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were furnished to each family. Glen-  
garry, Bay of Quinte, Lac St. Francois  
and the surrounding districts were settled  
by Highlanders, who first located in the  
Mohawk Valley, N.Y. in 1773, and their  
friends who joined them between 1786  
and 1803. For decades the language,  
habits, customs, music and sports of the  
Highlands were maintained in their native  
purity in those settlements; it was also  
hinted that there was a strain of Rob Roy  
in many of them, as when, in 1838,  
Colborne sent the Glengarryians to  
Quebec to quell local disturbances, they  
went away in infantry and returned cavalry;  
they were nearly all Macdonalds.

The St. Lawrence, during the rush of  
immigration presented an animated  
spectacle. Her scenic grandeur, the mar-  
vellous beauty of her inland lakes, the  
panoramic splendor of her mountains, the  
wild gorges and waterfalls of her rivers  
appealed to the Highlander. All traffic  
was at first on her waters. As the ice  
cleared out, waiting rafts were floated;  
canoes crossing and re-crossing with ashes  
or produce; batteaux and Durham boats,  
laden with settlers and their effects, pro-  
ceeded in an endless procession towards  
Upper Canada. On the shore, in many  
places, teams busy pulling logs to the  
rafts, or the smoke of the potash fires  
curling cloudwards. One of the most  
exciting operations was the noise made by  
twenty horses pulling a mast, eighty four  
feet long, down to the water's edge. The  
ring of the axe and the crash of falling  
timbers contributed to the exciting ex-  
periences of pioneer days.

One cannot do justice to this subject  
without a glance at some of the causes  
which induced these immigrants to leave  
their homes for unknown lands to endure  
the privations of the pioneer. There  
were many reasons which made emigration  
desirable. In the Highlands after 1745,  
the breakdown of the hereditary juris-  
diction of the chief, and the dissolution  
of the mutual obligations that bound  
tenant and landlord intensified an im-  
possible agrarian situation. The new  
political conditions took the romance and  
chivalry out of the life of the Highlanders.  
This leaven, which worked from 1745 till  
1770, resulted in new agrarian regulations,  
which changed even the face of the  
country. New ideas in agriculture, which  
demanded large tracts of land for their  
success, were introduced after the Seven  
Years' War. Engrossing of farms be-  
came common. Land, long in cultiva-  
tion, lapsed into a state of nature; evictions  
converted whole districts into scenes of  
desolation. The Highlander became a  
stranger in the land of his fathers. Some  
settled on a few acres along the sea shore.  
Many crowded into the manufacturing  
centres, complicating existing economic  
conditions, and thousands sought refuge  
in distant Canada, hating a system that  
exiled them. During the French Revolu-  
tion, social and economic conditions  
were considerably relieved, but after  
peace, vast numbers of disbanded soldiers  
and sailors flooded the country, resulting  
in a disorganized agrarian and industrial  
system. To intensify the evils, we find a  
general low level of trade and commercial  
which seriously affected the manufactur-  
ing centres, accompanied by a fall in the  
price of cattle, general throughout Scot-  
land, with the result, that farmers, unable  
to pay their rents, were evicted. The  
Highlands suffered, particularly in the  
ruin of the Kelp industry, which rendered  
fifty thousand destitute.

Another cause, equally effective in  
encouraging emigration, may be traced  
to the stream of pamphlets that depicted  
in glowing colors, the wonderful possi-  
bilities of Canada. It was said to be a  
land of beautiful climate, where fertile  
acres were given away or so cheap that  
even the poorest could afford to buy. A  
land of lakes, rivers and bays abounding  
in fish; a land of liberty, without taxes,  
where none need remain a servant except  
by choice and poverty was unknown.  
The writers contrasted the comparative  
poverty and political servitude in Scotland  
with the affluence and the independence  
of the Canadian, after a few years on the  
land. Small wonder that Scotsmen flocked  
to such an "El Dorado," but as one  
writer put it, "all the truth that had been  
written respecting Canada, could not  
cover half the lies that had been told."  
They advertised all the good to be derived  
from emigration to the backwoods, and  
carefully concealed the toil and misery en-  
route to independence.

