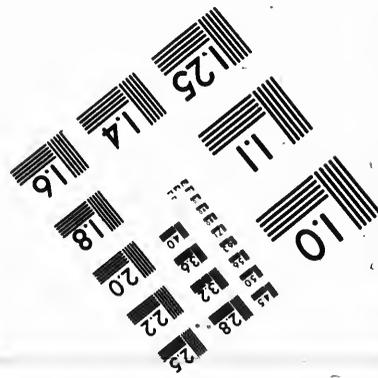
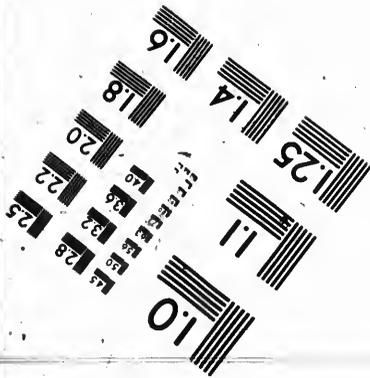
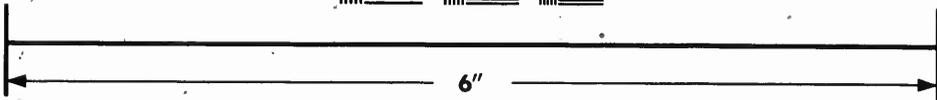
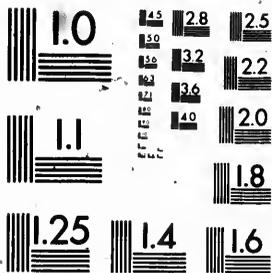


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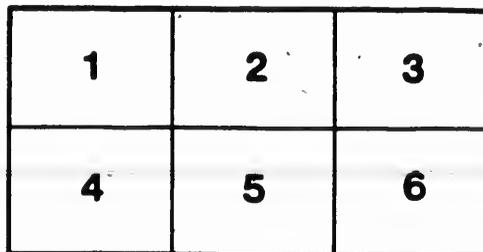
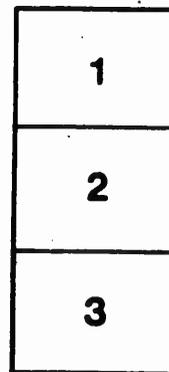
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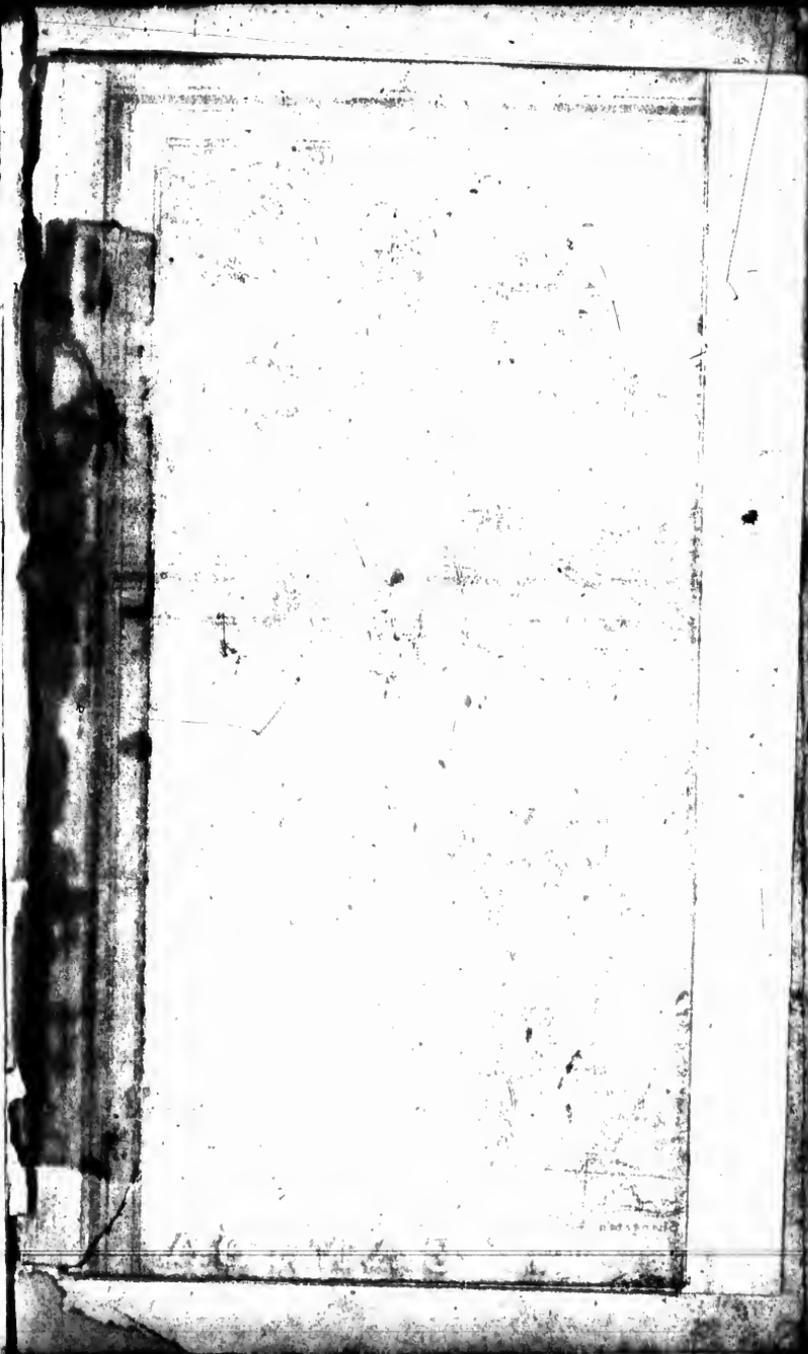
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CANADA
AND
PART OF
THE
UNITED STATES

Table of DISTANCES from
TORONTO to MONTREAL

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SEQUEL
TO THE
COUNSEL FOR EMIGRANTS,
CONTAINING
INTERESTING INFORMATION
FROM NUMEROUS SOURCES;
WITH
ORIGINAL LETTERS
FROM
CANADA
AND
THE UNITED STATES.

In the multitude of Councillors there is safety.
SOLOMON.

ABERDEEN:
JOHN MATHISON, BROAD STREET.

1834.

ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

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TO INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

THE approbation which has been^d bestowed upon the "COUNSEL FOR EMIGRANTS" has induced the publisher to bring out a smaller work, on the same plan, and with later information. Both works may now be had together or separately; and no pains shall be spared in future to procure the very latest accounts regarding Canada and the United States. The Publisher flatters himself that from his numerous correspondents in these countries, and the kindness of others who have friends there, he will always be able to obtain the most correct intelligence on the subject of Emigration.

DEPOT FOR WORKS ON EMIGRATION, 38, BROAD STREET,

Aberdeen, 5th July, 1834.

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INTRODUCTION.

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THE subject of Emigration is now a most important one to thousands who once little thought to have had any share in its adventurous trials and struggles. To those who are now preparing to change their homes for distant lands, the country best suited to their hopes of independence, and the one most likely to enable them to support their families, must be an object of anxious inquiry.

It is not intended to discuss here, at great length, the advantages and disadvantages of the various settlements now chosen by different individuals, who may think one or other of these the most eligible according to their own particular circumstances and opinions; but principally to give an account, in this little work, of that country which now the seemingly common choice has pronounced the best, namely, Upper Canada. As, however, its vicinity to, and connection with, the American States, is so close, some information regarding the latter must be useful even to the emigrant in Canada.

In the extracts and documents which follow, the emigrant may discover much that will prove useful to him. He may learn more clearly what preparations he ought to make previous to crossing the Atlantic, and what he may expect to find upon landing on the shores of America. The difficulties on the route to his intended *location* will be lessened by their being foreseen; and he will be better able to know where to direct his steps for the purchase of land, or to the places where he can most probably find employment for his labour.

A number of original letters are here first published, and the observations which they contain being of the most recent dates, cannot fail to supply a desideratum of considerable importance to all whose views are now directed to the dis-

cussion of emigration, either on their own accounts, or for those in whom they may feel interested.

So rapidly is Canada progressing in internal improvements, the great tide of emigration urging on the formation of roads, canals, and new modes and routes of conveyance, that accounts of even a few years back are becoming not much to be relied on as to what now is the case on many points of information. The emigrant ought, therefore, to have recourse to the very latest intelligence which he can procure in an authentic shape, and it is presumed such is now presented to him.

EMIGRATION IN GENERAL.

(From the Aberdeen Herald.)

THE rapid increase of population, and the occasional depression of most branches of trade, and especially of agriculture, added to the general dissemination of a knowledge of other countries, and to a universal spirit of enterprise, have in a great measure stripped emigration of those terrors with which the idea of quitting the land of our fathers was wont to be accompanied. The prevalence of the practice, and the favourable accounts received from the new settlers, not only encourage their relatives and friends in the mother country to follow their example, but the partial severing of the ties of kindred and friendship, caused in families and neighbourhoods by the departure of those who first emigrate, gradually prepares the rest for adopting the same alternative. The farmer and agricultural labourer, the mechanic and handicraftsman—in fact, every man whose trade or occupation is connected with the more necessary and useful purposes of life, is certain of success in several of our Colonies, if he be sober and industrious. Those whose situation is daily and rapidly getting worse in their own country, should not hesitate a moment in resorting to emigration; but there are many others who, although they can just “make both ends meet” at home, can perceive no chance of improvement in their own position, and a still more cheerless prospect for their children. Whether the latter description of persons

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should try their fortunes in the Colonies should depend upon their own personal habits and qualities. If they be intelligent, sober, industrious, and persevering—if they can take money with them (as farmers, say £300 or upwards)—and, especially, if they have sons and daughters old enough to lend them efficient assistance in their agricultural labours, let them emigrate by all means, and we will answer for their success. But emigration, and sobriety, industry, and perseverance, should be synonymous. Let those, therefore, not think of emigrating who do not possess those qualities, and who are not prepared to work hard, especially during the first few years, or who are of a discontented disposition, and easily “put out of their way” by trifles, and must have all their comforts about them.

We believe we may say that we have read nearly all the publications which have appeared on the subject of emigration; we are acquainted with many persons who have long resided in those countries to which emigrants direct their steps, and circumstances have led us into frequent communication with individuals employed officially in this kingdom, or in the Colonies, or in the United States, in matters connected with emigration. The knowledge which we have thus acquired, enables us to speak with confidence, and not only to recommend emigration as we have already done, but to say that the best country which the agricultural emigrant can select for his future home is Upper Canada.

The countries generally selected for emigration are, New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, the United States, and the British Colonies in North America. Of the Cape of Good Hope and Swan River we need not speak; for although we know several individuals who are doing well at the former, and some persons are still mad enough to proceed to the latter, yet the other countries we have mentioned hold out a so much better prospect to the emigrant, that one or the other of them should he make up his mind to choose, and we have no hesitation in saying, that if he do not succeed, it will be his own fault.

The climate, both in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, is extremely fine and healthy, especially in the latter, where the summer, being less warm, is more pleasant to British constitutions. The settler has the advantage of cheap

labour, by being able to procure that of convicts for about the expense of their board and clothing. Both climate and pasture are also extremely favourable to the production of Merino wool, which, when carefully sorted and packed, sells at as high a price as the finest Saxon or Spanish. The country generally is not, like the Canadas, one interminable forest, but is only sufficiently wooded for the purposes of domestic use and fuel, and consists chiefly of hill and dale pasture, which is at once ready either to plough up for grain crops, or to graze cattle or sheep. The absence of any thing like winter enables the farmer to prosecute his labours during the whole year. The drawbacks upon these advantages are the immense distance, and the consequent expense and long duration of the voyage, and the time required for communication with the mother country, which renders the separation from our native land and connexions still more painful; the "pestilential moral atmosphere," (as Mr Fergusson calls it,) which must exist in countries where a great proportion of the inhabitants consists of those who have been sentenced to be transported to them for their *crimes*; the long droughts (sometimes occasioning a total failure in the crops), and inundations of the best lands on the river sides, to which New South Wales is subject; lastly, the bush-rangers, as the runaway convicts are called, and the natives and wild dogs, occasionally take very unwarrantable liberties with both person and property. Should the agricultural emigrant be tempted to proceed to these countries, we would decidedly recommend him to give the preference to Van Diemen's Land. The only superiority of New South Wales is, that its climate is more favourable for the production of fine wool; in all other respects Van Diemen's Land is infinitely preferable.

