but frequently even this information can be given in the "Crown Lands' Office," as they can tell to whom the Crown patents were issued.

A capitalist can settle on unsurveyed lands ; and when they are surveyed, the fact of his having possession gives him a right of pre-emption (or being the first to purchase).

A purchaser of surveyed Government or Canadian Company lands, is detained only a day or two before obtaining possession. If the lands are those of a private individual, much depends upon the distance of his residence, and his willingness to oblige.

In the Upper Province only mines and minerals, or rather the right to one-third the net proceeds of mines and minerals, is reserved to the Crown. In the Lower Province there are many other reservations to the Seigniors, many of whom hold under the French law.

The charges upon the land advance in proportion to the state of cultivation, and the demands of the locality for improvements in roads, bridges, &c. Wild land is generally rated at one halfpenny to three farthings per acre per annum, and cleared lands, having houses, barns, &c. on it, from 3*d* to 6*d* per acre per annum. The land is assessed every year by sworn assessors chosen by the people themselves, and the amount required is equally assessed on all according to the value of their property.

The extent of the taxation depends upon the expense of maintaining the gaol, roads, bridges, public officers, &c., and also to the number of free-schools in each locality. The taxes, for example, on my farm of 250 acres (175 cleared, and 75 wild) are £5. 5s per annum, or £4. 10s sterling. There are no other taxes, nor are there tithes. We suffer no oppression whatever in the shape of taxes. What we pay we get full value for in the shape of improved roads and bridges, and excellent free-schools; and every land-holder has a vote in the nomination of the persons to expend even the small amount of taxes which we pay—occasionally, we are taxed extra for the building of school-houses, or of town-halls for the transaction of public business within our own localities; but these extra taxations, from their nature, seldom occur.

The best way for intending settlers to take out money other than what may be required for travelling expenses, is to deposit it in any well-known bank and take *a certificate of deposit*, which can be cashed at the full rate of exchange in any town in Canada east or west.

English shillings are worth 1s 3d currency in the payment of *small* amounts, but are not a legal tender over 50s. Sovereigns are worth 24s 4d, and bills on London at sight, or certificates of deposit, are worth rather more than 24s 4d per £, as are also Bank of England or of Ireland notes—but they might be

lost, when certificates of deposit would be perfectly safe.

I would not *bring out any goods* for sale. I would not take out any farming-stock or furniture, but I would carry with me all the bedding and wearing-apparel that I had on hand, rather than sell at a sacrifice. There is no extra charge for freight to the emigrant, and these articles are generally speaking dear. I would not buy a large stock of clothes, because farmers and their wives and daughters soon learn to manufacture their own winter clothing suitable for the climate, and only very light clothing is required for the summer.

By far the larger portion of the cleared land is under tillage for two reasons—1st. Because there is so much pasture in the woods and on the *partially* cleared lands, that to maintain the proper number of stock they do not require to have much cleared land under pasture. And 2ndly. Because every farmer requires so much straw and hay for the winter maintenance of his stock, that he is obliged to have as large an extent of his cleared land as possible under grain crops. There are, in fact, no portions of Canada that can be called grazing districts. Near towns, of course, there is a greater extent of pasture to supply the inhabitants with milk, but in towns there are generally distilleries and breweries which afford winter food for the cows.

Cheese and butter almost always bring remuneration.

rating prices, but the length of the winter renders it very difficult to have a dairy farm as contradistinguished from a grain farm, the straw is so necessary for winter keep. Beef does not pay so well as butter and cheese, but sheep well kept pay remarkably well.

With regard to leasing or renting farms from year to year, I may inform the reader that occasionally a farm may be had at a yearly rent—many more now than could be had five years ago. The plan of renting farms is on the increase, but so long as the facilities of purchasing land on long credit, and annual payments of small instalments, with interest, are so great, it cannot be expected that many persons will hire farms at a rent. The usual rent for farms, with dwelling-houses and barns and sheds erected on them, is from 5*s* sterling to 15*s* sterling per acre for the cleared land, charging nothing for the wild land, and granting the privilege of getting fire-wood for the tenant's own consumption.

As to the rate of profit to be looked for from farming operations generally, it depends so much upon the skill, industry and economy of the farmer, and the quality of the land on which he settles, that it is a difficult point to determine. Perhaps the best statement I can give is, that a settler is quite sure of being well rewarded for his industry, if industrious, and in the ratio of his industry being well directed. He will also have a fair return for whatever capital he expends judiciously on his farm.

Failures of crops are by no means common. I have known fields of wheat entirely cut off by the weevil, and also by the Hessian fly; but these are insects of passage, and not destructive to any great or general extent. I have never known general failures of all the crops, though there are sometimes partial failures of one particular crop.

The cost of farm buildings is a point worthy of notice.

Log houses cost from £5. to £50., according to size and finishing; one costing this latter sum would be roomy and very comfortable—36 feet by 20, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ stories high, and divided into four or five apartments.

A frame house costs from £75. to £300.

A *frame* barn, 24 feet by 48, costs about £48.—£1. per foot being the general cost, if 16 feet high in the post and 24 feet wide. The threshing-floor in the centre is generally 20 feet by 24, laid with 2-inch pine plank, the rest of the floor not being laid unless required for a stable. A *log* barn costs about £20., but these are now very seldom built, as they do not last very long, and saw-mills are so abundant that farmers can have their logs sawed in almost every locality. The sawed lumber makes better and more lasting barns than the logs unsawed.

The wages of skilled artificers and others form, of course, items of consideration in the farmer's outlay. Carpenters, Masons, &c., when employed by the day,

have 6s 3d currency, or 5s sterling per day, boarded and lodged. If by the month, which means twenty-six working days, they are paid from 20 to 22 dollars, *i. e.* £5. to £5. 10s currency, or £4. 10s to £5. sterling per month, boarded and lodged; if not boarded and lodged, about 1s sterling per day more. This is, in fact, the general wages for nearly all artificers. Whitesmiths are paid rather more.

Labourers wages vary in summer from £2. 10s to £4. per month currency—£2. to £3. 5s sterling per month, boarded and lodged. In winter about 10s sterling less. If employed by the day in harvest time, they get from 3s to 6s 3d, and even 7s 6d per day in certain places, boarded on the best that is to be had. Railway and canal labourers have 3s 9d per day, boarding themselves.

In cities and towns the wages of women vary from 10s to 25s sterling per month, boarded, and in country places the average is about 15s per month; but a good cook will get 30s to 35s sterling per month in the cities. Washerwomen get from 2s to 3s per dozen pieces, or 10s per month for washing for one gentleman.

The best route to Upper Canada is decidedly by Quebec. The luggage is put on board a steamer at Quebec, for the Upper Province, and has not to be reshipped till the emigrant arrives at his destination: the passage is cheaper, and there is no trouble about extra freight, or luggage, or customs' dues.

By a late Act, the emigrant tax is 5s (4s sterling) per head for each adult who arrives, having had the sanction of the Government for leaving his native country, and 7s 6d (6s sterling) if he has *not* had that sanction ; children above 3 and not 16 are half-price, and infants free ; sick people are well taken care of in the hospital by skilful physicians ; and in case of the death of parties, their money effects are carefully preserved for their heirs or relatives. Where there is any contagious disease on board, the vessel remains in quarantine till relieved by the competent health officer.

I would not advise labourers or artisans to take their tools with them, unless they have good ones that they cannot sell except at a sacrifice. The American tools are generally much better adapted for the work in Canada than British made tools.

The wives and children of agricultural labourers usually find employment in cultivating the large gardens which their husbands and fathers can almost always have, or they can spin or knit woollen stockings, or plait straw hats, and can always find profitable employment at home when not at school ; but they ought to be sent to school very regularly while young, as when they become strong their labour is so valuable as to make it quite a temptation to parents to keep them from school.

The kinds of mechanics or artizans most in request are bricklayers, stonemasons, carpenters, joiners, ca-

binet-makers, wheelwrights, waggon and coach-makers, blacksmiths, whitesmiths, tinsmiths, coopers, shoe-makers, tailors and foundry men.

The best time of year for emigrants to arrive in Quebec is early in May, as they are more likely to get employment then, and can plant potatoes and sow spring grain upon any land they may obtain, which will be a great assistance in bringing their families through the following winter,—feeding a cow, hog, poultry, &c.

The settler having made choice of his destination before he leaves this country, which it is always wisest to do, is immediately instructed by the chief emigrant agent employed by Government at any of the ports, as to the best route, and there is no difficulty, as steam-vessels go direct to almost all the ports on the River St. Lawrence, the Bay of Quinto, and the four great lakes—Ontario, Erie, St. Clair and Huron. If going to an inland county, he will be put ashore at the port whence access to that county is to be best had. The Government emigrant agent having a knowledge of every county in Canada, will instruct him where to disembark, provided he has fixed on the *county* to which he will proceed. If going to work at the public works, the emigrant agent will, in a similar manner, advise him.

To the reader who may be disposed to put the question “Should I emigrate?” I would reply, if your circumstances, or those of your family, are such

that you are really desirous to improve them by steady, sober industry, and if you feel that your circumstances are in need of improvement, and that you are willing to *work* to effect that improvement, then leave home and take a wider field for your contemplated industry, where there is more elbow-room, and less chance of your jostling your neighbours, and a much more certain and more ample reward of industry than in more crowded communities.

To that land of the West, which more than any other country is calculated to secure to the industrious man, the pure gold of competence, health, contentment, happiness. Where you will escape the contaminations of reckless and desperate adventurers, who themselves outcasts from society, are now crowding to the regions of perhaps more attractive, but certainly less pure gold ; more enticing, perhaps, but certainly containing a hundred fold more alloy. Come to the British West, where true Britons find a more congenial home, which day by day becomes more dear to them. Society which will go far to reconcile you from any separation from friends or relatives ; a climate which though perhaps presenting new features to a European, is singularly healthy and exhilarating ; a language which is your own ; a liberty, civil and religious, unparalleled in the world. A land whose youthful history portrays an advancement in improvement altogether unsurpassed by any other country. Cities and towns

which not only rival, but exceed, in rapidity of growth and prosperity, the far-famed cities of St. Louis, Cincinnati, and every other city in the United States of America. A land where (though only now in its infancy) universities and colleges and schools, are thrown open freely to every creed, the former superintended by most eminent professors from Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin, and the latter ably taught by both male and female teachers, trained in a Normal school that has already acquired a world-wide renown.

A land which although it cannot yet number sixty years since it was primeval forest, will, in three short years more, be traversed through its length and breadth by railways of superior build; and already, with its inland seas and majestic rivers, possesses the most extended, the safest, the finest, and in every way the best water communication in the world.

Without drawing any illiberal or invidious comparison between the Eastern and Western Colonies of Great Britain, this I may safely and truly assert, that to the man of small capital, and to the labourer, the Western possesses greater advantages than any other country.

To the man who is now only a *tenant*, no matter how good his landlord may be, there is a very strong inducement, and it is this—that without any means whatever but a stout arm and a willing heart, he can,

in five years, be himself a landlord, the owner of one hundred acres of beautiful and productive land, without having to pay so much as one shilling for it for ever after.

If afraid he cannot effect the purchase and the improvements in *five* years, he will find hundreds of landholders who will give him *ten* years. The Canada Company, and many other companies and many private individuals, give this length of time, and a man can always pay for it sooner if he please. To be the freeholder of one hundred acres of good land is, indeed, a high privilege, and is ever keenly felt to be so by him who has hitherto been only a tenant, and perhaps a tenant at the will of another, from year to year.

CHAPTER III.

Results of Industry on Canadian Farms—Family Emigration recommended—A Picture of Canadian Progress—Colonization the feeder of a Nation's Wealth—Features of the Country.

THAT my readers may be enabled to judge as to the probability of their own success in Canadian farming, I will relate some few of the numerous cases of good fortune which I have known attend the exertions of settlers in that country.

I can give many instances where, by the combined industry of father and sons, two hundred acres have been paid for, and the freehold secured in three years, off the land itself, without any extra pecuniary aid. ' And there are numberless instances of yearly occurrence where one individual has paid for one hundred acres of *improved* land, from the proceeds of his own industry in five years, having nothing to commence with but his axe, and not only has he the land paid for, but thirty or forty acres cleared, and a house built, and perhaps a log-barn and cow-house, and all this from his own *unaided* labour.

Where he requires a second or a third hand to

raise his house, or gather in his harvest, he has to change work with his neighbours, giving them time for what they give him ; and not unfrequently you will see the wife or daughter "pitching" the hay or the sheaves in harvest time, and I have often also seen women helping to roll in the large logs for burning.

