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rageous proceedings. It is worthy of remark that of those who remained about the camp during the winter, very few ever came to any good, while those who settled at once upon their land, and their descendants, are at the present time among the most respectable and wealthy people in the township. So much for seizing time and opportunity.

And her enemy for a few years troubled these adventurous men and their families. From the admission of the sun into the small clearings, and the want of thorough circulation of air, the decaying vegetable matter produced a miasma causing great prevalence of fever and ague. This is generally the case in a climate like this, in similar circumstances; the enlargement of the clearings, promoting freer circulation always as here, does away with any endemic disease of this kind, and since that time the settlement has been the healthiest on the continent.

The change since 1821 has been rapid and great; the forest has given way before the stroke of the axe; the wigwam of the Indian and the shanty of the settler have been discarded for comfortable and substantial dwellings of frame, stone or brick; well cultivated and verdant fields have taken the place of woods and swamps; bridges, mills, schools, and churches have sprung up as if by magic; villages dot the surface of the township, and one of them, Almonte, already rivals many towns in size, as it far exceeds them in business and manufactures. The Public Libraries in the county of Lanark in the year 1866 were one hundred and twenty-four, containing 21,319 volumes, and of this large intellectual provision the people of Ramsay, true to their descent, enjoy a large proportion. The Township is also headquarters for the North Riding Lanark Agricultural Society. Of the manufacturing and business resources of the township, and particularly of the village of Almonte, it is impossible here to speak, especially as the latter deserves an article to itself. This material prosperity would gladden the hearts of the old settlers could they now see the fruits of their hardships and labors, but alas! they are fast passing away, not more than eight or ten of the original locatees of 1821 being left, but their descendants are enjoying in peace and comfort the results of their arduous struggles. Let those who are now coming to the country take courage from a knowledge of the success that crowned their labors, and go on perseveringly in the firm belief that they can do the same, nay, in the altered and improved condition of the country, they may with less hardship accomplish much more. Canada is no country for any man to sit down with folded hands, but he who has strength and a stout heart is sure of plenty for himself and those given to his care, and ultimate comfort if not affluence.

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