

of labor. To these Thomson joins that quiet high religious feeling which almost always accompanies a solitary and laborious life, in the presence of the never-ending wonders of the vegetable creation. It pervades the whole poem, especially in the concluding part, where he laments the awakening of the human soul after death to nature after winter.

### The New Settlements in Upper Canada.

We copy from a pamphlet entitled "Emigration to Canada," of which a third edition has recently been published by authority of the Bureau of Agriculture, the following extracts from Reports from the Hastings Road Settlement, as showing the Agricultural capabilities of that new part of the country. The new settlements are the Hastings Road; the Mississippi Road; the Bobcaygeon Road; the Addington Road; the Opeongo Free Grant Road; and the Muskoka Road; all in that part of Upper Canada, lying north of the old counties on Lake Ontario, and between the Georgian Bay, Lake Nipissing and the Ottawa River, and which has heretofore been generally considered not very promising for agricultural settlement. The report from the Hastings Road may be taken as a fair sample of the others.

They all convey the most favorable accounts of the settlers, and of the large amount of produce they have raised on their newly cleared lands. The Hastings Road Settlement is very nearly the centre of Canada West, and due north from Belleville, on the Bay of Quinté. Mr. Robert Bird, in a Report received by the department on the 6th September, 1860, thus writes:—

"I have just returned from the Hastings Road, and received your favour of the 4th of August, requesting information about the crops on the said road. In reference to them I never saw any thing like them on the whole length of the Hastings Road, from Elliot's, on the fifth range, five miles north of the Peterson Line, and about fifty miles from the Town of Madoc. The principal part of all kinds of grain is now out of the way of frost. In consequence of the early frost of last year, almost the earliest on record, the farmers managed to get in their grain in such good time this year, that it is now almost ready to harvest. Some very fine fields of Spring Wheat were cut on the 18th of August. I have examined a good portion of this crop, and have no doubt but that it will yield from 30 to 40 bushels to the acre. I can hardly give you a description of the oats: I never saw such in any country; they stand from three to five feet high,

are well filled, and are nearly all about ready to cut. I cannot say what they will produce to the acre, but I think not less than from 60 to 70 bushels. Potatoes are abundant and no rot has yet appeared; Turnips are promising as well as the people desire; peas and rye are very good, but there was not much of these sown; very little Indian Corn was planted, but I saw some pieces that will be a fair crop unless some very unusual frost cuts it off. Hay is an extraordinary fine crop: there will be enough of timothy hay in these settlements for the farmers' own use, and a supply for all the lumbermen. It was from thirty to forty dollars per ton last winter, but it is thought it will not be more than ten dollars next winter. You would be surprised to see the amount of grain the settlers have got this year. There was not much Fall Wheat sown, but what there was did well. I was at Elliot's on the 18th August, and I never saw crops of all kinds of grain, and although the land is so new he has an excellent garden of vegetables. He put in a small quantity of Fall Wheat, and I never saw better; it was then ripe and the straw was bright: I rubbed out one head and I counted 72 large plump hard grains. The land seems well adapted for Winter Wheat. The family is very industrious, they appear contented and happy; their prospect is good. The inhabitants throughout the whole length of the road, with very few exceptions, appear well satisfied with their location. The Doyle settlement, near the Peterson line, is a very prosperous looking place, and will soon be a very fine portion of the country. They have abundance of produce, but they require the completion of the Mills on the Papeau River to make them comfortable: the man who is in possession of the mill site has not the means to erect it, and something should be done to get up the mills forthwith. There is a good farming county north, south, east, and west, of the site. Mr. Robinson is doing a great deal for the settlement of the road and the lands adjoining; his Saw Mill is in full operation at Lamab's Lake, and he will have a grist mill in operation about the middle of October. He has spent all his means in improving this part of the settlement, and deserves government encouragement. The settlement east of the Hastings Road, on the Peterson line, is in a very prosperous state; their crops are excellent, and they are making large improvements. I saw Messrs. Lake and Vanallen, who moved there from Thurlow. They told me they would not move back on any account; their families are contented and happy. There are eight families in the settlement, even so many miles back, and a prospect of a great many more soon going in.

"I have taken particular notice of the country for ten miles on either side of the Hastings and Peterson Line of roads. The quality of land on the first three ranges is of a lively loamy soil of a reddish cast, very warm and productive, but