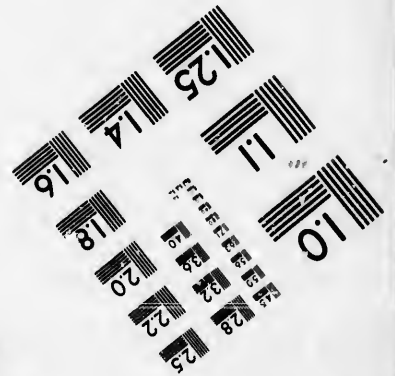
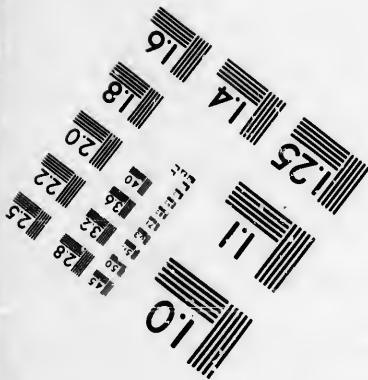
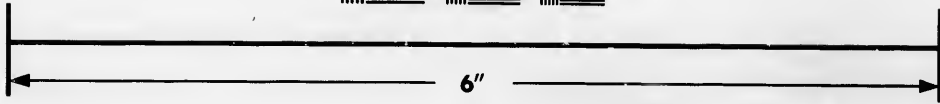
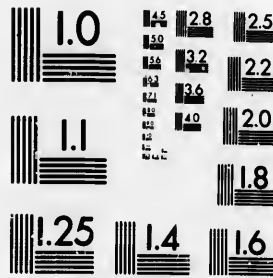


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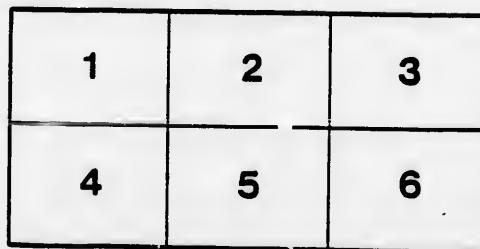
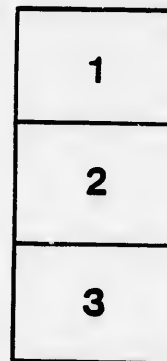
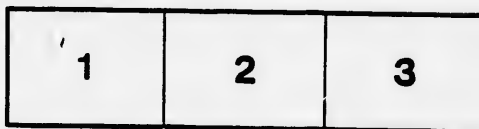
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## CANADIAN EMIGRATION.

*From the Londonderry Sentinel of Thursday, Sept. 5, 1872.*

In another column we publish a letter from the pen of John H. O'Neill, Esq., Commissioner of Emigration for Quebec. This gentleman has written much in the Irish papers, and he has influenced, to a great extent, the direction of emigration from the British Isles. He has not sought to promote emigration, but rather to direct to the province of Quebec or Canada persons who have made up their minds to leave home. We are not among those who would encourage emigration. On the contrary, we would check it were it in our power; but the fact exists that a certain number will emigrate, and we see no reason why those who do so should not be induced to settle in Canada, where labour is well rewarded and where the cost of living is cheap. It is not alone the material condition of Canada which makes it a desirable place for the emigrant; its healthy, moral condition is, perhaps, unsurpassed the world over. Mr. O'Neill, in one of his letters, remarks that—

“If information concerning the various fields of emigration were clearly put before the people, many who now emigrate would stay at home, because they found, on reflection, that, after all, the home field of exertion was the one best adapted to them. There are many who go to the wrong place now who would go to the right place then, because they know they must not take their journey at hazard, but must see the elements on which they are to work out success before they start; and, finally, there are many who stay at home now who would then emigrate, because the benefits of the new field of exertion would be more distinctly brought before them by the success of those who have considerably and carefully entered on it.”

