

I expressed the thought a little previously, that I had made my way to the village of Tara, and there had formed acquaintance which had ripened into conjugality. At the time of the American Civil War, I had found it necessary in order to exercise my activity, to find a place on the American side. My wife's brother, her pet friend, only remained at home two weeks after our marriage, when he came to live with us, feeling that he could not live without his sister very comfortably. They were greatly attached. He joined me in the building art, and we left Southampton on the first of May, 1865, at the close of the American War, and went by boat and rail to Holly Station, thence to Grand Rapids. There in the bustle and struggle at the close of the American War, when the soldiers were returning in crowds and the people generally upset, we were offered a small contract of putting up a barn. We went there with a view to bettering our position, and applied ourselves to our calling. The next morning after we arrived in Grand Rapids, we were brought by team to the place where the building was to be erected. We got to work, (we were both able and willing) and in a very short time we had the building in the course of erection. The owner was a man who imbibed very freely, and was not dependable because of the habit. I prohibited any liquor being brought on the premises until the building was up. He invited me to go with him to get men to raise the building, as was the custom in that country as well as in Canada, and on our journey through his neighborhood I was certainly surprised with the appearance of the men. I won't say of what nationality, but they were brothers of his in religion, in habits, and in appearance. They all very freely consented to come and help put up the building. The morning came and the collection gathered from all quarters like sparrows on the roofs of the old buildings around the premises, but they seemed very much to dislike to move from their seats. They had nothing to do apparently but look on. A beautiful day was passing, and no direct move was made to do anything, all sat fast on the building, and the timber. I said at noon to my