

the industriously disposed emigrant labourers who may seek a home in this highly favoured portion of the British empire.

CANADA.

Submitting this Report to your Excellency's favourable consideration,

I have, &c.  
(signed) *A. C. Buchanan,*  
Chief Agent.

Emigrant Office, Toronto,  
29 December 1856.

Sir,

In consequence of the multiplied routes and modes of conveyance by which emigrants find their way into Upper Canada, it is an extremely difficult matter to obtain reliable data on which to found a report, I shall therefore endeavour to come as near the truth as possible.

It appears from your return that 22,178 emigrants landed at Quebec during the year 1856. To this number must be added those who landed at New York and other ports in the United States, and who came to this section of the Province. Mr. Dixon states that 4,229 of this class came to Hamilton by the Suspension Bridge; and, as nearly as I can ascertain, about 6,500 entered by way of Rochester, Oswego, and other ports; making a total of 32,907. From this must be deducted the number who proceeded to the Western States, chiefly by the Great Western and Northern Railways, which, according to Mr. Dixon's report, and my own observation, may be fairly stated at one-fourth of the whole, viz., 8,227, leaving the number of actual settlers 24,680. At least three-fourths of these were British subjects. The remaining fourth consisted of Germans, French, Belgians, and Norwegians.

Mr. Dixon, the agent at Hamilton, in remarking upon the emigrants who proceeded through Canada to the Western States, says, "It would appear that the number of emigrants who were induced to take the United States route, is nearly equal to those who have left Canada for the Western States. We may therefore infer, that the final determination of settling in the Western States has been principally secured by the information they have received, and the influence produced in Great Britain: the prejudice of these preconceived opinions is the more apparent, from the fact that, in England, where intercourse with the United States is more extensive than in any other European nation."\*

Mr. Dixon is of opinion that the employment of an agent at Liverpool, under the supervision of the Government, is very desirable; but I do not consider such an appointment advisable at the present time. A great change has recently taken place in our transport facilities. The establishment of the line of steamers between Quebec, Montreal, and Liverpool, in summer, and Portland in winter, has been eminently successful, and will no doubt be followed by other steamers.

The Grand Trunk is also now open from Portland to Montreal and Quebec, connecting with other lines of railroad to the extremities of the settled parts of Upper Canada; and I understand that it is intended to establish a system of through tickets, so that emigrants from the chief ports in the United Kingdom and Germany, can be conveyed from the port of debarkation to the railroad stations nearest their places of destination: such a system properly carried out by the shipper and railroad agents will, in my opinion, be far more effective than any other that can be adopted.

The season has been healthy, and employment, at good wages, abundant; and there is every prospect that the inducement to settlers will not be less in 1857 than during the past year.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *A. B. Hawke,*  
Chief Emigrant Agent for Upper Canada.

*A. C. Buchanan, Esq.,*  
Chief Emigrant Agent, Quebec.

\* Note. — There is some omission apparently in this paragraph.