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Mr Nolan, who is a well known Protestant writer, has addressed the following interesting letter to the Editor of the *Evening Packet*:—

DUBLIN, JUNE 6, 1836.

"My Dear Sir,—I feel assured that the columns of your valuable paper, which has always proved itself the uncompromising advocate of pure religion, as well as the steady and fearless supporter of sound politics, will give publicity to the following communication:—

"At a period like the present, when the nominal professors of our faith combine with its avowed foes in the unhallowed attempt of substituting the pernicious fables of superstition, in place of the simple and undefiled religion of the gospel—at times like these, when privation and persecution mark the convert's path on his abandonment of Romanism, and refute the calumny that would announce filthy lucre as the object of conversion, it is cheering to witness the unequivocal manifestation of the power of truth in withdrawing members of the Romish priesthood from their errors, and attaching them to the true religion of Christ. An instance of this nature I have now the pleasure of recording in the conversion of the Rev. John Swayne.

"The Rev. Mr Swayne is a native of Waterford, and the descendant of a respectable family; he was educated at Seville in Spain, where he also received ordination for the priesthood; he officiated for some time as a priest in one of the Carmelite institutions of this city, and was offered the Presidency of a similar institution at Kildare, which he declined, avowing at the same time his determination of changing his religious profession. When his intentions were known, many pecuniary inducements were held out by the Romish priesthood to abandon such notions and remain in mother church.—Amongst the number of tempting offers (against which the integrity of Mr Swayne was proof) I may now record one made to him by a Roman Catholic clergyman of this city. This clerical individual told the Rev. Mr Swayne that he would procure for him a large sum of money should he go to Rome to obtain pardon from the Pope for his rejection of the Romish errors. Such an insult to his honesty was spurned with that indignation which such baseness merited, and the Rev. Mr Swayne has now become the fearless and avowed supporter of the Gospel of Christ. Should any other proof be required as to the sincerity of the Rev. Mr Swayne's motives, it may be deduced from a consideration of this circumstance, that he is now leaving his native land—retiring from the circle of his dear and tried acquaintances, and going to a far distant country to announce to a people, unknown to him, the glad tidings of salvation.

"Amongst his many reasons for leaving the Church of Rome, the Rev. Mr Swayne states that even in the Romish Catholic Bible he could not trace any account of the Romish sacrifice of the Mass, nor of the monkish and money making doctrine of purgatory, nor of the self claimed tenet of Romish infallibility, nor of the self-constituted tribunal of Auricular confession—all of which he regards as the works of human invention, by no means the doctrines of Christ and his apostles. Whilst I thus particularize the instance of Mr Swayne's conversion, I should not forget the late accession of other Romish priests to the faith. I should not pass over the Rev. Mr Tankard, from Cork, and who was my class-fellow at Maynooth; nor should I forget the names of the Rev. Messrs O'Leary, from Dublin, and Mulvany from the north of Ireland. Suffice it to say that the exertions of these gentlemen in our sister country, (where they are now ministers of the Established Church) have obtained for them the respect of the lovers of religion.

"In concluding this letter, Sir, I would most respectfully suggest to the dignitaries of our Church the propriety of encouraging converts from the Romish priesthood to remain in this country. There is a wide and

important field for their exertions in Ireland.

"I remain, my dear Sir,
Your most obedient,
"L. J. NOLAN."

Another memorable Tercentenary occurs this year; for it was in the year 1536 that the Bible was commanded to be placed on or before the 1st of August, in the churches, for public perusal. Bishop Bonner accordingly chained six copies in the cathedral of St. Paul for that purpose. Within almost a stone's throw of that edifice, there issued last year 653,604 copies of the Scriptures from the warehouses of the Bible society, carrying its issues beyond nine millions of copies; equal to a thousand every day Sundays included, for a whole year. Its receipts which it was confidently predicted would soon crumble away, reached the unprecedented sum of £107,926. Nor were other kindred institutions less successful. The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, besides its other objects, issued last year, no less than 173,000 copies of the Sacred Word.—*Christian Observer*.

The Duchess of Kent has subscribed £20 towards the completion of Tuam Catholic Cathedral.