Two circumstances interesting to emigrants have lately been made public by Government. 1st, The assistance given to persons proceeding to Australia: and, 2dly, The appointment of Emigration Agents at various ports of the kingdom.

The following are the regulations under which assistance to persons emigrating to New South Wales or Van Diemen's Land will be granted:—

"No advance will be made except to young and married agricultural labourers, who intend taking their wives and families with them; and a strict inquiry will be instituted into

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their character and habits of industry, before the assistance they solicit will be granted to them.

"No one family will be allowed an advance exceeding £20; and it will be useless therefore for parties who may not possess the remainder of the sum requisite for defraying the expense of their passage, to apply for assistance.

"Every person desirous of receiving the proposed advance must fill up, and send back to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, the return hereto annexed. If the information contained in this return, and the answers to the inquiries which may be addressed to the parties who certify the correctness of the return, shall be considered satisfactory, the applicant will receive notice to that effect. He may then proceed to make his agreement with the owners or masters of ships proceeding to New South Wales or Van Diemen's Land, and as soon as any shipowner or master shall notify (in a form which will be provided for that purpose) that the emigrant has taken the other necessary steps for engaging his passage, an order will be granted for the payment in the colony of £20 to the agent or master of the vessel in which this emigrant may arrive.

"The order for payment will be entrusted to the master of the vessel in which the emigrant is to proceed, and will consist of a sealed despatch to the Governor, containing the name and description of the party on whose account the money is to be paid, and enclosing a promissory note, which he will be required to sign in acknowledgment of his debt; which note must be witnessed by the captain and chief mate of the vessel. But arrangements will be made by which the payment of this order will not take place in the colony until the captain shall have produced the parties, on whose account it is to be made, before the officer appointed for that purpose, and they shall have entered into a fresh obligation for the repayment of the advance made to them. For it is the intention of his Majesty's Government, and cannot be too clearly understood by all persons who may accept this loan, that repayment of the debt (in such proportions and at such intervals as may not be unsuitable to the circumstances of each emigrant) shall be strictly enforced, by means of the ample powers which the laws of the colony render available for that purpose."

All persons desirous of obtaining such assistance are directed to apply (if by letter, post paid) to the Emigration Agents at the ports mentioned below, if they reside in the neighbourhood, or to R. W. Hay, Esq. Under Secretary of State, London.

The ports to which Emigration Agents have been sent are Bristol, Liverpool, Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Belfast, and Greenock; and we have no doubt that similar agents will be appointed at other ports as soon as the emigration from them becomes sufficiently numerous and regular to render it worth the expense. These agents are to furnish *gratuitous* information to all persons applying to them as to the best means of carrying their schemes of emigration into effect; and the instructions given by the Government to the Emigration Agents to effect this object are of the most ample and liberal description. In speaking of the duties of the agents, the *Times* says—

“The agents will be instructed to furnish all parties wishing to emigrate (before they quit their homes) with information relative to the ships fitting out for passengers at their respective ports, the probable period of their sailing, and such other intelligence as may be required. Thus the poor emigrant may, by timely caution, avoid the abominable impositions too often practised upon him. Passenger-brokers, as they are termed, for the shipowner has rarely any thing to do with the matter, frequently promise the immediate departure of a ship, and subsequently on some pretence or other detain whole families until their slender means have entirely passed into the pockets of a set of low lodging-house keepers, to be found in every seaport, in whose profits it is not impossible that these brokers may in some way or other participate. Further assistance will be afforded to the emigrants on their arrival at the seaport, by the agent's advice, in case of difficulty, or by a more direct interference when frauds are attempted, of which the law takes cognizance. In short, the agent is to act as the poor man's friend and adviser, whenever he is deserving of protection, and to relieve him from those innumerable embarrassments to which he is liable, at a time and under circumstances which render it peculiarly difficult for him to help himself. To see that the provisions of the Ship Passengers' Act are complied with, will be another

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and most important duty of the agents; and as they are selected from the half-pay list of naval officers, they will be peculiarly able to judge of the quality of the provisions in store, and of the general arrangements for the comforts of the passengers."

We have already given the *pro* and *con* respecting emigration to the Cape of Good Hope, the Swan River, New South Wales, and Van Diemen's Land; but the United States and our North American Colonies are the only parts of the globe to which emigrants have yet, in any great number, directed their steps. Into a description of these it would be needless to enter, even if our space would enable us to do justice to those wonderful countries, now that the rapidly-increasing connexion with them, both from commerce and emigration, has given so many of our countrymen an almost personal interest in the concerns of America, which, with the letters from their emigrant friends, and the excellent practical books that have lately been published, have rendered an acquaintance with the United States and the Canadas extremely general in the mother country.

We would once more recommend Upper Canada to most emigrants in preference to other countries. The agricultural emigrant, at any rate, should not hesitate to select it for his destination; but even those who intend to devote themselves to trade, and especially if they have capital, would, we think, be safer in Upper Canada than in the United States, where the majority of "Yankees" consider it only a proof of superior intellect to cheat and overreach Europeans, and glory and delight in doing so. Upper Canada also possesses the following advantages over the United States:—In the former an Englishman, Scotchman, or Irishman, finds himself "at home," because he there meets with the habits, the taste, and the feelings of British subjects; he is surrounded by his countrymen, who like himself have emigrated; he still lives under British laws, and remains intimately connected with his native country. Whereas the citizens of the States have not only lost all the habits and feelings of the original stock, but they have acquired others in their stead which are but little in accordance with European notions, and extremely unpleasant to British emigrants, especially to those who do not belong to the working classes.

Unless, too, an emigrant forswear his allegiance to his own country, and become a subject of the States, he cannot inherit property, and is looked upon with a jealous and suspicious eye. The climate of Upper Canada is much more healthy and temperate than that of the States, being free from the yellow fever and other dreadful epidemics which have been so fatal in the latter country. Land is dearer, although produce is less valuable, in the States than in Upper Canada; and this fact is confirmed by the circumstance that many Americans have, of late, left the States to settle as farmers in Canada;—while, at the same time, the Canadians possess the great advantage of admission for their corn, timber, &c. to the British market, at a lower rate of duty, and of getting in exchange the cheap manufactured goods of this country. To these facts one of the New York papers bears the following honourable testimony:—

“The people of Upper Canada are blessed with a fine healthy climate and fruitful soil. When the improvements in navigation between the waters of Erie and the St. Lawrence are completed, they will possess commercial advantages superior (having respect to their population) to any people under heaven. Their importations being chiefly from the mother country, are subjected only to a slight duty. The support of the provincial government, or such part of it as is derived from the pockets of the people, is not burthensome,” (the taxes are so trifling as not to deserve any notice) “and the expense of the fortification and defence of the country comes exclusively from the Parent State.”

The climate of Upper Canada cannot be better described than in the subjoined statement, taken from the report of one of the British Agents in Canada to Government:—

“The climate of Upper Canada is considerably milder than that of the lower province, and the winter shorter in the same proportion. In both these respects it improves as you proceed westward,—so much so, that although the frost generally commences in November at its eastern extremity, and continues in that neighbourhood till the middle of April, it rarely commences on the shores of Lake Erie before Christmas, and it usually disappears between the 25th of March and the 1st of April.

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heat in the summer months is somewhat greater, but never oppressive, as it is always accompanied with light breezes. There is less rain than in England, but it falls at more regular periods, generally in the spring and autumn. The winter cold, though it exceeds that of the British Isles, is the less sensibly felt, in consequence of its dryness, and seldom continues intense for more than three days together, owing to the constant fluctuation of the wind between the north-west and south-west points. As the forests disappear, the climate improves."

Those who can afford the expense will do well to proceed to Upper Canada by New York. The voyage is shorter and safer, and it will procure the emigrant the great advantage of seeing the States, and of being able to compare that country with Canada. The journey from New York to Canada, along the river Hudson and Erie Canal, is one of the most delightful which can be undertaken, and not expensive.— When, however, money is scarce, and the family numerous, Quebec, and thence by the St. Lawrence and the Lakes, must be the route of emigrants. For their information we add the distances and expense of the journey from Quebec to York, the capital (as it is called) of Upper Canada:—

From Quebeé to Montreal,	180 miles,
„ Montreal to Prescott,	140 „
„ Prescott to Kingston,	72 „
„ Kingston to Coburg,	120 „
„ Coburg to York,	70 „

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Rate of passage in best cabin, board included, while in steam-boats only, the journey being performed partly in coaches, to avoid the "rapids" of the St. Lawrence:—

Quebec to Montreal,	£1 5 0
Montreal to Prescott,	1 15 0
Prescott to Kingston,	0 12 6
Kingston to Coburg,	0 17 6
Coburg to York,	0 10 0

£5 0 0

Rate of passage in second cabin, not including board :—

Quebec to Montreal,	£0 12 6
Montreal to Prescott,	0 10 0
Prescott to York,	1 0 0
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Rate of deck passengers, not including board :—

Quebec to Montreal,	£0 7 6
Montreal to Prescott,	0 5 0
Prescott to York,	0 10 0
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Children under 3 do not pay; and from 3 to 12 half-price. No charge is made for luggage in steamers, if not exceeding "a reasonable quantity;" but in the Durham boats, from Montreal to Prescott, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per cwt. is charged.

The following information, furnished by a gentleman lately arrived here from Canada, will be interesting to those who intend to emigrate :—

Beef, per lb.	£0 0 5	Candles, per lb.	£0 1 0
Mutton, "	0 0 5	Best Brandy, per	
Lamb, "	0 0 5	gallon,	0 10 0
Veal, "	0 0 5	Rum,	0 7 0
Salt Pork, "	0 0 6	Hollands,	0 7 0
Fresh do. "	0 0 6	Scotch Whisky,	
Bacon, "	0 0 7½	from 6s. to ...	0 12 0
Fowls, per pair, ..	0 1 6	Canadian do.	0 2 0
Salt Butter, per lb.	0 0 10	Flour, per barrel,	
Fresh do. "	0 0 10	196 lbs.	1 2 6
Eggs, per dozen, ..	0 0 10	Potatoes, per bush.	0 1 6
Quartern Loaf, ...	0 0 6½	Oats, do.	0 1 6
Good Black Tea,		Wheat, do. from	
per lb.	0 3 9	4s. 6d. to ...	0 5 0
Best Gunpowder		Pease, do.	0 3 9
Tea, per lb.	0 7 0	Indian Corn,	0 3 9
Moist Sugar,	0 0 7	Rye,	0 3 0
Loaf do.	0 0 8	Hay, per ton, ...	2 10 0
Coffee,	0 1 2	Wood, per cord, ..	0 12 6
Rice,	0 1 0		

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Average Rate of Land, Servants' Wages, &c. &c.

Land uncleared, per acre, from 5s. to £1 10s.
 For clearing and fencing, per acre, from £3 to £3 10s.
 Servant men, from £30 to £33 per year, besides board.
 Female Servants, from £12 to £15 per year.
 Masons, per week, £2 5s.
 Carpenters, do. £1 17s. 6d.
 Blacksmiths, do. £2.
 Tailors, do. £2 9s. 6d.
 Shoemakers, do. £2 8s. 6d.
 Common Labourers, £1 2s. 6d.
 Horses, from £20 to £25.
 Cows, from £5 to £7 10s.
 Sheep, from 7s. 6d. to 10s.
 Yoke of Oxen, from £20 to £25.

Average Produce, per Acre :—

Wheat, from..... 25 to 30 bushels.
 Oats,..... 50 to 60 do.
 Indian Corn,..... 30 to 35 do.
 Rye,..... 30 to 35 do.
 Potatoes, 250 to 300 do.
 Hay,..... 1½ to 2 tons.

In the above scale, the writer begs to be clearly understood to have given the prices in Halifax currency, five shillings to the dollar, equivalent to 4s. 6d. sterling.

The legal interest for money in the province is six per cent. but matters are generally transacted at eight, and, with the knowledge of the writer, ten per cent. has been given.

