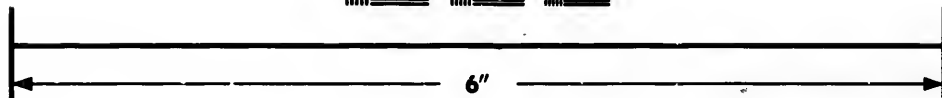
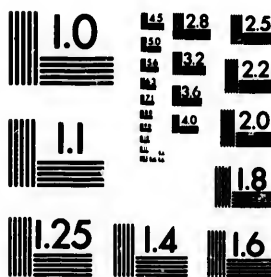


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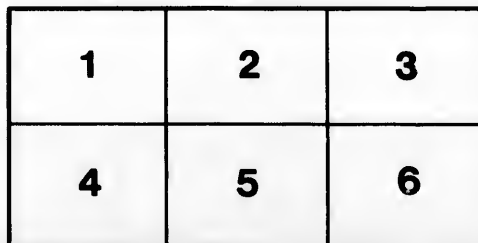
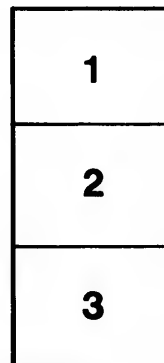
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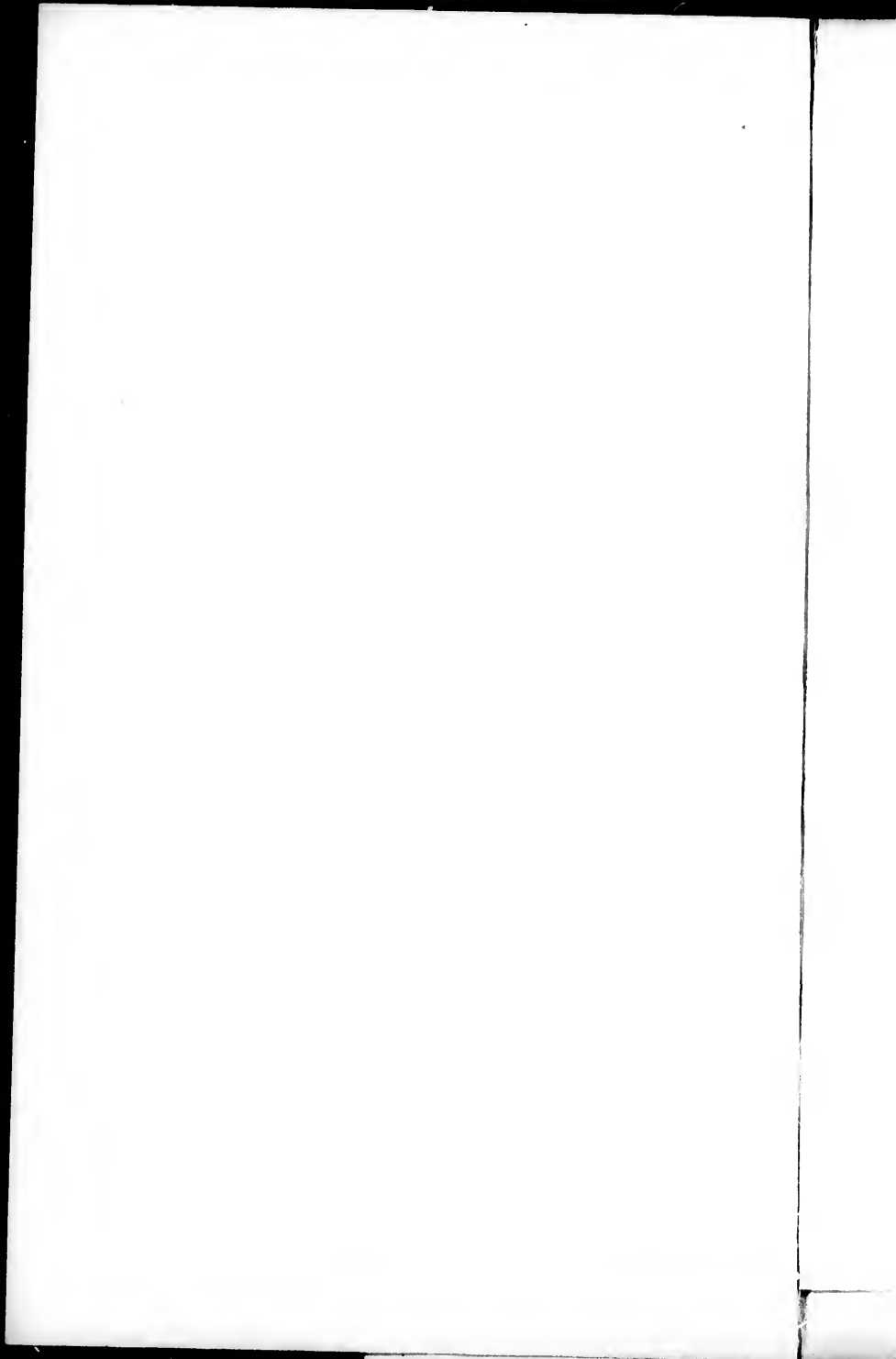
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Township N<sup>o</sup> 4.

Containing 20,000 Acres

Straits of Northumberland

Township N<sup>o</sup> 5.  
Containing 20,000 Acres

Part of Township N<sup>o</sup> 7.

