

**IMMIGRATION OFFICE.**

The Government Immigration Office is now open at 46 Bedford Row, Halifax; where the duties according to the sub-joined 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. 1853.)

*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.

**BALLOONS.**

There is an old story, which is told by the old Greek Writers, about an ingenious workman who lived in some impossible place, and was always contriving impossible machines, to astonish and outwit his neighbors. One day this ingenious man gave out that he had at last succeeded in making a pair of wings, with which he could fly as well as any bird, and that on a given day he would start, and fly across an arm of the sea. When the day came, there were, as you may imagine, immense crowds collected to see him; and, as he had announced, he started from the top of a high tower, and actually flew along for some distance, whirling his wings through the air with a hurdling noise. But before very long, his strength gave way; he began to work his wings more slowly—he sank lower and lower in air, until at last the wings stopped altogether, and he fell into the sea, and was drowned.

The gray-headed old men who saw him then turned to their children, and bade them take warning by his example, and never, on any account, leave the solid ground when they went on a journey. "For," said they, "if Providence had intended us to fly, we should have had wings, like the birds and insects."

A long, long while after this fine lesson, it was found out that the argument of the gray-headed old men was not so sound as it seemed at first; and that, as we could swim without fins, we might, possibly, also fly without wings. Two very ingenious brothers, named Montgolfier who made paper, in a little country town of France, began a series of experiments, with a

view to traveling through air. They made large silken bags, which they distended on a frame, with the open mouth of the bag turned downward; under this bag they burnt wool and straw. The air inside of the bag became so much thinner and lighter, in consequence of the heat, than the air outside, that the bag rose to a height of several thousand feet. When this wool and straw were all consumed, the bag fell to the earth. After this experiment had been made several times, a bold man, named DeRozier, said he would go up in the bag—or balloon, as it was called. Accordingly, a very large bag was made for the purpose, and a seat of wicker-work fastened to the mouth, or lower part; in the middle of the seat stood a brazier, in which the wool and straw burned. DeRozier went up quite safely, until the men on the earth beneath looked no bigger than ants; then he gradually let the fire slacken, and came down as gently and as smoothly as he had gone up. This wonderful feat caused a great deal of excitement, as you may fancy and in all civilized countries, men set about making balloons, and ascending into the air. A great many valuable lives were thus lost; for it is extremely dangerous work. But some years after DeRozier's ascent, others were achieved, far more wonderful than his, and which were the means of teaching us far more about the air than had ever been known before. Two very learned Frenchmen, among others, rose over four miles in the air—so high that it was only now and then they caught a glimpse of the earth beneath, which was mostly hidden by the clouds. Others, again, made astonishing journeys—sometimes whirled through the air above the clouds, at the rate of a hundred miles in little more than an hour.

Up to this time, however, I am bound to say that no one has ever discovered a method of directing a balloon in the air. When a balloon rises, the wind directs it where it will. Many attempts have been made to invent a machine that shall fly, by means of paddles or wings, in any direction required; they have all failed, and a great name is in store for him who shall solve the problem.

Three kinds of balloons are now made. One is the balloon in which ascents are made by aeronauts. This is in shape as near a sphere as possible, and is made of silk stuff. The stuff is usually cut in