The writer feels most anxious to put all on their guard who proceed to Canada, for the purpose of taking land, against the many land sharks who will throw themselves in their way, in order to deceive, as it is their general practice with every stranger to endeavour to take advantage. Being for the most part engaged in the traffic of lands, each of those persons represent their property to be "none-such" so that the emigrant may be induced to travel about the country from place to place, and spend more money than would pay the whole purchase of a farm. Let the emigrant repair to the Government Offices in York, where they will receive the most polite attention, and every information they require.

Lands can also be obtained from the Canada Company, at their Office in York, or their agents throughout the country.

The first crop, from newly cleared land, pays the whole expense of clearing and fencing.

Abundance of cleared, and partly cleared farms, are always attainable.

WANDERINGS AND ADVENTURES OF AN EMIGRANT IN
THE UNITED STATES.

THE following extracts are from a letter, which is a curiosity in its way. It was written by an emigrant from Aberdeenshire, in the situation of a labourer, and is a good specimen, in its penmanship and composition, of what a country school can effect with those who are destined to labour for their bread at the most common employments. It may be noticed, that it is all written in the original on one sheet of paper, in a very close and distinct character. The simplicity, yet shrewdness, of the writer, and his ignorance of the country of his adoption, will sometimes be found amusing; and the accounts which he gives with much *naivete* of some peculiarities in the customs and manners of the Americans will be found interesting; while some of the observations will be new to many. Some liberties have been taken only with the spelling, pointing, and grammar; but these in general are pretty well. It is dated at Ellensburg, Alleghany Mountains, U. S. Feb. 10, 1833.

—I wish to give you a brief sketch of this country, confining myself to what I have seen only. During our passage from Aberdeen we quarrelled almost every day. On the banks of Newfoundland a violent storm overtook us, which lasted ten hours. This threw all our passengers to their beds in heaps; reading, weeping, and praying, were now performed in sincerity. For my own part, I could not stay below, and was on deck all the time. The waves were breaking over our heads every moment, and the utmost care had to be taken, when the billow struck the vessel, to keep a good hold of

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something, or else be washed overboard. I thought that I saw death staring me in the face, in every various and horrible shape. I was terrified and confused. I saw the most resolute seamen had given up all for lost. I thought on many things; but could not think on any thing seriously. As the storm increased, I cared the less for it. I thought death inevitable, and arrived at that state of mind, that every moment I wished to meet it, and be at an end. Every one was exhausted, and the vessel drifted where it pleased. This, however, blew over; but the sea carried away all the rails, from stem to stern, and every stitch of canvas—stove six casks of water—dashed to pieces the cabin windows, rushed in, upset every thing, and broke many. It made a true reform; for I did not hear a rough word, nor an oath, till we arrived at New York. Our passage lasted 56 days, and was very bad. We arrived on Sunday the 13th November. I staid ten days in New York; I went through every principal part of the city, and travelled about forty miles up the country. Round New York is very poor and barren; the ground is nearly all covered over with blue heathen stone,* and patches of brush-wood. New York is really a large city; the houses are mostly brick, three and four storeys high, the bricks being painted red, and the seams white. There are many buildings of white marble. There are two spaces left in the city, one at Castle Garden, and the other at the State Prison, for people to walk on, cut in every direction by foot walks. These grounds are all good promenades, and are open to every one. There are three forts, where the river is entered, about ten miles below the city, which stands on the point where two rivers meet. The streets cross at right angles; the principal one is called Broadway, which is broader than Union Street in Aberdeen, but roughly paved. Between the street and the foot-path there is a row of trees planted on each side, many of them as thick as a man's body. The street is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, closely lined with fine houses, shops, brokers, &c. New York is the greatest place for trade in America. The Yankees are well accustomed to strangers, and are the greatest rascals alive to cheat them.

I left New York, and crossed the North River for Jersey. This river is about half a mile broad, and I paid 12 cents for

* In Mineralogy, termed Gneiss.

crossing it. I arrived at a little town called Hobkin; from that I went on twenty miles farther, to another town in Jersey, called Patterson, a great place for trade. Here I could have got into good business, but I thought I could have plenty of chances in America, and here I was deceived. The state of Jersey lies very low; its surface is exactly like a rolling sea, full of heights and hollows, and these last are from one to three miles broad, and from twenty to thirty miles long, as level as a lake, and running parallel with the shore. The swamps are covered with stagnant water, out of which springs long grass, in shape and thickness like a bayonet, and about six feet long. The ridges between these swamps are four or five miles broad, thinly scattered with farms; the soil is a sort of loam, but very light, and of a pale yellow colour, mingled with grey rotten slate. The most plentiful wood in Jersey is juniper, here called red cedar. I climbed a tree, and plucked a branch full of berries, which were much larger than any I had ever seen, but tasted the very same. I left Jersey, and took a steam boat for Philadelphia, where I landed in a very foggy morning, and knew no more what course to take than the blind. I set my face as near West as I could, and then moved on, but could not ask for any place, because I knew none. I saw by chance a tavern with the sign of Robert Burns, in Bank Street; so I turned in, and lodged five days. During this time I visited almost every part of it. The city is large and fine, the streets crossing at right angles, bordered with trees, like New York; but much cleaner, except Water Street, which runs parallel with the Delaware, and close by it. This is a very narrow street, and the most dirty one I ever saw. The country around Philadelphia is beautiful, the Schuylkill runs on the west of it, and the Delaware on the east. The country is well peopled for a hundred miles round. There is plenty of coals found about 60 miles from the city, and brought to it by a canal; but these are hard and heavy as a stone. They have no smoke nor flame, but soon grow red hot, and appear like pieces of iron, in which state they continue a long time. In Philadelphia the houses are three and four stories high, mostly of brick, with white marble round the windows and doors. The United States Bank is a building which, for largeness and beauty, (all white marble,) surpasses any I ever saw. Marble is plentiful near the city. It

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has a Barrack and Navy Yard, in which there are about 150 heavy cannon.

A gentleman had out an advertisement that he would sell 100 acres of land for 40 dollars. I went to him, and he told me many fine things about it. I resolved to go and see it, although 200 miles distant, on one of the branches of the Susquehanna river. I travelled all the way on foot. I found this land lying very low, near a ridge of mountains. On each side of it was a dreary den, covered over with a dense and gloomy forest, and only two or three houses to be seen within ten miles of it. This would not do; so I resolved to go to Pittsburgh, distant 140 miles, which I travelled next. When I had got there, the winter had set in, and all things almost at a stand. I was now almost worn out, and therefore thought of staying here during the winter. I understood that I could get plenty of employment in the spring. On the third day after my arrival I went down to the river to look about me, and saw a steamer making quickly ready to descend the river before it should freeze. As they wanted hands, I engaged as a fireman at 10 dollars a month. The vessel was bound for New Orleans, a distance of 2,100 miles by the river. Pittsburgh is 306 miles from Philadelphia. It is more than half as large as Aberdeen. It stands on the point where the Monagahala and Alleghany rivers meet, then called the Ohio river. I found many Scottish people here. It is a great place for manufactories of all kinds, situated in the middle of a beautiful, open, and rich country. I liked it better than any place I had seen.* I left it on the 22d of Jan. The river runs through the whole state of Ohio. This state is well settled all along the river, and is a good-looking country. 500 miles below Pittsburgh is Cincinnati, the capital of Ohio. It is as large as the other, though only 40 years old. It has many fine brick houses, and stands on the point where the Ohio and Miami meet, then called the Misissippi river. It is a rapid and clear stream. Many rivers fall into the Misissippi in its course, the greatest of which is the Missouri, a

* The emigrant should note here, that no one is competent to say whether a place would make a pleasant PERMANENT residence from a first glance or a few days staying there, as first impressions soon wear off, and much depends on the season of the year when the person happens to arrive.—ED.



very muddy stream ; 2d, Red river, which joins the Mississippi about 150 miles above New Orleans, and here is the boundary between the United States and South America.

The banks of the Mississippi are from 20 to 40 feet above the surface of the water. The navigation of the river is rendered dangerous on several accounts. There are many large trees in the stream, called Sawyers, fixed among the mud by the roots, so that the current cannot tear them up. Their tops are sometimes above and sometimes below the surface of the water, and, if a boat strikes heavily against any of these, her destruction is inevitable. Sometimes banks fall in, of more than an acre in extent, which is occasioned by the stream undermining them.

Feb. 15.—Landed at New Orleans. Here the river assumes the appearance of a sea. The city, about the size of Aberdeen, stands on the east bank, 90 miles from the mouth of an arm of the sea, which comes up on the east side of the city, but not close to it. The part which is built next the river is formed of good brick houses, and the river before it is covered with ships and boats. The back part has wooden houses. I did not see but one house of stone in it, called the Canal Bank. The country around, as far as the eye can see, is very low and level, and not a stone to be found within a thousand miles of it. In February, the grass was so long that it came to the knee, and the sun hotter than you ever felt him. I found the flies very troublesome. There must be a thin curtain round every bed, called a mosquito bar, to keep them out at night.

New Orleans is the greatest place for drinking and gambling, &c. that I ever saw. A man may as soon be in — as in Orleans without money. I had 20 dollars a month until the 1st of May; then I wrought at loading and unloading ships, and had 25 cents per hour. On the 1st of June I had to clear out, for I could not stand the heat any longer. Scarcely was there a person to be seen on the streets from 10 till 3 o'clock in the afternoon, but blacks. I had to pay 10 dollars for my passage back to Pittsburgh.

I stopt not till I came to the top of the mountains called the Alleghany, 80 miles east of Pittsburgh, to a Rail-road. Here I have wrought since in a stone-quarry at 75 cents per day, and found in food. I intend to stay until the work is

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finished, which must be done by the 1st of November. I then shall leave these mountains, for I do not like them. They are 40 miles broad and 900 long, being the highest land in North America.

Except in the vicinity of cities or towns, America may be said to be one continued forest, which casts a shade of pensive meditation over the minds of Europeans; hence our native soil rises often on the memory in pleasing illusions, while its ills are in oblivion.

Enter the woods and all is dark. Not a breath of wind blows here in the summer, and scarcely a solitary bird is to be heard. You see thousands of trees lying on the ground in all states of decay, many of them 10 feet in diameter, and I have measured some of them 80 yards long. Thousands are dried up and ready to fall, and as many springing up to supply their places. In the wood grows little grass, but a large quantity of herbs like cabbages. This is because the ground is covered with fallen leaves two or three inches deep.

SUGAR-MAKING.—The Sugar maple is found everywhere, and they bore a hole two inches deep in the tree, into which they put a little spout, to convey the sugar-water into a trough, made out of a log for the purpose. In this manner, they will, perhaps, have a hundred trees: then a person goes round with a pair of buckets, and collects the sugar-water all to one large cistern, at a place called the camp, where they have five or six large pots to simmer this water over a gentle fire for eight or nine hours; when cold, the sugar is found at the bottom and the treacle on the top. The last is the best: and is like honey. The sugar is dark but good, and sells at 8 cents per lb.

SOAP-MAKING.—The ashes of the wood used for fire is kept and put into a cask with a hole in the bottom; a little straw is put under the ashes, and hot water poured on the top. The water, after running through the ashes, is taken and boiled hard, and, when cold, is the same as your soap.

When the ground is cleared, the natural productions are clover, strawberries, horse-radish, thistles, docks, nettles, plantain, and penny royal, here called mountain tea, and is a good and wholesome tea. *Gowans* were never seen in America, nor a hare, nor a magpie, nor a lark, and very few crows. The land, through all Pennsylvania, as far as I have

seen, is of a brick colour, and much of it is of a light soil, and the whole of the state is studded with little hills. Land in any of the upper parts of it can be bought at 2 dollars per acre in the woody state, and 10 dollars per acre for cleared land; but, according to the laws of this country, any one may settle where he finds waste land, without so much as asking who such land belongs to. The real owner of it cannot remove such squatters, as they are called, unless he sells it, and even then, three months warning must be given, and all improvements paid for. In this way, hundreds of families live all their lives without molestation. Any one who has got a good farm, lives as independent as the king of England, because it produces almost every thing they want. Every kind of garden fruit grows on farms without any trouble but sowing or planting. Indian corn grows on a stem like oats, but as thick as your wrist, 7 or 8 feet long. The corn springs out of the side near the top: the ear is in the shape of a carrot, but much larger, and of a chesnut colour. There will be from 15 to 20 ears on each stem, each ear containing from three to four hundred grains. When ripe, the ears are all pulled off with the hand, put into a cart, and taken home. Of this grain they make whiskey, pottage (here called *mush*), and also bread. Every stem is planted 3 feet distant from another, and hoed like turnips. The best oats that I have seen were little better than what you call *shilacks*. The soil is too hot for it. The oats are all used for horses. Oats, wheat, and rye, are all cut down with a scythe, and are allowed to lie for five or six days; during which time, the sun dries them as if on a hot kiln, for there is no wind to dry them: then a number of hands turn out, to gather and bind them up, when they are driven home. Wheat bread is used among all; every family has an oven and bake for themselves. The common peasantry live as well as Mr. H. They can raise every thing that would be on a gentleman's table, tea and coffee excepted. The vines grow here naturally, better than in T.'s hot-house.

