

It may not be out of place to remark here, that the great canals on the St. Lawrence have opened up a route for emigrants to the western parts of Canada, and to all parts of the United States of America bordering on the great lakes, which possesses considerable advantages over that previously used by the way of New York and the Erie Canal. In the first place, the passage money to Quebec is generally less than that to New York, and the distance from England to the former port is shorter by about 250 miles than to the latter; but the chief advantage is this, that emigrants, on arriving at Quebec, are at once placed on board large and commodious steam-vessels which convey them, without any delay, to their several places of destination; whereas, if travelling by way of New York, they are compelled to land, with all their luggage, in that city; and are subjected, for a time, to all the annoyances of lodging-house-keepers, agents, &c. &c. After leaving New York they are conveyed by steamers 150 miles up the River Hudson to Albany, where they are transferred to boats on the Erie as far as Buffalo, a distance of 363 miles; the boats are towed by horses, so that the passage occupies from *eight to ten* days, while the passage from Quebec to Buffalo is completed within *three* days; first-class steamers conveying the traveller to Lewiston, 520 miles, and the railway from Lewiston to Buffalo the remaining distance of 30 miles. Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, referring to the St. Lawrence canals and steamers, observe that "*they offer great advantages to emigrants proceeding to the Western States, as they make the route of the St. Lawrence much shorter and cheaper than by the way of the United States.*"

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Thanks to various concurrent circumstances, the British farmer who emigrates to Canada may rest assured that nowhere will he be less sensible of having made a change of home than by fixing himself there, especially in the western province, always premising the serious consideration *whether he should make a change at all*. He must not be so unwise as to indulge in golden dreams of amassing wealth quickly, but he may confidently anticipate an abundance of the necessary comforts of life, and avoid many of those anxieties concerning the future well-being of himself and his children, that, perchance, disturb his mind and depress his energies here; at all events, he will escape the trials with which he has struggled to meet his engagements to his landlord, who would relieve him if he could, but who is, probably, more willing than able to exercise feelings of kindness and consideration.

Little, indeed it may be said, method or definite system is pursued in Canadian husbandry, and, in consequence, much evil has frequently resulted from growing wheat to excess. A judicious rotation will effect wonders, especially when combined with due attention to the products of the dairy, to improvement in the breed and treatment of live stock, and the composition and application of manure, hitherto not unfrequently deposited upon the ice in place of the land, and there left to float off in the spring, or else allowed to accumulate year after year, until it becomes necessary to erect new stables to abate the nuisance.

While it will be found that Canada contains, comparatively, but a small portion of sterile land, there is yet a very considerable difference in the quality of different distances. Clays of various degrees of tenacity; sands of a poor, and others of a fertile, nature; loams of a greater or less valuable description; swamps which, when drained, will become fertile meadows: these, and many others, present themselves on every hand, and will command the attention of intelligent settlers. As one general rule, and as evincing the gracious appointment of Providence, the quality of the soil as we recede from the *frontage* sensibly improves in a measure more than sufficient to compensate the extra expense of transit. The land which is covered in a natural state with the maple, elm, beech, and other deciduous trees, surpasses in value that where the pine, or even the oak, constitutes the natural product. And, as Sir Francis Head remarks, "while every backwoodsman in America is occupying himself, as he thinks, solely for his own interest, in clearing his location, every