Hope Creek

Saw & Grist Mill

Mount  
Chapin

HILLS RIVER

Mill Road

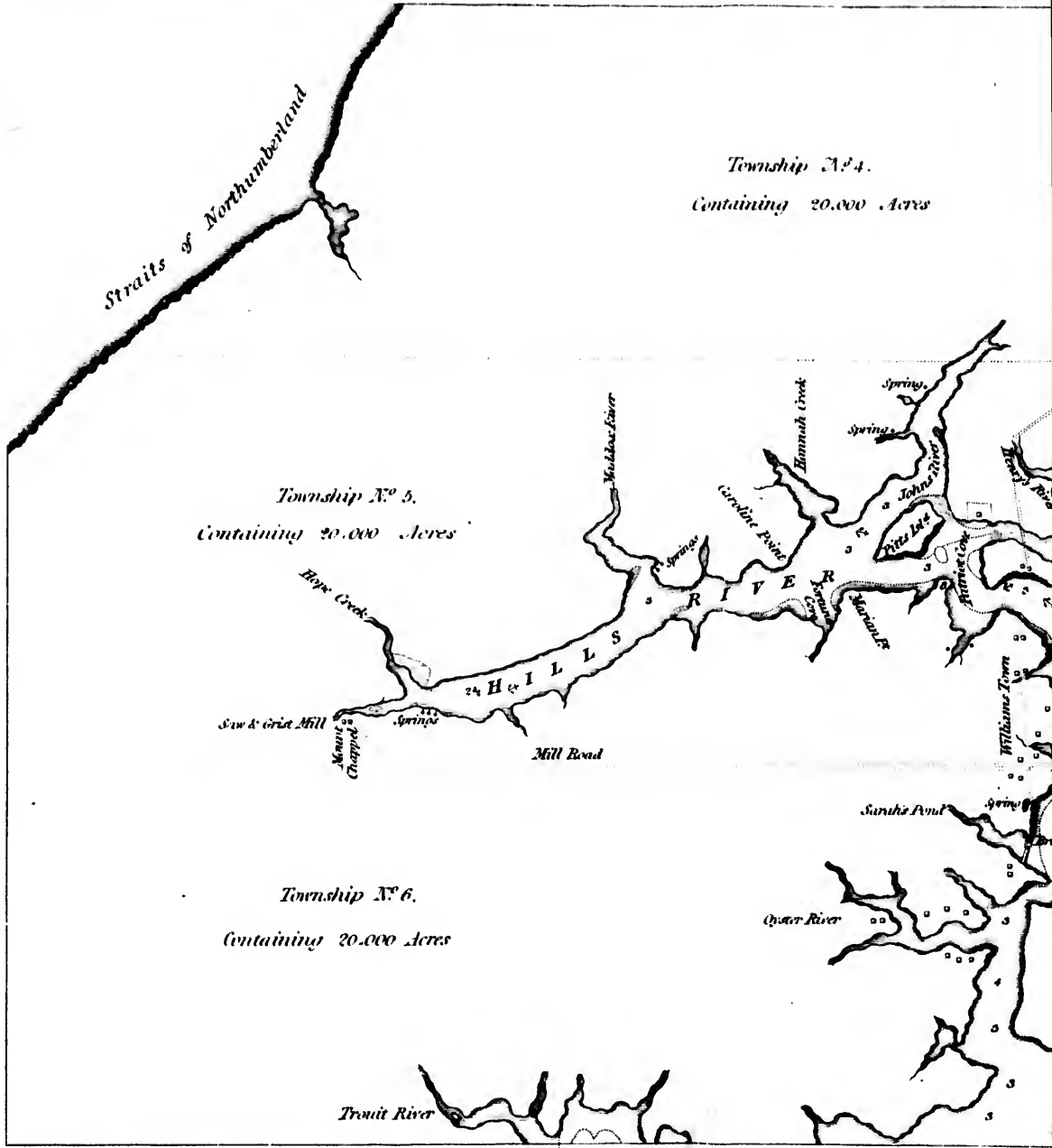
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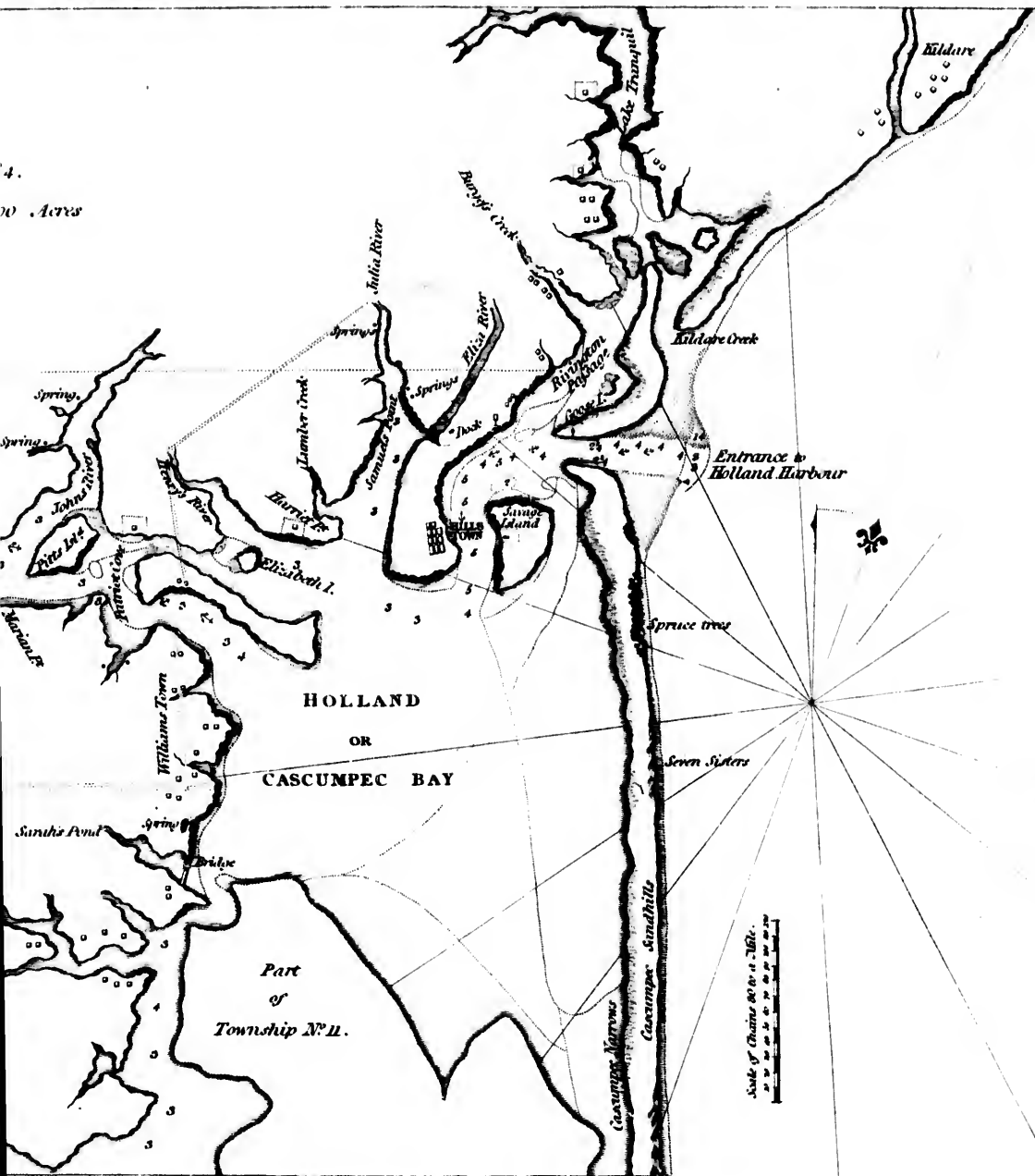
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*INFORMATION TO EMIGRANTS.*

—  
AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

**ISLAND OF PRINCE EDWARD,**

WITH

*PRACTICAL ADVICE*

TO THOSE

**INTENDING TO EMIGRATE;**

AND

*Some Observations*

ON THE

*CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, NEW SOUTH WALES,  
CANADA, AND THE RED RIVER.*

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

**SAILING DIRECTIONS**

FOR THE

*Coast and Harbours of the said Island ;*

AND

**A Correct Map**

OF

**HOLLAND HARBOUR AND THE LANDS SURROUNDING  
CASCUMPEC BAY.**

=====  
BY A LATE RESIDENT OF THAT COLONY.  
=====

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INFORMATION  
TO  
*EMIGRANTS.*

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**NUMEROUS** publications have of late issued from the press on the subject of Emigration, and, as the newspapers have teemed with representations on the subject, I deem it a duty incumbent on me to offer a few observations on the different countries to which emigrants turn their attention in the hope of ameliorating their condition. The conclusion of a war, unexampled in the annals of this or any other country, in its extent, its duration, and its expense, having occasioned a great alteration in the habits, employments, and views, of many people, together with the great load of taxes with which they are burthened, has naturally led them to consider if they cannot benefit themselves by removing to another; others also have been led to contemplate emigration from a dissatisfaction to government, and a dislike to the political institutions of their country; and, without considering how the events have been brought about, which has caused their present distress, have been goaded on by artful and designing men, to consider that their only relief is by a total destruction of the existing government; and it is to be apprehended, many otherwise well-meaning people, are lending themselves to a set of veditious plotters, as the willing instruments to promote anarchy, confusion, and all its concomitant horrors. Many have embarked for the United States of America, under a notion that they were hastening to a land of plenty, freedom, and happiness. Emigration, undertaken upon rational principle, and upon due consideration after proper enquiry, has undoubtedly, often been attended with most beneficial consequences to those who have proceeded where an extent of population is such as to prevent the industrious from enjoying the fruits of their labour, or the situation of things such, as to prevent them from getting a comfortable livelihood by the work of their hands, which is all they have to depend upon; or where the trade of a country is such as not to afford a small capitalist the means of so employing it, combined with personal labour, so as to enable him to live comfortably, it is both natural and proper for him to enquire and consider if he cannot change for the better. Without

entering into abstract principles of political economy, or a discussion of the cause which has led to our present situation, I shall state a few facts which I trust will be sufficient to guard my countrymen from being deluded to leave their native land by vague reports, or the false colourings of interested speculators.

Emigration is nothing new; the Greeks and Romans in ancient times founded and encouraged colonization. It is unnecessary for me to advert to what has been the policy of this country in that respect, when government, so far from discouraging it, have of late proffered considerable advantages to induce people to go to Upper Canada, and are now doing it to a greater degree to facilitate emigration to the Cape of Good Hope.

