

which hangs like an incubus on the spirits of every right-minded father in England, who may have there, the dire misfortune to be "*blest with a large family, and curst with a small fortune;*" whereas, truly here, although the sneerer may ridicule such an assertion, it is no less the fact, that "*children constitute riches;*" and such a land, in my estimation, bears a far nearer approximation to that described as "*flowing with milk and honey;*" although, as yet, humble and modest in the pretensions it puts forth, than even merry *England*, with all its high state of luxury and refinement, and low degree of morals and debauchery; rendering one portion of its society a prey to money-lending *Jews* and *extortioners*, and another, to usurious *pawnbrokers*; the former to supply the higher ranks with the means for prodigal waste, and the latter, to aid the destitute, and the half fed mechanic, to drive the cold out of his stomach, and the care out of his mind, by pouring slow poison down his throat. Nevertheless, "*England, with all thy faults, I love thee still!*" and trust, I shall never cease inculcating on the minds of all my offspring similar feelings towards the land of *their birth*; as yet, mind, I have only in prospect the hopes of being father to a young *Canadian*.

*Trade and commerce* are so much out of my beat, that I give you my sentiments thereon with more diffidence. As yet they are only in their infancy in the *Upper Province*; stores, alias shops, are in all the towns and villages, but these places are, at present, chiefly confined to the borders of the great lakes, or rather fresh water inland seas. Their profits are said to be very great, but against which must be placed long credits, and, no doubt, occasional bad debts. *York* and most of the other towns are increasing rapidly, and the opening of new stores quite keeps pace with these, besides which, many of the large houses in *Montreal* have branch establishments, or agents, in most towns of this province; in fact, if you inspect the map, you will perceive that that city is destined, by its locality, to be always an emporium for the supply of the *Upper Province* with merchandize. Should I, therefore, hereafter, have to look to *commerce*, for any of my youngsters, *Montreal* is the place I should, in the first instance, turn attention to, as offering the most promising opening. On my way up here, I tarried there some days, keeping all my eyes and ears open, and was delighted with the bustle and activity I witnessed amongst all classes. On the part of the *Upper Province*, a strong feeling and desire has been manifested, and which I believe has been sent to England, in shape of a memorial, to have this city annexed to it, as a *port of entry*,