

as the newest settlements lately planted there. We penetrated to the very farthest log-huts at the extremity of the last new road driven into the forest. The settlers are not altogether without society; and when of the same country and religion, as they suffer alike, so they sympathise deeply with each other, and are ever ready to give a hearty and willing assistance to a distressed neighbour. Though not so close together as in the French settlements, where the long narrow farm system prevails, yet 80 or 100, or even 200 acre lots, do not separate people very widely, and the habit of erecting two log huts opposite each other on farms separated only by the road, gives one near neighbour at least in a district which is rapidly filling up. To the enjoyment of a fair measure of happiness, only a few intimate friends are necessary; and we who live among a thickly crowded population know little how strongly, in a wilderness country, the hearts of neighbours become knit together where those external influences of more civilised life are excluded by which differences and discontent are most frequently awakened.

The idea I have formerly alluded to as being entertained in New Brunswick, that lumbering—spending the winter in the woods cutting down trees with the axe, and the spring in guiding the logs and rafts down the swollen streams—is the more dignified occupation, and that the lumberer degrades himself when he becomes a farmer—such an idea calls up a smile on our faces at home. Such, however, was everywhere, till recently, the notion entertained by the active enterprising young men on the North American rivers. But bad times, and perhaps other influences, are correcting these notions, while, at the same time, they are improving their morals. They begin now to consume tea instead of ardent spirits. They thus save money; and seeing that the farmers—though they cannot show so much ready money as they