One farmer who settled in the county of Hastings, came there with his axe and nothing more, worked on his own land when he had earned some pork and flour by hiring to another farmer, cleared eight or ten acres ; put up a log-house, bought a cow or two ; married, had twelve sons and six daughters, brought them all up comfortably ; built a large and comfortable house and outhouses, and planted an orchard, costing in all £600 ; purchased two hundred acres for each son as he reached the age of twenty-one ; gave him an outfit of horses, oxen, cows, sheep, and furniture ; and told me not very long ago, that he paid for the last two hundred acres, for the twelfth son, making two thousand four hundred acres altogether. I remarked to him, being an old neighbour, that now I supposed he would be going to buy some for the girls. No, said he, I buy for my boys, and other farmers will do the same, and it will be farmers' sons that will be likely to marry my daughters. This is the custom amongst the old Dutch inhabitants of the country.

Here was an instance of great success from the

united labours of an industrious family. Many of these young men, I know, are most comfortably situated, and this family is just an example, though on a large scale, of what may be seen in all the old settled counties of Canada West.

I give another example.—A near neighbour was put upon one hundred acres of wild land, with a yoke of oxen, an axe, a barrel or two of flour, and some pork, given to him by his father, who was an old soldier, being land which he had drawn for services in the army. On the one hundred acres he built a log-house; married, reared five sons and three daughters; owns now two thousand acres of first-rate land, worth £6000, and has £2000 out at interest; all accumulated by his own and his *family's* exertions as a farmer, having no other calling or occupation.

Both of these men are near neighbours of mine, and are old settlers in the country. Their history is that of tens of thousands of others, though not on quite so extensive a scale as to size of family or successful industry.

But to give examples of more recent settlers.

A man of the name of Elwart, came to me without a shilling in his possession, or clothes of any kind that were not patched all over. I hired him at eight dollars, or £1. 12s sterling, per month, afterwards increased to ten dollars, or £2. per month; found him at the end of the year a valuable man,

raised his wages to twelve dollars, or £2. 8s sterling per month, and kept him in all eighteen months, at the end of which time he had accumulated £34. in addition to an abundance of comfortable clothing. After eighteen months he left me, and hired as a lumber man out in the woods, that is one who prepares the timber for the British market, and draws it to the rivers out of the woods, in order to float it in large rafts down to Quebec. Being an excellent teamster, he was paid sixteen dollars per month, or £3. 5s sterling, boarded, and afterwards £3. 15s sterling, per month. In five years he saved, after supporting and clothing himself, upwards of £200., and when I last saw him, he said he had just got the deed for ever of a fine farm of two hundred acres in my county, partially cleared, and with some buildings.

This man could neither read nor write, nor had he any peculiar gift, but that of persevering industry and zeal for his master's welfare, and honesty, and sobriety and economy. There is not a good labourer here that could not do nearly as well as this man if he had the same good properties.

Wages are quite as high as ever I have known them in Canada. The men on the railroads and public works are receiving from three shillings to four shillings sterling per day, to board themselves. Very often you see advertisements such as this: "One thousand Labourers wanted, to whom a dollar

a-day will be given;" about 4s 2d sterling; but these are not the description of labourers that accumulate means or purchase property; they are the least respectable class, and generally spend all they earn. It is the farm labourers who generally accumulate, though the lumberer has just as good an opportunity, and fewer temptations, being generally in the depths of the woods, where there is no possibility of spending money, if ever so much inclined to do so. They are as much shut out from temptation as the sailor whilst at sea.

But it is unnecessary to dwell on the advantages that Canada presents to the steady labourer. It is emphatically *the* country for the labourer!

If it be so, some of you will say, it cannot be for the farmer who hires the labourer. I will grant the validity of this argument *if the farmer be no labourer*; but to show you the almost universal prosperity of the working farmer, I will continue to give a number of authenticated examples of men who had within the last few years left the shores of Old Ireland to secure an independence for themselves and families.

Three brothers came from the north of Ireland; had not 20s on landing; hired to some of my neighbours at £20. to £30. per annum, for four or five years. Bought farms of 200 acres each in my county; went upon them, helped one another; made good clearances, had excellent crops; paid for

their lands, and have now most excellent houses, barns, and buildings of every kind ; owe no man any thing ; have horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs, yes, and comfortable carriages and handsome harness, to their heart's content, and are amongst the best of our independent yeomanry ; their houses are a picture of prosperity and comfort. Some of their rooms carpeted and curtained, and a hearty welcome with all of them for a brother Irishman.

Contrast this with what their lot would have been had they remained where they were. Would they ever, think you, have enjoyed their beautiful and extensive freeholds ? Would they ever have been able to drive capital horses in a comfortable carriage ? They were common labourers. I leave yourselves to answer. The three brothers are now worth £3000.

And I will take occasion to observe here, that brothers, relatives, and neighbours, ought to emigrate together, and keep together, and purchase neighbouring lots. If there be an evil in Canada, it is the absence of near and dear friends, when you settle in the bush. Sickness or accident may befall you, and there is also much work that requires *accumulated* strength. The building of houses, or barns, or sheds, cannot be done without *joint* effort, nor can even the rolling in of log-heaps to the fire be done by one person by himself, to advantage ; nor can the harvesting, or haymaking, or drawing into

the barn, be done by one individual, however well inclined. So that independent of social enjoyment, or aid and comfort in time of sickness, or the thousand advantages of hourly occurrence which kind neighbours and friends freely reciprocate, there is a real advantage in having an *accumulation* of strength. Men can always effect more by *joint* exertion than by the same amount of time and strength expended in separate individual effort. Therefore it is wise for relations and neighbours to migrate together, and they are always sure of procuring, if not adjoining, at least neighbouring lots.

“Large as are the numbers,” says Mr. Lillie, “who are flocking annually to our shores, I have often wondered when looking at the advantages which Canada offers to the virtuous and the diligent, that they should not be very much larger. Such may command almost anywhere they please to locate themselves all the substantial comforts of life, with a fair measure of exertion. Who are the owners of our largest and handsomest and best stocked farms? Generally speaking, men who have procured and improved them by their own labour; many of whom you find in all the older parts of the country living like patriarchs, surrounded by their children to whom they have given inheritances.

“For example,” says he, “I was myself intimately acquainted a few years ago with an old gentleman thus situated in Flamboro’ West (where there are

many others in similar circumstances), whose property consisted when he came into the country of nothing more than the axe which he carried on his shoulder, with a moderate supply of clothes for himself and his young wife, and who, ere he could procure a place to lie down and sleep, had to make himself a tent by throwing a blanket over a few boughs which he cut from some of the trees in the yet unbroken forest. This man was now the owner of a beautiful and well-stocked farm, with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life."

Again he continues:—"Meeting some time ago with a countryman of my own who had occupied a respectable position at home, and whom I found living in a handsome stone-house with all the evidences of comfort around him, and in the enjoyment of the respect of his neighbours, I remarked to him, 'I suppose you do not regret having come to Canada.' 'Oh, no!' was his prompt reply. 'It has, to be sure, been pretty much of a struggle all the time, but I have brought up seven sons, to four of whom I have given farms, and I hope by-and-bye to be able to provide them for the rest.' His time of residence in the country had been, I believe, twenty-seven years."

Such instances are indeed very common, but you hear them sometimes complaining that Canada is not the country for a farmer, though surrounded with all these comforts. It is often most amusing to hear their complaints. On one occasion I re-

collect a most determined grumbler telling me, that there was nothing but ruin and decay. I quietly turned round, and asked him how much he would take for his farm. He said, seven thousand dollars—about £1500 sterling. I insisted, for amusement sake, that six thousand would be enough for it, but he very indignantly declared he would not take one farthing less than seven thousand dollars—£1750. currency. Yet this man had been put on that farm in a perfectly wild state, with scarcely a tree cut upon it, and with very little else than a yoke of oxen and an axe; and though he had reared a family of ten children in comfort, and established two of his sons on good farms, and had realized £1500. he would have led a stranger to suppose that farming was a most ruinous business. This man was a very near neighbour of my own, and I have watched his progress from year to year. In 1849 he built a most beautiful house, having a most delightful view of the Bay of Quinte, and in excellent taste, with about twelve rooms in it, at a cost of upwards of £400. It gives one every idea of comfort to see him driving his well-clad daughters in his most comfortable four-wheel pleasure-carriage, with beautiful horses and silver-mounted harness, and yet this man is for ever grumbling and declaring that there is nothing to be made by farming. We have abundance of such poor men as these—poor in spirit, who think little of being in possession of splendid farms constantly im-

proving, and good houses, and good cattle, and good constitutions, and good health, and every thing good, but a sense of gratitude to the Giver of all this good. Are such men as these much to be pitied? What would they have been possessed of had they remained in Great Britain? Would they have had one foot of ground that they could have called *their own*?

Again, I give you the history of my next neighbour, an old Scotchman, who came to Canada from Aberdeen in 1835. He had been a blacksmith, and had realised about £1000 by industry and inheritance—he purchased the next farm to mine, 200 acres, for £5 per acre currency; he had, therefore, enough left to buy his horses, cows, &c. He had two sons and three daughters. He bought a farm of 300 acres for his eldest son for £650, built a nice house in town for a widowed daughter, and the property he has accumulated is now worth nearly £4000. He was an old man when he came out, but he says he might have laboured long enough and sair enough in Auld Reekie before he could have earned what he now has.

“But,” says Smith, in his admirable work on Canada, “as an example of the success that usually attends exertions properly applied in Western Canada, we may repeat an anecdote told to us by an eccentric friend, the truth of which we can vouch for. The story cannot be better told than in his own words: ‘I was standing,’ said my friend, ‘one day about

four years ago by the river-side, watching the steam-boat which had just arrived on her upward trip. While she was taking in wood and discharging cargo, the captain drew me aside and pointed out some of his passengers, whom he was taking up the river in search of a new home. Led by the glowing descriptions continually published of the United States, they had left England and emigrated to the far West, Illinois or Wisconsin, I forget which. After remaining there until they had lost all the little property they had taken out with them, worn out with sickness, and worse still with that hope deferred which maketh the *heart* sick, they determined to make their way to Canada, in hopes of finding amongst their own countrymen, that sympathy and assistance they had in vain sought among a nation of strangers. The couple were still young, but had added years to their ages by the trials they had undergone. As they stood upon the deck of the boat—strangers in a strange land, spiritless, moneyless, almost hopeless—the man looked gloomily about him and spoke in melancholy tones, the wife held down her head and said nothing.

“The captain asked if I could do anything for them. I turned over in my own mind what I could make of him, and as I had just finished my new mill I determined on making a *cooper* of him; so I told the captain to put them and their traps ashore, and going to the man I told him to step ashore. I am

looking out for a cooper, said I—you are just the man I want, so step ashore and I'll give you employment. He looked at me in astonishment. I am no cooper, said he; I never worked at the trade, and know nothing about it. Pooh! pooh! said I, don't tell me, I know better, come ashore. I tell you I am no cooper, said he. Nonsense, man, come ashore, I tell you you are a first-rate cooper *only you don't know it!* So I got them ashore and the boat started.

“ ‘ Now, said he, you have stopped me on my way and got me here, and I do not see that I can do anything for you, or how I am to get a living.—Why what do you want?—In the first place we want a house to shelter us, then we want something to eat.—There is a house (said I), pointing to one, you can take possession of it; there is a store, you can get meat and groceries there; there is the mill, you can get flour there, and I dare say your wife can make it into bread, and then you can go to work.—But I have no tools!—Go to the store and get them; in short, I determined to make a cooper of him and I succeeded. You see that neat white cottage on the hill, that is his—that building beside it is his workshop. He now employs several men; he is out of debt, has purchased the lot adjoining his premises, and is worth at least a thousand dollars (£250).’ Our friend laughed heartily when he told the story, and well he might. All honour to the man who

would step out of his way to relieve a fellow-creature in distress, and start him on his way rejoicing—he may well be proud of the result. We found his statement correct, and more than that we obtained the man who was made a cooper against his will as a subscriber to our work.”

There are many valuable and wealthy settlers who have entered into trades and occupations with which they were not originally acquainted, but to which circumstances directed their attention and pointed to them the opening. There is employment in every line of business, and each may adopt the one most suited to his taste or means.

We have varieties of instances of this. School-teachers become successful store-keepers. Tinkers become owners of large foundries and implement manufactories. A cobbler becomes the owner of a large shoe-warehouse, and a justice of the peace into the bargain. I have known a butcher's boy become a wealthy distiller; and a baker's boy, who in my own time used to carry a few cakes for sale in a basket, become a large mill-owner and grain-merchant. I have known several cases of millers' boys becoming wealthy store-keepers; and, in fact, instances of rapid advances are innumerable without the aid of inheritances, but merely by persevering industry and care.

I might also have mentioned that I have known some lawyers, who might have been called young lawyers when I went to Canada, become most emi-

nent judges of the Queen's Bench ; and I cannot give you a more truthful account of the progress of most of the towns in Canada, than by quoting the address of one of these very judges to the grand jury at the Coburg Assizes, in January, 1852. He addressed them in the following terms:—

“On the first occasion of my delivering a charge to the jury of this place, I cannot refrain from a reference to my earlier acquaintance with this part of the Province.

