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Esq.*

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have no assistance, at the end of seven years he would have seven or eight barrels of flour at least more than he would want for his own use, and with those barrels of flour he would be perfectly certain to get 4*l.* for them at the neighbouring towns, and a great deal more.

21. There would be the transport to be deducted from those barrels of flour; therefore, can you name any settled market to which the settler could take his produce, and get a fair remuneration in money for it?—The very lowest price that I ever knew a barrel of flour sell at, was, I think, 12*s.* 6*d.* I have occasionally bought it at that price for the use of my family, but I should say that 20*s.* is the average price throughout the country. Now the expense of the farmer, as to transport, is not very great; the farmer is the producer, he is not selling his flour with a view to a profit over and above the value of his labour in raising it; but if he can afford to sow it, and raise it, and bring it to market at the price he gets for it in the market, namely four dollars a barrel, and thereby obtain a fair rate of wages for his year's labour, that is all that he ought to expect; it is not to be supposed that he is to buy his grain, and bring it to market, and make a profit upon it; and therefore, if he can get eight barrels of flour, which he must certainly be a very idle person not to get, over and above the maintenance of his family, he can bring those to any of the neighbouring towns, where he will get 12*s.* 6*d.* a barrel for it at least, which will amount to 4*l.* 10*s.*

22. Is that currency, or sterling money?—Upper Canada currency, which is in the proportion of ten to nine sterling. The value of a barrel of flour in Upper Canada currency is four dollars, and the dollar is worth 4*s.* 6*d.* sterling; a pound currency is 18*s.* sterling; he will, generally speaking, get 18*s.* sterling for his flour; but supposing he only got half that, which is a thing very unusual, and a thing which I should think hereafter never will occur again, because there is a market for the flour through Montreal and Quebec to the West Indies, and at present to the home market.

23. What would be the difference between the cost of transport and the value of the flour?—The cost that the farmer is at in transporting it is almost nothing, because he does it with his own team; and he brings his own bread and cheese in the vehicle he brings his produce in, and he is at no expense at all on the road.

24. What market are you alluding to in Upper Canada?—To the market in the town of York, but the same applies to any other town in Upper Canada. If a man lives forty miles from York, he puts his flour into his sleigh, with a sufficient quantity of provisions for his own use, and oats and hay for his horses, and he comes to York market and sells his commodity, and whatever he gets is clear gain, and then he returns home again empty.

25. Is not the York market a very limited market indeed?—No, it is not a very limited market; it would purchase any quantity of produce, and so would the Niagara market, and so would all the principal towns, because the shopkeeper or merchant would buy up this produce, and send to Montreal for exportation what is not required for home consumption, and I never knew the prices so bad as not to admit of the merchant giving 12*s.* 6*d.* for it in the town of York, for the purposes of exportation.

26. When you particularize eight barrels of flour as the probable amount of surplus produce in seven years, is that the result of any accurate calculation?—No, it is an accidental quantity that I named, as being sufficient under any circumstances to insure the payment of the 4*l.* annuity.

27. Do you think you could, by attending to the subject, make some more definite calculation as to the quantity which it might be presumed could be produced upon a property of that sort?—I think I could, but it is impossible for any person in my situation to be so acquainted with the detail of the management of a poor man's estate, as to enter into a calculation of that sort very minutely. I have known countless instances of persons who came there without a shilling in their pockets, and have asked me to give them a meal of victuals, whom I have known in a few years afterwards living very comfortably at their own house, and coming to the town and getting credit for five or six or ten poundsworth of tea and sugar, or whatever they wanted, as readily as I could.

28. Do you mean at all to assume, that eight barrels would be the surplus of produce at the end of seven years, upon a hundred acres?—No, I think it is the very minimum; I think it is almost impossible a man should have so little as that. I think a man at the end of seven years would unquestionably have thirty acres of land under improvement. I apprehend he would undoubtedly have a pair of horses, with either