

with, perhaps, a very exaggerated idea of their own importance in the colony, and apparently under the firm persuasion that a fortune is to be acquired without trouble, or that some lucrative colonial post will be speedily offered to them. These young men, disappointed in the fulfilment of their somewhat unreasonable expectations, are but too apt to degenerate into what our Yankee cousins elegantly term "leafers," passing from town to town, wasting their time and incurring debts at the taverns, and possibly sinking into confirmed whiskey-drinkers, thus ruining any prospects they might have had of success, and preparing for themselves a miserable end. Nor is this, in my opinion, a suitable country for the reform of the young prodigal. Such an one, banished to the backwoods and isolated from society, finds little wherewith to beguile his lonely monotonous hours, and will most probably fly for solace to the fatal whiskey-bottle, always at hand, and staring him in the face at every shanty.

But mechanics and labourers of every description—indeed all able-bodied industrious men—can almost invariably find employment in Canada;\* and as fresh tracts in the far-west are gradually opened out and cleared for colonization, the more will their services be in request. The preconceived notions of a new settler regarding these parts are generally wide enough of the mark, and experience, as usual,

\* See Appendix B.