

*Queries answered by the Right Reverend Father MACDONELL, Bishop of Rhocaina.*

QUERIES.

WHAT do you conceive would be the most effectual mode of encouraging emigrants possessed of a little capital to settle in Canada, independent of the cheapness of the land?

Suppose a Company were formed in England for this purpose, what would be the sources of income, or the return for the capital so invested?

What is the cause of that difference which all travellers have remarked between the United States and Canada, where the soil and climate are so similar: in the former every thing is represented as alive, active, and prosperous; in the latter, all dull and languid in comparison?

ANSWERS.

WERE twenty or thirty acres cleared in lots of 200 acres, it would be a great inducement to that class of emigrants to sit down at once in Canada; but certainly, the most efficacious way of inducing emigrants to go to Canada and remain in the country, would be to help them with the means of clearing the lands and settling themselves.

The Company should have lands on easy terms from Government; it should agree with settlers to take those lands at a certain regulated price, and assist the settlers to clear them in the American way; taking an obligation from the settler to repay the money advanced, and the price of the land, within a certain period of years. Thus the difference between the price paid by the Company to Government, and the price which the Company would receive from the settlers, would in my opinion constitute a very rational source of return to the Company.

In the United States the lands are bought in large tracts by speculators, men of capital. The first thing those gentlemen do, is to open roads in different directions, through the tracts which they purchase, and to build mills in favorable situations, thus attracting settlers to their lands; and by disposing of lots along the roads and in advantageous situations, giving encouragement to build villages. These speculators help the new settlers with loans, &c., and do not give them titles to the land till such time as they have fulfilled the condition, and have repaid the capital with interest of the money advanced to them. When it happens, as it sometimes does, that the settlers fail in their engagements, the lands revert to the speculators with all the improvements made on them, and then are in a condition to