

William King, Esq., Justice of the Peace, Township of Bristol, in the County of Pontiac, writes as follows:—

BRISTOL, PONTIAC, 14th Oct., 1863.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your circular of the 26th ult. In reply I beg to say that I do not consider any views I may have to be of much importance on a subject of such consequence as that of immigration; but this I may safely say that labor is the standard of value, and that the wealth, the strength and importance of a country are in proportion to its quantum of productive labour, and under a government like ours, with laws permitting and fostering voluntary labor and free competition in business, and protecting all in the enjoyment of the fruits of their labour. Population is especially important to *Canada*, where the objects and materials of labor, particularly lands are abundant and cheap, together with immense supplies of material and motive power. It would be a wise policy were our government to adopt some effective system of immigration, by which the millions of acres now waste, and only waiting for the hands of the cultivator, could be made the happy homes of a large proportion of the redundant and suffering population of *Great Britain*.

As regards the new townships in his county, *Pontiac*, I know little, and I believe not much can be said in their favour, the land is very rocky, the timber chiefly pine, the government price 3s. per acre, payable in four years by annual instalments. In this and the older townships there are always farms with suitable buildings for sale, say from one hundred to two hundred acres, at prices from £300 to £800. Wheat, oats, peas, potatoes and hay are the chief crops, occasionally Indian corn, turnips, carrots and mangol-wortzel are raised successfully. This year the wheat has been a good deal injured by the midge (or weevil).

The settlers in this township were originally without means, and all who have persevered by industry and sobriety have become independant.

As regards minerals, various ores of iron are occasionally seen, specular, bog-ore, magnetic-ore and iron sand; plumbago of a very good quality has been found on the *Culmet* Island, no indication of any other ores; crystalline lime stone abundant.

Farm laborers or agriculturists of small capital would suit best the requirements of this country.

The *Ottawa* country possesses no peculiar advantages at present, beyond having a salubrious climate, cheap land and abundance of water power.

Connecting the waters of Lake *Huron* with the *Ottawa* by canal would be the means of bringing a hardy class of immigrants into the country, and ultimately settling large tracts of good land lying between the *Ottawa* and Lake *Huron*.

It is surprizing that so many immigrants should choose the *United States* instead of *Canada*, insensible to the blessings enjoyed under the *British* crown, and having in this country as near an approach to the *British* constitution as our colonial condition will admit; that constitution being the most perfect form of government (when rightly administered), which the world has ever experienced for the practical happiness of mankind.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

WM. KING.

The Honorable *George Alexander*,
Legislative Council.

James Thomas Pattison, Esq., of the Township of Bristol, in the County of Pontiac, writes as follows:—

TOWNSHIP OF BRISTOL, L. C.,
October 31st, 1863.

To the Honorable *George Alexander*,
Chairman of the Legislative Council Committee }
on the subject of Immigration.

HON. SIR,—Your communication of the 26th ultimo, upon the subject of immigration, has received my careful thought, and I have the honor of forwarding the following in reply thereto:—