

da, and above 30 per cent cheaper, than they could have purchased them at Montreal, the commercial metropolis of British North America, where they may be landed out of a ship, direct from England.

The very prices of which the settlers so absurdly complain, will serve to shew, in addition to what I have already said, on that subject, that the communication with England, by Hudson's Bay, is not so enormously difficult as you have laboured to represent it; and that you have only displayed your total ignorance, by presuming to write professedly on a subject, on which your information was so inaccurate, and the peculiar violence of your motives, by attempting to make it appear, without the shadow of evidence, that every agent at the Colony, was as ready to impose upon the settlers, as you have proved yourself disposed to traduce our characters.

It may, now, be worth while to enquire, what prices the settlers received for the same articles, on delivering them to the North West Company, when they embarked in the canoes of that Company, for Canada. According to the affidavits of some of those very men, as taken before a Magistrate at York in Upper Canada, it appears, that two shillings was the price they received for felling axes, when they delivered them to the North West Company. One man states, that Mr. Cameron paid him, in all, twenty eight shillings and six pence, for one felling axe, one shovel, one frying pan, two copper kettles, and an iron crank, for hanging the kettles on the fire. Most of these articles had been charged, on the books, against the settlers, but I can aver, that not one of them had a shovel, which was not the property of the Earl of Selkirk. It may be doubted, however, whether stolen goods have often been purchased at so low a rate, as these settlers were allowed by the North West Company, for things which they had not paid for.

As you profess to be so well acquainted with "the great enterprize, and the savings on outfits necessary for carrying on successfully the Canadian Fur Trade," perhaps you may be able to give to the public, the prices which the same articles