

and that, even when sufficient in quantity, in many cases it is of a quality impossible to be used. In every instance a remedy has been applied where it was found practicable, or notice has been taken, and the minutes entered on the books of this office, against the vessel in question. Owing, however, to the hurry in which the emigrant generally is to depart by the first steam-boat after arrival, through want of written agreements with the captain or broker, from defective evidence, and other unforeseen and unavoidable causes, it is extremely difficult to obtain justice, or to visit the offender with the penalty which he has so palpably incurred.

Difficult to obtain redress.

Your Excellency will observe, on reference to Paper No. 5, at page 10 of the Appendix, a very considerable increase in the number of emigrants who have arrived from the United Kingdom at New York this season. The augmentation is upwards of 42,326 souls over the number of last year. Although the emigration by the St. Lawrence has also greatly increased, the preponderance in favour of New York may doubtless be accounted for by the representations of settlers in the Upper Province, writing home to their friends, and complaining of the privations and hardships to which they were exposed in previous years in coming out by this river, and the detention they met with at the quarantine station. It affords me, however, great satisfaction to be able to state, that there has been no cause of complaint against that establishment during the past season. Other causes have also tended to increase the emigration by the way of the United States. The superior accommodations and less crowded state of the American vessels, which generally perform the voyage in a shorter space of time, offer of themselves sufficient inducement to those who can afford it, to give the preference to that route; while the many facilities which they meet on arrival, smoothing the way, as it were, to the Province Line and the borders of Lakes Ontario and Erie, have obtained for the transit by way of New York a large share of popular favour. It is gratifying, however, to recal to mind that Upper Canada receives every year by this route a valuable accession of prudent and steady settlers, whose means and capital enable them at once to become permanent occupiers of land.

Increased Emigration by way of New York.

I consider myself fully justified in reporting to your Lordship, that the sanatory state of these provinces was never more favourable, or were they ever in a better condition to receive a number of the surplus population of the United Kingdom. The increasing demand for all denominations of the working classes, as also for agricultural labourers and artisans, to whom the very highest rate of wages is given, affords the strongest inducements to emigration. In several communications which I have received from the contractors on public works in Upper Canada, it is stated that they find it impossible to procure a sufficient number of hands; and it is notorious, that from this cause many public and private improvements have been retarded during the past season, particularly in Upper Canada. From the numerous public works which will be commenced next spring in that province, and from the expressed intention of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to throw open new townships, I anticipate no difficulty in obtaining settlement and immediate employment for 20,000 persons of the labouring class during the season of 1837. The Commissioners of the Lower Canada Land Company have also exerted themselves greatly during the past season, and have furnished employment to all who required it of them. The improvements in the townships contemplated by that company are of a very extensive description, and will require a large number of labourers; several new roads are to be opened, leading to the back settlements; and a joint stock company is in contemplation, to construct a rail-road from the village of Sherbrooke to Port St. Francis, a distance of 90 miles, which, when carried into effect, will be of immense advantage to that part of the country, in the extension of trade, and in the providing employment for the industrious emigrant immediately on arrival in the province.

Healthy state of the Canadas.

Demand for Labourers and Artisans.

Public Works and private Improvements.

Favourable anticipations for season of 1837.

Contemplated Improvements.

I regret extremely that the indisposition of my relative, the chief agent, now in England on leave of absence, for the recovery of his health, still continues; and although I am very sensible of his superior ability and long experience, I trust that no exertions have been wanting on my part to remedy, as far as possible, the absence of his superintending care over this department. I confidently trust, however, that he will be enabled to resume his duties in these provinces on the opening of the navigation next spring.

Conclusion.

Begging leave to refer your Excellency generally to the Appendix for various information explanatory of this Report, and soliciting the honour of your Lordship being pleased to transmit the same to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, for the information of His Majesty's Government,

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(signed) A. C. Buchanan, jun.,

Acting Chief Agent.