“Thirty-two years have elapsed since, on my arrival in Canada, I became a resident here. I am almost led to doubt the correctness of my recollection of the past, in view of the evidence of the present. At that time, from the eastern to the western extremity of the then district of Newcastle, there was not a solitary wharf along the shores of the Lake. The towns of Coburg and Port Hope together did not contain as many houses as are now to be found in the worst settled streets of either ; while, I verily believe, the population of those two towns now equal, and probably exceed, the population of the whole district at that period. Saw mills and grist mills, though things of absolute necessity, were thinly scattered where occasion most called for them, but there were, to the best of my recollection, but two mills that manufactured flour to be sent to another market, and every foot of lumber that was sawed was used in the immediate neighbourhood.

“An occasional schooner might drop her anchor to land an emigrant family, or a few bales of merchandise, or to carry away a load of flour; and at a long distance off might now and then be seen, the funnels and smoke of the old ‘Frontenac,’ as she prosecuted her thrice a month voyages from Kingston to York and Niagara, and back again, touching nowhere by the way. There was a church in course of erection at Coburg, but at the period to which I allude, I do not remember one building which was exclusively devoted to public worship, from the river Trent to the western extremity of Darlington, (about 100 miles). The mails were carried on horseback, excepting in winter, and even then quite uncertain, there was not a single public conveyance. The roads!! you must have travelled to be able to appreciate them; nay, even between the place where we are now assembled, and what had then just begun to be called ‘Coburg,’ there was a swamp all but impassable at some seasons of the year.

“Of educational institutions there was the district school and a few common schools, of which the best perhaps that can be said is, that they were better than none at all. Of those comforts of life which habit makes almost necessities, there was not always a sufficiency, the hour for the cultivation of refinements had not yet arrived, and of many luxuries which now abound there was no supply. Look at the advancement that has taken place! Wharves

and harbours daily, almost hourly, visited by all descriptions of vessels which navigate Ontario. Roads connecting these counties with those that adjoin, and facilitating internal trade and communication, and growing commerce, of which the export of our products, raw or manufactured, forms a large proportion. Schools for general education, for which the wise policy of the legislature has received extensive application by the hearty co-operation of the people. Postal communications of increasing number and facility, to which, recently, the telegraph has added its lightning speed. A population becoming greater in ratio beyond the most sanguine expectation, almost beyond belief, and what I trust may, in some sort, be taken as a favourable indication of further advance, numerous edifices from which ascend to heaven the mingled voice of prayer and praise ; all these amply establish the beneficial changes which years have made.

“Such are, indeed, subjects of just and hearty congratulation, as well as subjects of fervent thanksgiving to the Almighty Giver of all good, and I trust I may be permitted thus to allude to them, not the less, that within the period I have spoken of, the stranger youth, who found in this neighbourhood his first home in Canada, has been blest, in the course of years, with that success and advancement which enables him in mature age, to address you from this seat.”

This from one of our enlightened and excellent judges of the Queen's Bench, Judge Draper, is surely strong testimony of the vast improvement of our beautiful colony.

Some of my readers may possibly complain, that by inducing farmers and labourers to leave this land for a colony, I am assisting to remove capital and labour that might be employed more beneficially at home. I am not of that opinion. I think it could not be employed *more* beneficially here than in Canada, in any sense of that word, whether to the individual or the community. Wealth is produced in our colony, not by large investments of capital removed from employment at home, but by the labour of the emigrant on the virgin soil of a fruitful territory. His individual happiness and prosperity is wonderfully increased, and if true of an individual it is also true of a community.

But even if it were true that extensive emigration would absorb a large amount of the surplus capital of the mother country, it does not necessarily follow that any injury would be thereby occasioned. Capital will find its own level, and it is impossible to retain it at home if a more profitable investment can be found for it abroad ; the very circumstance of its spreading over a wide surface in the Colonies, shows that it is pent up too narrowly at home.

It is surely much better that it should be employed in adding to the strength and prosperity of

the empire by fostering her colonies, than be vested in foreign loans or foreign labour, for the advantage of foreign countries.

The prodigious amount of British capital now diffused over the States of the Union (probably thirty millions of pounds sterling), might be much more advantageously employed in giving birth to settlements, and stimulating increased prosperity within the bounds of our own empire. And at the present moment Canada Bonds are of higher value than those of any foreign country under the sun; Canadian Six per Cents being at £17. premium. The cause of the prevalence of foreign investments is the want of knowledge of the superior stability and prosperity of our beautiful Colony.

“I tell you (says Mr. Macaulay), that in those Colonies which have been planted by our race, the condition of the labouring man has long been far more prosperous than in any part of the Old World. Everywhere the desert is receding before the advancement of the flood of human life and civilization, and the industrious classes never endure those privations which in old countries too often befall them. And why has not the condition of our labourers been equally fortunate? Simply, as I believe, on account of the great distance which separates our country from the new, unoccupied, and uncultivated fertile part of the world, and on account of the expense of traversing that distance.

“ Science, however, has abridged, and is abridging that distance. Science has diminished, and is diminishing that expense. Already New Zealand is nearer for all practical purposes than New England was to the Puritans who fled thither from the tyranny of Laud. Already the coasts of North America, Halifax, Boston, or New York, are nearer to England than, within the memory of persons now living, the Island of Skye, or the County of Donegal, were to London. And do not imagine (says the same eloquent speaker), that our countryman who goes abroad is altogether lost to us. Even if he go from under the protection and dominion of the English flag, and settle himself among a kindred people, still he is not altogether lost to us, for, under the benignant system of free-trade, he will still remain bound to us by close ties.

“ If he ceases to be a neighbour, he is still a benefactor and a customer. Go where he may, if you will but uphold that system inviolate, it is for us that he is turning the forests into corn fields on the banks of the Mississippi; it is for us he is tending his sheep, and preparing his fleece in the heart of Australia; and in the meantime, it is from us he receives the commodities which are produced with vast advantage in an old society, where great masses of capital are accumulated. His candlesticks and his pots and pans come from Birmingham; his knives from Sheffield; the light jacket which he wears in summer comes from Manchester, and the

good cloth coat which he wears in winter, comes from Leeds ; and, in return, he sends us back what he produces in what was once a wilderness ; the good flour out of which is made the large loaf which the Englishman divides amongst his children."

It is just the same if he be settled anywhere in Canada. The settler there becomes a much larger consumer of British manufactured goods than if he had remained at home. He is enabled to bring up his family in comfort, and acquire for them a certain independence, and the more children he has the better ; the larger men's families are, if only they have common industry, the greater will be the ratio and the speed of their success. How different this is from the state of matters in Great Britain, I leave the reader to infer.

The average value of wild uncleared land in the Upper Province, including Crown Lands, is probably 10s per acre currency, or 8s sterling. Some of it being at 20s or even 25s per acre, and I have seen it sold for £3. There is, however, a great deal to be had now of excellent quality, and in good situations at 4s, currency per acre.

That is the Government price up to a certain mark in the western boundary of the County of Hastings, somewhere near the centre of Canada West. From that line west, the Government price is 8s currency per acre.

This fact shows that there must be a strong public feeling that the lands and climate of the Western

parts of Canada are the best and most highly prized. There are millions of acres in Lower Canada that can be purchased at 1s 6d currency per acre.

The reason for drawing that line of demarcation seems a just one, as many of the lands of the northern part of that country are very rocky and full of iron ore, and not likely to be settled for many years to come; and the land on the west of that line is of a superior character, and beautifully watered with such a grand continuous line of lakes, that even now steamboats are plying on them, and before long the ingress and egress to and from these fine lands will be much facilitated; and every settler will naturally prefer the locality where there is water-communication and water-power in abundance.

But let me not be misunderstood whilst explaining the reasons why the Government of Canada made that the line for a marked distinction in the price of their wild lands; I am far from holding the opinion that there are not millions of acres at 4s per acre quite as good in value as those sold by the Government at 8s—yes, and in every particular quite as desirable for the settler if he be an agriculturist.

Along the entire length of the Ottawa and its numerous tributaries, there are to be found the richest possible lands in the most desirable situations.

This district which is now occupying so large a share of public attention, deserves perhaps some special notice. The following extract, from a news-

paper published at Bytown, will convey some idea of a locality, known perhaps to many only as having suggested Moore's exquisite "Canadian Boat-song;" and the same river, which, when visited by him, bore nothing on its bosom but the frail and tiny barks of the Indian and Canadian voyageur, now proudly carries down a freight in one article alone of nearly *one million and a half* of pounds in value :—

"The valley of the Ottawa contains an area of about 80,000 square miles, nearly equal in extent to the island of Great Britain. The river Ottawa commences its course in the northern highlands of the Hudson's Bay territory, runs through Lake Temiscaming, and after a course of about 750 miles, flows into the St. Lawrence at the foot of the island of Montreal.

"Its volume of water is immense, and during the spring months probably exceeds that of the St. Lawrence at the Falls of Niagara. During its course it receives numerous tributaries exceeding in size the largest rivers of Great Britain. One single branch, the 'Gatineau,' drains an area of 12,000 miles, equal to about one-quarter the area of England and Wales. On the banks of the Ottawa are the largest pine-forests in the world, accessible to the markets of Europe or the Northern and Eastern States; nearly the whole of its course is below the 47th parallel of latitude (that of Quebec), and it is estimated that in its valley there are more than thirty millions of acres capable of successful cultivation still belonging to the

Province. There is a general impression that wheat is the great article of Canadian produce, but this opinion is far from accurate. The trade returns of last year show, that of our aggregate exports lumber is by far the most important item; and, in fact, that compared with the other great classes into which our exports are subdivided, viz. products of the mines, the seas, agriculture and manufactures, the products of the forests exceed all the rest by the large amount of £207,000.

| | £. |
|---|-----------|
| "Total exports per trade returns of 1852 | 2,824,630 |
| Of which products of the forest . . . | 1,515,878 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1,308,752 |
| Excess of products of the forest . . . | 207,126 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1,515,878 |
| "Amongst the productions of the forests, however, are classed furs and ashes amounting to | 216,361 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total export of lumber | 1,299,517 |
| | <hr/> |

"The distance from Montreal to Lake Huron by the Ottawa and Nipissing is little more than 400 miles."

Amongst the numerous incidental advantages which the Province derives from the lumber trade, one may be named of no small importance—the enormous fleet of merchantmen which annually arrives at Quebec

for the purpose of transplanting it to England requiring for its supply large quantities of Western produce; and the very beneficial effect of the lumbering establishments in the Ottawa district in the encouragement of agriculture, will be fully apparent from the following extract from a letter addressed by the house of Messrs. J. Egan and Co. to the Government agent, and published with other returns by order of the Legislative Assembly of the Province. After entering into a detail of their own personal expenditure in the improvement of their works, amounting to upwards of £30,000. they add—

“We give constant employment to about two thousand men, at an average rate of wages from \$14 to \$16 per month and board, who consume about six thousand barrels of pork, and ten thousand barrels of flour. We employ about sixteen hundred horses and oxen during the winter, which consume about sixty thousand bushels of oats and provender, and twelve hundred tons of hay. The oats at an average cost of 2s 3d per bushel of 34 lbs. delivered, and hay £4. per ton, which is the means of giving employment to hundreds of farmers in the valley of the Ottawa.”

Other houses, it should be remarked, have made a much greater outlay than Messrs. Egan and Co.; and we find from the same parliamentary return, that the house of “Gilmour and Co.” had up to that date expended the sum of £58,843. in improvements, and

that of "Hamilton, Brothers," a sum of £119,628.; and the total amount expended by private individuals in saw-mills and other works, was not less than £331,723.

The scenery on this majestic river is indescribably beautiful—studded with islands, clad with timber of luxuriant foliage, and abounding in rapids and cascades, it must become as attractive to the tourist as it is to the settler. The falls of the "Chats" and the "Chaudiere" may in beauty, if not in size, vie with those of any other country, and the soft and sweet scenery of its lakes, in which the water is peculiarly glassy and beautiful, afford, with their deeply indented bays and countless islands, a charming combination of the picturesque.

CHAPTER IV.

Comparative progress of Canada and the United States of America—Population Returns—Remittances home by Settlers—Value of Land and Produce—The Emigrant's first step—Manufacture of Pearl-Ash and Pot-Ash—Clearing the Land—How to begin—After progress—The future—Taxation and expenditure—Men of Capital—Roads—Railway Communication—Their vast benefits—Trade and Tradesmen in Canada.

A VERY general feeling has for some time prevailed that the growth and prosperity of Canada are not commensurate with that of the United States, and without any inclination to deny or conceal the rapid progress of our neighbours, it may be well, by a few facts compiled from statistical returns, to prove how erroneous such an impression is, the growth of Upper Canada, taking it from the year 1800, having been nearly *thrice* that of the United States.