I shall make some brief remarks on the different countries to which numbers have resorted, and to which others are now about to embark, for the information of those who may be disposed to seek for a better situation. Such as are in possession of the means of a comfortable subsistence here now, and enjoy the prospect of a competence for themselves and families as they advance in life, I would recommend to stay where they are; such as have only a small capital, and who, with every exertion they can make, find themselves incapable of procuring comforts for themselves and families at present, and have not a good prospect of bettering their situation in future, I should not hesitate in recommending to remove to some other place; but I must caution them not to be misled by an idea, that, by removing to the western hemisphere, they can immediately acquire what they are so ardently in pursuit of; but this I can assure them, that the colony I am about to describe, after a few years exertion, and submitting to those privations which every man who goes to an unsettled country must at first submit, they may not only enjoy the necessaries but the comforts of life, and realize what will keep them in a state of competence and independence at the decline of it.

Those likewise who have only capital sufficient to pay their passage out, need never be at a loss for employment, provided they are capable and willing to work, as there is great want of labourers; and an industrious man, by working sometimes for others, and sometimes in clearing lands for himself, might in a few years acquire the means of maintenance on his own grounds.

The respective advantages of the United States of America, the Cape of Good Hope, New South Wales, the Red River, and Upper Canada, have engaged the pens of many writers, and not a small part of their representation has been written by interested individuals, and many of them calculated to mislead the unwary; but amongst all I have met with, little has been said of a Colony with which I have been long acquainted, and whose qualities I am enabled to describe from personal observation

and experience, the ISLAND OF PRINCE EDWARD, which affords a most advantageous opening for emigration, is situated in the centre of the British American Colonies, and I have heard it emphatically termed, a "*Diamond in the centre of the British American Possessions.*" There is indeed a short account of it in a very respectable publication, "*The European Magazine,*" for January, 1819, and as I entirely concur with the candid author of that narrative, as far as it goes, I shall insert it in this tract, adding some other information, as I think necessary; but before I relate what I have further to say respecting that colony, I shall make some observations on others, beginning with the

## UNITED STATES.

On the subject of that country it is not necessary to say much; it has been properly said, "the tide of emigration has turned;" the privations, the distress, and misery, which our countrymen have suffered in that grossly-misrepresented region have resounded from all quarters, and the numerous living witnesses that have been so fortunate as to reach their native country, whilst they detail their own hardships, bear testimony of the number of their unfortunate countrymen who have perished under every afflicting circumstance of want, exhausted strength, and disease. Amongst the accounts the following have lately appeared in the public prints.

*From the Public Ledger, 7th Oct. 1819.*

"Distress in the United States.—It is estimated there are 20,000 persons daily seeking employment in Philadelphia, and nearly 10,000 wandering the streets daily, looking after it, and if we add too the women, the account cannot be less than 20,000."

*Public Ledger, 8th Oct. 1819.*

"Emigration to America.—A *Waterford* paper says, The ship *Margaret*, D. S. Ayden, of and from New York, bound to Liverpool, out twenty-two days, was boarded off Waterford harbour, on Saturday, by the *Caroline* pilot boat. She had on board upwards of 100 passengers, some accounts say 180, the principal part of whom were persons who went out to America in the last Spring, in hopes of bettering their condition, but who have been sadly disappointed in their expectations. They landed sixteen, who on Monday passed through this city, they give a dreadful account, and represent emigrants from this country in a most deplorable state. Thousands are prevented from returning from the want of means to their passage; fifty Carlisle weavers returned for want of work."

*Public Ledger, 12th Oct. 1840.*

Extract of a letter from Liverpool, dated 9th Oct.—The *Betty*, Captain Wedgewood, arrived this day from Philadelphia with upwards of 160 men, women and children emigrants. The tide of emigration has turned, and those poor creatures who have been induced to leave their country, their homes, and their friends, by the flattering prospects held out to them of that land of plenty and freedom, (the United States) are now happy if they can find the means of paying their passage to return to old England.

I could quote numberless instances of more distressing accounts, but the public are too well informed to make it necessary.

The vision that once painted this country as a place of refuge to the industrious and unfortunate has now passed away, and even Cobbet no longer advises his countrymen to visit it. The angel of destruction is now making an awful progress on its shores, with its attendant evils of fatigue, thirst, hunger, and disease, and thousands are now perishing unpitied and unknown in its most remote regions. The mind of humanity revolts at the recital, and turns from the affecting scene with commiseration and regret.

A visionary speculator has made a large purchase in the back country, more than 1000 miles from the sea coast, amongst bogs, swamps, and marshes, part of which he has dignified with the name of Prairrie, (a Frenchified word for meadow,) inviting settlers to resort to his standard, where he has set himself down for a time surrounded with savages, and amid reptiles, the sting of torturing insects, and every species of vermin calculated to enhance the danger and add to the miseries of human life; and if by puffing his settlement in this country, he can delude others to follow and settle on his lands in those remote regions, where they cannot have the means of returning, I have little doubt, if he survives the intermittent agues and yellow fever with which the country is constantly afflicted, he will leave them to deplore their wretched destiny. If that country (the Illinois) were possessed with all other advantages, the distance from a market must render it a most unfit situation for the reward of industry.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE has attracted the notice of many, and it is said, a very considerable embarkation is about to take place to that country; I confess myself no further acquainted with that colony than from report of others, but must say, from such information as I have received from many well acquainted with its situation, soil, and productions, and whose veracity I can depend upon, I am afraid too sanguine expectations are entertained.

Independent of the incursions of the Caffres, I understand the seasons are

very precarious, and that a want of rain is often the occasion of much distress. I have certain information from a friend, on whose assertion I can place the utmost confidence, and who put into the Cape this year in his way from Calcutta to England, that the country was then in a state of starvation, and he was offered for his whole cargo of rice 48s. per cwt. which is only worth about 12s. in this country, and I am decidedly of opinion that the settlers at the Cape, should they even be successful in the culture of the country, will find no adequate market for its production.

## NEW HOLLAND.

NEW HOLLAND seems to have attracted the attention of many; I have perused a well-written book upon the subject of this colony by a Mr. Wentworth. The general account of the country is very interesting, but when we come to the more interesting point of investigation—what it produces, or is likely to produce, and where a market is to be found—I must confess, there is little to encourage the adventurer to seek for prosperity or comfort in that colony. The materials of which their society is composed, must render residence there very irksome, and the numbers which seek every opportunity of return to this country, after the term of their banishment is ended, is but too plain an indication that they prefer seeking a living in this country, with a ruined character, to remaining where such a blot would be no bar to their success.

## UPPER CANADA.

THE next I shall mention, which is nearer home, and a British settlement, is UPPER CANADA. To this place government, some time since, held out encouragement, and gave assistance to a great number, besides granting them lands gratis. It has lately been announced officially that it is not the intention of government to give any further assistance.

The soil of Upper Canada I apprehend to be very good, and that it will produce all the different kinds of grain and vegetable which grow in this country, though the climate is very unhealthy from the number of marshes, swamps, and other wet lands. But far less so than on the burning regions of the interior of the United States, from which many have emigrated to Upper Canada, and are settled there: but its great distance from the sea is a very strong impediment, and shuts them out of the reach of a ready and advantageous market.

## RED RIVER.

THE RED RIVER is a large district granted by government to the Earl of Selkirk. This nobleman has bestowed great expense, and undergone much



fatigue, in his personal exertions to promote a settlement. I have heard its soil is good, and that its productions are much the same as Upper Canada, and the climate more healthy; but it is still as inconvenient for a market as the latter. His lordship has been engaged in a most serious contest with the North-West Company; a set of people who carry on a great trade in collecting skins. This contest it is feared has greatly retarded and injured his lordship's prospects.

## LOWER CANADA.

LOWER CANADA lays much more convenient for the disposal of its produce; but, from the best information I can obtain, all the lands fit for settling are already granted, or occupied by the descendants of the French, who possessed the territory before its conquest.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The following account has appeared in the European Magazine, for January, 1819, and as I can vouch for the impartiality of its statements, I shall give it verbatim from that publication.