The privations of the pioneers were  
severe to a degree to which those who

landed between 1820 and 1840 had  
scarcely any conception. It called for  
more than ordinary resolution, courage  
and fortitude to hew a home out of the  
forest alone without any comforts, often  
enduring the miseries of hunger—in some  
cases existing on peas and shellfish—  
lacking every convenience to which they  
had been accustomed and totally ignorant  
of the work to be done. The future he  
many privations, which demanded all their  
energy to overcome; year by year through  
tropic heat and arctic cold they struggled,  
till finally the dark curtains of the forest  
rolled aside, and life and activity broke  
the silence and stagnation of ages. It  
was a continuous fight with Nature. The  
pioneer got lost in the surrounding  
mazes, some were killed by falling trees,  
others suffering tortures from fevers,  
without medical attendance. Almost the  
entire settlement of Baldoon was wiped  
out shortly after location.

Many are the accounts of the miseries  
endured during the first few years of  
pioneering. So poorly provided were  
some settlements that they lived as one  
big family: a community of suffering  
persevering in fortitude till the harvest of  
prosperity. It was a common thing for  
the settlers in Pictou to walk across the  
country through the woods to the Bay of  
Fundy, forty to fifty miles away and  
carry back a bushel of potatoes to keep  
their families from starvation. Many left  
the settlement during the first year; one  
man remained till the mosquitoes came,  
and, thinking it was a judgment, he also  
left. These experiences were far from  
solitary. Instances of equal suffering  
attended the first settlers in all the  
settlements. In some instances they  
could scarcely have that relief from toil,  
which sleep affords, from the dread of  
being burned alive by the Indians. The  
pioneers of Glengarry had severe priva-  
tions to overcome. The same was true  
of all the pioneer settlements in upper  
Canada. In Prince Edward Island and  
Cape Breton, the pioneers, during the  
first two years were subject to famine  
conditions. They used to divide into  
lots the very shores where shellfish  
abounded, and were it not for the abun-  
dant of fish and game, their conditions  
would have been indeed pitiable. In  
Lanark, the pioneers were for eight weeks  
exposed to all sorts of weather, without  
any shelter except what a few blankets  
spread over the branches of trees could  
afford. In time the government erected  
barracks where the settler obtained  
shelter till his log house was ready. Thus,  
drenched with rain, sleeping on the  
ground, wading streams, fighting the  
forest, isolated from neighbors, in hunger  
and poverty these brave men toiled;  
without roads or grist mills or any of the  
ameliorative agencies that make life  
endurable. Time and perseverance and  
unceasing toil brought their own rewards.

The privations of pioneer days gave place  
to comparative comforts; roads permitted  
the settler to emerge, other than in winter,  
from his enforced isolation; villages were  
formed, mills erected, markets opened,  
schools and churches built, and the misery  
of the lean years were forgotten in the  
prospects of assured success: the hand-  
maid to fortitude and thrifty habits.

It was said that Canada to the Irishman  
meant license to do as he pleased; to the  
Englishman it was a land of crude manners  
and vulgar republicanism; to the Scotsman  
an opportunity. No race was better  
equipped for encountering the initial  
difficulties of the pioneer, none more  
adaptable, or could endure hardships  
more philosophically than the Scotsman.  
His success is explained as the outcome of  
hardships and conflict, toil and suffering  
of many centuries. Toil has been in  
Scotland the inexorable condition of  
existence. The direct result has been the  
development of laborious habits, which  
with the national perseverance converted  
the primeval forests of Canada into  
fruitful fields. Many are the references in  
the Dominion Archives to the peculiarly  
rich and abundant harvest, which the  
endurance, the industry and the courage  
of the Scot produced. These humble  
pioneers possessed the energy which over-  
came all difficulties; the frugality which  
spared and accumulated; the rugged  
earnestness and unswerving integrity,  
together with the thoughtful and educated  
intelligence that supplied a vigorous and  
sterling element to the population. Of  
the two, the Lowlander came first in  
neatness and comfort. The Highlander  
seldom showed the same orderly arrange-  
ment in his work. In fact in an exclus-

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