According to the "World's Progress," a work published by "Putnam, of New York," in 1851, page 481—the free population of the United States was, in 1800—5,305,925; in 1850 it was 20,250,000: thus in 50 years its increase was not quite 400 per cent, whilst that of Upper Canada was upwards of 1100 per cent, for the 40 years from 1811 to 1851.

In 1794 there was not a single human habitation except Indian wigwams, between the site where Toronto now stands and Amhersburg, a distance of 325 miles, situated on the banks of the River St. Clair ; and Dr. Howison, a writer of 1825, in describing a journey which he took from the Talbot Road to the head of Lake Erie, mentions, that even in that year there was a stretch of 37 miles, called the Long Woods, without a single habitation but one ; “just such a solitary trip,” says Lillie, “as I had the pleasure of making last summer, 1851, in Iowa, with the exception that the solitude consists there of prairie (or wild meadow) instead of forest, which it was in Canada.”

Instead of wilderness we now see towns and villages, many of them of great size, beauty and wealth.

The immigration into Canada has been much greater, in proportion to her population, than that into the United States. In round numbers, that into the States may be calculated, says Lillie, at 300,000 per annum, and that into Canada about 30,000, whilst their population (exclusive of slaves) is as fifteen to one, and the immigration only ten to one.

Within the 20 years, from 1830 to 1850, the immigration into the United States, according to Davis’ “Half Century,” is estimated at 1,500,000 ; according to Scobie’s Almanack (one of the most valuable works of reference) that into Canada, for the

same period, was 512,797, making our immigration, compared with that of our neighbours, as five to one.

That into Canada, for the year 1851, reached the large number of 40,299; that for 1852, was 39,176.

| | |
|---|------------------|
| The whole population of Canada West, is | 952,004 |
| Ditto Ditto Ditto East . | 890,261 |
| Total of both Provinces | <u>1,842,265</u> |

Mr. Lillie has also given in his Lectures a statement of the amount of money remitted from 1844 to 1850, inclusive, through the Canada Company alone by immigrants to their friends, to bring them out to Canada, amounting to £92,655. according to the published statement of this Company.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|------------------------|----------------|----|----|
| In 1844 they sent home | 4,611 | 10 | 11 |
| 1845 „ | 7,532 | 10 | 2 |
| 1846 „ | 9,744 | 3 | 5 |
| 1847 „ | 15,742 | 13 | 11 |
| 1848 „ | 12,547 | 8 | 5 |
| 1849 „ | 12,575 | 13 | 7 |
| 1850 „ | 14,385 | 6 | 9 |
| 1851 „ | 15,515 | 16 | 10 |
| Making in 8 years | <u>£92,655</u> | 4 | 0 |

This amount is by one Company alone, and it is supposed that banking institutions, and other parties together, have sent far more than that amount. At any rate I am confident I am quite within the mark

when I state that, in these eight years, £600,000. has been sent to Europe by immigrants in Canada, *i. e.* more than £2. sterling for every man, woman and child that reached those shores.

Does not this fact alone speak volumes for the prosperity of Canada, and the liberality and beneficence of her adopted sons, five-sixths of whom are from the Emerald isle,—I mean of those who have sent money to their friends.

In the United States the growth of wheat has increased 48 per cent during the last ten years ; whilst, in all Canada, during the same period, it has increased upwards of 400 per cent ! And taking the article of Indian corn, which is the production that compares the most favourably for the United States, the increase on it for the ten years between 1840 and 1850 has been equal to 56 per cent ; whilst the increase in Canada, during the last nine years, has been 163 per cent. During the same period also, the growth of oats in the United States has been 17 per cent ; whilst in Upper Canada it has been 133 per cent—in Lower Canada, 41 per cent, and in both united, 70 per cent.

Ohio, in cultivated acres, possesses $\frac{1}{12}$ of all the United States ; in uncultivated acres, $\frac{1}{22}$.

She possesses a $\frac{1}{4}$ more cultivated land per inhabitant than Canada, having 5 acres to 4.

All Canada produces one-seventh more bushels of

wheat than Ohio, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels more per individual. Upper Canada, however, produces 6 bushels more wheat per individual than Ohio; the latter producing, in her staple, Indian corn, 29 times more than Canada,—which produces 77 times more peas, and 54 per cent more oats than Ohio.

The land of Ohio is valued at nearly double that of the average of the Union, and has more than three times as many inhabitants to the square mile. The whole United States produced in 1850 only 100,479,000 bushels; whilst the one State of Ohio—one out of thirty-six, and four immense territories—produced more than one-seventh of the whole Union.

In butter and cheese, Ohio shews a great superiority; indeed, the latter has hitherto been greatly neglected in Canada, and we find that within the three years 1849, 50, 51, the amount of butter produced has in the Upper Province increased 372 per cent, and that of cheese, during the same period, 233 per cent.

In sheep also, Ohio beats us greatly in numbers, but not in increase or weight of fleece.

According to Mr. Kennedy's report on the United States census, the rate of increase is greatly in favour of Canada, as compared with the United States; for in ten years, the increase in the States has been only 10 per cent, and in the weight of the fleece only 32 per cent; whereas in Canada the increase in wool has

in nine years been 64 per cent, and that of sheep 35 per cent,—shewing an improvement in the weight of fleece of not far off 30 per cent.

The average weight in Canada is found to be :—In Upper Canada, $2\frac{1}{6}$ lbs. ; Lower, $2\frac{4}{6}$ lbs. ; all, $2\frac{1}{6}$ lbs. : whilst in the United States it is, according to Mr. Kennedy's report, $2\frac{7}{16}$ lbs.

From this kind of comparison, which is very fully carried out in Tables appended to the Report I have alluded to, and which I may probably again allude to, it appears that—

Ohio far exceeds Canada in Indian corn, butter and cheese, grass-seed, wool, tobacco, and beef and pork.

Canada far exceeds Ohio in wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, peas, hay, hemp and flax, hops, maple sugar, and potatoes ; and also, *considering that Ohio has one third more cultivated land*, in total value of live stock.

The ratio of increase of population in Ohio, for ten years, from 1805 to 1840, is $30\frac{3}{10}$ per cent ; that of Upper Canada, in the same period, has been $104\frac{5}{10}$ per cent ; that of Lower Canada for seven years, from 1844 to 1851, has been 20 per cent.

When it is considered that there are thirty-one States, one District, and four Territories, and that Ohio has 8 per cent of the whole population of the Union, $8\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of the live stock of the whole Union, $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the grain of the whole Union except rice, and about $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of all the agricul-

tural produce not manufactured, and 7 per cent of butter, cheese, beef, pork, and domestic manufactures of the whole Union, and that Canada equals Ohio in *acreable produce*,—is there not reason for expecting that Canada, with her more extended scope and her more rapidly increasing population, will, in a very few years, make a much nearer approximation to the produce of the whole Union than Ohio does now.

Already the population of Canada is more than one-thirteenth of the Union. The area in square miles, exclusive of the Territories, is one-sixth, and of course in acres the same; in occupied acres about one-seventeenth. In growth of wheat, very nearly one-sixth of the whole Union, Territories included. In growth of peas, one half the whole Union. In barley, more than one fourth. In all grain, including Indian corn, about one-nineteenth; exclusive of Indian corn, about one-sixth. Of rice, Canada has none, neither has Ohio. The whole Union produces 215,312,710 lbs., which, at 3*d* per lb., would be £2,691,408. in favour of the Union.

Even at present Canada compares most favourably, in proportion to her population, with the States; and when the railroads now in course of formation shall have united the whole British possessions in North America, then increased facilities, and aroused and invigorated energies, and improving climate, and more rapidly increasing population, and interminable water, and extensive fisheries, will in a few years enable the

British North American possessions to make no unfavourable comparison with the Union, flourish as she may.

The whole area of the United States and Territories is 3,230,572 square miles, which, multiplied by 640, gives the number of acres, 2,067,566,080 ; certainly a prodigious territory, but the British possessions in North America far exceed this. The exact amount, according to Allison, is 4,109,630 square geographical miles ; and the water in British America is 1,340,000 square miles. The whole terrestrial globe embraces about 37,000,000 square miles ; so that British America contains nearly a ninth part of the whole terrestrial surface of the globe ; the number of acres is 2,630,163,200. Allison remarks, that a very large portion is perhaps doomed to everlasting sterility, owing to the severity of the climate ; such is no doubt the case, but it should be recollected, that as the country becomes cleared up, the climate improves, and that there are at present thirty or forty millions of acres, to the successful cultivation of which the climate presents no insuperable barrier.

Two or three centuries ago the Rhine used to be frozen, and the animals, the natives of the Northern regions, were abundant on its banks ; now such a thing is not even dreamt of. It will be so in British North America, with this difference, that the improving climate will keep pace with the vastly accele-

rated movements, and more rapidly increasing numbers of the New World settlers.

Having spoken largely of the increase of our population, which certainly forms a very important element of prosperity in a new country, I now come to the increase in the value of the land, and the increase in its productions, and the value of the land, &c. in proportion to its population.

I will begin with the county of Hastings, where I reside, and with whose progress, &c. I am best acquainted.

It contains a population of 32,000 souls, including the town of Belleville, having 5000. It contains nine inhabited townships, and three uninhabited, averaging about twelve miles square each township, containing altogether 847,800 acres: omitting the three that are uninhabited, there are 643,200 acres, or 71,466 acres in each township. The assessed value of this county for taxing purposes, by the sworn assessors for 1852, was, according to the returns given in Scobie's valuable Almanac for 1853, procured from the county authorities, £940,242.; as nearly as may be, £29. 10s for every individual in the county: and this assessment does not include sheep, nor young cattle, nor farm produce of any kind, nor colts, nor implements of husbandry, nor farm waggons, nor sleighs, nor household furniture (except it exceeds £250. in value); all these being exempt from taxation. The

value for 1853, made by their own sworn assessors elected by themselves, was £1,323,262.; which, divided amongst 32,000 inhabitants, gives about £41. 5s for each man, woman, and child.

The value of the unassessed property has been fairly calculated as being about 40 per cent of the assessed property,—making the actual wealth of this county, which is about a fair average of all Canada West, a little over £40. for every man, woman, and child in it; not calculating any value on the unsurveyed and uninhabited townships.

In the county of Carleton, the amount of property gives £39. 12s 10½d for each individual in the county.

The united counties of Leeds and Grenville give £35. 2s 7½d for each individual; and the county of Leeds, if taken by itself, would show nearly £38. for each individual.

In the county of Prince Edward, which is opposite Hastings, and between it and Lake Ontario, the amount of property gives £61. 11s 9d for each individual: the largeness of this amount is accounted for by there being very little wild or unoccupied land in the county, and it being an old settled county, having many wealthy farmers with large farms. It is often called the model county of Canada West, the people are so remarkable for their peaceful demeanour, that the Judge has seldom a prisoner to try at the Assize, and frequently earns his pair of white gloves, which it

is usual to present on such occasions when there is no prisoner to be tried. Oxford and Hastings have also this honour occasionally, though possessing nearly double the population.

The county of Oxford gives £59. 19s for every individual. The population of this fine county has doubled itself in the ten years from 1842 to 1852.

The counties of Huron, Perth, and Bruce give £46. 13s for each individual in the three counties.

I may here observe that the Rev. Adam Lillie estimated, at a very reasonable rate, the whole value of the property of Upper Canada, at £43. 1s 4½d on an average for each individual, children as well as adults; and he very justly adds—"Can the country which is in the possession of this be justly held to be very poor?"

Another circumstance with regard to my own county I may state, which, though it may appear trivial to old country listeners, is yet of very considerable import, and it is this:—When I first came into this county, there were not five carriages kept for pleasure in the entire county; now there are upwards of six hundred. There were only three old pianos in the whole county, now there are upwards of one hundred, costing on an average about £68.

These are *luxuries*, and paid for out of the surplus earnings of the people; there being no such persons as independent gentry amongst us, except those who have made it by hard earnings. All the property

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both of the town and country, has been made in it ; and all the comforts we enjoy are procured by our own active industry, aided by the capabilities of the soil, or the *everlasting* and inexhaustible power of the ever-aiding stream.

The town of Belleville stands on the river Moira—a stream that turns the machinery of about one hundred mills and manufactories of various kinds. It possesses flour mills, saw mills, carding and fulling mills, paper mills, axe factories, sail factories, turning lathes, chair factories, cabinet factories, last factories, foundries, shingle factories, tanneries, morocco leather factories, soap and candle factories, distilleries, six churches, three banks, three insurance offices, three newspaper offices, and a general printing office.

Nor is my own county of Hastings perhaps superior to the general average. It stands fourth in population out of 42, and perhaps about fourth in water-power.