*To the Editor of the European Magazine.*

SIR,

I have read with no small degree of surprise, in the New Monthly Magazine of September last, a most absurd account of Prince Edward Island; an account equally calculated to injure that colony, as to mislead those who might be disposed to quit this country, buoyed up with false hopes and golden dreams of living comfortably without labour, and growing rich without industry.

The island is certainly a most desirable place for some descriptions of people, who, with the utmost exertions, are incapable of maintaining themselves and families in this country; and who, after labouring hard all the best part of their lives, have no prospect but of pining out their latter days in poverty and wretchedness; people of this description, who are inclined to be *industrious* for a few years, may acquire a comfortable independence, and a security from want when they are no longer able to work. But if they expect, that "the poorest families will set down to a roast pig, wild ducks, and salmon, every day," or that the latter can be obtained for "a glass of rum"—that the land will produce wheat, barley, and potatoes, *without ploughing*—that "*industry is not required*"—or that "*amusement is the sole duty of the farmer,*" as set forth in the above-named publication, their expectations will be most egregiously disappointed.

It is difficult to conceive what could induce any person to publish such a jumble of inconsistencies, contradictions, and absurdities, as are contained in the account alluded to.

I shall give you a brief and candid account of some interesting particulars of this colony, for the information of such as feel disposed to emigrate, that they may be better enabled to judge of what they are to expect, and provide for themselves accordingly.

The Island of Prince Edward is situated in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, between the latitude 46 and 47; longitude 62 and 64; (that is to say,) about 200 miles to the southward of England, and about 2500 miles to the westward. It is about 130 miles long, and at some places 50 miles broad, and contains 1,363,400 acres, very much intersected with navigable rivers and bays.

The appearance of the country in the summer is beautifully picturesque. It is in general level, or in rising slopes; there are no mountains, or any very high hills; but in the middle of the island, there are some nearly as high as the Sydenham hills. The uncleared part of the country is uniformly covered with trees, consisting principally of Pine, Spruce, Hemlock-Pine, Beech, Birch, Maple, Poplar, and Oak; of the latter there is no considerable quantity.

The soil is of a reddish cast, a mixture of clay and sand; with scarcely any stones on the surface. It is very easily worked, and will produce every thing that grows in this country, and for the most part in a superior degree.

The climate has very little resemblance to that of England; during the continuance of summer the weather is infinitely finer; in winter much cooler, but in general clear and bracing. Those who have been long on the island complain of our winters, and say they feel a much more unpleasant cold in our damp and wet seasons.

I have heard some of them assert, that they have a sensation in this country, as if they were up to their necks in water; and during their residence here have been subjected to constant colds and coughs.

The climate is very healthy, and emigrants from Europe lose nothing of their ruddy complexions; most of the inhabitants have very large families of children, who grow up healthy and strong, and become useful at a very early age. There is no epidemic disorder incident to the island; it forms in this respect, as in many others, a striking contrast to the United States. There is only one regularly bred medical man on the island; the good women of the neighbourhood perform the obstetric operations to each other, and with great success. Females appear to suffer much less in that trying situation than in Europe. I have seen a woman about her household business two days after lying-in; it is the custom to administer a glass of rum as soon as the lady is delivered, and I have never heard of its producing any

bad effect; it is, indeed, the grand specific. At the time I was on the island the measles made their appearance. Rum was liberally administered in spite of every caution that I gave them, and uniformly with success; out of at least a hundred people young and old, who had the measles in the neighbourhood where I was, not one died, nor did any of them seem to suffer any bad effects from the disease, or this extraordinary treatment. Though the weather is severe, it is by no means such as to "put a period to out-door labour;" winter is the season in which the inhabitants employ themselves in cutting down timber. While the snow is on the ground is the most eligible time for drawing it out of the woods to the sides of navigable rivers, where it is, in the spring, put into the water to be rafted to the depot of such merchants as are in the habit of taking it in payment from the settlers.

This is also the season in which the farmers get their timber for fencing their lands, and for repairing their barns. The severity of the winter generally commences about the 12th of December, and the rivers are in most years frozen over about Christmas, frequent snow-showers occur from December to March. When the first snow falls the roads are difficult to pass, but they shortly become beaten, and there is nearly as much travelling in the winter as in the summer; and though there are frequent thaws during this season till the latter part of March, there is very seldom any material breaking up of the ice till St. Patrick's day (the 17th of that month,) about which time the ice, in most years, begins to clear away at the entrances of the harbours, and in some seasons sowing of wheat commences the latter end of April, but more frequently in May.

Winter wheat has not yet had a fair trial; there is no doubt but if the snow falls in quantities to cover the ground before the severe frost sets in (which is most commonly the case,) it would answer well; but in the present infant state of agriculture, it is considered as too great a risk. When the country shall be better peopled, and more attention paid to cultivating the soil, I have no doubt but winter wheat would be found a more profitable and convenient crop.

I have seen crops of summer wheat equal to those of any part of the world; the barley is excellent, and oats much superior to any other of American growth; the potatoes and turnips cannot be exceeded any where; and peas and beans are quite as good as any I have ever seen. Cabbage, carrots, and parsnips, are produced as good as any in England; in fact all the produce of English gardens will thrive equally well.

Very seldom is manure made use of for raising corn, though many parts of the island abound with sea-weed, and in some parts it lies rotting in immense quantities.

In general, farming is carried on in a most slovenly manner; and it is not

uncommon to see grass growing up amongst the corn, almost in equal quantities.

Crop after crop of wheat is reared upon the same spot without manure. I am of opinion, that if the same mode of agriculture was practised as in this country, the crops would be fully equal.

The natural grass of the country consists of what is called by the naturalists, "Poa Pratensis," or what I believe is commonly called, smooth-stalked meadow grass, and white clover; these are the only species of natural grass I have seen on the island growing in any considerable quantities, except on the marshes, and on sand-hills, which border on most of the harbours on the north side; the latter produce a high strong grass, mixed with a kind of pea or vetch, and which makes excellent hay, and is of great use to new settlers to feed their cattle during the winter, before they can clear sufficient land to produce corn and potatoes, and upland grass.

It is the practice with some farmers to sow what is called Timothy grass, which affords a larger crop than the natural grass, and remains many years in the ground. I have frequently met with that species of red clover called cow-grass in small patches, growing naturally, and have no doubt but it would answer well if sown with corn. I have never seen any trial made of the common red clover, but have no doubt that it would suit the soil. The climate is particularly favourable to sheep; I never heard that any die of the rot, or any disease common to sheep in this country: they are small but of excellent flavour: the common size is about 60lbs. the carcase. The cattle are smaller than in England, but larger than the Scotch or Welch breed: the common size of oxen is from six to nine hundred pounds, besides the offal.

They are remarkably tractable at the plough, and drawing timber out of the woods, and are by no means "scarce," as represented in the narrative of the New Monthly Magazine of September, in which, in another part, it is asserted, "Newfoundland is entirely supplied with live stock from Prince Edward Island." Though Newfoundland is not "entirely supplied with live stock" from thence, a great number of cargoes are annually sent there and many cargoes of potatoes and turnips.

The price of sheep is from 15s. to 20s. each; cows from 5l. to 6l.; oxen from 9l. to 12l. each; wheat from 6s. to 7s. per bushel; barley 5s. 6d. to 4s.; oats 2s. to 2s. 6d.; potatoes 1s. 6d. to 2s.; geese 2s. 6d. each, and fowls from 9d. to 1s.

The settler has at first many inconveniences to encounter, which must be the case in all new countries; but he has a certainty, that by perseverance he cannot fail of success. A good soil, small rent, and no taxes (except a

quit rent of 2s. per hundred acres to the crown,) are circumstances which render success certain; and there is no country I have ever yet seen, where these advantages exist in an equal degree to Prince Edward Island. There is yet to be disposed of, a large extent of what is called Front-land, situated on the sides of navigable rivers, and in ports on the sea-coast. Springs of water are abundant, and of excellent quality. The climate is most healthy, and there is a constant communication with the neighbouring coast of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland; and frequent opportunities of sending or receiving accounts from Great Britain; a post goes twice in each of the summer months, and once a month in the winter to Pictou; and by packet to England. There is no such place as the town of "Breton" on the Continent.