The manner of carrying on public works in America is this. The contractor builds an open sort of a house out of logs, just to serve his time, called a Shantee. In this place there will be from 60 to 100 men boarded; for the custom of this country is, that every one has board, lodging, and

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grog along with his wages. There is a little boy goes round eight times every day, and at each time gives every man half a gill of whiskey, here called a giggar, and the number of tipling-shops which are at all public works is wonderful. Sunday is always set aside for drunkenness, quarrelling, and confusion. A drunkard is called a tar-boiler, and will be often two or three weeks that he will not draw a sober breath.

The American men are generally tall, and have long swarthy faces; wear long hair, which is most partly black. No whiskers grow on the greater number of them. They talk loud and are unmannerly. An overall, like a woman's wrapper, is their summer dress, called a wilmus. There is no distinction made between the great and small; rank and fortune avail nothing. Divines, doctors, and lawyers, &c. are held in no more esteem than the meanest labourers.—All sit in the same room—all eat together—there are no two tables here, as among the petty nabobs of Scottish farmers. All talk together, and every one is ready to let the gentry know—"I am as good as you—what are you?" In conversation, politics are often introduced, and the battle of New Orleans is always spoken of, because the Americans surprised the British among the swamps, and defeated them; affirming that the British lost 3,000 men, and they only 71! A hat is lifted to no one here. They style the Scotch and English the proud Britainers; who, on the other hand, call them *corncraikers*, sons of convicts, &c. Many of the Americans are friendly and warm-hearted people. Farmers' daughters here appear as much the lady in every respect as the best quality of ladies do with you. They wear a ring on each of the three last fingers of the right hand, the married women on the left hand. They are always well dressed, and have beautiful skins. They speak as pure English as any one does. Their dignified air and high heads made me to think no man could approach them with impunity. In this, however, I was mistaken. They braid their hair thus: they begin behind, and comb it up to the crown, dividing the hair into two equal parts, into which they stick two large headed combs, so as that the hair may appear behind in the form of a heart. Before, they begin at the crown and divide the hair into two equal parts, bringing it down over the corners of the forehead, and round to the top of the ear, where

it terminates in tasteful curls as large as your fist, supported by some six or eight small combs. The American woman does not lose conceit of herself when married, and always goes bare-headed, as much a *belle* as ever. She is full-grown at 15 or 16; and about 30, a great many lose their teeth.

A farm-servant has from 50 to 60 dollars per annum, board and washing always understood to be included, but there is no six o'clock here; every man and woman works from sun-rise to sun-set all the year round. Every one who has got a family makes it their study to have all the girls well instructed in sewing, reading, writing, and arithmetic. Hence the women are by far the best scholars, and they know it too.

Every farmer raises a large quantity of apples yearly. To make *apple butter*, they pare off the skins, and take out the cores: the apples are then bruised and put into large pots, with cider, and boiled till the whole appears like tar, in which state, it is laid up for use. This butter sells at 60 cents a gallon; cow's butter, at 12 cents per lb.; cheese, 6 cents per do.; coffee, 15 cents, and generally used by all; tea, one dollar per lb.; tobacco, 12 to 25 cents per do.; flour, 4 to 5 dollars per barrel, weighing 196 lb. which brings it to about a penny a pound of our money, reckoning 100 cents to the dollar; wheat, a dollar per bushel; Rye, 75 cents; Indian corn, the same; oats, 40 cents; Salt, 1 dollar; Washing for a man, 50 cents a month; making a common shirt, 25 cents; making a coat, from 5 to 8 dollars. Any tradesman has from 1 to 1½ dollars a day and found. If a woman is called by the day for washing or sewing, she has 50 cents a day, or 2s. for two days. A good cow costs 10 dollars; a work ox, 30 dollars; a good horse 60 dollars; a sheep, 1 dollar; a swine, from 1 to 2 dollars. A weekly newspaper, 2 dollars per annum, but many of the country papers are poorly conducted. Weaving a pair of stockings, 36 cents. Shoes, 2 to 3 dollars per pair, but there are no good shoes here. Boots are generally worn. Hardware of all kinds is dear: for example, an axe that weighs 6 lb. costs 2 dollars.

The manner of clearing land is this. They begin by cutting down all the small wood first: this is done with a small axe, and with such rapidity can they cut down a tree, that you would not believe it. This small wood is then collected

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in heaps and burned. Round the large trees a notch is cut : this makes them wither up, and in a few years, they fall, tearing up the roots along with them. When a good many fall, which is generally the case every winter, the farmer collects all his neighbours to what is called a rolling, which is cutting the trees into such lengths as they may be rolled into heaps, or hauled by oxen to one place, and fire set to them. The neighbours receive no wages, but consider it as what they call a *frolic*, that is, plenty to eat, and as much whisky as they can drink. It costs only 40 cents the gallon, and every other liquor in proportion. They all go home drunk, of course, but an American says, being drunk is a very small fault.

Any one who has got 500 dollars, with a very moderate industry may say he is independent of the world, and truly too. The best way of making money is for those who are judges of cattle to go to the States of Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, and Illinois, and there buy droves of them and horses ; selling them in New York or Philadelphia. The expense of driving is little, except men's wages. These people think they have driven their beasts to a bad market, if they cannot get as much for a calf as cow and calf both cost. Those who keep shops and taverns generally do well.

Every one in common conversation is called *Sir*, every woman is *Ma'am*. There are no beggars ; every city and township keep their own poor. The standing army of the United States amounts to 10,000, but every one who chooses may be a soldier ; no one, however, being compelled to become one. The soldier has to find himself in every thing except a gun. He must stand drill six days in a year, but has no pay. When he gets tired, he has only to deliver up his gun and leave the county, which clears him. Their militia in general are but a drunken rabble. I have asked some of them why they chose to spend their time and money so foolishly. Why, they say it is all for a frolic ! The Sheriffs here have to go about and make their sales, the same way as a Sheriff-Officer does with you, and every other man of business is chosen a Sheriff by the majority of the people, of whatever county it may be, at the end of every two years. If one has a law-suit, he carries it on himself, without the help of a lawyer : he is allowed time

to glean every evidence which he can to support his cause. He goes himself and informs such witnesses as he may require, that he wants their evidence before the squire, and at this warning they must attend. If any one is prosecuted for debt, he is asked how long he will want to pay it and the costs; if he says four or five years, it may be, this time will be granted to him.

The President of the United States has 25,000 dollars a-year. A member of Congress has eight dollars a-day as long as Congress sits, but no longer. The American foot soldiers wear blue or green coats, blue or white trowsers; and the trimmings are all white, both on the coat and on the trowsers. They have very high plumes in their hats. The dragoons ride little horses like Highland ponies, with long tails and manes. The men have a round crowned helmet of varnished leather, with a black ruff over it and brass trimmings; a blue jacket and pantaloons with red trimmings.

This is a fine country for girls: they could have £13 a-year, and not have to do any farm work, as the Scottish women have to do for £5 or £6.

Tobacco is sown in April and transplanted in June; it is ready to cut about the end of September. When transplanted, it soon gathers many large worms; to prevent these doing mischief, the tobacco raisers keep great flocks of turkies, which are driven to the tobacco field three or four times at first, and afterwards they go of themselves, searching every drill for these insects. Wild turkies are found in the woods, and also pheasants. There are swarms of squirrels, and many deer. Every one must have a rifle; no fowling-pieces are used. A rifle costs 16 dollars, and carries a bullet about No. 24. Every man hereabouts is a good marksman, and will kill a bird with his rifle at a great distance.

The moon and seven stars appear to be only about two or three degrees from the Zenith. The North Polar Star is considerably depressed. In the month of June, a man's shadow is only about a foot long. In July and August, you would not be more than five minutes exposed to the sun before you would be all running over with sweat. The people here are very lazy. Sometimes a farmer will keep his horses in one stable, till he will rather build a new one than clear it

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of the dung. The country houses are mostly all wood, and covered with shingles—that is, pieces of thin boards cut in the form of a slate, and put on in the same way. In the winter, the Americans lie on one feather-bed and take another above them, with a quilt over all. Men and women often marry about sixteen, and generally have large families. The children are never crossed in any thing they do;—they are, on this account, stubborn and unmannerly creatures. There are many people here from every nation in Europe; the fewest are the Scotch. If I had a Scottish woman to join her destiny to mine, I believe I might be happy, as I can see many things to make one so here, which my native country does not afford; and it is not at all improbable that I may come home for one. To say that every one would love America better than their own country, would be too much to affirm, as it depends so much on the disposition of the mind. Here they find a new world, as it were, and a new people; and it requires sometime to wean the heart, as it must be weaned from its native soil, before it can fully enjoy this one.

The frost is very severe here at present. While I am writing, the ink freezes in the pen; but there has been little snow during the winter, which is the reason why I do not like these mountains. The most troublesome fly here in the summer is the midge. Every one who is working must have a fire to keep them off. There are few mosquitoes here, but in the valleys they are dreadful. Hornets, or horse flies and gleigs are plenty; the last being called a yellow-jacket. Poultry are all called chickens. When they call on them, instead of our *chuck! chuck!* they say, *beedie! beedie!* To the cow, *suck! suck!* to the horse, *cub! cub!* The horseman says *gee!* to his horse when he wants him to be off; when to come towards him, he says—*ah, hair!*

When spring appears, the trees get into blossom, as it were by magic art. Every thing springs up with a rapidity unknown in Scotland. This is a great country for thunder storms; but I am now so hardened with them, that I care no more for them than for the wind going over my head.

A labouring man's wages in the summer, are from 16 to 18 dollars per month, and found. Fevers and agues are very prevalent in the fall and spring; but I have always as yet

enjoyed good health, better than at home, but am too negligent in my duty to that Being who has bestowed such blessings upon me. The cholera made a dreadful havoc in North and South America last year. In New Orleans, in September, they had both it and the yellow fever among them; and the people died in such numbers, that no whites could be found to perform the sepulchral duties, so they had to compel the negroes to dig large trenches and throw in the dead bodies in heaps, or take them out in boats and sink them in the river. At the present time there is no word of it in the country.

Extracts of a Letter from a Settler in Upper Canada, to his Brother in Aberdeen.

ZORRA, 22d April, 1834.

DEAR BROTHER,—Bring what money you have in gold or silver. If you do not get more than 23s. 9d. for sovereigns, bring them to Zorra; and be sure to take no United States notes; get Upper Canada notes. By the time you reach this place, I expect to have my harvest home; if I have "good luck," as the saying is, I will have plenty of wheat, pease, potatoes, Indian corn, &c. I have eight head of cattle and five pigs. I am busy felling down the "big cumberers of the ground," and getting ready my spring seeds. When you come out, bring 4 lb. of red clover seeds, 4 lb. of rye grass seed, and 4 lb. of tares, along with you. This is a fine country, it is increasing fast in population, and the conveniences of life are getting more easy to be obtained. I shall just say, that since I came here, which is now about ten months, I have not had a single day's sickness, but have been able to continue closely engaged in cutting down large trees, and preparing the ground for producing the necessaries of life. This will, no doubt, astonish you, considering the poor state of my health for two years previous to my coming to this country. The sugar season ended about two weeks ago; and a season of very hard labour it was; it requires to be watched night and day for about a month. I have made about twelve cwt. of sugar, which brings about 2 per cwt.

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Letter from the late President of the Trades' Political Union, to the Working Classes of the City of Edinburgh.