The wild lands of the crown have been hitherto kept up to 8*s* currency, or 6*s* 6*d* sterling per acre, but are now reduced to half that amount, as I stated before ; the boundary here between the 8*s* land and the 4*s* being the western line of the county, including Hastings, in the low-priced lands of the east.

This reduction in price, however, has not taken place with *private* holders of land. On the contrary, the wonderful increase in the value of land is indicative of our rapid progress.

We could easily supply labour and food, and a hearty welcome, and a guerdon of success, to one hundred thousand immigrants every year, if only they came amongst us with a determination to be industrious, and not expect to make large fortunes at one sweep.

This stipulation appears somewhat necessary ; for I have known many instances, and very many, where men who have been accustomed to be paid in their own country 9*d* or 10*d* a day without board, have refused, upon their arrival amongst us, to take 2*s* 6*d* a day and the best of board ; and I have known them, immediately on their landing in the city of Quebec, refuse 7½*d* per hour for their work,—expecting, no doubt, that if they walked on, they would have the gold for the lifting. I have myself often offered £2. per month, boarded, and it has been very, very often refused.

But I have said enough before about labourer's wages.

The small capitalist will perhaps enquire of me, “What am *I* to do?”

For the sake of perspicuity, I will suppose the questioner a man having a wife and children, and one hundred pounds sterling after having paid his passage to Quebec. In the first place, I would recommend him to make up his mind, or nearly so, *before he reaches Quebec*, to what part of Canada he will go,—he must not loiter in any of the cities. He ought to

take with him nothing but bed, bedding, blankets, and whatever warm clothing he has, and these should be packed in water-tight barrels of about forty gallons, and headed up. I have known very heavy losses to occur to immigrants having large boxes ; they are unhandy, and often are broken to pieces. One emigrant of the name of Logan, who was coming out to me, having known me in Ireland, lost all his clothes and about twenty sovereigns ; the box being very heavy and not sufficiently strong, it fell off the hooks into the sea when he was landing.

Being in Quebec, he can get as far west as he pleases to go (on board a canal propeller), at from 2s 6d to 7s 6d for each member of the family. Last summer, emigrants were carried several hundred miles for 2s 6d each. He can carry on his provisions, if he has any left after the voyage.

When he lands at the county town where he means to stop, let him take his family to the country, to friends if he has any, if not, to the farm house of some countryman, who, if he charges them for their board, will charge very moderately, as the custom of the country is to extend hospitality to new settlers. He will be sure to hear of some old neighbour, who will willingly receive him until he can choose his farm, and he will be sure to hear of numbers of farms for sale. There are so many speculators, and such a wide field for profitable speculation, that many are found ready to sell out for a few pounds of ready

money, giving time for payment of the rest, provided it be secured on the property.

Some sell their farms because they want to undertake some other speculation,—to take contracts in public works—to move further back—or elsewhere, on account of relatives, or schools, or churches, or on account of a wish to go into some business or factory, or a thousand and one speculations for which there is so much room in a new country, and so many of which turn out prosperously. We have in fact a moving, energetic, speculative, ambitious, spirited, and go-ahead population, and almost any man will sell what he makes a profit on.

But as I have first taken the man with only £100. sterling, as capital, I would recommend him to purchase crown lands, which he will get of excellent quality, at £20. currency for 100 acres. He will find a crown land agent in every county town, who will give him a list of unsold lands. Having so small a capital, he must, of course, go through more hardship than his neighbours of larger means.

After selecting his lot, which he would do well not to do without the aid of some resident in the neighbourhood, who knows the kind and quality of timber that grows on the best soils, and who can almost judge of a farm though the land be covered with snow,—let him without delay take out his patent from the agent. Crown land patents are always safe, and given free of expense.

But let him be convinced that the land is good. Of this he will himself be a judge in some degree, by noticing whether the trees are large, and of what are called hard wood. Beech, and maple, and elm, and bass-wood, and *large* pines, are generally sure criterions whereby to judge land. If the trees be small or stunted, either oak, or pine, or poplar, or any other kind, the land is not good.

This, with regard to large trees, is however not always the case. I have seen trees of amazing size, and almost all huge, and yet the land was not worth having, because the large round boulder stones were so thick that the plough could not be driven between them. These large round stones are always a sign of *deep* land, wherefore the large trees.

Many hundreds of acres of this kind have been cleared of the heavy timber for the sake of the potash, and then abandoned. I should explain, that the ashes of *three* acres of this hard wood, if burned carefully and the ashes covered from wet, will make a barrel of potash, which is worth on an average of years about £6. per barrel, or £2. per acre.

There must, of course, be deducted the labour of leaching the ashes and boiling the lye, and the interest of the first cost of the potash-kettle, which costs from £6. to £10. according to the weight of metal; but an industrious man, who understands it, if his land be good (and the trees, of course, large), will not only pay himself well for his labour, but the

potash will produce him more than 10s per acre net profit.

The immigrant having secured good land (and he need not be afraid to go into the bush to do so, for a few short years ago we were all in the bush), the next thing is to gather his neighbours to what is called a "bee," to cut down and draw in with oxen to the site of his house, which he has selected with a view to a good supply of good water, and from which he has previously cut down the trees that would overhang it, and in one day, if he can get twelve or fourteen men together and four yoke of oxen, he will have the frame of his house put up to the square 16×24 .

He will have to provide them good cheer at the house of some neighbour—plenty to eat and drink, but no pay, except return work when his neighbour wants a similar good office. During this day the very heavy part of the work that requires an *accumulation* of strength will be done, and two or three handy men will in a fortnight have the house comfortable, the immigrant providing boards for flooring and partitions, and doors and window-sashes, which latter he can buy ready made to suit him.

The whole house, including a chimney, will not cost him more than £15. having two apartments below and a loft above, exclusive of his own labour for six or eight weeks. Many a house of this kind have I seen built in a very short time, and have spent

many happy days and comfortable nights within them; they are most warm and snug, and can be kept beautifully neat, being plastered both inside and outside. Many a beautiful white table-cloth and bright silver spoon, and well-filled table, and shining happy countenances, have I seen in such houses.

As the immigrant becomes richer and more ambitious, he leaves this house for his labouring man or for a store-house of some kind, and builds another and a handsome one near. In hundreds of instances, as you ride through the country, you will see the old original log-house of the newly-arrived immigrant near the handsome frame-house of the man now of twelve or fifteen years standing; but, in general, the wise man builds a large *barn first*, and fills it well, and a shed also for his cattle, before he attempts building his handsome house. The *barn* is his bank, and he does well to look to its coffers.

I have thus arranged the outlay of the man of small capital, say £100. sterling in his pocket, after he reaches his destination:—

| | £. | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| One hundred acres of land at 4s . . . | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Travelling expenses to select ditto . . . | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Building log-house, 16 × 24 . . . | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| Furniture for ditto | 7 | 10 | 0 |
| Oxen, yoke and chain | 17 | 10 | 0 |

Carried forward, £64 0 0

| | £. | s. | d. |
|--|-------------|----------|----------|
| Brought forward, 64 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cow | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Four barrels of pork, 800 lbs. | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Twelve ditto of flour | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| Potatoes for eating and seed | 4 | 10 | 0 |
| Half of expense of clearing and fencing ten acres of land at £3. 10s, the immigrant doing the other half . . . | 17 | 10 | 0 |
| | <u>£112</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |

One hundred pounds sterling being worth £122. of our money at this time, the immigrant has still £10. in his pocket for groceries, or for hay for his oxen and cow, or for any trifling emergency, and is in possession of a *freehold* property for ever without having to pay any rent or interest, and his taxes may be perhaps 10s per annum for the first two or three years. If he should fall short of money for groceries or little comforts, he can work a few days for a neighbour. He can have ten acres of wheat in the ground the first year of his arrival in Canada, and if he comes early he can have a few potatoes planted in June for his first winter provisions.

During his first winter he draws saw-logs to the mill, and cuts the heavy square timber that is required for his barn; having provided a temporary shelter for his cow, and the second year he has probably six or eight acres more of new land for wheat

and for oats, and peas and meadow, in the ten acres first cleared.

Thus before the second winter arrives, he is able to put up a snug barn for his grain. The snow, as I said before, enabling him to draw his timber to the saw-mill, of which he will find great abundance throughout all Canada, and in no case that I know of, would he be obliged to drive it many miles.

Thus have I disposed of the man of small capital, leaving him to thrive and prosper year after year, as he most assuredly will, and in a greater ratio as his sons grow up. It may be said that I have left him in the bush, it is true, and many a wealthy man in Canada has been set down there before him, and has worked out his way to clear daylight, to cheering prospects, and more extended views.

Wealthy did I call him? Yes! but this word has only a comparative meaning—the wealthy farmer in Canada is not what you call wealthy here, he has not his thousands or tens of thousands of pounds, but he is lord of the soil he lives on—he can be asked for neither rent nor tithes—he is surrounded with what to him forms every comfort of life—he enjoys as many and as great luxuries in proportion to his wants as the man you call wealthy here; he has not his livery servants, in truth, for he would have no pleasure in having them, but he takes delight in driving his own beautiful horses in his own comfortable carriage, and takes pleasure in taking care of them after

he has driven them. His tastes are the tastes of a farmer, and happily for him. If they were those of a nobleman, he has no business in Canada, unless he bring with him the wherewith to indulge them in our beautiful cities.

I claim not for Canada either the power or the opportunity of speedily realising large fortunes, but I claim for her the greatest facility of securing a most comfortable independence with a very small capital, and in a very short time, with reasonable exertion and judicious industry and economy. These are the foundation of independence. A man who is always hovering on the verge of want (and how many alas! are of that class in this country) is in a state not far removed from that of slavery; he is in bondage to others, and must accept the terms they dictate to him—he is not his own master—he cannot help being servile, for he cannot look the world boldly in the face. Sad, indeed, is the plight of the man who is only a few days journey a-head of want; but the man who has secured a little freehold, even if it be but small, has secured a kind of breakwater against poverty and destitution.

If bad times come upon him, and should one crop entirely fail (a thing next to impossible), he can at least keep the wolf from the door till better days come round, his little freehold is a source of power and gives him greater strength and energy for future effort—his self-respect is maintained uninjured—he

can walk erect, regardless of the parish-overseer or the landlord's agent or bailiff—he is *his own landlord*—there is no fear of him becoming an inmate of the workhouse, or a burden to society in any way, either himself or his little ones—he can neither be bought nor sold, nor driven to the hustings to vote against his conscience, he can afford to keep that unimpaired and walk erect, his dignity as a man uncompromised. He feels that he is no cypher in society, that his voice as a freeholder is as powerful and effective as that of his neighbour, and even if he be temporarily unsuccessful he has the wherewith to cause him to hope—yes, to hope freely, earnestly, steadily, and fearlessly. His little freehold is a tower of strength. Could I picture to you the wonderful delight that I experienced (myself a tenant-farmer in Ireland, and under the best of landlords too) when I possessed a property that I could call *my own*, free from rent, free from tithes, free I may say from taxes—conveying, too, all the powers of a freeholder and the privileges of a freeman. Could I convey an idea of the delight with which I daily trod upon *my own soil*, and were your feelings consonant with mine the tie that would bind you here must be strong indeed. There, every stroke of the axe, every hour's work is done for yourself or your family. Labour and industry are there regarded with a respect which make the country delightful for an industrious man to live in, and rare indeed are the instances where a

man who has once set his foot upon his *own* freehold will consent to leave it. If he does it will be with deep regret.

There, too, the result of his industry is well husbanded for his own good, for every man, if only his name be on the assessment roll for one shilling, has a voice in the expenditure of that shilling. We have excellent municipal institutions. Our municipal councillors are elected by the tax-payers from amongst ourselves, they control the expenditure of our taxes—no nobleman or gentleman can take our money and make roads through his own demesne or through his own turf-bog, as they used to do in my day in Ireland. We have all a voice in the expenditure. We have no taxation without full representation, our councillors elected by ourselves expend the small amount of taxes that we pay to the best advantage, or if they do not they are turned out of office, and new men are brought in of better capacity.

At first it was extremely difficult to find men capable of managing these free municipal institutions in so new a country, and, in order to make them work well, our public schools were largely endowed throughout the whole province by a wise Government, who saw the difficulty; and the effect of them is even now beginning to be felt in the education of the young men elected to fill these important trusts. In the next generation, there will not be one child in a hundred that will not be able to read and write and

cipher ; but the educational facilities of Canada West are well deserving of more lengthened remarks in another chapter. The magistrates have no control whatever, *as such*, over our finances. We put in what men we please as municipal councillors, and, strange to say, that their being placed in that situation by the voice of their neighbours, is very frequently the cause of their being appointed magistrates by the Governor in Council.

