

## EMIGRATION.

It is our intention to devote, at least, two pages of each number of vol. 3, to the subject of emigration. We have not been able to prepare much matter for this department, for the present number, nor will we be prepared to do the subject that justice that it merits, until the commencement of the next volume,—our time is so completely occupied, that we have not performed some of the pledges that have been made, but our friends will please remember that our work is yet in its infancy, and only requires a little nursing to make, what its most zealous supporters desire—the most practical agricultural journal on this continent. We believe it possible to make the *Cultivator* so useful, that no one in the province would be the loser, by advancing the small amount asked for the work. Our earnest desire for the welfare of this highly favoured portion of the British Empire, shall be breathed in every paragraph we pen for the rural population of these colonies. Nothing would give us greater delight than to see every department of useful business carried on in a spirited manner. All this and much more may be realized if all classes of the population would unite, and in harmony and good will towards each other, endeavour, by every legitimate means, to promote the prosperity of the country.

Steps are about being taken by a number of gentlemen of influence, in the Home District, which will have a powerful tendency to dissipate the lowering cloud, which at present enshrouds the spirits of the best farmers of the country. We hope other districts will put shoulder to the wheel. If they remain quiet, and allow the Home District to do all the work, the consequence will be, that the enterprising portion of the newly arrived emigrants will settle among *kindled spirits*.

The Local Clubs, and District Board of Agriculture which will be organized in the course of the coming winter, will unquestionably prove a powerful engine, in showing off the capability of the Home District, affording a field for the safe investment of capital and skill in the several branches of agriculture and mechanism, with the greatest possible effect.

The subject of emigration will also engage the attention of the associations which will shortly be put into operation,—we anticipate the most important results from these institutions, and would earnestly recommend each of our readers to set about the work in good earnest, and organize a local club in each township, or populous settlement.

If the discussions be entered into with a proper spirit, they will be productive of a vast amount of good. The fact that a general depression of spirits pervades the land, should be sufficient stimulus, of itself, for a combination of effort, to bring into requisition every reasonable means for the production of a more healthy state of things.

When the labouring classes from the agricultural population of Great Britain arrive on our shores, the first thing they have in view is the

purchase of a farm. The little ready money that they bring with them is often injudiciously expended in the purchase of a lot of timbered land, which they have neither means nor knowledge sufficient to clear. Scores become discouraged at the difficulties and hardships which they have to surmount, in order even to subsist,—and frequently, are they ready to give up all their cherished notions of future wealth and happiness, as lost, and at this critical moment, their situation is oftentimes truly pitiable. The cause producing this effect, must not be attributed to any defect of the soil and climate of the country, but to the inadequacy of the necessary means to bring into cultivation its natural fertile lands.

In future numbers of this work, we shall endeavour to illustrate this subject by adducing practical facts, that have come under our notice, which we trust will be highly conducive to the well-being of thousands of the industrious classes, who select this Colony, as a home for themselves and their children.

We need scarcely inform any rational man that, the occupation of a backwoods-man, is one of the most rugged character, and requires a hardness of constitution, and a persevering resolution, on the part of the individual who engages in the pursuit.

About two years since we had an interview with a respectable looking farmer who resides in the township of *Madoc* in the Victoria District, whose history will illustrate the character of the hardships of a backwoods-man, and also the beneficial results produced by an extraordinary effort on his part. The person in question, landed at Toronto, in the summer of 1831, with a wife and six small children—he was entitled to a hundred acres of land, for services rendered to the Government, which he drew in the township of *Madoc*, about forty miles North East from *Belleville*. The first year, he engaged himself with a farmer, which, after supporting his family, left a trifling balance in his hands—he erected a *shanty* on his *bush farm*, being a distance of five miles from any settlement, and planted his family, in this thicket of wood, without any means to subsist upon for the coming winter further than what a few dollars would purchase, together with the charities of the older settlers. The first winter and summer they lived entirely upon potatoes and salt, which had to be carried on their backs for many miles. By dint of industry, four acres were chopped and the ground completely cleared for spring crops; which consisted of a *patch* of spring wheat, potatoes, Indian corn, and garden vegetables. The following summer other four acres were cleared, which were sowed with autumn wheat.

The produce of the first five acres gave an abundant supply of bread and vegetable for the whole family, which when contrasted with the previous year's fare, caused the inmates of the log cabin to bless and adore the ALL-wise dispenser of mercies. The second winter a still greater number of acres were chopped, a portion of which were sown with spring crops, and the remainder prepared for

autumn wheat. By rigid economy, and almost total abstinence from every luxury of life, and the few dollars earned in the oldest settlements in the harvest field, the farmer was enabled to purchase two cows, and a few small pigs, the keep of which cost him comparatively nothing. In a few years, two of his boys were enabled to be of great service to him in chopping and clearing his land, and when we saw him, he had seventy acres cleared, a large portion of which was under crop. He informed us that he had three horses, one yoke of oxen, six cows, a number of sheep and pigs, and could say without boasting, that he was free from debt. He also added, that his family could read and write, which was taught them by their mother,—and that every lot was located and settled within a number of miles of his farm, and that a school was well supported within a short distance of his residence.

We frequently hear men complain of hardships, but the fault, in most cases rests with themselves. If the *Madoc* farmer had quietly contented himself with folding his arms, and finding fault with the hardships which he had to forego, he would at this time been employed on some of the public works, with a large uneducated needy family, and would have entailed beggary on himself and dependants.

We will, for the present, merely bring another character on the carpet, whose laudable exertions deserve the highest commendation.

In 1831, a Yorkshire labourer emigrated to this colony, who had to sell a part of his clothes to pay his passage to Toronto. He hired with a farmer in the township of *Vaughan*, for £30 per annum, including board and lodging. At the expiration of two years, he had £50. He purchased a bush lot containing 100 acres, for which he paid his first installment, about £15—he erected a shanty on the lot, and employed a man for £2 per month. They chopped 30 acres the first winter, the whole of which was sowed with fall wheat. The following summer the crop looked beautiful, he sold his right to the farm for a very considerable price, which placed him in funds to purchase 200 acres, the first installment on which he paid in advance. He purchased two yoke of oxen, a quantity of provisions, and employed four strong handed labouring men, all of whom lived in the shanty with our hero. Upwards of 50 acres of land were chopped, cleared, fenced, and sown with wheat. A bountiful crop was harvested. A log house and barn were built, and made comfortable. This farm was sold to a Scotch farmer, who paid a full price for the improvements, which, with the profits of the wheat crop, added to the funds of our backwoodsman to such a degree that he felt himself prepared to unfurl his canvass. He persevered in this successful course for a number of years, and he seldom raised two crops upon the same farm. In 1840, he sowed upwards of 80 acres of wheat on new land. He has lately retired on a respectable farm, with sufficient money out on interest to warrant his future independence for life. He is computed to be worth £1500.