Louisville, Kentucky, 16th January, 1834.

THE last time I had the pleasure of meeting in public with the working classes of the City of Edinburgh, I promised that, as soon after my arrival in this country as I could get information to guide me, I would transmit to them my opinion of the state of the operatives here, compared with their situation in Scotland. I would have done it sooner had I not been anxious to avoid erroneous statements, too liable to be made on first impressions.

I have now been seven months in the country, and as part of that time was taken up in endeavouring to procure employment for myself and family, and a part in engaging the work of others, I have come in contact with the employer and the employed, and have thus had opportunities of knowing the encouragement to be hoped for by the latter. I was some time in the cities of New York and Philadelphia; I voyaged by the York Canal to Buffalo, on Lake Erie, and on the waters of that lake to Cleveland; then by the Ohio Canal, and river of that name, to this thriving city of Louisville; and in every city, town, or village where I stopped, I made it my duty to inquire into the situation of the working man, and the result of these inquiries I shall, as pledged, lay before you:—

To intending emigrants, and more especially to those who calculate on having to work "from morning sun, until the grass is wet with evening dew," the healthiness of the country to which they intend to remove is a very important subject for consideration; and I am afraid my residence here has been too short to make my opinion of value; however, I think much more favourably of it in that respect than I did before my arrival here; and my family, always a healthy one, never was at any time so eminently so as since they came here. New settlements are unhealthy, and are expected to be so, from the presence of vast masses of decomposing vegetable matter and stagnant water pools; these disappear under cultivation, when the woods are cut and the water drained off; and the health of the country has improved, and will continue to do so.

Another important subject for the consideration of the intending emigrant is the constitution and government of the country he wishes to adopt, and here the working man will find himself enjoying a more exalted station in society than his brother in Britain; here he is not declared by act of parliament to be of an inferior grade, nor placed by an odious and insulting line of demarcation beyond the pale of political existence;—here he is a citizen, and, enjoying to the full extent the privileges of one, he is bound to the discharge of the duties of this situation;—participating in the government of his country, he gives it his zealous support, and respects those laws which he has a voice in framing. The working classes, from their numbers, are an influential body, and no policy could long exist if deemed inimical to their interests.

While I think, there is not that in the climate of the country to deter people of sound constitution from entering it, and being of opinion that the constitution of its government is calculated to promote his interests, I have no hesitation in saying that the working man would better his condition by exchanging Britain for this—because he would have a better price for his labour, and pay less for that from which labour is produced—food. I cannot in this communication give so detailed an account of the price of labour and the price of provisions as I could wish; but I shall have room to state some particulars, sufficient, I hope, to bear me out in the above opinion. That the statements I make may be understood, I may premise that money accounts are kept in dollars and cents. One dollar is divided into 100 cents, and at New York a sovereign (20s.) is equal to 4 dollars 76 cents, so that a cent and a halfpenny are much the same. The dollar has its division in silver—its half, a 50 cent piece—its quarter, 25 cents—its eighth, 12½ cents—and its sixteenth, 6¼ cents. The dollar is also divided into shillings, most capriciously varying in different States; in New York, into 8; in Pennsylvania, into 7; here, in Kentucky, into 6. I mention this in case any of you should have had communications in which money is mentioned in shillings. I will only use dollars and cents. The bushel is the Winchester, some three or four per cent. less than the imperial. The gallon is the old English wine measure, one-sixth less than your imperial; and the pound is the avoirdupois or imperial. A

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In a new country like this, where the elegant comforts of the old world are but partially introduced, there is not that demand for the labour of those who work in the fabrication of luxuries as there is for hands to be employed on works of sheer utility. Physical strength is more in request than scientific acquirements; and the wages of the mere labourer approach nearer to those of the finished artist than they do with you. Internal improvements have been rapidly progressing; and canals and railroads have been made, and are being made, to a great extent, and are projected to a much greater, giving present and promising future employment to thousands of thousands—to those who work in the mining, melting, moulding, and forging of iron—to those who are cunning in wood, from the felling of the tree to the finished job—to quarrymen, labourers, and masons, to brickmakers and bricklayers—do these national works present a seemingly inexhaustible fund for employment. Nor is it to them alone that the artisan has to look—private enterprise is doing much, and the rapid growth of towns and extension of steam power in “flood and field,” keep at work boat-builders, machinists, engineers, carpenters, plasterers, painters, &c. &c. Indeed, it is not easy to say which is the best trade; but very fine tradesmen in the cabinet-making, book-binding, and painting lines, though they would find employment in the Atlantic cities, would not generally have their work appreciated; yet these are good trades otherwise. Saddlers, shoemakers, tailors, and hatters, are good trades; indeed I do not know of an ill one, but moneyless gentlemen, and these do not belong to the working classes. Printers, I believe, are less paid in proportion to other trades than with you, and clerks and book-keepers do not get more for a few years than labourers' wages, but when they are steady, and get into the confidence of their employers, they ultimately do well. There is not much aristocracy of trade here, and two Scotch proverbs are nearly falsified,—“Jack of all trades, master of none;” it requires a “master of all work” to be at home here. Again you say,—“Ae good head is worth twa pair o' hands;” but if you cannot lay down your hands here, the head work will not much serve you.

The prices of work will, of course, vary in different parts of the Union, but I believe the price of provisions will make the wages of equal value, though in the west and south the wages bear a higher proportion to provisions than "down east." I do not think I am far wrong in estimating the amount of a working man's wages for a whole day, in the Western States, or in the Union, out of the few manufacturing States, including labourers at public works, but excluding agriculturists, at one and one-third dollar a-day, without provisions, (£1 13s. 4d. weekly); labourers have 75 or 100 cents; carpenters, one and a quarter to one and a half dollar; masons, bricklayers, &c. the same; first-rate blacksmiths, engineers, pattern-makers, &c. have from one and a half to two dollars; saddlers and tailors, at piece-work, make two dollars, and always where piece-work is done the wages can be made better. The amount of a wage is good or bad by the length it will go in the market; and the following will exhibit, in a striking light, the difference betwixt a labourer's daily wage here and in Edinburgh, employed in an important branch of his expenditure:—

Louisville: 100 cents, 4s. 2d., or 25lbs. of beef, or 50lbs. of flour, or 6 bushels of coals, or 128 gills of whisky.

Edinburgh: 40 cents, 1s. 8d., or 5lbs. of beef, or 10lbs. of flour, or 4 bushels of coals, or 5 gills of whisky!

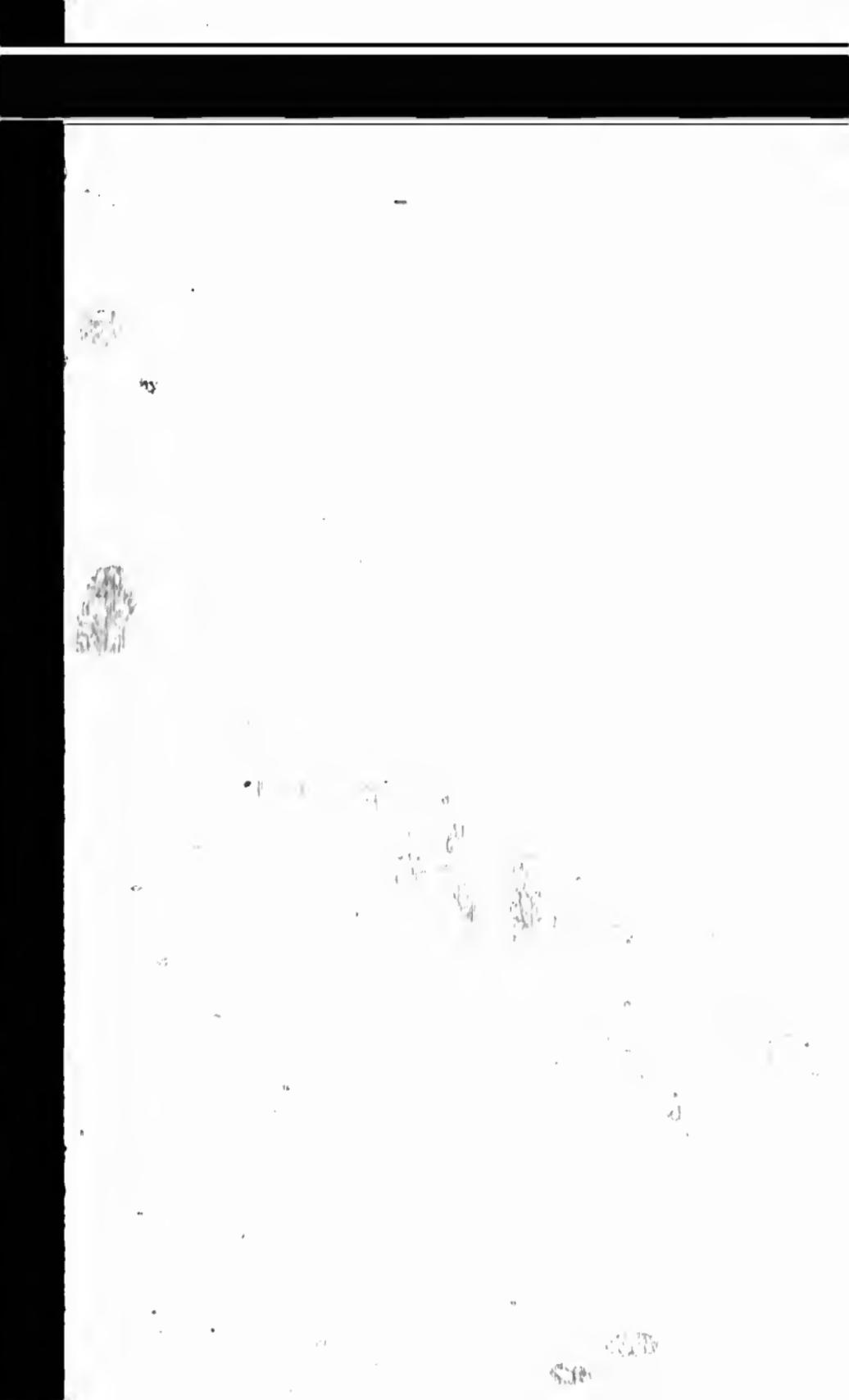
Flour sells by the barrel, or half barrel, at two cents a lb.; corn meal, equal in nourishment to oatmeal, at less than one cent; beef, very good, per lb. four cents, by the quarter at three; mutton, not good, by the lb. two and a half to three cents, by the *bulk* at two; pork the same as beef; chickens a dollar per dozen; turkeys fifty to a hundred cents; a goose twenty-five to fifty; vegetables are much the same as in Edinburgh; potatoes a little dearer, about thirty-seven and a half cents the bushel; and apples and turnips the same price. Milk is high, but few tradesmen there are that do not keep a cow,—one costs fifteen dollars; there are plenty of open lands around most cities for their grazing, which is common while uninclosed, and they never house them. Sugar is 12½ cents per lb., and tea 50 to 150. Fine cloths are 75 to 100 per cent. dearer than in Edinburgh; seconds 50, and coarse 10 to 20. House rents are high; but allowing a man in either country to set aside one half of his wages for house

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rent, fuel, and clothing, he would still be better lodged, warmed, and clad, by this appropriation, here than with you. I have conversed with many Scotsmen here, and all agree that industry is sure to be rewarded.

In all I have said, it has related to the situation of the individuals while engaged in the mechanical employments they have been bred to; and I would strenuously advise them to eschew the agricultural profession until some time's residence in this country makes them better judges of the place to locate themselves on; much capital has been lost—many lives sacrificed, and misery entailed on the survivors, by an overweening anxiety to be a "Laird." There is something so pleasant in the idea of sitting under one's own vine, and under one's own fig tree, that men naturally incline to the country. I do not blame this; but I advise one year's residence, at least, before fixing. I will illustrate my meaning by an example:—In harvest last I had the pleasure of spending a couple of days with an old acquaintance, Mr. T. Purdie, who owns a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in the state of Indiana, ten miles from this city. His is a fertile farm, and I was proud to see it so well cultivated—he being a native of the same parish with myself, and I having given him his first agricultural instructions. He left Scotland in 1817, with nothing but good health and industrious habits. Though bred to a country life, he went to work at a foundry, paid attention to what was going on around him, became a competent engineer, made money, and bought his farm; and it is worth, with stock, about 3,000 dollars. I have fallen in with other individuals whom I knew in Scotland, who are doing well; and I must also say, that there have instances of failure come under my notice; some of these were under circumstances that could not be foreseen, but many were from causes ordinary prudence might have avoided. To beware of speculation, to be industrious and sober, is all that is wanted to insure success.

