

questions of trusts and settlements which are often found to complicate and embarrass titles in England. With this safeguard, fraud is almost impossible.

"With respect to the valuation of property offered as security, there can be no difficulty on this point: each farm in the country, and lot in town, is valued for the purpose of taxation by county officers regularly appointed, who are directed by the statute to estimate the property 'as they would appraise the same in payment of a just debt due from a solvent debtor.' The assessors' certificate can be obtained, and their estimate may be relied upon as clearly within the cash value. When the loan is large, and it is desirable to obtain more particular information, an agent is sent to a surveyor living in the county, and employed to report upon the value. When houses form part of the security, the borrower is required to insure to the amount loaned, and assign the policies.

"You must look upon this letter as a kind of text for future ones—a mere outline—which I shall fill in from time to time."

No. II.

"TORONTO, August, 1855.

"MY DEAR WYNDHAM,

"Having told you the many advantages with which Providence has blessed this province, the very name of which you once told me used to make you shiver, I now tell you some of its drawbacks.

"The first of these is a long winter. This, however, is our Maker's will, and it does not become us to repine. It has, moreover, its uses and advantages as I will show elsewhere, and is yearly mitigated by clearing lands, draining swamps, and various other agricultural improvements. We want more places of worship—more pastors—representatives in the Imperial Parliament, or authorized agents at home—trees for shade, shelter and ornament—hedgerows—coal—access to public libraries—male and female domestic servants—more money, or banks with more capital—more good beer and less bad whiskey—in the concoction of which filthy poison it is computed that 6,000,000 bushels of native grown grain are annually consumed! In this latter matter we are without excuse. Barley produces admirable crops in both provinces—say 25 bushels an acre. Hops are indigenous, and grow every where. They are, too, less infested with the blight and louse than at home. I know an instance in the splendid township of Whitby, where a friend of mine, a Yorkshireman of the name of Ritson, sold the produce of three acres of hops for 1000 dollars—£200 of your money, and got a first prize at the Horticultural Show. What Mr. Ritson did can be done by thousands of others, and