

but there it is, and it cannot be rubbed out, without injuring the effect of the plain hints which we have to offer.

The popular idea of Canada is connected, almost exclusively, with the unreclaimed portion of it—the new lands of the far west. These, which are yearly becoming more and more filled with adventurous settlers, first claim attention.

On no subject, connected with Emigration, is there such a diversity of opinion in the older countries, as this, of the comparative advantages of settlement in the woods, or unimproved country. Many families in Europe, have received, not only very flattering accounts of the progress of their friends, who have adventured to the backwoods of Canada, but also many more substantial and equally welcome souvenirs in the shape of remittances, from the prosperous exiles; while others tell you, that they have had several relations who emigrated to Canada, hoping to prosper, as land was so cheap, but sad to say, the country turned out to be a shocking place, an awful man-trap, and the poor fellows have all gone down hill, some having been ruined in purse, others in health, and all in their habits. The country alone is to blame, of course!

A Canadian soon arrives at the true secret of these various accounts, none of which he finds have been intentionally overcoloured. The fault is not in the country, but in the choice made by parties, of employments, in which they are utterly useless.

The people who must form the great majority of settlers in the newer parts of the country, are those brought up and thoroughly inured to hard work, whether with or without money. The larger number who have succeeded, have had barely money enough to carry them to their destination. For a man of this kind, the newly settled parts of Canada offer immense advantages. His progress may be sketched thus,—and we have in our mind, multitudes to whom the description would apply. He arrives in a comparatively old settled township, about the time of hay harvest, and at once obtains work at high wages, say from 5s. to 7. 6d. a day, and this lasts perhaps until the harvest is ended and the wheat sown. This supposes of course, that the emigrant is both industrious and quick at his work, and possessed of sufficient spirit and enterprise to learn readily the labour of the country. The slow coaches, who are afraid to handle a cradle scythe because they were not “brought up to it,” must expect to remain in the back ground. There is no such difference between the mode of work in the two countries, but that an active man can master one as well as the

other. As autumn draws on, work appears to be less plentiful, but there is something “to the fore,” and the adventurer can afford to see another part of the country, and to look out for a job of chopping, not being in too great a hurry, but taking time to examine the land as he passes along, and to ask the prices. After the winter’s work, at which he has earned from two to three pounds a month, the intending settler has perhaps made up his mind where to purchase, and he selects a lot of land, and makes a small payment on account of it. The 100 acres of heavy timber has a stubborn look, and it requires a stretch of the imagination to fancy it a farm, or likely to become one. But hope and energy have already sprung up within the hardy man, far beyond what he would have believed, before he left his fatherland. New ideas and new prospects have opened to him. He cannot now content himself to look forward to a life continued and ended as it was began,—to remain the workman, the paid machine of others, and to leave the world without having done more than exist during his allotted time. He will own the soil he labours on, the cattle he drives, the flocks he tends, and bequeath an independence to the children, who might, in the land of their forefathers, have inherited but a doubtful claim on the poor rates. So an assault is made upon the beautiful forest growth of centuries, as remorselessly and fearlessly too, as a hedger would use his bill hook. A small “patch” is prepared for potatoes and perhaps for spring grain, and a “bec” is called. Something is done towards the erection of a dwelling. Perhaps, being only a shanty, it is finished; and then he goes to “work out” again, and gets back to his little clearing in time to make the hut warm for winter, and sets to work to do the winter’s chopping. Several acres are ready for the fire in spring, and part is cleared for spring crop. In the autumn the whole is under cultivation, and the labourer has become a small farmer. In the course of time he is able to spend more labour on his farm and less in the employment of others, until his land is so nearly paid for, that he can spare enough from the proceeds of the annual crops, to make the annual payments. The “remittances” to friends at home, come from such men as these, and not many years after the first “settlement,” he must be a person of no small command of means who could “buy out” this thriving backwoods farmer. It is perhaps fifteen years since he left home, and you have now no trouble in finding him, in his township. He may be heard of as purchasing a mill property for one of his sons, and bargaining for a farm on which to settle another, and he has