

tained to its present improved appearance, in less time than 60 or 80 years. An immense extent of the forest has been cleared, and many farms are also clear of stumps, and will favourably compare with the highly cultivated lands in Britain. The log houses and shanties of the farmers have very generally been supplanted by stone or frame houses, and the furniture is in many cases equal to what it is among the same class in the old country. We have now our turnpike roads, macadamized roads, and railroads; consequently, the fatigue and expense of travelling, is not by a half so great as it once was. Truly, God has blessed our Canada, and it is now an inviting field for a host of evangelical Missionaries.

But let us now with our mind's eye take a look of the people with whom we have to do in our Home Missionary operations. They are an *omni-gatherum* of emigrants from many lands; and the characteristics of their respective nations—such as manners and customs, prejudices, superstitions, and quarrels—are more or less displayed by them. In this respect, they are nearly the same now as they were in 1841, and consequently we have, as a people, made very little progress as yet towards gaining a Canadian national character; and one generation, if not more, will have passed away before the best features of our respective national characters will become so moulded together as to form a splendid Canadian national character.

In 1841, the number of the inhabitants was not half of what it is now; and though then as now, all the people were clearly most devoted worshippers of land and dollars, they were far from being a wealthy people. They had a great abundance of the best food, and their tables were generally loaded with it three times a day. But agricultural improvement had scarcely begun, and the prices of grain and stock were so low, that there was scarcely any inducement to improve either the land or the stock. When I visited Goderich, in the winter of 1842, wheat was selling at from 1s 10d to 2s 6d currency, store pay; oats, from 3d to 4d a bushel; and beef, from 1d to 1½d per lb. The beef was generally wretchedly poor, consequently pork was very commonly greatly preferred. The swine were then every where numerous, and the farmers had much dependence on them to get a few dollars. In the fall, they had plenty of beech-nuts to eat, and became very fat; but their pork had such a strong train oil flavour, that to many people it was most nauseating. Some of the farmers had themselves and families, in winter, well clad in their own home made cloth; but very many were far from being well clad. There were few coats of superfine cloth to be seen at Church on Sabbath, in country places; many men came to hear sermon without neckcloth, coat, or vest, and the dress of the females indicated that they had seen better days.

(To be concluded in our next.)

UNION.

Ere the following remarks get into print, or perchance into type, the important question whether Union with the Presbyterian Church of Canada is to be consummated at an early date, or indefinitely postponed, will be virtually decided. Every thing depends on the action taken by the Synod of our sister Church, which is to be holden next week at Hamilton