

advantages known to our fellow countrymen. We have considered it a duty, to induce those of our brethren who are about to quit their native homes, not to leave their country without first visiting the Eastern Townships, and making themselves quite certain, that they will find superior advantages elsewhere. We have arrived at the conclusion, in fact, that it is our duty to lay bare, with an unflinching hand, the impediments to a speedy and prosperous settlement of the waste lands of the Townships, and to shew at the same time the means of removing them, in order that we may benefit to the fullest extent the settler and the country in general. It is needless to say, that we have collected all the facts and data within our reach, in support of the measures which we recommend, and that our mission and office ought to raise us far above any suspicion of a private and particular interest, to be furthered by this development of our views.

We shall strictly confine ourselves to the statement of facts of which we are certain. Our suggestions may be unseasonable, perhaps futile, even impracticable. The public will judge of these particulars. We claim, however, its favourable construction of our motives and our intentions.

We say again, that what we are about to advance will relate only to the Eastern Townships, and especially those comprised within the districts of Saint Francis, Three Rivers, and Quebec; but our observations on these may occasionally apply equally to the settlement of other parts of the country.

THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

The Eastern Townships, properly so called, is that great extent of habitable and fertile country, contained between the Chambly and Chaudière Rivers, in one direction, and between the frontier lines of Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire, and the seigniories of the districts of Montreal, Saint Francis, Three Rivers and part of Quebec, in the