The rivers abound with trout, eels, mackarel, flounders, oysters, and lobsters, and some salmon; and the coast with cod-fish and herrings in great abundance. The latter, soon after the ice breaks away in the spring rush into the harbours on the north side of the island in immense shoals, are taken by the inhabitants in small nets with very little trouble, and as salt is cheap (not being subject to duty) most families barrel up a quantity for occasional use. The lobsters are in great abundance and very large and fine. In Europe this kind of shell-fish is only taken on the sea-coast amongst rocks; at Prince Edward Island they are taken in the rivers and on shallows, where they feed on a kind of sea-weed, called by the islanders eel-grass, and a person by wading into the water half-leg deep, might fill a bushel basket in half an hour. Many schooners are annually laden with oysters for Quebec and Newfoundland.

The plenty of fish, and the ease with which it is procured, is of great assistance to the inhabitants, and in particular to new settlers, before they have time to raise food from the produce of the land.

Hares and partridges are plenty, and are free for any person to kill; and in the spring and autumn great plenty of wild geese, ducks, and other water fowl.

The advantage of being situated on the sea-coast must be obvious, when compared with the miserable situation of those who have been deluded to quit their native country for the interior of the United States; which every person must be convinced of who will take the trouble to read a publication by Mr. Feron, printed for Longman and Hurst, Paternoster-row. This gentleman was sent to the States by a party of his friends, the representatives of thirty-nine families, who very wisely determined to send a person on whose report they could depend to examine the country, and collect such information as would enable them to form a correct opinion, before they left their native land, of how far they were likely to better

themselves. It is a candid and dispassionate description of the country and people.\*

Many who have emigrated to the American States, after enduring the utmost fatigue, hardships, and privations, in the distant back settlements, have perished, and many others that have survived, after exhausting their little property, have been glad to go to the back settlements of Canada. At this time, whilst the deluded subjects of these realms are going to the United States, many even of native America, are emigrating to the Northern British Settlements. The horrid accounts that have been made public of the sufferings of those who have arrived in America, are shocking to humanity.

Whilst numbers fall sacrifices to fatigue, to want, and to the climate, and others are lingering out their miserable lives in the back country, the British settlements afford an opening to industrious people in healthy situations on the sea-coast; and I do not know any situation more eligible than that of PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, where *English laws* and English customs prevail; where new comers are treated with hospitality, and such as are industrious cannot fail of doing well.

The price of lands depend much on the situation. It is usual for each settler to take one or two hundred acres on the borders of the sea-coast.

\* Take a small specimen of the manner in which travellers are entertained on the road of this land of plenty and hospitality, as it has been termed.

"At five o'clock in the evening," says the narrator, "I reached the top of the Alleganics; our stage was far behind. This day I had walked sixteen miles. The Fountain Inn is a miserable log-house, or what you would call a dog-hole; it was crowded with emigrants. I asked for something to eat, but could only obtain for answer, 'I guess whiskey is the only feed we have on sale.' I have met with several instances when I have asked, 'have you any meat?' 'No.'—'Fish?' 'No.'—'Cheese?' 'No.'—'Biscuits?' 'No.'—'I will pay you any price you please.'—'I guess we have only rum and whiskey feed.' The character of the inhabitants appear cold, friendless, callous, and selfish; all the emigrants I have conversed with complain of the enormous charges.

"Log-houses are the only habitations for many miles; they are formed of trunks of trees. In some houses there are windows; in others a door performs the double office. The chimney is erected outside in a similar manner as the body of the houses; some have clay in their chimneys, a precaution necessary in these western palaces.

"In some are two apartments, in others but one, for all the operations of cooking, eating, sleeping, and washing. The pigs also come in for their share of the log residence.

"At the foot of the hill I came up with a woman and a girl with two infants in their arms, which come (to use their own language) "vrom Zoumer-setshire in Hingland." Understanding from my remarks, that I had been in their country, they spoke of it with heartfelt attachment, and were sorry they had been persuaded to leave it. They had been told America was the first place in the world, but they had experienced nothing but difficulties since they had set their foot on it." I earnestly recommend the perusal of this publication to all those who contemplate emigration to the United States,

What is called "front-land," on navigable rivers, in small quantities, sells for (in prime situations) from one to two guineas per acre, freehold; or on lease, to occupy the land three or four years for nothing, and progressively increasing from three pence, to two shillings per acre, per annum; lands two or three miles from the coast, or in larger quantities, sell much cheaper.

The most advantageous situations, are those on the North and East side of the island, on account of the number of fish which frequent that coast, and which are a great assistance to new comers.

Budaque, which is situated on the south side, and so much recommended by the writer alluded to, is one of the worst situations on the island for a new settler, as it is distant from the fisheries. The quality of the lands at Budaque, are by no means superior to the other parts of the island.

It would probably be taking up too much of your valuable pages to enter more on the subject at present; but if the additional information I can give is desirable, I will continue it in your next number.

In the mean time, for the better information of those who wish to be acquainted with the geography of Prince Edward Island, I refer them to a map of that colony, published by Laurie and Whittle, Fleet-street; and I subjoin the names of the principal proprietors of lands resident in this country, from whom such as are desirous of purchasing or getting further information may, I have no doubt, obtain what might be depended upon.

The Right Honourable the Earl of Selkirk, whose agent is John Richardson, Esq. No. 5, Fludyer-street, Westminster, and whose agent on the island is the Attorney-General, Charlotte Town.

Sir James and Robert Montgomery, Esq. son to the late Chief Baron of Scotland, Edinburgh, whose agent on the island is Mr. Curtis Stanhope, on the north side of the island.

Lawrence Sullivan, Esq. Hill-street, Berkeley-square, whose agent on the island is the Attorney General.

John Hill, Esq. Rotherhithe, Surrey, who carries on a mercantile concern on the island, and is in the habit of sending vessels every season, and who has a son settled at Lewis Town, a fine harbour on the north side of the island.

The above gentlemen are the committee of proprietors for occasionally corresponding with government, and arranging the public concerns of the island.

The month of March or April is the best time of the year to embark for that colony, as at these seasons easterly winds mostly prevail, and the passage is frequently made in three weeks or a month. Vessels sail from London, Liverpool, Bristol, Hull, Dublin, Waterford, and many other ports in England, Ireland, and Scotland. The passage in the steerage is

from eight to ten pounds; or, finding themselves in provisions, from four to five pounds.

Cabin passengers from fifteen to twenty pounds; children under seven years of age, half-price.

The House of Assembly is returned in the same manner as our Members of Parliament.

The Constitution is the same as that of the mother country. Bills must pass through the House of Assembly and Legislative Council; and must have the assent of the Governor before they can pass into a law. But any law respecting property must have a suspending clause, and is negatory till it receives the royal assent; and no law can be enacted that is contrary to the laws of England.

There is only a tax of ten-pence per gallon on rum.

The number of Indian families does not exceed one hundred; they are of the tribe of Mickmae, and were converted to the Roman Catholic religion when the French were in possession of the island; they have built themselves a very decent chapel, and are a quiet harmless people.

Their principal residence is on Lenox Island, in Richmond Bay, on the north side, where some of them raise corn and potatoes. They maintain themselves in the spring, summer, and autumn, principally by fishing; and in the winter by cutting timber and fire-wood for the inhabitants. Charlotte Town is principally supplied with fire-wood cut by them.

To this account I can add with truth that this island is not subject to fogs which infest Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the surrounding country; a foggy day being looked on as a strange phenomenon in Prince Edward Island.