When I first went to Canada the Justices in Quarter Sessions ruled the expenditure of our taxes ; but our institutions are becoming better modelled, and we have made very rapid progress in improvement since our municipal officers have been elected by ourselves, and from among ourselves, and the magistrates have been left to attend to the administration of justice, unless chosen as *men*, not as magistrates, to transact the local business of the country.

These I consider very great advantages to the small capitalist as well as to the large. Our roads and bridges are repaired—our facilities for ingress and egress are attended to by *practical* men, who know what is most required for their own and their neighbours' welfare—who know what it is to earn the taxes they pay, and who, therefore, look sharp to their profitable expenditure ; hence it is that the most is made of our money. We have little or no jobbing ; and every traveller is surprised at the amount of work that is done upon our roads, and

through our woods, and in bridging our waters, in proportion to the paucity of our inhabitants. Now-a-days, the settler in the bush finds access to the clearance in much less time than he used to do some ten years hence, and this is no trifling advantage to the settler of the present more experienced and more enlightened age.

To the capitalist, having £300. or £400. I would recommend a very similar course to that recommended above, with this exception, that he should buy 200 acres instead of 100, and buy them nearer market than the Government lands are generally to be had, and pay more in proportion for them, leaving the more experienced axe-man to go back into the bush. Propinquity to town and market, and mill, and school, and church, is a great advantage, and well worth paying extra for, if a man has it to pay. These small capitalists I have supposed to be *working* farmers ; mere *overseers* with such small capital cannot breathe in our atmosphere. It is the *manual* industry that brings the rich return, and a small capital can effect little without that.

For the capitalist having £2000. or upwards, and a large family to educate and provide for, and being unused to manual labour, the author has a special sympathy. He was himself one of that class, and has come through the ordeal of a Canadian settler's life with dear experience, but finally with great success.

Times and prospects are indeed greatly changed

since he first went to Canada in 1834, and very much misery would have been saved him if he had had a friend to guide *him*, as he hopes he can now guide others.

His only object in stating what he knows of Canada is to give a just and true exposition of her state and prospects, by relating facts. These may be differently interpreted by different readers ; some may think that the advantages, and some that the disadvantages preponderate. There is one thing certain, that no one should come to Canada except with a determination to do well : to say in his heart, there is no such word as "*fail*," to consider her a new country, and to clothe himself with new energy, new vigour, and a new spirit of enterprise to suit that youthful country.

The £2000. of this class of capitalists, at the present rate of exchange is worth £2440. of Canada money, and should be deposited in some well known bank in Great Britain, the owner taking a certificate of deposit with him to Canada, for which he will get the cash in any town there, where and when he pleases, wherever there is an Agency of any of the Chartered Banks. Of these there are seven in Canada, and Branches innumerable in the several towns.

If he be not a practical and working farmer, he should not invest much of it in land. One hundred acres, near some town, where his children could

be educated, could be purchased, with a good house and orchard, and barns, and sheds, for £750 or £800.; £200. or £250. more, would purchase what horses, sheep, cows, and implements and furniture, &c. might be required, and the £1400. should be invested, so as to produce a regular annual income, to assist the farm. The farm would produce the *necessary* food, and with care, the wages of labour also. The income would be required for clothing and education and groceries, &c.

£1400. if well invested will produce £8. per cent, or £112. per annum. There are numberless instances of money producing £10. or even £12. per cent, where judiciously invested; but as a stranger cannot be a judge of these investments, it is safer for him to take £6. per cent, paid half-yearly at the bank or elsewhere, until he becomes acquainted with the various ways of effecting more profitable investments.

Some of our Banking establishments are dividing seven per cent, and latterly, owing to the prospects of the country, and the increased demand for the representative of capital, Bank stock has risen very considerably, and applications are now being made by two or three Banks for an extension of their Charter.

Our Banks are upon the most firm foundation, and for fifteen or seventeen years a failure of one of them has not been known. They are admirably

conducted, and the most implicit confidence placed in their stability.

Our plank roads throughout the country have most of them proved to be most excellent investments, many of them paying $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the paid up stock. From this there will, no doubt, be some drawback for repairs, after eight or nine years wear, but it is fairly judged that they will pay £10 per cent, per annum, clear of all expenses.

The first that was built in the county of Hastings, paid 40 per cent, per annum, and upwards, and is still paying very largely, although lines nearly parallel have been run leading to the same point.

So far we have had experience of plank roads, calculating the toll at 1*d* per mile for a waggon or carriage drawn by two horses: they have proved excellent investments, and as our population increases the Old Stock will be still more valuable.

Whilst writing on the subject of profitable investments, I cast my eyes upon the following advertisement:—“Western Assurance Company’s Office, Toronto, 4th December, 1852. Notice is hereby given, that the President and Board of Directors have this day declared a Dividend to the Stockholders in the Western Assurance Company, of ten per cent, for the year ending the 30th November, 1852, payable at the Company’s Office, on and after the 22nd

day of December inst. with a bonus of *twenty-five per cent*, to be added to the paid up capital!!

“By order. ROBERT STANTON,

“Secretary and Treasurer.”

There are also numbers of Building Societies which are paying £10. to £15, and £20. per cent per annum, though the investments in these societies do not give *annual* returns; but each, after the lapse of a certain number of years, pays its stockholders the whole accumulated fund. But the most general, and indeed very common method of realizing £8. to £12. per cent, for money, and that legally too, is by the purchase of mortgages on real estate; at present, almost any amount could be invested in this way, so as to secure £8. per cent per annum.

I have given above the reasons why so many are desirous of mortgaging their property. The spirit of speculation and enterprise is very great, and our unbounded waterpower and rapid movements in rail-road and plank-road extension, give opportunities of making larger profits than farming operations can possibly afford.

It is not poverty that causes men to mortgage, but this spirit of speculation and improvement which is so rife amongst us, and in which the Canadians are imitating their neighbours across the borders.

Mills and factories, and machine-shops and stores of all kinds, are springing up with wonderful rapidity, and with almost universal success. Hence the desire for ready money to invest in other than agricultural pursuits, which last, if they do not yield so quick or so large a return, will, at all events, insure the comforts of life in steady, unobtrusive and smiling abundance.

Having thus set down the £2000. capitalist in the enjoyment of all the necessities, and very many of the comforts of life—many more than he could enjoy in Great Britain, with *double* the means, being now *rent-free, tithe-free, poor-rate-free* and almost *tax-free* (for £3. per annum will pay his taxes)—I now proceed to show him the advantages he has in other respects.

I have all along supposed him to have a large family. These he can give the best classical education to, at our excellent grammar-schools, at £5. per annum for each boy.

Every county town has its classical, or grammar-school, fostered by the Government, the teacher being allowed £100. per annum out of the grammar-school lands, and, in some instances, a normal school assistant to teach the English branches. The head master is required to be a man of good classical attainments, and the lads are here prepared for the numerous universities, in many of which the acquirements of the young men are quite equal to those of many of

the best universities of the old country. His daughters, too, can be educated in the different towns of Canada, as well as any parent could desire. Many excellent teachers from the old country have settled amongst us, and our rising generation of young people are the admiration of all who visit our colony. And after their education at school or university is over, the parent has no fees to pay to obtain for him the knowledge either of business or of the learned professions; his services at the office or at the counter are esteemed an equivalent; and if he enter a store, in order to become acquainted with wholesale and retail dealing, and the trade of the country, he is paid a small salary after the first year; and if he be attentive and diligent, a handsome salary after the second year, and better still after the third; thus is he, very early in life, able to support himself, and relieve his parents from the expense.

The ease of disposing of sons, and enabling them to support themselves respectably and comfortably at a very early age, is, in truth, one of the greatest inducements to bring a parent out to this thriving colony; and the very great wonder is that so few of my countrymen, so circumstanced, come to our shores. Certain I am that, if only the true state of Canada were known, we should have thousands of men come amongst us who have large families and small capital. With us, families are wealth, if industriously brought up—wealth to their parents as well as to the colony.

The very habits of industry that they must exert, and that they will be rewarded for exerting in our new country, will be a mine of wealth to *themselves* as well as to their parents and the colony. Where industry has its reward, there is always contentment and happiness. Industry is good for us all, and Canada is the country where it does not fail to reap its rich reward ; and as for the prospects of the young people who come amongst us, I may only remark that we have plenty of elbow-room. Lower Canada contains an area of 210,000 square miles, and Upper Canada, 32,500 ; an extent very many times that of England and Wales ; and the prospects of our noble country are such, that it is destined, at no distant day, to hold a high and honourable position among the nations, and even hereafter to exert a deep and powerful influence over the world's being.

Now is the time for youths to come to our country to be young with its youth, to grow with its growth, to strengthen with its strength, to prosper with its prosperity, and to joy with its rejoicing.

The numerous Railways now in operation, or projected, will give a tremendous impetus to our improvement, and I would specially allude to one which, when finished, will be one of the longest in the world. The Grand Trunk Railway is intended to be 1112 miles in length, with a uniform gauge of 5 feet 6 inches, and to extend throughout the entire length of the provinces connecting the Atlantic with the Lakes.

The cost of its completion has been computed at £9,500,000 ; this Railway will be completed within the next four or five years. It is almost impossible to appreciate the immense national interests which are involved in the construction of this gigantic railway across the continent. It is not improbable that it may one day be carried forward through the northern portion of the British possessions to the Pacific, and so shorten, by 5000 miles, the communication between Great Britain and her Eastern dominions. This was suggested by Mr. Jackson, the great railway contractor, the other day, in his speech at the Stephenson dinner in Montreal. In connection, however, with this railway, there is another work in contemplation, which, for boldness of design, and the difficulties to be grappled with in its execution, is certainly destined to be one of the greatest works of this or any other age ; and it was to judge of the feasibility of this that Mr. Robert Stephenson, the greatest engineer in the world, has recently visited Canada. His name will for ever be associated with the tubular bridge over the Menai Straits, and he now declares it possible to erect a similar construction over the River St. Lawrence, near Montreal, where the river is two miles in width, at a spot where its course is interrupted by violent rapids, and where it would be exposed every season to the accumulation of gigantic masses of ice, thrown against it in wild disorder by the impetuosity of the current.

Can you doubt the resources of a country which justify the execution of such colossal works, and the expenditure of so many millions of money? And from these arteries which will intersect the country in its length and breadth, added to the finest water-communication in the world, must flow to each and all of us increased prosperity, not only to the farmers, but to the tradesmen and manufacturers and artisans in the cities and towns. They always prosper in proportion as the *rural* districts prosper; and merchants and dealers of every description feel an impetus from the increase in numbers and growth in prosperity of the country-people, and with such a soil and such a climate it must needs be that a large surplus over their immediate necessities is yearly forthcoming, and a consequently increased demand for the comforts and even the luxuries of life. It is upon his *surplus* that the farmer depends for his luxuries.

His handsome carriage, his harness, his furniture, his carpets, his sofas and bureaus, his holiday suits, his plate, his china, his delf, his painted and papered rooms, and, I may add too, his musical instruments and his books, as well as the manufacture of his wheat into flour, require the handiwork of the coach-maker, the blacksmith, the whitesmith, the harness-maker, the cabinet-maker, the weaver and tailor and shoe-maker, the potter and painter and glazier, the printer and bookbinder, the machinist, the wheel-

wright, the miller, the turner, the paper-maker, the cooper, the tinsman, the watchmaker and jeweller; the hatter, the furrier, the tanner, and a host of others.

And in every town in Canada all the tradesmen I have mentioned are to be found earning handsome wages, and living in comfort and true enjoyment of life; and if they are not rapidly acquiring, it arises from idleness or intemperance, or some fault of their own, and not of Canada, for all are employed at remunerating wages—generally from twenty to thirty dollars per month, and boarded.

The general value of the dollar is about 4*s* 2*d* sterling.

Many journeymen of those trades I have mentioned earn from 4*s* to 8*s* sterling per day, and master-men about double that amount.

But I will advance one step further in this argument, and show you that our small tradesmen become large tradesmen, and the large tradesmen, merchants and ship-owners, large proprietors of bank, railway, and other stock, with magnificent houses and costly furniture; and these, with hardly an exception, commenced their career with limited means, in some cases none—and the ship-boy of a few years ago has, by perseverance and good conduct, worked his way up the ladder until the last step, when ceasing to be a store-keeper, he abandons that branch of his business, as I have frequently seen the case, to one or

two of his most deserving assistants, and becomes the merchant and the ship-owner.

And to show how large is the consumption of articles above what are properly considered the absolute necessities of life, as compared with that of the United Kingdom, I give you a few quotations based upon the returns of the Canadian Board of Statistics, of which I have the honour to be secretary, and the returns of the British Board of Trade, for the year 1853:—

Annual British consumption of coffee

per head 1 lb. 6 oz.

Annual Canadian ditto 13 oz.

From this it appears, that the consumption of coffee in the United Kingdom, per head, is about double that of Canada; but it must be remembered, that tea is a much more favourite beverage with us than amongst our fellow-subjects on the other side the Atlantic.

