

large number of agricultural laborers and their families, under the charge of Mr. Henry Taylor, were on board, and at noon a "public meeting" was held on deck, and the laborers were addressed by several members of the Union Committee, who gave them some very sound advice, which, if acted upon, may save these emigrants much disappointment, considering the circumstances under which these men are leaving the Old Country. The tone of the speeches was moderate and candid. The afternoon was well employed in listening to the exhortation of two city missionaries, who had visited the ship for the purpose. At length the last bell sounded, the last tender carried away our friends, and amid the cheers of our lads, and the tears of many of the women, we were left to ourselves. At such times feelings are better imagined than described; but we all had duties to perform, which kept our mind well employed. At six o'clock, p.m., we slowly steamed down the Mersey. The weather was all that could be desired; but in order to ward off that dreaded accompaniment of the incipient sailor, sea sickness, we turned into our berths early. On rising next morning we found that the vessel was at anchor in Loch Neagh, waiting for the tender from Belfast, which kept us waiting five hours, during which time the "Manitoba," of the Allan Line, passed outward. We at length got up anchor, and away. The weather had been so exceptionally fine and the sea so quiet during the night, that we hoped to have a pleasant passage, but no sooner had we passed Rathlin Island than we began with our troubles, and before night my head succumbed to the influence of a stiff head wind and the motion occasioned thereby. Next morning most of the lads were compelled to keep their berths, and the usual tribute to Father Neptune was fully paid during the day. I shall not attempt to describe the experience of the next few days, which were passed in a very unpleasant manner. The wind gradually increased until on Saturday night it blew half a gale, and our misery was complete. On Sunday morning we managed to get all the lads up on the deck, and the Rev. Wm. Hall, of Ottawa, conducted a service under the somewhat unfavorable circumstances. It was however impossible to hold another service during that day, in consequence of the wind increasing in violence, sea sickness was the all-engrossing topic of conversation and thoughts until Tuesday morning, when there was a general improvement in the health and spirits of us all. I had been greatly pleased with the kindness and sympathy that the boys had shown to each other during their days of distress; as also, with the consideration of the officers and stewards of the ship. By Wednesday we had all gained our sea-legs, and the weather had changed for the better. The sun shone brightly from the cloudless blue sky, and the water partook of the rich coloring, and we quickly regained our spirits and appetites. We now were able to realize the pleasures, as we had the discomforts of a sea voyage. This fine weather continued throughout the remainder of our voyage, and our only difficulty was how to amuse the boys and prevent any mishaps occasioned by exuberance of spirits amongst them. We were favoured with the sight of several ice-bergs, which, of course, were viewed with great interest and curiosity. On Thursday, (Sept. 3rd) we passed through the straits of Belle Isle, and the bleakness of the coast along which we passed gave occasion for some remarks from the emigrants, which showed that they were not prepossessed by its appearance. They changed that opinion, however, as we passed up the St. Lawrence, and by the time we had arrived at the Isle of Orleans, were unanimous in their admiration of the beautiful scenery. The following was the daily routine. The lads rose at 7 o'clock, and after a good wash and half an hour's run on deck, were quite ready for breakfast, which consisted of hot rolls or biscuits, butter, and coffee without milk. This bill of fare was occasionally varied with Irish stew; after breakfast we held our morning service; then on deck again until dinner time, at 12 o'clock, consisting of soup, fresh or salt meat, and potatoes, and now and then rice or plum pudding; this done, they amused themselves until 5:30—supper, tea, biscuits with butter. We then had evening service, to which sometimes our friends in the saloon would pay us a visit and address a few words to the lads. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Rev. Wm. Hall, Rev. Prof. Rayner and others for their kindness and attention in this respect—and I take this opportunity of expressing our obligations to Captain Frank and the various officers of the "Ontario" for the uniform consideration we received at their hands. We arrived at Point Levi on Sunday afternoon, and were quickly immersed in all the bustle incidental to the landing of a large number of steerage passengers. After the necessary delay in procuring passes and other needful papers, we marched the lads to a room in the emigrant shed, which was placed at our disposal, when some supper was served out, after which we took possession of the car provided for our use, the arrangements of which were very highly approved by the lads. The railway journey to Hamilton, where we arrived on Tuesday afternoon, was very tedious, and it was with a feeling of great thankfulness that we at last reached the Home, in Main street, after a fortnight's travelling. Most of these lads have been trained as farm laborers, with a special view to their being brought to this country; others have been taught carpentering, printing, and other useful trades. With the exception of a few, whom we have purposely detained at the Home, they have now been distributed; and we are now awaiting the arrival of the Rev. T. B. Stephenson, the Founder and Principal of the Institution, who left Liverpool on September 16th, per S. S. "Texas," of the Dominion Line, with a party of 50 girls and young boys. Forms of application and every information respecting these children, will be furnished upon application to Mr. Riley, Children's Home, Hamilton. I may add that, Mr. Stephenson intends to travel through the Dominion visiting these children who are already placed in situations, and will also deliver a course of lectures on behalf of the funds of the Home, in this country. Any communications addressed to the writer in reference to this course of lectures, shall receive attention.

I am, Sir,
Yours respectfully,
CONRAD W. THIES.

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