

he walks through a town, and perceives that a large proportion of its inhabitants are strangers to beggary and wo. The streets of our cities in Britain display such a succession of miserable beings, that one is often inclined, while traversing them, to become inimical to civilization; as half the objects that present themselves afford evidence of the waste of happiness which its purchase occasions. Montreal is as yet a stranger to those miseries which a surplus labouring population never fails to produce, and will probably continue so, as long as vacant lands lie open, in all parts of Canada, for the reception of settlers.

Quebec has much more the appearance of a commercial city than Montreal. At present, comparatively few vessels come up the St Lawrence as far as the latter town; for they cannot move from Quebec unless by the help of the tide, or a strong breeze directly astern. But the tide flows only to Three Rivers, about sixty miles below Montreal; and when they have gained this place, they must lie at anchor until a favourable wind enables them to stem the current, which is very rapid. However, six steam-boats now ply between the two cities, and transport all sorts of lading much more safely and expeditiously than square-rigged vessels can do.

One morning, I observed a ship and two brigs entering the harbour, and on going down to the