Annual British consumption of

sugar per head 14 lbs. 4 oz.

Annual Canadian ditto 18 lbs.

In this article, shewing an excess of 3 lbs. 12 oz. per head in favour of Canada.

Of tea, Britain consumes per head . 2 lbs. 2 oz.

Canada 2 lbs. 8 oz.

Of tobacco, Britain consumes per head 1 lb.

Canada 2 lbs. 8 oz.

This shows an immense excess in a very useless

article, and one which is enjoyed by only one sex; it includes segars. The difference of 1 lb. 8 oz. would be greatly increased if the quantity of home-grown tobacco were added to it; and we may fairly place the Canadian consumption per head, at three times that of the United Kingdom.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Of brandy, Britain consumes per head | 1.16 gal. |
| Canada | 1.10 |

It is probable, however, that the consumption in Canada of whiskey, home-made and imported, exceeds that of British home-made spirits.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Of molasses, Britain consumes per head . | 3 lbs. |
| Canada | 6 lbs. |

Perhaps the most remarkable article in our catalogue, however, is *wine*, of which

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Britain consumes per head . | 2½ pints |
| Canada | 5 „ |

The difference in this article is, no doubt, to some extent owing to the comparative lowness of the provincial duties upon the cheaper descriptions of wines, which enables them to be freely used by a class who only taste wine as a rare luxury in England, where the duties are so contrived as to exclude almost all but high-priced wines.

But perhaps the best way to prove our advancement is to give a short account, in the extent and value of our imports and exports, and in the increased number of steam and sailing vessels navi-

gating our inland seas and rivers of huge "*American*" dimensions.

The first steam boat that sailed on the St. Lawrence, a prodigious river that runs through and along over five hundred miles of Canadian territory, was built in 1809. It made the passage between Quebec and Montreal, 180 miles, in 66 hours, stoppages included, or in 36 hours actual sailing, *i.e.* five miles per hour.

A second was launched in 1813, which performed the trip in $22\frac{1}{2}$ hours, or eight miles per hour. The passage is now made down with the current in about 11 hours, and up against the current in about 14 hours, about thirteen miles per hour. The fare used to be nine dollars for going up, but now it is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars, not quite 1*z.* per mile.

In 1816, there were two more built for that river but the first boat that sailed in Upper Canada waters was built in 1817. This plied on the Bay of Quinte, at the rate of about five miles per hour. "In 1849," says Lillie, "there were 103 steamers on Canadian waters, with a tonnage of 16,156. Now there are above 120."

Within the last few years, by the construction of canals, and other favourable circumstances, the industry of Canada has been stimulated, and her resources developed with extraordinary rapidity. From Lake Erie, and of course from Lakes Huron and Michigan, both sailing and steam vessels can

now descend the St. Lawrence to the sea. For this object, the Welland Canal was constructed: it is about 27 miles long, and connects the two great lakes of Erie and Ontario; there are also several small canals along the St. Lawrence, where falls occur in that river, with capacious locks, and in the whole about ninety miles in length. Besides these, there are the Rideau Canal, 128 miles long, connecting Bytown on the river Ottawa, with Kingston on Lake Ontario; and the Chambly Canal, which connects Lake Champlain with the canals of the St. Lawrence, near Montreal. Through the canals of the St. Lawrence, in 1850, passed 7166 vessels and steamers, of which, 6827 were British and 339 American, and the aggregate tonnage was 547,322 tons; and through the Welland Canal 4761 vessels and steamers, of which 2962 were British and 1799 American.

In 1850, there were 1469 vessels came to Quebec and Montreal, ten times the number that came there in 1805, having 573,400 tons, and having 20,000 men, and also 178 vessels from the Upper Province, having 20,000 tons. Very nearly 600,000 tons in all.

I forgot to mention, that the tolls of the Welland Canal, in one month, that of November, 1852, amounted to £9200. The year's tolls of the same canal were, in 1850, £37,742 and in 1851, they amounted to £48, 241.

In 1850, the gross revenue of all the canals in the Province was £55,772, and in 1851, £76,216.

Again, to give you an idea of the extent of our commerce with the United States, I give you a detailed account of the exports of one little town of 5000 inhabitants, with which I am best acquainted — the beautiful and thriving town of Belleville before mentioned. In one quarter of a year, from the 5th July to 10th October, 1852, that little town exported to the United States alone the following named articles :

| | Feet | £. | s. |
|---|---------|----|----|
| Sawed lumber or planks, 11,148,000, value | 22,747 | 0 | |
| Shingles for roofing houses | 10 | 14 | |
| Railroad-sleepers, 10,625 | 701 | 5 | |
| Rags, 4 tons | 60 | 0 | |
| Grass-seed, 100 bushels | 80 | 0 | |
| Peas 1,392 „ | 174 | 0 | |
| Wheat 1,920 „ | 346 | 15 | |
| Barley 1,523 „ | 194 | 15 | |
| Rye 4,700 „ | 525 | 12 | |
| Flour 100 barrels | 96 | 6 | |
| Potash 66 „ | 330 | 2 | |
| Wool 9,700 lbs. | 570 | 17 | |
| Sheep 290 | 250 | 0 | |
| Making | £26,087 | 6 | |

This includes only what went to the United States

in three months ; there was about three times that amount of value exported, via Montreal and Quebec, to Great Britain and elsewhere, making our exports upwards of £100,000. in one quarter ; and during the time of navigation from the 1st May to 10th October, there were 318 vessels, independent of the daily and weekly steamers, that arrived for cargoes at that one port. Our total exports were about £148,000. and our imports nearly £28,000.

From the exports of this locality, you will naturally infer that the exports of all Canada must be very large indeed in proportion to her population.

I give you the exports and imports for the last five years, so that you may judge of the wonderful progress which Canada is making in these respects—

| | Imports. | Exports. |
|---------|------------|------------|
| In 1848 | £3,191,328 | £2,801,778 |
| 1849 | 3,002,892 | 2,668,245 |
| 1850 | 4,245,517 | 2,990,428 |
| 1851 | 5,358,697 | 3,241,180 |
| 1852 | 5,071,623 | 3,500,000 |

And the difference in the half year ending 5th July of the years 1852 and 1853—

| 1852 | 1853 |
|------------|--------------------------|
| £2,168,665 | £3,421,231, and the duty |
| 313,339 | 446,673 |

The exports being to imports about $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5.

The total number of bushels of wheat grown in Canada in 1852 was 16,375,000 Winchester bushels :

of these there were 10,985,000 consumed at home, allowing five bushels of wheat for every barrel of flour, being $5\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat for each inhabitant.

And there were exported in that year the enormous quantity of 5,390,000 bushels, including the flour at the above rate.

And to show you how Canada stands in relation to her exports and imports, compared with the United States, I have taken the following facts from Lillie. The value of the products of the United States exported in 1849 (taken from the American Almanac, p. 172), was \$132,666,955, which was less than *thirteen* times ours, viz. \$10,679,992, although their population is *fifteen* times as large as ours.

And the value of imports for the same period is still less in proportion than ours, being about nine times as much as ours, viz. as \$148 millions is to \$17 millions. So that, whether we take exports or imports, the prosperity of Canada exceeds that of the United States in proportion to her population; the exports being as 15 to 13, and the imports as 15 to 9 in favour of Canada.

CHAPTER V.

Domestic Animals employed in Canada—Farming and traveling Cattle—The Wild Animals of the Forest—Canadian Fish.

WITH regard to the domestic and wild animals of Canada, it may perhaps be expected that I make some observations. We have a most serviceable description of horse for the kind of work required of it—strong, active, and hardy. Time being of very great importance, and distances to market often great, we require active horses and light waggons, and our loads of farm-produce not being as yet very large, and expenses at taverns being a great drawback from the price of the produce if the farmer is detained long on the road, the heavy dray-horse would be of little service to us. In the Upper Province we use waggons drawn by two horses abreast in preference to carts drawn by one, as they are much better adapted for bad roads; if one wheel gets into a deep rut or hole, the others help to keep the weight off of it, and it is much easier to draw out a waggon with four wheels than a cart with two, the load per horse

being the same. Waggon's are also more easily loaded and in every way better suited for *general* farm use, though a cart on a farm is always desirable for drawing out manure. The common load put on a waggon for a pair of horses varies from ten cwt. to two tons, according to roads, distance, &c. and our hardy and excellent horses will perform from thirty to forty miles per day (going and returning included) with an average load, without being injured.

In winter they will draw heavier loads and perform longer journeys, if the sleighing be good. In ploughing, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres per day is a fair average day's work, if well done and the land tolerably stiff; but I have often known two acres per day readily accomplished and well done. Good horses, of calibre sufficient to perform this amount of work, can be had for about £20 currency each, *i.e.* £17 sterling. The first horse was imported into Lower Canada about 1663, and according to the census of 1852 we have now 385,377 horses of all ages in the Province—an immense increase, considering that we export to the United States many hundreds every year.

We number one horse for about every five inhabitants in the Province, the population being 1,845,000.

With regard to cows, the common cows of the country are a small undefinable breed mixed up of every description, but acclimated and hardy and easily fed, and will keep alive not only with little food, but with little care and little shelter. Thé

average produce of butter with ordinary care is $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per week, or half lb. per day; but they pay well for extra care, far exceeding this average.

There are very many farmers who have fine Durhams, Devons, Herefords, and Ayrshires, and these improved breeds, so called, are finding their way through the length and breadth of Canada—and if only the increase in the growth of green food and clover, and in the erection of comfortable buildings; keep pace with the increase of these descriptions of stock, they will then deservedly be called improved breeds, and will greatly improve the circumstances of the Canadian farmer. Butter and cheese have hitherto borne excellent prices, 9*d* sterling for one, and 5*d* sterling for the other, and pay the farmer well. Beef has also much improved in price, and the extra consumption that will be caused by the building of more than 1000 miles of railroad, and the extra facilities of sending it off to foreign markets, such as Boston and New York, where they are always dear, makes it and will continue to make it a most profitable branch of business for the farmer. Good cows, with good feed, and good care, and good shelter, produce in Canada as elsewhere from 6 lbs. to 8 lbs. of butter per week, or from 9 lbs. to 12 lbs. of good cheese. The price of a common Canadian cow is £4 sterling, and for fancy cows, which are always to be had, you pay a fancy price in Canada as in every other country. The number of milch cows was by the census of 1851

returned at 591,438, or about two to every seven inhabitants, and some thousands were exported last year to the United States. Independent of cows, the number of oxen and young cattle is 741,106.

With regard to sheep we have a great abundance, beautiful and excellent both in fleece and carcase, subject to no disease that I know of, very hardy and easily fed ; the average weight of carcase is about 14 lbs. per quarter, and fleece 3 lbs. of rather a fine description of wool, well suited to the wants of the country.

The export of wool last year was very considerable.

And the number of yards of fulled cloth and flannel manufactured in Canada, is 3,338,508—nearly two yards for every inhabitant of the province, and almost all done at the farm-houses. The mutton in the Toronto market is a just source of admiration to every one who visits it. The prevailing breeds are Leicester and Southdowns mixed. The value of store sheep is from 7*s* 6*d* to 15*s* ; of fat sheep, from 12*s* 6*d* to 30*s*. The number in Canada is 1,597,849 ; not very far from one to every inhabitant. In the Upper Province there are more than one for every inhabitant, being 16,000 over the number of the population.

As to swine, I will only observe that our pork is of excellent description, and the breeds very much improved of late. It is very common to hear of hogs being slaughtered, weighing 300 to 400 lbs.—the average size is probably 250 lbs. at nine months old.

Last year there was fatted in Canada 534,000 barrels of pork, of 200 lbs. per barrel, worth £2. 10s sterling per barrel; that is value for upwards of a million and a quarter sterling. Independently of this, there was a very large importation of living swine to the United States.

Thus in the number and value of our domestic animals, Canada exhibits a very large amount of wealth; greater, probably, in proportion to her population, than in any other country, not excepting the United States.

It may not be uninteresting perhaps to enumerate the animals of Canada that are not domestic. There seems to be a very general opinion here that the farmers of Canada suffer severely by wolves, bears, &c. This is quite a misapprehension. I rather think most farmers would be delighted to have more frequent opportunities of seeing bears in their woods. The sport of pursuing them is very great indeed; and the flesh, skin, and grease are treasures not to be acquired half so frequently as they could desire.