I would particularly advise every person who intends to embark for Prince Edward Island, or any other country, to be very careful to apply to some respectable ship-broker, or ship-owner; as, if he engages his passage with people of this description, he will have a security for a proper supply of provisions, as the accounts of the sufferings of unfortunate emigrants who have gone out in American ships, are most distressing. The law has provided for a due supply of provisions and water, as will appear by the following extract from the act of 57 Geo. III. Cap. 10, by which it is enacted, "that every ship or vessel carrying passengers from the United Kingdom to certain of his Majesty's colonies in North America, shall carry no more passengers than one adult person, or three children, to every ton and half burthen; and that every ship shall be furnished at the time of her departure with twelve weeks' provisions, and good and sweet water, sufficient to allow each passenger five pints per day, (exclusive of the crew) and such a supply of provisions as will afford an allowance for every passenger



(exclusive of the crew) during the period of twelve weeks, of one pound of bread or biscuit, one pound of beef or three quarters of a pound of pork, per day; and also two pounds of flour, or three pounds of oatmeal, rice, or barley, and half a pound of butter weekly; the allowance to commence on the day the vessel puts to sea, and that the master or other persons having charge of the vessel to which the passengers have recourse, in failure of not duly serving the quantity of provisions above mentioned, shall forfeit £10 for every day he omits the same."

The principal ports to which vessels trade at *Prince Edward Island* are CHARLOTTE TOWN, the seat of government, in the South-East part of the island; MURRY HARBOUR, and THREE RIVERS, on the East side; RICHMOND BAY, and HOLLAND HARBOUR, or CASCUMPEC, on the North side; and BUDAQUE on the South side.

CHARLOTTE TOWN is the only place on the island that can be deemed a town. There is a spacious English church, a methodist meeting, and a Roman Catholic chapel, though yet it can boast but few dwelling houses. I cannot state the precise number, but conceive they do not much exceed three hundred. The GOVERNOR and officers necessary for a company of regulars, and a few artillerymen, which is all there are in the colony, reside in the barracks. The rest of the houses are principally inhabited by the officers of government and those connected with them, and by merchants and store keepers. There are several tolerable taverns and public-houses, at which the charges are far more reasonable than in this country. The harbour is a very excellent one for vessels of any burthen; but it is very inconvenient for the fisheries, and I do not consider it a good situation for trade.

MURRAY HARBOUR on the East, is a good harbour for vessels of a moderate draughts of water. The only business carried on there is by *Messrs. Samuel and Artimas Cambridge*, one of whom resides at Bristol, and the other at Charlotte Town; they have a saw-mill and a grist-mill, and their principal business lays in the timber trade, which they have carried on to a considerable extent. A great number of people from Guernsey went there some years since, and I am told are well settled, thriving, and satisfied with their situation. I believe most of the front land thereabouts is occupied.

THREE RIVERS is a very fine harbour, and will admit vessels of large draughts of water. The chief person carrying on business there is *Mr. Anderson McDonald* who is also engaged in the trade of timber. The adjacent lands belong to different proprietors, and I believe are thinly peopled. The place called *George Town* in the map, is a settlement where there are only two or three houses.

RICHMOND BAY is of considerable extent, and has water for a vessel

drawing about seventeen feet. The currents there run very rapid, and there is sometimes a very rough sea in it. The shallow water round the bay extends a good distance off, and there is no steep place to land or embark, which renders it very inconvenient for boats and shipping. This bay is very favourably situated for the fishery, and in the spring of the year is visited by immense shoals of herrings.

An Island at the entrance of the bay, called *Fishery Island*, belonging to Mr. Hill, is a most convenient place for carrying on the cod or herring fishery. The lands round the bay belong to various proprietors, and much of the front lands are occupied; but there is a large river called *Ellis River*, on the banks of which there are many situations still vacant. Upon the place marked PRINCE TOWN in the chart, there is not more than a few houses, which are at a great distance from each other. There are likewise a number of houses scattered about in the neighbourhood, and a very spacious Presbyterian church stands near about the centre of them.

HOLLAND BAY, or CASCUMPEE, is a very safe and eligible harbour for vessels drawing seventeen feet of water. They can lay to load and unload alongside a point of land in the harbour, at which there is four fathoms of water, with as much convenience as laying at a quay, or in the London Docks. This harbour is excellently calculated for trade in the very centre of the fisheries; and, like Richmond Bay, is in the Spring visited by prodigious shoals of herrings, which are taken with little trouble or expense.

Some part of the front lands are occupied, but there are very large tracts on the banks of three navigable rivers, one of which runs through the centre of the lands. There is a saw-mill and a grist-mill here, and the country surrounding this harbour has a far greater quantity of marketable timber than any other part of the island, which is a great advantage to the settlers, who in the winter time cut it down and deliver it in payment for such supplies as they have received from the proprietor's stores, and in discharge of their rent. The trade in timber is carried on here with much spirit by Mr. Hill of London, whose son generally resides upon the spot.

Goods are imported by Mr. Hill direct from England, and credit is given to such as are industrious, till by their crops and cutting timber, they can pay for the same. There is likewise a cod-fishery carried on at this place, which will, in process of time, be extensive. There are several other harbours on the North side, though none of them have sufficient depth of water at the entrance for any but small vessels. St. Peter's, or Savage Harbour; Tranelie, or Bedford Bay; Rustico, or Harris Bay; New London, or Grenville Bay; on each of those harbours there is much unoccupied land to dispose of. The principal proprietor at ST. PETER'S is

a *Mr. Worrel*, a member of the House of Assembly. At *RUSTICO*, the principal proprietor is a *Mr. Hodges* of Chepstow, who has an agent, *Mr. Richard Rollings*, residing at the settlement. He has a saw-mill and carries on a cod-fishery. At *New LONDON* the principal proprietor is *Lawrence Sullivan, Esq.* Hill-street, Berkeley-square. There is a saw-mill at this port belonging to *Mr. Cambridge*. The adjacent country to *Richmond Bay* consists of several lots of land belonging chiefly to *Lawrence Sullivan, Esq.* *Sir James* and *Robert Montgomery, Esq.* sons of the late Chief Baron of Scotland, and *Captain Seymour* of the navy.

At *PEACE TOWN* in this Bay, resides *Charles Stewart, Esq.* a magistrate and colonel of the militia; he was formerly a member of the House of Assembly, in which he has resigned his seat, and has been succeeded by his son, *Mr. Dowgald Stewart*. The Colonel is a most worthy and respectable man, and always ready to give information and advice, and his information may be relied on; he is famed for hospitality, and always ready to give assistance to any that he finds deserving it.

Of *HOLLAND HARBOUR*, *Mr. Hill* is the sole proprietor, also of the whole of the surrounding lands; he has an agent who conducts his business there, and a store and ship is kept for supplying the settlers with necessaries of every description, and he receives in payment the produce of their farms, or timber cut down in the winter.

This and most other parts of the island are plentifully supplied with springs of excellent water, and an ample supply of well-water may be obtained by digging from six to eight feet deep.

At *BUDAQUE*, the principal person is a *Mr. Campbell*, who has carried on a successful trade in timber. I know of no agent situated there for letting the lands, and apprehend the greater part of the best situations are already occupied.

Having inserted from that very respectable publication, the *European Magazine*, most particulars necessary to be known respecting the general qualities of the island, which are very correctly stated, as well as the names of the most respectable proprietors, and as it is not my intention to write for any but such as intend to emigrate there, I shall now add some advice to the information already given.

To such as cannot resign for a time their joint of meat, or beef-steak, every day, with white bread and butter, and the social intercourse of a circle of friends and acquaintance, together with what is denominated English comforts, I would recommend them to stay at home. In a new country they must, for a period, endure privations before they can acquire them; but such who will make up their minds (in the absence of all the luxuries and superfluities of the table) to put up with frequent dinners of fish and potatoes, with brown bread, and live in a house without plai-

tered walls, or papered rooms, where society at present is thinly scattered, and who are determined to exert themselves for a few years, supported by the consoling assurance of future comfort and independence. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND offers every thing that such a person can reasonably wish for or hope to receive.

Persons who can defray the expense of their passage, and take about £50 with them, may get on rapidly, and, if prudent, soon realize an independence.