The want of society has been held up as an objection to this country,—but, pray, what enjoyment in society has the half-starved mechanic? People are not so well informed here as in Scotland, but the cautious and discriminating may find a circle of acquaintance with whom to enjoy a friendly and rational intercourse. Books are cheap; periodical pub-



lications the same; Blackwood's Magazine costs less than with you; and the most valuable English works are comestable by men of very moderate income. In the country there may, for a time, be a lack of good society, but not to be much felt by the family-man, who enjoys "his witching wife's wile," and "his bonnie bairnies' smile," at the kindly glow of "his ain fireside," undisturbed by "pinching want," unincumbered by "lordly wealth," who has "a penny ay to ware," "and aiblins makin' mair,"—such do not feel much the want of other society.

Most cities and villages have good seminaries for the education of children; the want of schools is severely felt in the thinly-settled districts; ready access to respectable religious instruction is had all over the Union; there are Presbyterian churches in every city of any note; Methodist chapels are frequently found in the desert.

Men with families find no difficulty in getting them employed. Boys at apprenticeships are boarded, lodged, and clothed by their master, sit at table with him, and are like his sons; girls, as helps, get, if fifteen years, one to two dollars per week; they can make well out in sewing; and washing is well paid for. Journeymen who do not board with their masters do so in boarding-houses, and pay two to two and a half dollars per week; they have butcher meat three times a-day, and frequently fowls, and almost always fruit pies.

To any who wish to emigrate it may be useful information to know the amount of money requisite to transport them; it is less than many have an idea of, for almost all are too extravagant in their sea stores; no person need take other than oatmeal or potatoes, and may be, if they can afford it, a little butter, sugar, and treacle:— $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. potatoes, 5s.; four pecks oatmeal, 4s.; four pounds butter, 3s.; four pounds sugar, 3s.; four pounds treacle, 1s.; in all 16s. is sufficient stock for a man. Take no three-footed pot, if you would save your porridge, but a flat-bottomed sauce-pan, with handle; no tin cups, if you would not nauseate your drink; and have a barrel for your water to hinge, if you would not lose it. Take an upper berth, as forward as you can get it, but never occupy it but to sleep; for fear of the worst, take a good allowance of Epsom salts, and a few doses of calomel

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or castor oil. On arriving at port, you will, of course, have to go with one of the many boarding-house keepers who will be there to entreat you, but you can remove if you find them uncomfortable. If any of you should penetrate this far, you may be sure of all the assistance I can give you.

I am your sincere friend,

JOHN PRENTICE.

Extracts from a Letter, dated the 9th of March, 1834, from a Gentleman in Greene County, Illinois, United States, to his Friend in Aberdeen.

IN regard to your coming here, I feel a great responsibility when I attempt to advise you. There is much to induce you to emigrate, and much on the other hand to plead for your remaining in your own native land. Here you will find every thing in the freshness of nature, compared with Great Britain. Our soil is fertile, and can be purchased at one dollar and a quarter, per acre, of the government. This sum, which is but little, if any, over 5s. sterling, is less than you pay for the rent of land that requires much more labour to render it productive. Our taxes are thought here to be high, and not a few grumble at paying them. I have read enough to know that we pay less than any other well-governed people on the globe. The tax on 160 acres of cultivated land is less than half a-pound sterling. We have no tithes and no other taxes to pay. To a man who has children, it must be pleasing to bring them to a land where they can easily become the owners of the soil which they cultivate, and where they will have before them the certain prospect of wealth and respectability, if they are industrious and economical. I say nothing of any advantage of a political nature. I am a Republican, but I am not so bigotted as to believe that a Republican form of government is the only one that affords happiness to a people. In all probability, a limited monarchy is far better for Great Britain than any other government. But here, I have never yet seen a man who was

not a Republican, at least by profession. Foreigners unacquainted with our country imagine a division of the United States on the eve of taking place; but there is not the least danger of it. Not an election takes place for the most petty office, in managing which the newspapers do not make some horrible alarm. Here we know how to take them.

You speak of Stuart's Travels. In some respects he is correct, in others he was most grossly mistaken, and egregiously quizzed by individuals of whom he made inquiries. I wish I had the means of sending you a review of his Travels which appeared in the Western Monthly Magazine. Nearly every traveller from Great Britain shockingly misrepresents us; probably honestly. The stories of shooting men, goading out eyes, biting off noses, &c., are all romances of times, which, if they ever existed, were before my remembrance. Were a man to strike another he would be tried for it here, as quick as in Great Britain, and punished as certainly. It is astonishing the stories that are told of us by travellers, and even by some of those who know better, and who have received every kindness at our hands—every hospitality that we could heap upon them.

I will not pretend that we are as refined as you are. You would leave behind you many comforts and many conveniences. You would find that, in spite of all the plenty that reigned around you, many of the scenes of your early years would rise up, and the image of many a friend whom you could behold no more, would embitter an occasional hour. If you had the fortitude to endure trifling privations, when substantial good was before you;—if the idea of leaving your children in independent circumstances;—if the enjoyment of all the comforts of life in the utmost profusion;—and, if the sight of no one who had not a plenty of wholesome food, could pay you for such privations, you might be contented and even happy. All labour is well paid, and provisions cheap. A mechanic, by a day's labour, can purchase two bushels of wheat, or four of Indian corn, or four of potatoes, or fifty pounds of pork, or seventy-five of beef, &c. A common labourer half that. Each one is found in food and receives that rate of wages. Our mode of farming is very different from your's. One man manages from 25 to 30 acres of Indian corn. Wheat is sowed between the rows

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of corn and ploughed in. We plough our land but once before putting the seed into the ground. Our wheat crop yields 25 to 35 bushels per acre. Our wheat harvest commences earlier than yours. The last harvest commenced here 20th June. Our immense prairies afford fine pasturage for cattle, free of expense. Cattle rarely require any fodder in the winter, consequently the raising of a cow or an ox is a very trifling expense. Hogs are not fed except a short time before they are killed. They are taken from the forest, where they fatten on the mast, or nuts, and kept in a sty, for a week or more, and fed on Indian corn. The pork is cheap, but as good as any in the world, perhaps. If you come here, New Orleans is the port for you to land at. You could then come by water the whole distance and save half the expense; but New Orleans is in a hot climate, and you must land there between October and March.

FROM THE SAME.

Extract from a Letter addressed to the Rev. Joseph Ivimey, and published in the Baptist Magazine for October, 1833.

BLUFFDALE is situated east of the Illinois river, not far from its junction with the Mississippi. The houses of this settlement are along the base of a "Bluff," which is a solid perpendicular wall of calcareous rock, about two hundred feet high, extending six miles north and south. Almost at the edge of this wall is a chain of hills in the shape of cones, which rise two hundred feet higher; making an elevation of more than four hundred feet. The Bluff is here and there broken by narrow ravines, which afford the only access to the high woodlands immediately behind it, and to the country beyond. At the base of the Bluff commences a smooth, level prairie of the richest soil, and without even a shrub. It extends to the Illinois river, the western boundary of the settlement, a distance of four miles. Our farms occupy only a narrow belt along the base of the Bluff, while all beyond

them, to the river, is one immense plain, covered, in the warm seasons, with luxuriant grass, intermingled with flowers of every hue, most of which are yet unknown to botanists. Tens of thousands of cattle might find here rich pasturage. The view from the Bluffs is one of loveliness. The smooth, level *prairie* beyond the cultivated fields is dotted with cattle, and often with wild deer. The Illinois river with its steam-boats is seen for many miles. It is now but eleven years since this romantic settlement as well as the region around it, was peopled only with savage Indians. We have yet but two hundred inhabitants within a space of six miles long by four wide. Our principal market is the city of New Orleans, distant about 1200 miles by the river. Our soil is as fertile as any in the United States, and in no other place are the common necessaries of life more abundant, or more easily obtained.

*Extracts from a Letter, dated 11th February, 1834, at
St. Clair River, Upper Canada.*

We have all experienced excellent health since our arrival in this country, notwithstanding the numerous hardships we had to encounter during a tedious and stormy passage to Quebec, and an inland journey of 1200 miles to St. Clair River. Any person coming to this western district, I would most decidedly advise to come by New York, as the safest, shortest, and, to many a great consideration, cheapest way. From my stay in the country, and my travels through it, I can, without hesitation, say, that it is excellent. There is no fear of making a livelihood; nay, an independence in a short time. The climate is very moderate; we have had only one snow storm all winter, and that, not by any means severe, as we have not been prevented for a single day from following our out-door occupations. Here cattle are never housed. Good beef brings 8 dollars per barrel of 200 lbs.; best mess-pork from 12 to 14 dollars; very best flour, about 6 dollars, varying according to the distance it has to be conveyed from market. Labourers receive from 3s. 9d. to a dollar per day—tradesmen much more. About Quebec,

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Montreal, Halifax, and St. John's, Nova Scotia, the winters are dreadfully severe. If ever you intend to emigrate, go not, I beg, to any of them. In my worldly pursuits, I have succeeded beyond expectation, considering the low state of my funds when I left Leith. And, believe me, when we arrived at York, I had but a single shilling in my possession. However, I sold several articles to good advantage, on the produce of which we subsisted for two months.

We keep a few boarders, Scotsmen, from near Edinburgh. My wife washes for 9 or 10 gentlemen in the neighbourhood, and bakes bread for nearly the same number; so that, when she has constant employment, she can earn a dollar per day. I work to a gentleman of the name of M'Crea, from whom we have our house free.

I lately made a speculation in purchasing 1200 acres of land near York. My friend J.— L.— having advanced me money; and by the afternoon of the day on which I received it, I was enabled to re-pay him, by my selling 1000 acres of my purchase; by which transaction, I still retain 200 acres, and have pocketed £22 currency. Urge my brothers to come out, if ever they wish to free themselves from bondage; this is the land of independence to the industrious—the soil that will repay the labourer for the sweat of his brow—and where grinding lairds that harass and oppress the poor of Scotland, are unknown.

Extracts from a Letter by a Clergyman, dated, "Perth, Upper Canada, 8th March, 1834," to a Correspondent at Quebec.

A great many Scotch bonnets are sold in Perth, U.C. Boys' bonnets sell for about 1s. 3d., and men's from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d. according to the size. I am informed, however, that there is reason for supposing that these articles can be imported and sold at a lower rate than they can be manufactured here. Government has no land in the township of Drummond to dispose of, that is worth taking. Land, however, may be bought at any time from private individuals, varying in price according to its distance from the town.

As to farming, with a family able and willing to work, your friend may live very comfortably. Without assistance, however, he could not attend both to his business and his farm, and labourer's wages are very high.

I do not like to take it upon me to advise your friend either to come here or not to come. There are few people accustomed to comfortable circumstances at home who like this country at first; but most settlers become fond of it after a short residence.

*Extracts from a Letter dated Quebec, July 30, 1833,
to a person in Aberdeen.*

QUEBEC is a fine stirring town, and great trade carried on in it; but for my own part, I prefer Montreal. For an emigrant, Quebec does not present very flattering prospects, unless he has had a situation in view before leaving home. House-rents rate as follows:—For a small room and kitchen, 4 dollars per month, paid either monthly or quarterly; and, from the length and severity of the winter season, £5 at least is expended for fuel alone, by any working family during that season. Those who come out to this country will have many hardships and privations to encounter. In the upper province, workmen's wages are from 5s. to 7s. per day; here, not quite so much—indeed, they may think themselves well off here who receive at the average, 4s. all the year round. Of any thing that man can put his hand to for a comfortable subsistence, the pursuit of agriculture is decidedly the most promising; but, even in that pursuit, many hardships are to be met with at the outset.

*From an Aberdeenshire Farmer, who went out last year,
to examine the prospects which Canada and the United
States hold out to Agriculturists.*

BUFFALO, State of New York, 18th March, 1834.

