26 Appendix.

Mr. Webster's Answer.

Mr. Yarwood, the company's agent for Montreal and Quebec, will shortly lay before you some information respecting the Eastern Townships of this province, and particularly the prospects of the labouring classes of emigrants to the country, as will place you in a situation fairly to judge of the comparative merits of the Upper and Lower Provinces as

places of settlement.

In the mean time, and lest this information should fail to reach you so early as is now anticipated, I beg to say that throughout this part of the Lower Province, there now exists an extensive and steady demand for mechanics of almost all descriptions, as well as for agricultural labourers. The former receive wages varying from 5 s. to 10 s. per day. The latter 2 s. 6 d., and board is obtained inclusive of these rates. The company's undertakings employ at the present time a large number of hands of both classes, and such arrangements have been made as will secure full employment to any additional number which may be introduced into the country. In the common rates of wages afforded by the farmers and other residents in this part of the country to emigrants, will be found a sufficient encouragement to industry on the part of the latter; and even the means for their acquiring comparative wealth. Farm servants, with a knowledge of the modes of practice of the country, readily obtain from 12 to 15 dollars per month and their board and lodging, equal to from 36 l. to 45 l. per annum. Newly arrived immigrants naturally receive less, but the reduction is not more than from 2 dollars to 3 dollars per month, leaving from 10 dollars to 12 dollars as the wages per month for such persons as may now be expected to arrive. These rates it is the object of the company to maintain, as being neither so low as to induce the emigrant to proceed to Upper Canada or elsewhere, nor so high as to discourage an extension of agricultural and other improvements by the persons of capital disposed to attempt it. The company may be considered to guarantee to labourers 2 s. 6 d. Halifax currency per diem, and board or its equivalent, and further this rate will be paid in money weekly.

The expenses incurred in reaching Sherbrooke from the port of debarkation are trifling when compared with those which fall upon the immigrant in the course of a long journey to the Upper Province. From Port St. Francis, Sherbrooke is distant 90 miles only, and transport may be procured at the rate of 3 s. 9 d. per cwt. for this distance. Lands are to be procured by such persons as are desirous of forming settlements on the line of road from Port St. Francis to this place, or in its neighbourhood, and in this part of the province, on

many extensive tracts, both wild and partly improved, in which purchases may be made at from 4 s. to 10 s. per acre, six years' credit being given for the payment of the instalments.

The company does not appropriate funds to the forwarding of settlers; nor do they receive direct assistance until inrolled in the company's labour lists. But not only are the company's agents instructed by every means to facilitate the transport of immigrants and their property into the country, but arrangements have been made here as well as at the new settlements at the Salmon River to secure the accommodation and comfort of all who appear

calculated to benefit the country by their establishment within it.

I am, &c. &c.

A. C. Webster, (signed) Sub-Commissioner.

A. C. Buchanan, Esq., &c. &c. &c.

Office of the British American Land Company,

Dear Sir,

Sherbrooke, 27th August 1836. I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 15th instant, received during my absence from this place.

The party of immigrants to whom it had reference duly reached their destination, and received every assistance which it was in the power of the Company to provide.

They were all furnished with employment without delay; and I have no doubt that they will, in common with those who have preceded them on this route, find ample room for the exercise of their industry, with benefit to themselves as well as to the country.

The sum of money which you advise, as expected, to be forwarded for distribution among

these people, shall be duly paid them, under your instructions, when received.

A. C. Buchanan, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

A. C. Webster. (signed)

Office of His Majesty's Chief Agent for the Superintendence of Emigration in Upper and Lower Canada, Quebec, 2d September 1836.

I have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your favour of the 27th ultimo, and am glad to hear such favourable accounts of the small party of immigrants per "Hartley."

I received, a few days since, from the Rev. Mr. Dallas, the money intended for them; and inclosed you have a list, showing the balance due to each family, amounting to 54 l. 15 s. currency, which you have inclosed in Bank of Montreal notes (say 219 dollars), and which I shall feel obliged by your having distributed at your earliest convenience, in accordance with the inclosed. There was one young man, Thomas Baverstock, who was detained at

Mr. Buchanan's

Answer.

Letter to

Mr. Buchanan.