Those who have nothing more than barely enough to transport them to the island, must, at the commencement of their career, apply a portion of their work for maintenance by working for others, and if they settle where the proprietor has an agent and an establishment, they will receive assistance by having a house built for temporary accommodation, and a few acres of land cleared for immediate cultivation. There are some spots of land that have been cleared to the extent of ten or twenty acres, which, by paying an assessed price, a new settler may obtain; but, in general, the country is covered with wood, and one who takes land of this description has to build, or get built, a log-house, which consists of the trunks of pine and spruce trees placed one above the other, and dove-tailed at the end, which forms the walls; the size of these houses are commonly from eighteen to twenty feet long, and about fourteen feet square; a large fire-place is made at one end, much like a country fire-place in this kingdom; it is built with stone and clay, and the chimney of the same materials.

The inside is partitioned off for bed-places according to the size of the family. The logs forming the walls are sometimes hewn square, but more frequently left round and the chinks filled up with clay, which is always at hand, and they are rendered dry, comfortable, and warm.

A house built in this manner costs from eight to ten pounds; but it is much the custom for those already settled to assist a new comer with volunteer labour, and it not unfrequently happens that a house is run up for his use in a few days.

The next step is to clear the land, as it is termed, and it is very common to get some volunteer assistance in this likewise. The mode is to cut down the trees to about two feet from the ground, lopp off the limbs, and cut the trunk into lengths of about fourteen feet, and pile them ready for burning, after which they make "a burn" as they term it. An expert axe-man will cut about an acre per week, lopping the limbs and piling them for burning, as before mentioned; there is scarce any underwood. The common price for this operation is from twenty to twenty-one shillings per acre. The next operation is to burn the limbs and trunks over the space thus cleared, which ameliorates the soil, and makes it fit for culti-

vation. The stumps remain, and with a small plough the surface is stirred; it is then cropped with potatoes, or corn, or both.

The top soil, from the falling and rotting of the leaves on the surface, consists of very good vegetable mould, and the burning has the same effect as a long exposure to the sun, and it will by this means produce excellent crops.

At first it will appear singular to an European farmer to begin ploughing and harrowing between stumps of trees, but when he finds how easily this is performed, (the trees growing some distance asunder,) and when he has had a view of the crops so produced, he will be well satisfied with this rough commencement

After a few years the roots rot sufficiently to be easily removed, and in the mean time the industrious settler goes on to clear more land, that is to say, cut down trees and burn for a further extension. I consider that five acres so cleared will produce plenty of corn and potatoes to feed a tolerable family, and with the quantity of fish which is at hand, and taken with little trouble, if they can in the beginning put up with this kind of food, they will at once be secured from want. A portion of the settler's time, who has no capital, must necessarily, as before mentioned, be applied to working for others, in order to provide himself with tea, sugar, rum, and other articles he cannot possibly have by him; but this must depend on his fixing on a situation where fish is to be taken in the vicinity, and where there is a store kept belonging to a proprietor likely to give him encouragement, which he cannot fail of receiving if he is patient and industrious.

Before his rents become payable he may, by industry, not only realize a sum to pay, but acquire the comforts of good living; he will moreover enjoy the satisfaction of seeing the value of his lands yearly increasing, as he cuts down the trees and extends his clearance, and he will be secure from want when by increase of years his strength fails. These operations, to men bred to farming in England, where he has been accustomed to a clear tilth and level surface, will appear awkward at first sight, perhaps more so to one brought up in the business of agriculture alone, and who knows little of the use of the hatchet; but, as a short practice, animated by the cheering consideration that they are working for their own benefit, and securing for themselves and families a future independence, soon reconciles them to every difficulty attendant on the practice of American cultivation. In fact, this is not only the case with husbandmen, but with labourers and mechanics, who never knew any means of raising meat but by paying for it at the butcher's stall, or of bread than from the weekly demands of the baker; but the majority of those who are

now settled in *Prince Edward Island* upon cultivated lands, never handled a spade, or held a plough, till necessity or choice impelled them to do so. One of the most necessary accomplishments is the exercise of the axe, at which the colonists are uncommonly dexterous, and I have seen people from England, Scotland, and Ireland, who, in the course of a few months, have become very expert, not only in cutting down trees, but lopping and squaring them after, in the winter time; and, in settlements where there is timber fit for exportation, to cut it and deliver it to the proprietor, who will accept it in payment for rent or goods. It is a most beneficial employment.

Another consideration deserving the attention of an emigrant, is to settle where he can have an opportunity of cutting some grass for hay, to supply a cow or two in the beginning, or any other cattle he might have, till he can raise upland grass for their support. *HOLLAND BAY* is protected from the sea by a very extensive range of sand hills, and which is covered with long coarse grass, intermixed with a kind of wild pea or tare; this makes very good fodder for the winter, and the proprietor permits his tenants to cut a portion, taking half the hay for permitting them to do so. It has been too much a practice for settlers, instead of raising hay on their own farms, to depend too long on this source of supply. In fact, I have observed in this colony so general a want of emulation, that by far the greater number continue satisfied with their original log-house, and after clearing a sufficient quantity of land to supply them with food, and purchase the commonest necessities of life, with a plentiful stock of rum and tobacco, (to the use of which the majority are much addicted,) they make no more improvement, spending much of their time in fishing, fowling, and other amusements, and what they call frolicking. This latter fun is greatly practised by those settlers who are the descendants of the French, and who were the inhabitants of the island before it was occupied by the English. Great part of the inhabitants of *Bedford Bay*, *Rustico*, and *Holland Bay*, consist of this description of people, who, when their corn is in the ground in a quantity equal to their annual supply, visit each other at the most distant settlements, and lose more time in enjoyment than the most affluent people in this country consume on their pleasures; and, it is common to see those who have been settled twenty years, still remain in their original log habitation, and without having cleared more land than they might have done in as many weeks, and on which they practice the most miserable mode of agriculture, raising crop after crop on the same spot, of the same kind of grain, without a particle of manure. Such is the force of habit, and particularly where there is a want of example to excite emulation. This is the more culpable, as there

is no want of a market. *Prince Edward Island* is most fortunately situated in that respect, Newfoundland, which now consists of 40,000 resident inhabitants, (independent of the great number carried there from England and Ireland, who are only employed in the fisheries during the summer months, and return to Europe in the fall,) produces no corn or cattle, nor any other production but a few potatoes, carrots, and other vegetables.

Bread, flour, beef, pork, and pease, are carried there from England and Ireland; and, in some years, when these articles are scarce from accident or short importation, permission is given to import from the United States. All these articles may be raised at a cheaper rate by far at *PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND*, and transported there at a much less expense, the distance from *Newfoundland* being not more than three or four days' sail. There is now scarce a single district in the island without a grist mill; the farmers are never at a loss to sell their corn, and by a little more industry on the part of the inhabitants, flour and biscuit for the supply of Newfoundland will soon be an article of export as well as beef and pork, live cattle, turnips and potatoes; a considerable quantity of the last three articles are annually sent to Newfoundland, and in a short time a trade will be opened from this colony to the British West India Islands, who are in want of all kinds of produce which this island is calculated to produce for their supply. What more can an industrious man require than fertile lands, situated in the vicinity of trade and navigation, at a rent little more than nominal, free from taxes, and a healthy climate.

The best criterion of the latter is the large families of children who grow up healthy and strong, and at a very early age are an assistance instead of burthen to their parents. It is a very common thing to see families of ten and twelve children, and grandsire, many near one hundred years old, and some exceeding it, stout and healthy.

Yet I have heard some complain of the high rent, but it has been such as have occupied their farms ten or twenty years, many of whom have not in cultivation more than five or six acres, spending but a small portion of their time in labour, and the remainder in idleness if not profligacy.

