

IMMIGRATION OFFICE.

The Government Immigration Office is now open at 46 Bedford Row, Halifax; where the duties according to the subjoined Act of last Session of the House of Assembly will be attended to and carried on.

Persons wishing to engage mechanics or labourers can call and enter their names and addresses.

Immigrants arriving, or who have recently arrived, and requiring aid or information from the Agent, can obtain the same, in so far as lies in his power, by application at the office.

CHAPTER 26.

An Act

TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION AND SETTLEMENT OF INDUSTRIOUS IMMIGRANTS.

[Passed the 29th day of April, A. D. 1863.]

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows:

1. On the passage of this Act it shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint an Immigrant Agent, with a salary not to exceed eight hundred dollars, who shall have power and whose duties shall be to correspond with the Secretary of the Board of Land and Emigration in London, and with the agents appointed by that Board, with the officers of any associations, or with public spirited persons desirous of promoting emigration for the Colonies; and to furnish from time to time such information as may be useful, to enable them to send out emigrants for whom there is likely to be suitable employment in this Province.

To open a book in which persons wishing to engage mechanics, laborers and apprentices, can enter their names and addresses.

To correspond with County officers, and keep a registry of the distribution of immigrants sent into the interior.

To act as the guardian of orphan children, to bind them as apprentices, and to protect them in case of necessity.

To render accounts quarterly to the Financial Secretary, and to make an annual report of his proceedings for the information of the Government and the Legislature.

To act under such instructions as may be issued by the Governor in Council from time to time.

2. The Governor in Council may authorize the Immigrant Agent to draw from the Treasury such sums as may be necessary to temporarily provide for and distribute such Immigrants as may be sent into this Province; but no part of the monies so to be drawn shall be disbursed on account of passages to or from this country.

3. Wherever there are tracts of land suitable for settlement it shall be lawful for the Commissioner of Crown Lands, when so instructed by the Governor in Council, to lay them off in one hundred acre lots, with convenient roads running through them, and to place them at the disposal of the Immigrant Agent for actual settlement.

4. Whenever such lands are required, either by inhabitants of the Province or by industrious Immigrants coming into it for actual settlement, surveys shall be made, and the applicants put in possession and allowed a credit of three years for the purchase money, which shall be expended in opening such roads as may be required for the formation and improvement of the settlement, and upon payment grants shall issue. Oct. 8. 6i.

GIANT TREES.

No one who loves trees can fail to be interested in the following account of some of the forests giants of California, as given by a correspondent of the San Francisco (Cal.) Pacific:

The "Big Tree Grove" contains about a hundred of these monsters, which have arrived at a good degree of maturity, besides great numbers of others of the same species, of all sizes, from the smallest sapling upward. There are also other kinds of trees interspersed among them. The whole area occupied by the grove is about fifty acres. The land is "claimed" by the owners of the hotel, and great care is now taken to preserve the trees from the ravages of fire, which heretofore has damaged many of them, and from the attacks of human vandals who, if permitted to do so, would soon destroy the most important of them by cutting them, and carrying off specimens of bark and wood.

Sallying out from the hotel to see the wonders of the place, the visitor naturally first examines the enormous stump of the tree near the house, which was cut down by sacrilegious hands a few years since. This was the one first seen by Down, the hunter, the original discoverer of the grove. The stump is now inclosed within canvass walls, the top having been smoothed off like a floor, for dancing purposes, and is surrounded by a row of seats. Here the Alleghanians once gave a concert to fifty persons, all of whom, with the performers, occupied the stump at the same time! On one Fourth of July, also, thirty-two persons (four sets) danced a cotillion upon it at once, without inconvenience. I stepped off the

distance across it, and found it to be ten good paces, although the top is about six feet above the ground and the bark has been taken off. The stump is sound to the core.

It required no little ingenuity, as well as persevering labor, to fell this enormous denizen of the forest. It could not be accomplished with axes. How then, think you, it was done? By boring a series of holes completely around it, from circumference to center, with augers of upward of fifteen feet in length, made for the purpose. But when the trunk had thus been severed, so plumb was the tree that it would not fall. After trying in vain various expedients to topple it over, at length a large tree of another species standing near was felled against it, but still it stood. A second resort of this kind finally succeeded, and the noble monarch of the woods yielded, and bowing his head, fell prostrate, with a crash that reverberated like a thousand thunders among the mountains, and shook the solid ground like an earthquake—the huge trunk breaking in several places like a pine-stem. Five men were engaged for twenty-five days in this work.

A portion of the trunk still remains near the stump, and the top of it, as it lies horizontally, reaches above the eaves of the house. It is ascended by a flight of steps, twenty-six in number, and nearly perpendicular. A man looks like a pigmy standing beside it. At a little distance, a double bowling-alley has been constructed on another portion of the trunk, which has been cut down flat for the purpose.

Leaving the intermediate neighborhood of the hotel, the visitor is conducted next through the adjoining grove, by a path that has been so constructed as to take him near to all the remarkable members of the group. This is "the grand tour." The trees have all received more or less fanciful names, which are posted upon them, either inscribed on tin plates or marble tablets. Their height and circumference is also given. I have not space for a particular description of each tree, and will therefore select a few as specimens.

"The Miner's Cabin" is three hundred feet high and eighty feet in circumference, tapering very gradually. It has an opening in the trunk forty feet high and seventeen feet wide. "The Three Gra-