

townships of Lanark, Dalhousie and Sherbrooke being open for settlement at the same time. Heads of families received a grant of a hundred acres of land; the government also furnished them with a few tools, blankets and other necessaries; the sum of eight pounds sterling was also given by instalments to every individual, which it was then understood was to be repaid after a few years, but was afterwards entirely remitted. Here it may be remarked that those coming to any part of Canada now have no idea of the hardships that these pioneers of the present comfortable homes of Canada had to endure. After a long and crowded passage in a sailing ship, they were put into what was then called a steamboat at Quebec, which after three or four days, arrived at "the foot of the current" at Montreal, up which they had to be towed by horses and oxen; then transferred by ear to Laehine, and stored in millitary sheds, till batteaux could be found to take them to Prescott, the men getting out at the rapids to tow the clumsy crafts up the stream; from Prescott they wended their weary way in ox wagons, by Brockville and Perth to Lanark, through what was then a thinly settled country, and mere tracks thro' the woods. On arriving at this promised haven of rest, each had to provide himself with a wigwam, of brush or other material, as his means or ingenuity enabled him. Sicknes, as a matter of course, raged, especially among the young, and comforts were not to be procured, even by the few who had the means. One of the best-off families among the many hundreds who came out, found their first shelter in a human habitation in Canada, in the house of a gentleman in Perth, the late Col. Taylor, well known to all in those days for his kindness and philanthropy. After all this had been gone through the land was to be selected and located; roads were not; the river or the surveyors' lines were all that these inexperienced woodsmen had to guide them. After selecting their lots, a few of the most enterprising built scows, and in these most of the Ramsay settlers got down to the nearest points on the river to where they intended to settle, and under them many of their families lived for weeks of the cold, wet weather of September and October, till they got their primitive shanties built, no easy job with unpractised men, and with only their neighbors to help them to carry the logs, many of whom had never seen a full grown tree in their lives, till they came to Canada. Contrast all this with the troubles of the emigrant of to-day. Hurried over the Atlantic in a magnificent steamship, only eight or ten days out of sight of land; from Quebec, rushing at whirlwind speed on the finest steamer in the world, or on the swifter railway, towards the setting sun, through towns and cities vying with each other in their eagerness to serve them, and reaching their destination on the far-

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