There are said to be four varieties of fox,—the red, the grey, a mongrel between these two, and the black fox which is esteemed very valuable for its fur, but very seldom seen. We have also the black wolf, and the grey wolf; and now and then a lynx is seen. The deer are still abundant; beautiful animals, and delicious food when properly cooked: there are three or four varieties—the American deer, the elk, the cari-

boo, and the moose. There is still a fair supply of venison to be seen in our market during the winter, especially if the snow be very deep and hard on the top. In this case the hounds can pursue them without sinking; whereas the deer are retarded in every bound, not having a good foundation for their spring. A deer skin is worth about 8s sterling, and sportsmen take great delight in hunting these beautiful animals. It not unfrequently happens that they take to the lake to swim to avoid the dogs, but there they are easily overtaken by the hunters in canoes, and killed in the water. We have also a few otters and beavers, an abundance of hares in the Lower Province, and squirrels of many varieties in both provinces. These latter are very good, and I have often eaten them: the large black squirrel is extremely delicate, and highly thought of, and is a most beautiful animal when alive. We have also racoons and musk-rats, which are eatable. The most annoying animal which we have is the skunk, or pole cat (*Mephites Americana*); it gets under our barns and sheds, and into our wood piles, and eats our eggs, and kills our hens and chickens, and the smell of it is so dreadful, that it is very difficult to approach it. It is most amusing to see a dog that is accustomed to them, endeavouring to kill them without being sprinkled with the nauseous liquid from the animal's reservoirs. I have never seen the rabbit in Canada: at the same time I must admit that our hare, as

compared with the rabbit of Great Britain, has some strong points of resemblance.

So far as quadrupeds are concerned, the sportsman has but little variety; but in the shooting of birds he can gratify his taste fully,—the abundance of wild duck of four or five different varieties, also of wild pigeons, and snipes, partridges and woodcocks, and, in the west, wild turkeys, will afford ample sport. No farmer can afford much time in the pursuit of game, if he expects to live by his farm; but I may be addressing many who may wish to know what the prospects are in these respects, and who may desire to pay Canada a visit, for the purpose of enjoying those sports for which it offers so wide a field. Our birds are far inferior to yours in the music of their notes; but many of them, in brilliancy of plumage, equal those of the Tropics. The red cardinal, the woodpeckers of every variety of colour, the American robin, the indigo bird, the scarlet tanagers, canaries, meadow larks, whip-poor-wills, starlings, finches, and last and least, the exquisite little humming-birds, which, like bees, dart from flower to flower, and display every possible combination of colours. According to Gosse's Canadian Naturalist, we have about sixty-six varieties of birds; but the greater part of them leave us in winter, and the snow-birds, the winter wren, and an occasional woodpecker, are in that season almost the sole tenants of the woods. Swallows are much encouraged about farm houses, as they perse-

cute the chicken-hawk, and are a great protection to the farm yard: they hunt the hawk with pertinacious hostility, probably for the protection of their own young.

To those who are fond of *fishing*, Canada presents the best imaginable opportunity for enjoying the sport: from the small speckled trout to the huge maskalonge, or the still huger sturgeon, there is the best possible sport in the greatest abundance and variety. One of the most common is that of trawling for pike, pickerel, or maskalonge, with a small tin fish attached to the hook, which is eagerly taken by these ravenous fish.

The white fish of our bays and lakes is said to be the finest fish perhaps in the world. The flavour of it is incomparable, especially when split open and fried with egg and crumbs of bread: they weigh on the average about 2 lbs. each when cleaned, 100 of them filling a good sized barrel. Those caught in Lake Huron are more highly prized than any others. I have seen a fine maskalonge caught from the stern of a steamer in full sail, by throwing out a strong line with a small tin fish attached. We have also very fine salmon trout in our lakes and some of our rivers.

I do not wish to occupy much of your time on sporting subjects, as such; but the varied and immense wealth of our unbounded *waters*, as well as *lands*, well deserves a few passing remarks, and is much more important as a source of profit than of

amusement. The quantity of fish cured in Canada is about 100,000 barrels (worth about 20s per barrel); but this year the *take* has been immense, and the demand still greater. This is not only a very valuable article of food for our own population, but as one of export it now occupies a very high position. Independent of this large quantity, there was exported last season from New Carlisle and Gaspé, in the Lower Province, of *dried* fish, 82,521 cwt. producing £49,504.; and of pickled fish, 1471 barrels, producing £800.; and from the Magdalen Islands, £9000. worth;—making in all, £59,304. So that, including the home consumption in both Provinces, our waters yield us nearly £150,000. worth of fish every year, and may be made to yield tenfold that amount.

CHAPTER VI.

Educational Establishments—Statistics—Ministers of Religion
—How supported.

I HAVE in a former part of this book alluded to the admirable system of education which prevails in Canada ; and it is a subject affecting so vitally not only the present, but the future condition of the colony, that I have thought it well to add a few remarks on the subject, which appeared some time back in that invaluable periodical “ Chambers’ Edinburgh Journal.”

“ The manner in which the great question of elementary *education* has been dealt with in Canada is worthy of attention, not only from the effect which it is likely to produce in Canada itself, but from its general interest. It may be mentioned that the province has been provided with an excellent system of schools of different grades ; a system infinitely more perfect than that which prevails in the parish school establishment of Scotland. It is encouraging to know that the number of public schools reported as existing in Upper Canada this year (1850) amounts to 3059,

and that the number of pupils in these schools is 151,891, increased in the following year to 168,159. The amount of school visits by superintendants, and official visits of clergymen, magistrates, &c. in 1851, amounted to 32,608: this proves a very important agency in promoting and sustaining public interest, and is highly encouraging to both teachers and pupils. With what earnestness the people have engaged in the cause of education is shown by the published account of the 'Proceeding at the ceremony of laying the chief corner stone of the Normal and Model School and Education Offices, by the Earl of Elgin, Governor-General, at Toronto, in July, 1851.' From an address delivered on the ground by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendant, we learn that the institution will accommodate 200 teachers in training, and 600 pupils in the Model School; and that the land set apart for it is an entire square, consisting of nearly eight acres, two of which are devoted to a botanical garden, three to agricultural experiments, and the remainder to the buildings of the institution, and to grounds for the gymnastic exercises of students and pupils.

"To accomplish this project, a public grant was made of £15,000; 'an enlightened liberality on the part of our Legislature in advance of that of any other Legislature on the American continent.' Near the close of his address the Chief Superintendant

remarks, 'There are four circumstances which encourage the most sanguine anticipations in regard to our educational future. The first is, the avowed and entire absence of all party spirit in the school affairs of our country, from the provincial legislature down to the smallest municipality. The second is the precedence which our Legislature has taken of all others on the western side of the Atlantic in providing for normal-school instruction, and in aiding teachers to avail themselves of its advantages. The third is, that the people of Upper Canada have during the last year, voluntarily taxed themselves for the salaries of teachers in a larger sum in proportion to their numbers, and have kept open their schools, on an average, more months than the neighbouring citizens of the State of New York. The fourth is, that the essential requisites of suitable and excellent textbooks, which have been introduced into our schools, with the necessary books, maps and apparatus, will soon be in advance of those of any other country.'

In fact, the system of education now established in Canada, far exceeds, in its comprehensive details, anything established in the United Kingdom. While all the ordinary plans of national education in the mother country have been delivered over to sectarian disputation and obstruction, those in Canada have been perfected and brought into operation, to the universal satisfaction of the people.

I will just add that the population of Upper Canada is 952,004

And the grand total of students and pupils attending universities, colleges, grammar, private and common schools, is . . . 177,624

The population between the ages of five and sixteen years, is about 258,000

The amount available for salaries of common school teachers in Upper Canada . . . £102,050

The average number of months each common school has been kept open 10½

And the average attendance of pupils during the year 1851 at the common schools, was 83,390

But the subjoined very interesting table furnished to me by our excellent chief superintendant, Dr. Ryerson, so lately as October, 1853, gives a most satisfactory view of the wonderful progress of Upper Canada in school matters.

By it, it appears that the number of pupils attending common schools has increased, within the last ten years, from 66,000 to 179,500, whilst the whole school population, between the ages of five and sixteen, are only 262,700. It shows, too, that the total sum available for educational purposes has increased, during the same period, from £41,500 to £176,000, that is, that, for the same period during which the population merely *doubled*, the amount devoted to

educational purposes has increased considerably more than *fourfold*.

It shows, too, that our school libraries have increased, in six years, from 85 to 1,045, and the volumes contained in them, from 10,600 to 164,100. And, I may add, that Sunday-schools are almost universally adopted, and punctually and numerously attended. That the morals and religious instruction of the young are efficiently cared for, is proved by the fact that, very few convictions of crime occur; and in very many of our most populous counties it frequently happens, as I have stated before, that the Judge of assize has not a single prisoner to try. In three counties, on a late occasion, to my knowledge, containing 80,000 inhabitants, the Judge, having no criminal to try, was presented with a pair of white gloves, or entitled to that privilege.

GENERAL STATISTICAL TABLE SHOWING THE CANADA, FROM 184

| Subjects compared. | 1842. | 1843. | 1844. | 1845. |
|---|---------|---|---------------------|---------|
| Population of Upper Canada | 486,055 | No Reports for this year, in consequence of a change in the School Law. | | 622,570 |
| Population between the ages of 5 and 16 years | 141,143 | | 183,539 | 202,913 |
| Colleges | 5 | | 5 | 5 |
| Normal and Model Schools | — | | Established in 1847 | |
| Grammar Schools and Academies | 25 | | 26 | 33 |
| Common Schools | 1721 | | 2610 | 2736 |
| Private Schools, as far as reported | 44 | | 60 | 65 |
| Total Educational Institutions | 1795 | | 2701 | 2839 |
| Students attending Colleges | — | | — | — |
| Students and Pupils attending the Normal and Model Schools | — | | — | — |
| Pupils attending Grammar Schools and Academies | — | | — | — |
| Pupils attending Common Schools | 65,978 | | 96,756 | 110,002 |
| Pupils attending Private Schools as far as reported | — | | — | — |
| Total Students and Pupils | 65978 | | 96,756 | 110,002 |
| Amount available for Salaries of Common School Teachers | £41,500 | | £51,714 | £71,514 |
| Amount expended for Building, Rents, Repairs of School-houses, | — | | — | — |
| Amount received by Colleges, Academies, Grammar & Private Schools | — | | — | — |
| Total for Educational Purposes | £41,500 | | £51,714 | £71,514 |
| Common School Teachers | — | | — | 2,860 |
| Average Salary of Male Teachers | — | | — | — |
| Average Salary of Female do. | — | | — | — |
| Total number of Libraries, as far as reported | — | | — | — |
| Total number of volumes therein, as far as reported | — | | — | — |

MEM.—The Statistics of Colleges, Academies, and Private Schools, as approximated from such information as could be obtained.

Education Office,
Toronto, 4th October, 1853.

**DATE AND PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN UPPER
o 1852 INCLUSIVE.***

| 1846. | 1847. | 1848. | 1849. | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | 723,292 | | 803,493 | 950,551 | 953,239 |
| 104,580 | 230,975 | 241,102 | 253,364 | 259,258 | 258,607 | 262,755 |
| 5 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 34 | 35 | 35 | 40 | 57 | 70 | 98 |
| 2589 | 2727 | 2800 | 2871 | 3059 | 3001 | 3010 |
| 80 | 96 | 117 | 157 | 224 | 159 | 167 |
| 2708 | 2866 | 2960 | 3077 | 3349 | 3240 | 3285 |
| — | 700 | 740 | 733 | 684 | 632 | 751 |
| — | — | 256 | 400 | 376 | 380 | 545 |
| — | 1000 | 1115 | 1120 | 2070 | 2550 | 2894 |
| 01,912 | 124,829 | 130,739 | 138,465 | 151,891 | 170,254 | 179,587 |
| — | 1831 | 2345 | 3648 | 4663 | 3948 | 5133 |
| 01,912 | 128,560 | 135,195 | 144,366 | 159,684 | 177,764 | 188,910 |
| 67,906 | £77,599 | £86,069 | £88,478 | £88,536 | £102,050 | £113,991 |
| — | — | — | — | £14,189 | £19,334 | £25,094 |
| — | — | — | — | — | £32,864 | £36,989 |
| 37,106 | £77,599 | £86,069 | £88,478 | £102,725 | £154,218 | £176,074 |
| 2925 | 3028 | 3177 | 3209 | 3476 | 3277 | 3388 |
| — | £37 | £62 | £58 | £60 | £79 | £83 |
| — | £32 | £32 | £35 | £40 | £51 | £52 |
| — | 85 | 431 | 505 | 675 | 870 | 1045 |
| — | 10,604 | 59,877 | 68,571 | 96,165 | 130,934 | 164,147 |

* See also the Annual School Reports for 1851, page 59 and 62.

Thus have I given a short but faithful account of the real state of Canada, her prospects and resources ; and if, by what I have said, I shall be the means of inducing earnest and industrious men to improve their circumstances, and add to their happiness and well-being, or that of their families, by settling in what I certainly deem a truly prosperous colony, I shall be well pleased at having contributed to their happiness, and also to the welfare of my adopted country ; for, in its present state, the addition of industrious and moral men to its population, is to it, as to all new countries, a great desideratum.

THE END.

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