Many persons are beckoned by false lights to places not suited for them. The man who emigrates with full knowledge both of the selected field and of its opportunities is far more likely to succeed than he who is prompted by a mere sentiment for roving or called away by interested parties. As Mr. O'Neill very properly remarks, in a letter on "Irish Emigration and Trade," which is replete with wise suggestions, the intending emigrant must not suppose "that struggle, toil, and disappointed hope are the fixed characteristics of one hemisphere, and success, wealth, and happiness those of another." The new country is merely "a field for exertion." This language is at once wise and happy; for it tells the intending emigrant not to calculate his gains and successes until he has looked sternly at the elements from which they are to be obtained and his own capacities to deal with them. In stating the great advantages of Quebec, he has used no exaggerated standard of expression, nor sought to raise false hopes. And nothing but his cautious and conscientious mode of treating the question of emigration would have given his writings the currency they have obtained or the influence they have produced. Speaking of Quebec, he says—

"The Government of the province of Quebec, having 129,000,000 acres of land at its disposal, performed effectively that one best service which a Government can perform for the land purchaser—making an effective survey. Having divided into farm lots 6,400,000 acres of land, it next caused the greater part of this territory to be traversed by great colonisation roads; founded colonisation societies, to promote emigration and to give assistance to the emigrant; laid the basis of a wooden railway scheme, which even in less than two years has done great things; gave two millions of acres to build a large arterial line of railway, the North Shore; spends thousands and thousands of dollars upon education; so that our system is unrivalled in point of excellence and downright fair play. Well, believing that it was due to those who desired a knowledge of our country, and with a view to the opening of our incult lands, the province of Quebec published a book on emigration. What is written in this book is guaranteed by the Government of the province; and, for the due execution of all

therein that refers to the intending emigrant, officials have been appointed, who meet the emigrant upon his landing at Quebec, and in every parish throughout the length and breadth of the province. And the same may be said of all the provinces of the Dominion. And the Dominion Government and the various Provincial Governments, at an immense cost, have an instructional organisation, whose agents in England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, and other countries, are prepared and bound to furnish books, pamphlets, &c., and to give information to those who may address them on the subject of emigration. A system so arranged and guaranteed carries with it, as it ought to do, a feeling of confidence and of security which throws into unfavourable contrast the emigration schemes of land-jobbers and speculators. Notwithstanding the vastness of our land operations, there are no questionable titles. The boundaries of the purchaser's farm, when he buys from the Crown, are fixed; and so are the boundaries fixed of those to whom, their means being limited, a free grant is given. The divisions of the land are accurately laid down, and the occupier is saved from a world of anxiety and trouble, because he knows that his titles are sure and his rights secure. Those who settle in Canada find their home in a climate whose excellence is unsurpassed the world over, and there are few who have ever lived any time in the country but are willing to reside in it as a final home."

There can be no doubt that the Canadian system carries with it a feeling of confidence, which can never be accorded to the operations of mere land-jobbers; and the Government of Quebec was wise to keep those public lands out of the hands of unscrupulous experimenters. After frankly telling the intending emigrant that there is little or no poetry about emigration, Mr. O'Neill tells the agriculturist that he can get, on eight of the great colonisation roads, a free grant of 100 acres for himself and for every child aged eighteen and upwards; and every person who presents himself aged eighteen or upwards can get the same. And those who prefer to purchase can buy land for 20, 30, or 60 cents. Partially cleared farms of 100 or 120 acres, with 20 acres cleared, can be readily purchased for about £125. Those who do not understand

