

too, was early on the scene, his wish for excitement often being father to the rôle of colonizer, his ambition fired by the highly wrought pictures of the pamphleteer; or the sight of vast rivers, plains and forests setting his brain on fire with schemes whereby his philanthropic leanings might be gratified in providing homes for the thousands who were starving elsewhere; and the most intensely human impulse of all, possible fortune to himself.

The British officers who returned after the war had told those at home that although description had been true in calling the colony a "vast solitude," it was by no means "a hopeless wilderness." It is true, so late as 1804, Upper Canada had County Lieutenants, and a Domesday Book which contained records of grants of land from the beginning of the organization of that province in 1792. The still familiar name of Baby figured there as County Lieutenant for Kent.

It was computed that Britain might annually lose from fifty to sixty thousand of her inhabitants with advantage to those remaining behind, and that superfluous capital might advantageously be invested in colonial improvements. What remained to be proved, and could alone be proved by experience, was which would be the class of persons most fitted for the new life. Also, would not the new object of investment be as chimerical, in many cases, as the South Sea Bubble itself.

As to the class of emigrants, the bulk of them promised to be labourers or those who sought support among the middle classes, a support which yearly became more difficult from a number of causes. Towards 1825, the year of the organization of the Canada Company, the reduced scale of the Army and Navy and the economy introduced into all departments, withdrew many sources of income. Manufactures and trade were only advantageous when carried on upon a large scale, with low profits upon extensive capital. There remained only the learned professions, with clerkships in banks, insurance companies and similar establishments. For these pursuits an increased population, and the rapid growth of education, caused