

Letter from a young man (one of five brothers), who left the neighbourhood of Moira, Co. Down. The men named George and Isaac Banks went from the same neighbourhood without any means, and now own a hundred acres of land:—

Dresden, Pr. Ontario, Canada,

March 3rd, 1872.

My dear Parents.—I am now going to write you a few short lines—too long neglected—to let you know we are all well at present, and trust in God, who is the giver of all goodness, that you are both in good health, and enjoying every comfort which this world can afford. I had a letter from Jane a few days ago, she is well, and she thinks a great deal of this country. I may say that our winter is about gone, it has been a very pleasant one, and a great deal of work was done; it has been very dry since last July you would scarcely get a drink in the country without sinking a well. We have been getting out square oak timber, as it is in great demand; we bought it of parties standing in the bush. We make it and draw it to the river, where it can be shipped to other countries. Men are very scarce in this country; men's wages are £4 a month in the winter, and from £5 to £6 in the summer. I think that there is no better place in the world than here, as work is plenty and men are not to be got for love or money. Last fall in the month of November, I paid George and Isaac Banks, £6 each per month and board, and was glad to get them. They have bought 100 acres of land, and are living on it. The land here cannot be surpassed in any country. The tax is about sixpence to the pound, according to the real valuation of property; this pays all, school bill and all other taxes included, as the schools are free in this country. We can raise as good crops here as you can at home. I have cut wheat one ton to the acre, and it was the seventh crop of fall wheat in succession, and the ground was never manured. As for my part I like this place too well ever to leave it. Robert was telling me that Thomas Boyle is coming out in the Spring; you can tell him that if he comes he will find plenty of work. And all the young men thinking of leaving home I would advise them to come here, and we will find them all work as soon as they arrive; I can tell them what to do. I have little more to say. Anne and the two children are well, they join with me in sending our love to you, and also to Johnny and Minnie.—Your affectionate Son,

Thomas Boyle sailed on the 12th April.—C. F.