bush farming can, if they have a little capital, buy partially cleared farms for delays of four or five years after payment of first instalment, ~~and~~ given for complete payment. The mechanic and workman are reminded that the shipping, the railways, the roads, the hedges, the canals, and other Federal and local public works, the rapidly growing towns and cities, with their buildings, water pipes, gas-works, and harbours, make of Canada a great field for industrial enterprise. In such an active, progressive community there is room, no doubt, for all who have fallen behind in the race at home. One thing the emigrant should not forget is the effect of climate upon the vital principle of man and the vegetative principle of the earth. The fact that the people of Canada are the healthiest in America, and have preserved in their integrity the chief characteristics of the vigorous people from which they are descended, is the best proof that Quebec enjoys a healthy climate. As Mr. O'Neill very justly says, "Let the emigrant, before he rushes to false conclusions, first look around him, and ask himself where are the chief seats of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, and he will find activity in every branch only in the cooler regions of the earth, and not in those climates which are too enervating for the continuous labour necessary in great industrial pursuits." This is so strictly true that we cannot but beg of those of our fellow-countrymen who will emigrate to remember it; for it is a sad history that of a man who leaves home only to drop in a thorny place. While Mr. O'Neill has clearly and candidly set forth the advantages of Quebec, he has not sought to mislead or encourage the false sentiment which makes so many believe that a removal *must* be for the better; on the contrary, he very frankly advises the intending emigrant "not to calculate his gains and successes until he has looked sternly at the elements from which they are to be obtained and his own capacities to deal with them." As far as he is urgent he is borne out, for what he says is true, that observative capacities, which are here comparatively useless be-



cause they are enjoyed in common with thousands of others, often lead to their possessor obtaining great wealth in a country where competition is not so overworked. That Mr. O'Neill represents the Government of a great province one has only to examine the laws relating to education in Quebec and the school system, so deservedly eulogised by Lord Lisgar in one of his acts as Governor of the Dominion. These words, we believe, were spoken by the Minister of Education as best expressing the Quebec system. In that province the most perfect fair play exists, and, as stated in the pamphlet on Quebec, all parties "agree to disagree."

The harmony that exists in Quebec between all the religious bodies exists nowhere else so perfectly in Canada or in America, and speaks volumes for the enlightenment of the province. All over Canada the best feelings exist, but in Quebec there appears to us in education to be downright fair play. One cannot but be amazed at the progress of Canada when one remembers that in 1863, as appears by the statistics, the bank capital was only 26,800,000 dollars. From 1863 to 1871 it only increased 6,200,000 dollars; while in one year, from 1871 to 1872, it increased 10,000,000 dollars. This extraordinary evidence of the increased demand for capital is further increasing. In the same period deposits have grown from fifty-two to sixty-two millions. This increase of 10,000,000 dollars in deposits, with a like increase in paid-up capital, represents a vast enlargement of the resources of the country. The remarkable increase of discounts, which to-day are 40,000,000 dollars in excess of what they were in 1870, is what may well be called surprising. While these figures exhibit a great expansion of trade, it is well to remember that the Canadian debt has not increased since confederation by an amount equal to 2,000,000 dollars; and that, owing to the financial operations of Sir Francis Hincks, an Irishman, we believe, there is a yearly saving of 600,000 dollars. Neither should it be forgotten that the net surplus upon the Canadian balance-sheet for the last financial year is 3,712,479 dollars. The progress of

Canada since its confederation has been remarkable, and the solidity of her institutions are wonderful. Quebec is the great central province of the Dominion and does over 51 per cent. of the trade of Canada. But Quebec is not so remarkable for this as for her municipal and education systems, and systems of colonisation and emigration. In that province society seems settled and institutions solid, and any man who reads the pamphlet on Quebec, or may have followed Mr. O'Neill's letters, cannot fail to discern a marvellous completeness about the institutions of that province—first settled by the blue blood of France under the monarchy. The information given of Quebec, indeed of Canada, by Mr. O'Neill, and the candid manner in which he has spoken, will not only have the effect of turning to Quebec many who will emigrate, but, by calling attention to the solidity of Canadian institutions and the development of her industries and general expansion of her trade, he will inspire confidence in the credit of that great and rising country, which was so little known outside the circle of emigrants until his letters showed us a complete and prosperous country. Letters have appeared on Canada, but they were rather of a sort to exhibit a country requiring only the articulation of bone and muscle. Mr. O'Neill has shown us a country cast in the mould of a high civilization, and blessed with institutions as free and as fair as exist in any country under the sun.