MY DEAR UNCLE, — A friend writes me that you have given up your farm, and that you propose coming to this

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country soon. I congratulate you upon this, and most sincerely hope you may have a short and pleasant voyage across the Atlantic. Many of your friends, I suppose, will be rather opposed to your taking such a step; but of the propriety of which you must be the best judge. I shall offer no advice upon the subject, in case you might be disappointed on arrival; but rather than return and farm at my old rent, I would be inclined to sacrifice two-thirds of my capital. If you could get a part of the steerage partitioned off, and find your own provisions, you would be far more comfortable and independent than in the Cabin. Lay in a good stock of meal, potatoes, sowen-side, cheese, hams, and some whisky, with which you will require to mix the water before the end of the voyage, to render it palatable. You ought by all means to come by New York. The voyage is much safer, often shorter, and the transportation from that to York in Canada is cheaper than from Quebec. Before landing any of your luggage, you ought to contract with some of the forwarding merchants to forward it to your place of destination, and get it removed from the ship direct to their boats, which will save a good deal of expense. If you will call on Isaac Van Olinda, 15, South Street, New York, and say that I recommended him, he will forward your goods on moderate terms, and give you any advice you may be in want of. Get your sovereigns changed at some of the brokers, for bills of the United States Bank, as they are the only bills that pass at par through any part of the States or Canada. I expect you will get about 4 dollars and 75 cents for them. Bring no copper or half-crowns with you; but some shillings, which will pass at 22 cents, will be useful. Before getting your gold sold, if you are afraid to carry sovereigns with you, a draft from any of the banks might be got upon a house in New York, which would be the safer way, although not the most profitable at present. Get your packages all marked and numbered, and beware you do not lose sight of any of them without getting a receipt. Dr. M. who came out with me, got his whole bedding stolen from one of the boats upon the Erie Canal, and could have no recourse. Endeavour to decide, before starting, about what place you will locate, and then your route will be easily settled. If you propose settling near York, you will leave

the Erie Canal at Rochester—but if near Lake Erie, come on to this place. Bring no implements with you, as they can be purchased here much better adapted for the country, and the expense of transportation would almost equal the purchase price. There is neither rye grass nor green kail in this country—both very profitable articles for the farmer—I think you should bring some seeds of both along with you. If you make any stop in New York, I would recommend Harrison's Hotel, 76, Dey Street. The landlord is from the Old Country, and particularly attentive to emigrants; and his waiter, (Robert) is quite a gentleman, and will give you any information you may want. He taught me to understand the currency of the country, and I have no doubt will be of the same service to you. I intend to settle in Chicago, a Village at the head of Lake Michigan, in the state of Illinois. Last spring it contained 150 inhabitants, but has now increased to 1000.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

[It may be here observed, in reference to the route by New York being so much preferable to that by Quebec, that the Grenville Canal, being now opened, and thus completing the navigable water for steamers from Montreal to Lake Ontario, the case is materially altered. Formerly when the only water carriage was by the St. Lawrence, and through its dangerous rapids to Prescott, the delays, and expenses, and risk were very great; but these are now past.]

*Extracts of a Letter from a Settler at Zorra, Upper
Canada, dated 27th of April, 1834.*

I cannot at present see how you could possibly get land of your own for nothing here. The time was when a poor man, unable to buy land, could have located himself on what we call a *reserved lot*, without being troubled for instalments for many years; and then, when he found himself able, put in for the lot and buy it—but this is now all

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done away with. Wild land here is, in general, about 15s. an acre; one-fifth of which (some say, now, one-third) must be paid on entry. I hinted to you, in my last, the difficulty of procuring land.

*Extracts of a Letter dated Whitby, Upper Canada,
April 10, 1834.*

MY DEAR SIR,—After landing at Quebec, I went, by steam-boat, to Montreal, thence to Yankee land. I have nothing to say against the country or the people; but I could cheerfully have left it and returned to "Auld Scotland." I had made up my mind to return home in the fall of the year; but, in the meantime, determined to see Upper Canada. I, therefore, returned to Montreal, thence to Prescott, in a Durham boat. The passage was very tedious, the wind being contrary. The boats are drawn up the rapids by horses and oxen. Sometimes they require 4 or 5 teams, each horseman carries a large knife, to cut the rope, if so be that the boat should prove too much for them. It is in contemplation to deepen the St. Lawrence in some places, and to make it navigable for vessels of from two to three hundred tons burden. I left Prescott for York, then came down to Whitby, passing through the townships of Scarborough and Pickering. In the neighbourhood of York, the land, in general, is scarce worth the cultivating. Scarborough, on the whole, is a very poor township—that of Pickering, pretty good. Whitby is considered one of the finest in the province. The land here has of late risen very much in price. The population is rapidly increasing—in summer, by emigrants from the old country—and in winter, by others from the lower province. There are a good many Scotch folks settled here, and many of them have considerable property—it is pleasant to be amongst one's own countrymen in a distant land like this. I am always very glad when I see a Scotch face. I engaged with a farmer when I came to this township last summer. I have had no cause to repent of it, as I have had an opportunity of making myself acquainted with the customs of the country. I can now distinguish good

land from bad, by the kinds of wood that grow on it. You will have heard, I daresay, that the town of York has been incorporated, and its name changed to Toronto. It was formerly called Little York, but that was too mean a name for the capital of this thriving province. The price of farm produce is, at present, low. Wheat, 3s. 6d.; barley, 2s. 6d.; pease, 2s. 6d.; oats, 1s. 1d. per bushel—this is little more than half what it was last year at this time. The climate is extremely moderate—more so than in Scotland. I conceived it had been much more on the extremes of heat and cold than it really is. Emigrants do not, in general, like this country when they first arrive; indeed, it is scarcely to be expected that they should, it is so different from home. I have already said that I did not like it; but now my opinion is changed. I would not return to Scotland on any account, as I am sure I can do much better here. Last year, I chanced to see two young lads from Aberdeenshire, immediately after their arrival here, very home-sick, wishing they were back again, and calling themselves fools for having left Deeside. I met one of them about five weeks after this. "Well, have you become more reconciled to this country now?" I asked him. "If I were compelled," said he, "to return to Scotland, and had not the wherewithal to pay my passage out again, I would conceal myself under the hatchway of one of the vessels about to sail, and thereby return to America." Farmers can do very well here; and, although they may say that they cannot make money, still, if they make their property worth money, it amounts to almost the same thing. Say a person had come to Whitby three or four years ago, and laid out money upon land in its natural state; at present, it would be worth double what he paid for it, although he had not cut a tree upon it. Tradesmen and labourers can win double, (that is, by-the-by, dependent on their industry and sobriety), what they can do in Scotland. The Yankees and Canadians are very bad farmers, they seldom manure their land, and are so lazy that they will rather remove the barn than clear it of the dung. You will be surprised that the barn should be a receptacle for this; but, it is generally all the offices they have in this country—some of the largest measure 75 feet long by 35 broad. The stable is on one end of it, and at the

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other a shed in which cattle and swine are kept. I have never seen a barn removed, but I know the way in which they do it. Rollers are placed underneath the fabric—the neighbours receive notice that such a thing is about to take place—thirty or forty teams of oxen are then yoked to the barn, and pull it to the place where the owner wishes it removed. An acquaintance of mine intends returning shortly to Edinburgh, and what do you think is the cause of his voyage? Why, a wife's the cause. He is determined for a Scotchwoman; and I think he is very right. This says little for the lasses of this country. For my own part, I consider them too extravagant in their mode of living. Doubtless there are exceptions to this; but they are few and far between. The Yankees say, they don't like "em 'ere old country people" except they bring money with them.— There appears to be a general dislike between the natives and the emigrants; consequently, the latter are desirous of having their own countrymen as neighbours.

THE EMIGRANT'S PROSPECTS IN CANADA.

(From Fergusson's Tour.)

I WOULD now wish to offer a few remarks to those who feel disposed to emigrate, from a view rather to prospective advantage than from the call of stern necessity, or from inability to provide for a numerous family at home. Assuming such an individual to be a man of sober habits, by which I would be understood to mean not merely a distaste for debauchery, but of a temperament which derives its chief enjoyment from the domestic circle, and from useful and rational pursuits; to such a man, I am not afraid to say, that Canada holds out an inviting field of enterprize and profitable occupation. Let him not, however, suppose that he is just at once to bask in the full glare of prosperity. Many *disagré-mens* await him, but none which a man of ordinary discretion and perseverance will be long of surmounting. The circumstances, connexions, and habits of individuals are so various and so opposite, that it would be vain to draw up a scheme of settlement suitable or palatable to all. Nothing, however,

is more certain than this, that here, as in all human arrangements, much benefit may be derived from combined efforts. For such a purpose, my own wish would be to form a small association of colonists, who would go to market for a tract of land suited to their purpose, and which there can be no doubt they would procure in a large block, and for a price to be paid down, upon very advantageous terms. Having made the purchase, let each individual be immediately put in absolute possession of his own estate. Future arrangements would be dictated by circumstances; and self-interest, the most efficient of all agents, could be easily brought to bear upon the good of all. Artisans, machinery, live-stock, with many other requisites, could be procured, at a remunerating rate for a community, which would never have paid a return to individual settlers, and a prosperous advance might soon be looked for. Of course, I cannot be supposed to contemplate a communion of property, or such-like wise-headed dreams; but the mutual solace and comfort of ten or a dozen respectable families thus planted together, is beyond any estimate we can form. Sickness and death itself would be shorn of many terrors to the head of a family, when thus assured of his little ones having kind and willing friends around him, embarked in the same concern, and yet having no temptation to injure or defraud. Objections to such a plan may be raised upon the ground of human fickleness and whim, and certainly the selection would require to be made with strict attention to character and sense; but no insuperable difficulty presents itself to my mind, which should prevent it from being carried into successful operation. I would have the stock agreed upon placed in the hands of respectable agents, as the Upper Canada Bank, or a bank at home, a small committee appointed, and power given to make a purchase, and to have it surveyed and divided, and each man's portion set off by lot, or in such other way as might be preferred. Should any special advantage, as a mill-power, gypsum-quarry, &c. accrue to one portion of the property, it might be again appropriated by lot, or have such conditions attached to it, for common behoof, as would place all the parties on a par.

Our farming interests at home have been severely scourged of late years, and capital has been, at each revolving term,

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compelled to meet demands, which profits, reasonably expected, ought to have supplied. Nor is it, perhaps, the least lamentable part of the case, that, notwithstanding the too palpable loss before their eyes, scarce a farm comes into the market without a very general competition. How shall we seek to solve conduct so much at variance with ordinary discretion? Perhaps it frequently arises from a man having grown up to middle life, with his habits and views fixed beyond a change; or, again, with a valuable stock in hand, for which no adequate price is to be had,—in such a predicament, there scarce remains for him a choice but to venture upon another cast.

Many are the worthy and respectable men of this description, who may certainly better their condition by a removal to Canada; at the same time, it is a serious step, not to be lightly adopted, and which, above all, they should remember, cannot, with safety, consistency, or credit, be retraced. In Canada, he will become proprietor *in fee simple* of lands, at a rate per acre, which would scarce pay half of his yearly rent at home; but this is only to be effected at a sacrifice of early ties and connexions, and by a cheerful submission to many privations and *botherations*, which will require a steady and cheerful temper to surmount. Upper Canada certainly appears to me blessed with all the solid materials of human happiness, independence, and comfort.

We hear occasionally of individuals returning to Europe, filled with disappointment, and railing without mercy against Canada or the States. I have met with some of these, and have no hesitation in denouncing them as indolent and weak, or as persons who have come out puffed up with imaginary notions of their own qualifications and deserts. I assert that no sober, steady, industrious man, with expectations and desires under reasonable control, ever yet lived to repent his removal either to Canada or to the States. Many annoyances and privations may attend his progress; but in the darkest hour, while health remains, he can see his way to a happy issue of his cares. If such be the case with him who labours for his daily bread, it applies no less to the moderate capitalist who can afford to hire assistance on his farm. The man who can bring out £1000 or £1500, and command an income of £100 or £200 besides, may enjoy in Canada as



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much comfort, and as many luxuries, as generally fall to the human lot. Society, roads, field-sports, &c. certainly differ much from what he may have been accustomed to; but still the *materiel* of enjoyment is there, and requires only a cheerful disposition to welcome it, in the form which it here assumes.

