

IMMIGRATION OFFICE.

The Government Immigration Office is now open at 48 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 INDUSTRIAL IMMIGRANTS.

[Passed the 29th day of April, A. D. 1851.]

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. 61.

AFRICA AND ITS WONDERS.

Dr. Livingston—in his admirable work on South Africa—gives many very interesting descriptions of its scenery, and of the customs of the people.

Speaking of the River Zouga, which flows into Lake Ngami, he takes occasion to explain the mode of trapping the deer, and other animals. "The banks are very beautiful, resembling closely many parts of the River Clyde, above Glasgow. The formation is soft calcareous tufa, such as forms the bottom of all this basin. The banks are perpendicular on the side to which the water swings, and sloping and grassy on the other. The slopes are selected for the pitfalls, designed by the Bayeiye to entrap the animals as they come to drink. These are about seven or eight feet deep, three or four feet wide at the mouth, and gradually decrease till they are only a foot wide at the bottom.

"The mouth is an oblong square (the only square thing made by the Bechmanas, for everything else is round,) and the length at the surface is about equal to its depth. The decreasing width toward the bottom is intended to make the animal wedge himself more firmly in, by his weight and his struggles. The pitfalls are usually in pairs, with a wall a foot thick, left uncut between the ends of each, so that, if the beast, when it feels its fore-legs descending, should try to save itself from going in altogether, by striding the hind-legs, he would spring forward, and leap into the second with a force which insures the fall of his whole body into the trap. They are covered with care. All the excavated earth is removed so as not to excite suspicion in

the animals. Reeds and grass are laid over the top. Above this, sand is thrown, and watered, so as to appear exactly like the rest of the spot. If an ox sees a hole, he carefully avoids it; and old elephants have been known to precede the herd, and whisk off the coverings of the pit-falls on each side, down to the water. We have known instances in which the old, among the sagacious animals, have actually lifted the young out of the trap.

The trees which adorn the banks of the Zouga, are magnificent. Two enormous baobabs, or neowanas, grow near its confluence with the lake. The largest was 76 feet in girth. The Palmyra appears here and there among trees not met with in the south. The Moshowa would be a fine specimen of arboral beauty in any part of the world. The trunk is often converted into canoes.

"We discovered an entirely new species of antelope, called *leche* or *lechwi*. It is a beautiful water antelope, of a light brownish yellow color. Its horns, exactly like those of the water-buck of the Bechmanas, rise from the head, with a slight bend backward, and then come forward at the points. The chest, belly and orbits are nearly white, the front of the legs and ankle a deep brown. From the horns, along the nape, to the withers, the male has a small mane of the same yellowish color with the rest of the skin, and the tail has a tuft of black hair. It is never found a mile from water. Islets and marshes are its favorite haunts, and it is quite unknown, except in the central humid basin of Africa.

"Having a good deal of curiosity, it presents a noble appearance, as it stands gazing, with head erect, at the approaching stranger. When it resolves to decamp, it lowers its head, and lays its horns down to a level with the withers. It then begins with a waddling trot, which ends in its galloping and springing over bushes, like the pallahs. It invariably runs to the water, and crosses it by a succession of bounds, each of which appears to be from the bottom."

We can not leave this book without telling our young folks something about its author, which we hope will be useful to many of them. At the age of ten he was put into the factory as a "piccer," to aid his mother by his little earnings. With a part of his first week's wages he purchased the Rudiments of Latin, and