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## EMIGRATION TO CANADA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SENTINEL.

Sir—With your permission, I shall, through your columns, say a few words on the subject of Irish emigration. Conscious of the great benefit which must accrue to Canada from emigration, I frankly admit that I am desirous of seeing planted in Quebec a good class of settlers. It is because of the high value placed on emigration that the Government of Quebec adopted measures for the protection of the settlers who come amongst us, and afford

every possible facility to persons desirous of settling in our province. Over six million acres of land have been surveyed and divided into lots fit for settlement. Nearly half of this area is traversed by good colonisation roads; and along eight of the great colonisation roads free grants are given to settlers of limited means. To aid and assist colonists, colonisation societies have been formed, which are subsidised by the Government. A colonisation railway scheme has been inaugurated, which is doing good work, and, year after year, large sums of money are voted by Parliament to aid in opening the country and in furtherance of colonisation. You will understand why we want settlers when you remember that our province comprises a territory of 129 millions of acres. We give great inducements—free and cheap cultivable land—cheap, because the price of Crown lands ranges from twenty to thirty and sixty cents per acre. This value in money barely covers the cost of surveying, and is adequate to giving the land away in the bush form without roads. There can be no vitiations with us, for titles to land are guaranteed by the Government. Land sharking, as it is picturesquely called, does not exist; the man who takes a lot of land and complies with the conditions of settlement need have no fears because he holds from the Crown. So well guarded is the settler that, under and by virtue of the "Homestead Law," what is required for his maintenance, and the bulk of the things required for the working of the farm, for the ten years after his occupancy of his land, are exempt from seizure and sale by virtue of a writ of execution emanating from any court in the province. The law in this respect is so carefully framed that it grants protection to the settler without at the same time destroying his credit. These, I think, you will admit to be great inducements held out to intending emigrants.

Now, sir, the chances of success in Quebec are neither narrow nor critical—active, enterprising men, whose activity and enterprise are somewhat out of place here where competition is too great, with us find themselves in their proper sphere. A willing arm and a stout heart are all that are required in the settler. There are, of course, exceptional and peculiar opportunities, as they are termed in Canada; but I assure you that there is no position there of the sinecure character, or suited for the indolent. Feeble beings, and men of docile natures, brought up and pampered by affectionate relatives, run greater chances of quiet

happiness by remaining among their friends than they do of making great fortunes in any emigration field under the sun. I say this the more strikingly to call your attention to the fact that the same qualities which ensure success here ensure success elsewhere—energy and great activity. But competition is so over-worked here that an industrious man may find himself unable to make headway. Such a man's very energy may drive him to think of trying Canada, say, as *a field for exertion*. An emigrant of this class cannot fail of success, and why? Simply because he reasons on the matter, he is not beckoned to this or that spot, he emigrates because he finds in emigration what is most advantageous for his future prospects. And, sir, believe me, whether in Ireland or elsewhere, the arenas in which men rise to prosperity or eminence are those selected by themselves—not those to which they are called by interested parties. I know how very much opposed to emigration are the leading men of this country, and I believe were the whole question of emigration properly ventilated many who now leave Ireland would remain at home. But there will always be found men here who, after reflection, will seek out new fields for enterprise. They will do this as men follow different trades. These men should be properly guided, and the lessons told for their benefit will enlighten others who rush away, in many instances having no definite views. I state the advantages which Canada holds out to the settler, and honestly I invite the man who believes he could do better in a new field than at home here to try Canada. It is a young and rising country, and its present agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial status shows that it is inhabited by men who have not led idle lives or indulged in false dreams. Those who intend to migrate may apply to me, and I shall be happy to give them all the information in my power.—Yours truly,

JOHN H. O'NEILL,  
Commissioner of Emigration for Quebec.

Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, September 3d, 1872.