Let me advise the emigrant to be cautious, and not for the sake of what is called cheap land, to settle himself in a situation at a distance from the places calculated for trade, the difference between a shilling per acre and two shillings should not be regarded in comparison with a more eligible station, where he is to spend his life, and his posterity perhaps after him. The neighbourhood of the fisheries is most desirable, as it not only affords immediate sustenance for a new comer, but as population increases, will be the means of extensive commerce, and the consumption of the produce of the farms; a striking proof of the situation of this island being one of

the best stations for the fishing is, that it not unfrequently happens that forty or fifty schooners, which come all the way from the UNITED STATES, are seen at anchor fishing off HOLLAND HARBOUR and the north part of the island.

I have been induced to write this hasty sketch from seeing so much in the public prints lately on the subject of emigration, and as the season is now fast approaching for those who mean to remove, to make arrangements and enter into engagements, I have devoted a few hours from important concerns to the task, and though I am conscious it is destitute of that arrangement which should be observed by an author who writes for public inspection, my only object has been to give correct information, particularly with respect to PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. I can with confidence assert that every thing I have stated respecting that colony is strictly true, and I have not asserted a single article but what I can vouch for from my own personal experience.

I shall conclude by stating, that there were several farming men went from Yorkshire to the island about three years ago, and having remained there a sufficient time to satisfy themselves of the advantages of the country, they returned to England for their wives and families, which they took out with them, accompanied by sixty of their acquaintance, who embarked from Hull, all of whom are comfortably settled, and highly satisfied with the change they have made.



# SAILING DIRECTIONS

FOR THE

## *Coast and Harbour*

OF THE

### ISLAND OF PRINCE EDWARD.



THE ISLAND OF PRINCE EDWARD is clear of fogs, though the surrounding coasts of Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, and New Brunswick, are frequently covered with it; there is a striking contrast between it and the latter, and the first appearance is like a large forest rising out of the sea, and is a beautiful object; in a nearer view the Red Cliffs appear, which surround great part of the coast, they are not high; the lands, except where farms are cleared, are covered with lofty trees, and the range of sand hills which border a considerable part of the north side are covered with long grass and wild pease.

Vessels coming from the Eastward bound to THREE RIVERS or MURRAY HARBOUR, must avoid coming too near the East Point, at which is a ridge of sunken rocks, running off about a mile; the ground is clear between the East-Point and the Wood Islands, and there is three fathoms water all the way near the shore and good anchoring.

Vessels bound to CHARLOTTE TOWN, or passing through the Straits of Northumberland, must be careful to avoid the Indian rocks, which are covered at high water, and in the night it will be advisable to keep on the Nova Scotia side, near the Island of Pictou.

CARDIGAN BAY, or the THREE RIVERS, lies between Broughton Island and Panmure Island; it is the common entrance of three rivers; namely, Cardigan River, Brudnell River, and Montague River; in the former there are from seven to three fathoms of water, and in the others from four to two. In those many large ships have laden timber. There is anchorage without in Cardigan Bay, where a pilot may be obtained.

**MURRAY HARBOUR** is close to the North-West-Point of Bear Cape, the entrance is narrow and shoal, difficult of access, and not having more than twelve feet of water; but small ships have frequently loaded there.

**HILLSBOROUGH BAY** and **CHARLOTTE TOWN HARBOUR**. The bay and entrance of the harbour is correctly laid down in the chart published by Mr. Laurie. After passing the fort a quarter of a mile up, towards the entrance of York River, as there is a shoal of ground runs some distance off the opposite shore, anchor off the town in six or eight fathoms of water.

**BEDIQUE BAY**, which lies between Cape Egmont and Carletan Point, has good anchoring ground in from six to eight fathoms. The harbour will admit ships of 400 tons burthen.

The above account of Three Rivers, Murray Harbour, and Bedique, is copied from Sailing Directions published by Mr. Holme Laurie, the author not having surveyed these three ports.

Ships going through the Straights of Northumberland, bound to Holland Harbour, or any port on the north side, must be careful to give the North Cape of the Island a good birth, as the sunken rocks run off full two miles; all the rest of the coast of the north side of the island is perfectly clear of foul ground, till within a quarter of a mile of the shore, and there is good anchorage, as near the shore is three fathoms of water.

The only harbours on the north side of the island for ships of large burthen are Holland Harbour and Richmond Bay, and off both these harbours the sand-banks, which form the bars, run off more than a mile from the shore. Ships from the Eastward bound to harbours on the north side, if the wind is favourable, should prefer sailing down the North Coast to that of going through the Straights of Northumberland, not only on account of sea-room, but as the most prevailing winds are from the west, they may run down the coast till they approach Richmond Bay, to within a mile of the shore.

**ST. PETER'S** is the first harbour coming from the Eastward, which is only fit for small vessels. The bar runs out about a quarter of a mile.

The next is **TRACADY** or **BEDFORD BAY**, which has about eight or ten feet of water on the bar, which runs off half a mile.

**RUSTICO** or **HARRIS BAY**, is very shallow on the bar, only calculated to admit fishery schooners. The bar runs off near half a mile.

**NEW LONDON**, or **GRENVILLE BAY**, has about eight or ten feet of water, but the bar is very difficult. It runs off near half a mile.

**RICHMOND BAY**, or **MALPEC**, is a spacious harbour, has about seventeen or eighteen feet upon the bar; the sands, which form the bar, run more than a mile off the harbour. The shoals on each side are ge-

nerally discernable from the swell on them, and the course in and out is West and East; a vessel anchoring off the bar will have a pilot come off. There are two entrances into the Bay, between which is Fishery Island. The Eastern entrance is the only channel by which a vessel of burthen can enter, the Western channel being very shallow and intricate.

Vessels usually complete their loading about a mile inside Fishery Island, but there is a considerable current runs there, and rafts of timber frequently break adrift in blowing weather, and on the ebb tide are carried to sea, and frequently a great part lost. The anchorage is good, and vessels lay in perfect safety.

HOLLAND HARBOUR, or CASCUMPEC, is the Westernmost harbour on the north side; the sands form a bar as at Richmond Bay, and run off about a mile and a half; the harbour is easily known by the sand-hills which run along the coast, about half way between the entrance of Richmond Bay and Holland Harbour is a sand-hill, much higher than the rest, near Conway inlet. Holland Bay may be known by its being at the west end of all the range of sand-hills. There is good anchorage close to the bar, in from five to eight fathoms. There is eighteen feet of water on the bar, and it is not difficult for a *stranger* to run in with a ship not drawing more than twelve feet of water, there being two leading marks painted white, bearing W. by N. by compass; a vessel of this draft, keeping the two marks in one, with a leading wind, might run in with perfect safety; but, as these marks will carry a vessel over the south tail of the northern sand, vessels drawing more than twelve feet should not venture without a pilot. There is a buoy on the end of the South Sand; between that and the tail of North Shoal is eighteen feet of water. Vessels entering the port, drawing more than twelve feet of water, should not bring the marks in one till they are within this buoy. The soundings off the harbour are regular, and the ground clear. Ships coming to anchor off the bar will have a pilot come off.

There is shallow water between the outer harbour and the inner harbour, on which is about fourteen feet of water in common tides; vessels generally load to thirteen feet in the inner harbour, and complete their cargoes in the outer; in the former they lay along side a wharf at Hill's Town in four fathoms water, where they lay without any current as in a dock; in the outer harbour the tide runs strong at spring tides, but the water is smooth, the sea being broke off by the bar. The currents round the island are very irregular, frequently running many days along the North Coast from East to West, and at other times from West to East.

The tides also in the north side ports are irregular, except at spring-

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... tide, sometimes flowing for forty-eight hours, and at other times not  
 three; in common tides the water seldom rises more than two feet; and  
 in spring tides (except in strong winds from the southward and eastward)  
 not more than five feet. Holland Harbour is the most convenient part in  
 the island for loading timber, where there is a very large quantity, also  
 a saw-mill for cutting plank and board.

There is a complete and very accurate chart of the island published  
 by Mr. Richard Holmes Laurie, Chart-seller to the Admiralty, No. 53,  
 Fleet Street.

The variation of the compass, after passing Cape Breton to the westward,  
 and about Prince Island, is eighteen degrees West.

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