STATEMENT

Made to a Special Court of the Directors of the British American Land Company, held on the 3rd of February, 1836, by Mr FREDERICK TEMPLETON, who passes the previous Summer in the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada.

I left Port St. Francis (about half way between Quebec and Montreal) the beginning of last November. The wharf erected there by the British American Land Company is a very efficient work, constructed of strong frame work, well bolted, and to be faced with three inch planking; it runs 500 feet into the river, with twenty two feet depth of water at the outer end.

The inn is very comfortable and reasonable. Captain Colclough, agent to the Company is an intelligent man, always most willing to afford assistance and information, to those destined the Eastern Townships.

The road from Port St. Francis to Sherbrooke is very good throughout, the distance 87 miles, and can be easily accomplished in one day. A light waggon with two horses, or a caleche with one, travelling at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour;—the worst part of the road is through the Seigneurie of Nicolet, about five miles. On the completion of the intended new road from Nicolet to Long point, the distance to Sherbrooke will be reduced to 70 miles.

Shipton, about 58 miles from Port St. Francis, is very prettily situated in a fine country, and contains several well built brick houses; that of Mrs Wales, who keeps a boarding house and tavern, is as good as any of the kind in England; the charge being for one person two dollars (say 8s. 4d. sterling) per week; which includes four meals a day of the best description.

The country through which this road passes, after leaving Drummondville, assumes a varied and picturesque appearance, and is well adapted for all purposes of husbandry; it is thickly settled, and amongst the inhabitants are to be found many highly respectable families.

The land about Melbourne is tabular, soil a light loam easily ploughed, and will produce in ordinary seasons, on an average 26 bushels of wheat per acre. Improved farms in this district with a dwelling house and barn erected, and about one third cleared, are worth from nine to ten dollars per acre.

Sherbrooke is well situated on the river Magog, near its junction with the St. Francis; it contains a Protestant and a Catholic church, and several well built brick houses. A large and commodious hotel and boarding house is now erecting.

The road from Sherbrooke to Burlington

on the lake Champlain, in the United States distance about 110 miles, is very good throughout, and passes through a rich country; the scenery romantic, picturesque, and in many places beautiful, particularly about Lennoxville, Compton, and Stanstead; in which district are many improved and excellent farms, occupied by highly respectable proprietors. The soil in this district is remarkably fertile, well adapted for grazing as well as agricultural purposes; it is capable of fattening five sheep per acre, and in some instances last season produced forty bushels of wheat per acre.

Improved farms along this line of road, with a dwelling house and barn erected, and one third cleared, are worth from ten to twelve dollars per acre, and in the immediate neighbourhood of Lennoxville from four to sixteen dollars.

A farm of 100 or 120 acres, is quite sufficient for a settler to undertake, and to stock which will require about £100.

The only tax is an annual highway rate of six shillings per 100 acres.

Lennoxville is a most thriving place, and beautifully situated; it contains a Protestant church and many well built and good houses, principally of wood, neatly painted with verandahs; the distance from Sherbrooke 3 miles.

The road from Sherbrooke to Montreal, by the Outlet village, through the townships of Stukely and Granby, is also very passable, but not so good as the two before mentioned; the worst part, as before, is through the Seigneurie, from Chambly to Longueuil, about eighteen miles; but I see, by the recent accounts from Canada, a Bill is before the House of Assembly, to make this portion of the road a turnpike; the whole distance is now about 100 miles, which will be reduced to about 90 on the opening of the new road, making through Orford.

This road passes through the finest grazing country in the Eastern Townships. In Stukely, Mr Knowlton possesses an excellent farm of 1500 acres, between 300 and 400 of which are cleared, where I saw as fine cattle, similar in appearance to the Herefordshire breed, as could possibly be reared in England; these beasts were entirely fattened on grass, and averaged from 70 to 80 stone, 16lbs. to the stone. From 40 to 50 head are sent to the Montreal market annually.

Beef, in Montreal, may average three pence per lb.

Granby is also a beautiful Township, containing rich and fertile land.

