

assiduous, and valuable assistance which he has rendered to the Highland Society; their anxious desire that he should soon again be enabled to resume the duties which he has so well fulfilled; and their cordial wishes for his success in the objects which he now contemplates by visiting the United States of America, and the Colonies of Great Britain.

The Chairman is requested to communicate to Mr Ferguson an extract of these minutes.

PAT. MURRAY, *Chairman.*

CHARLES GORDON, *Dep. Sec.*

HIGHLAND SOCIETY HALL, EDINBURGH,]
3d February 1831.

LETTER FROM ADAM FERGUSON, ESQ. TO THE DIRECTORS
OF THE HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.

Gentlemen,—In reference to a resolution of the Directors, which you did me the honour of transmitting to me, through your Secretary, upon the eve of my departure for America, I feel it now my duty to furnish some statements regarding the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, with such portions of the United States as came under my personal observation, or regarding which I acquired information from authentic sources during my excursion.

Without reference to the precise route which I followed, my observations will point,

1. To Lower Canada;
2. To Upper Canada;
3. To the United States.

In treating of these, my leading object will be to ascertain their respective advantages or disadvantages to emigrants from Britain.

Lower Canada lies between 45° and 52° N. Lat., and 64° and 82° W. Long.

To those ignorant of the geographical position, there is something in the term *Lower* strongly indicative of a superiority in climate, which is by no means borne out by actual circumstances. Winter, in the Lower Province, wears a more severe and protracted form, than it does on the great table-land above. Many decisive facts in confirmation of this might be adduced. I shall only mention, that wheat cannot here withstand the severity of winter, requiring to be sown in spring, and occasioning thereby both loss and inconvenience to the farmer in wet and late seasons; while quails, or Vir-

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