From the Outlet village to Georgeville, a road runs along the shore of Lake Memphramagog in the township of Hatley, through a country rich and beautiful in the extreme, and thickly settled with thriving farms.

The road from Sherbrooke to Quebec is not so easily passable as those before named but it is now opening.

Altogether the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada offer as fine a field for the enterprise of the British settler, as can possibly be found in any part of the Globe; the whole country is beautifully intersected with streams of excellent water, and is destined to become the grazing district of Canada; independent of its capability of producing the most luxuriant and abundant crops of corn.

(Signed)
FREDERICK TEMPLETON

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman resident at Sherbrooke, in the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada.

You have no doubt been informed of all the principal operations of the British American Land Company, within the Eastern Townships. A good deal has been done in the way of road making in this vicinity, all which has served to put new life into the inhabitants. Forty or fifty families have settled the present season from Melbourne to Stanstead; mostly, however, from Compton downwards, as I believe only two or three have settled above Compton. These families are apparently possessed of considerable means, and are such as will tend to push the country forward.

Individual buyers are now coming, and prices are getting up; wild lands are not the rubbish they were three years since, which proves there is an improvement progressing: all that is wanted is settlers. The freedom from cholera the past year, must have an effect, I should think, upon emigration the coming season, and those we have will tend to bring others.

Taking a line from the northern extremity of the Company's block, running to Port St. Francis, there will be found south of this, as fine a district, climate considered, as can be found in any country; all who visit it are delighted, and astonished that it has so long been unknown. The crops this season have been abundant; to my knowledge, forty bushels of wheat have been grown to the acre, and upon old ground. With a sure remunerating market, wheat could be grown to any amount, and for grazing no country can be before this. Millions of sheep ought now to be kept, and I am confident wool will become a staple article here. The States of Vermont and New Hampshire are getting rich with their sheep, why not the Townships also? There is only an imaginary boundary.

Rail roads are now the great hobby here. Petitions are before the legislature for two through the Townships; one from the outlet of Lake Memphramagog to St. John's, to connect with the Champlain and St. Lawrence rail road to Montreal; the other from Stanstead down the lake and river Masawippi to the St. Francis, at Lennoxville, down the latter river as far as Shipton, and across through Kingsey, Simpson, Wendover, and the Seigneurie of Nicolet to Port St. Francis, the whole distance 115 miles.

Port St. Francis must become a place of much importance eventually, and I see no reason to doubt its rapid growth; being below lake St. Peter, ships may complete their cargoes there as well as at Quebec, and as a lumbering station, it would save the hazardous running of timber to that city.

If some woollen manufacturer, with means could be induced to come out, and put the factory already erected here into operation, I think he might do well, and get a good return for his capital invested; as no one in this country is possessed of sufficient to carry on such works profitably. Common coarse grey woollens manufactured here, sell readily at from 5s. to 6s. 3d. currency per yard.

I hope another season will bring a good proportion of emigrants into this district; this section of the country needs only to be known to be readily filled up. The settlers already located here will no doubt be able to give such an account of it, as will induce others to follow, for as far as I know, they all find their expectations more than realized.

Emigrants to the Eastern Townships have a decided advantage in point of expense over those going to Lake Ontario; the steam boats from Quebec land them at Port St. Francis, in thirteen or fifteen hours, at one dollar a head, steerage passage; whereas to reach Toronto, (York,) will take eight days, at a cost of six dollars to a steerage passenger without provisions; the land carriage from either port to the place of settlement, being within three or four miles the same.

Dr Rosseau of Paris, has discovered that nolly is the best cure for fever, and succeeds in cases where Peruvian bark has failed: the Medical-Botanical Society have awarded him a silver medal for an essay on the subject of his discovery.

A Glasgow merchant has given 2,000 guineas as a subscription for the hundred churches that should be built in connexion with the Church of Scotland Extension Committee. This munificent individual is Mr William Campbell.

Captain Mix, of the steamer Champion, arrived yesterday, brings information of the loss of the steamer General Pike, by an explosion of her boilers, when about twenty miles distant from Louisville. Not less than forty persons, it is calculated have been killed.