It has neither been my intention nor my wish to induce my countrymen to exchange their homes. I would have all who are in affluence and in comfort, to remain where they are; and let those only who know the biting truth of "*Res angustæ domi*," or whose minds are perplexed with anxious cares for those dearer to them than their own heart's blood, come to Upper Canada. If they possess well-regulated minds, and reasonable funds, I venture to assure them that they will never repent the step. It may be said that I am partial to the province, and I readily admit the fact. I liked it at first, and I feel satisfied that I shall continue to like it better the longer I know it. It wants what the mother country can well spare—*capital* and *people*. Let these continue to flow in as they have done for two years past, and the wilderness will assume an aspect which can hardly be anticipated or described. Many well-meaning individuals at home regard this with jealousy and dread. Let them cast their fears to the winds. Great Britain has been evidently intended to act as the work-shop of the world. Her attainments in science, and her fostering care of education, her mineral stores, with her internal and external navigation, may secure to her the custom of all nations, or, at all events, of scions from the parent stock, which continue to prosper by the connexion. Then may we hail the day, when that unfortunate *product* which has of late years occasioned so much misery in the United Kingdom, will come to be acknowledged as a blessing, rather than deplored as a curse.

Thousands on thousands of hardy labourers may be sent to cultivate the fertile acres of Canada, who will, themselves, become important customers to Manchester and Birmingham, and will raise up a progeny trained to devote their own labour to the clearing fresh portions of the forest, and to look to Britain for their various supplies. Neither are we to forget the important encouragement which such a state of things would hold out to the *strong arm* of Britain. How

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would her shipping then increase; and what a nursery of hardy seamen would there not here be found!

Extracts of a Letter from a Gentleman who has been three years in the United States, to his Friends in Aberdeenshire.

— MICHIGAN TERRITORY, 23d March, 1834.

DEAR FRIENDS,—In case you decide upon coming to this country, all I can say is this, that the longer I am here I like it the better,—it is a lovely and a noble country; and any one, I conceive, must find pleasure here, if they have not lost all relish for nature. If you *do* come to this country I will answer for your happiness, or I am much deceived; but by no means think of it, if you expect to become, or live as ladies and gentlemen, or to make fortunes, &c., unless you call a good farm, which supplies all the necessaries of life—a fortune; and a country where there are none to despise you, and where you live as free as air. We have had a pleasant and short winter; and now spring is making its advances, and I am busy about my farming operations, making a garden, &c. I have got several hundred wild plum-trees upon my farm; cherries, and strawberries in great abundance, which I am transplanting into my garden; and I intend to get apple trees, peaches, gooseberries, and currants, &c. The soil is abundantly rich, and every thing seems to thrive; but last autumn, there was a great deal of sickness and ague, often whole families together; and I suppose, upon the whole, one-half of the population were affected, and some have not yet got over it. My wife nor myself have not had the least of it. It is supposed this will be as healthy, if not more so, than most of the American countries. All new settled countries are subject to ague, but it leaves as the country gets cultivated; and if ordinary care is taken, it is not a dangerous disease.

In transcribing my ideas respecting this country, as they are impressed upon my mind by things around me, my reasoning is founded upon my previous studies of the histories of nations, political economy, and the laws which govern

population, by which, I believe, God intended that man should emigrate to new countries, and I now feel it no punishment. I feel this as much *home* as any place I ever was in;—and that this is a country of *Hope*, and your's one of *Fear* in every thing that regards the future, which in itself, I believe, makes two-thirds of a man's existence, and probably one-third of a woman's; this is the reason that women do not transplant so well as men, they do not change their habits so easily, they are more sensitive, and live more in present enjoyment than men; yet all, both men and women, seem to take root and thrive in this goodly soil.

Men get here from 8 to 15 dollars per month, with board; I could, therefore, afford to pay the passage of a man, and give him a farm of 80 acres of excellent land, for about two years work. It is true, one coming from the old country would be awkward at a great many things here at first, but he would soon learn.

I say, if any one has money to defray the expenses of coming here, and sees no prospect of doing well in his own country, and can muster up resolution for the journey and change of circumstances, I do not think he will repent of his coming hither—I have as yet seen none who do; and I feel perfectly contented and happy with my present life and future prospects. If you think of coming here, you must try to save a little money to begin with—buy as few fine new clothes as you can, and live as cheap as possible. And remember, that every 5s. you save will purchase an acre of land. Keep yourself stout and hardy, and bring up your children so, too. An American farmer is, I believe, the happiest and most independent of human beings; he lives in comfort and abundance, makes his own government and laws, and knows not what fear or care is. They are all more or less educated—all intelligent, and as friendly and polite as one feels it convenient to be, or useful; and who ought to wish for more? I do not. A mere gentleman or lady will most certainly not like this country, for they will not be more respected than a poor man; and they will find none who will serve them as their servants will in the old country. In the strawberry season, you may have 10,000 acres of them for the pulling: plenty of blackberries, blaeberreries, plums, and all wild, and excellent for preserves: then we have cucum-

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bers, pumpkins, squashes, and a great many other excellent fruits; but we have not got time for apples, peaches, &c. If any of you determine to come out here, dispose of every thing unnecessary, as it will cost you about 3d. per lb. to bring it here, after you have it at New York; but on the sea passage it will cost you nothing. You must lay in a good stock of clothes, *not fine*, but coarse warm clothing for winter and for work; plenty of stockings, worsted mits, napkins, flannel, shoes, and boots, a night and day cap, beds and blankets, plenty of medicines, &c. And for your sea-stock, if you take the steerage, you must find provisions for 60 days—such as meal, potatoes, flour, biscuit, bread, butter, beef, hams, salt, sugar, tea, coffee, and candles, which will cost you about £3 a head, and £3 for your passage from Liverpool, and £2 to get here, and about £5 or £6 to get here, being 1000 miles from New York; and we may add other £2 for accidental delays, &c.—in all, £16 a-head, or, by using economy, perhaps a little less. If you could sail from Scotland, it would be cheaper, perhaps. If you go to Liverpool, beware of *Bicket's gang*, as they are called, who make their living by swindling emigrants; and do not believe what any one says of their time of sailing, unless you see their cargo loaded; and do not pay your passage until you are satisfied with every thing, and about to sail. See that you secure a good berth, not near the hatches, for fear of the vessel shipping water. Keep a strict watch over your luggage, for fear of losing it. If you have time and opportunity, I would advise you to gain a knowledge of the following; the trades of cart and plough-wright, tin and blacksmith, shoemaker, tanner, currier, &c. &c., for you must turn your hand to every thing, as the Americans do. When I arrived in New York, I thought I should acquire information from others who had been sometime in the country, without being at the trouble or expense of judging for myself; but I found their accounts so various and contradictory, that I could not come to any rational conclusion, as every one's judgment seemed formed, by their own particular feelings, or biased by the good or bad fortune they had met with. Now, as the scum of the Old World is pouring out upon the cities and sea-ports of America; as all had come with high, and often unreasonable hopes; and these cities already overcrowded, by the constant

accession of foreigners from all parts of the world—their prospects are generally blasted, and their success more uncertain than in their own country. Those who pass on to the western counties have not the same difficulties to encounter; but, as most of them suppose they are to be gentlemen in America, they linger in the cities, and those of them who have money, spend it, or get cheated out of it; and you may think it strange, when I tell you, that six out of every seven, fail, and five out of that six defraud their creditors. Of course, this is not a state of things for an *honest man*; and they have found that all the bankrupt laws they can make, are of no use, so they have abolished imprisonment for debt altogether. Still, trade goes on swimmingly—people live well—increase and multiply—and when they have played a trick in one place, they move to another. I believe this state of things to have arisen from the constant accession of all the spare rogues from Europe, for the last 100 years; but recollect that I speak more of foreigners, Scotch, English, and Irish, &c. than of real Americans. I found New York was not a place for me, so I tried land-surveying, but could make little at that, as there are more here than could get employment; but, as I proceeded farther west, I found the country improve. So, from all the information I collected in my travels, I at last settled in this state, and have no reason to repent of my choice. This is a fine country, and room farther west for our children to push to. Many of the Americans have made two or three moves west already, and they all confess that this is a far preferable soil and climate to the eastern states. I shall repeat the remark of an American parson here “that it was as well for us that America was peopled at the wrong end first,”—that is, their ancestors had to encounter a thickly wooded country, which takes a man nearly a life time before he gets things to look comfortably, but here a man may clear up a farm in 3 years, to have all the appearance of one settled for 100 years.

This country only began to be settled 7 or 8 years ago, and this part of it from 1 to 3 years. There are many counties of 36 miles square, without a single inhabitant. A part of the Land betwixt this and Michigan Lake was only sold a few months ago, and a part still remains to be sold. The river is navigable for boats above this, but there are rapids

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about 8 miles below ; and they are proposing building a storehouse at the mouth of the river, and to convey down the produce of the country and bring up merchant goods, &c. which, by land, costs $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per lb. and, by water, will not cost 1. A clear water-carriage will thus be opened up direct to New York. You can have no idea of the race colonization and population are running in this country. Emigrants from different parts of America and from all parts of the world are rolling on like a great river, carrying with them all the arts, habits, and tastes of civilized life. There is no relapsing into barbarism—the schoolmaster follows close behind—villages rise up and turn into cities in 10 or 15 years—railroads, canals, harbours, manufactories, &c. keep pace, and before the place is known in the old country, it is considered as an old settlement here, and sending new swarms farther west. Such is the sum of American industry, unfettered by any shackles except what nature has thrown. I consider that since the beginning of the world man was never placed in such favourable circumstances. When I left my own country for this, I firmly believed that I was not only looking out an asylum for myself, but for my friends also, although I had no idea it would take place so soon. As to advising any person to come here, I do not think it would be right ; perhaps they would not see things as I do nor feel as I feel. I would lay it down as a general rule, that if you are well and doing well, stop where you are—if you are unhappy, and see no prospect of bettering your circumstances in the *Old World*, why, try the *New*.

CHARACTER OF THE INHABITANTS OF UPPER CANADA.

(From *McGregor's British America*.)

THE majority of the inhabitants of Upper Canada are emigrants from the United Kingdom, who have carried with them the habits, customs, and manners of the places in which they were brought up ; but to this province do the worst of the refuse of the United States also resort, either to evade the laws of their own country, or to cheat the unwary.—

Whatever want of principle and moral character has been laid to the charge of the inhabitants of Upper Canada, including the litigious spirit of the people, and the more frequent occurrence of crime than in the lower and maritime colonies, may be attributed chiefly to the pollution carried along by the majority of those who enter the province from the United States; and, partly, by the contamination disseminated from the equally unprincipled, but not such expert rogues, who are mingled with those who emigrate from the United Kingdom to Canada. No doubt the United States receive, and are equally curst with a great proportion of the latter, as well as with a great portion of those, whose crimes and vices drive them direct to the United States from Great Britain and Ireland.

It is, however, unjust to stamp the general character of the inhabitants, either of the British colonies or United States, with the immoralities and crimes of those whose wickedness makes them notorious; yet travellers have indulged too frequently in doing so; and erroneous impressions respecting the inhabitants of North America, are consequently cherished in the United Kingdom.

The lumberers and raftsmen, whose characters have been subjected to so much, and frequently just abuse, were some time ago nearly all Americans: or if there were those among them who were not, and whose moral character was bad, it was much better for the province that they mixed with the lumberers, than that they should have remained among the farmers. Those now principally engaged cutting timber in the woods, are the resident inhabitants who find useful employment in the forest, when they have no other occupation; and their conduct is generally as correct as if they lived in any part of England.

The Americans who navigate the Durham boats, are very different from the Canadian boatmen, who man the batteaux. The former are generally tall, lank fellows, seldom without an immense quid of tobacco in their mouths; grave-tempered schemers, yet vulgar, and seldom cheerful, "grinning horribly" when they venture an attempt to laugh.

The Canadian boatman, or voyageur, is naturally polite, and always cheerful; fond enough of money when he once possesses it, but altogether unacquainted with overreaching;

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and if he attempts to cheat he knows not how. He sings, smokes, and enjoys whatever comes in his way, thanking "Le bon Dieu, la Vierge, et les Saints" for every thing. The voyageurs know every channel, rapid, rock, and shoal, in the rivers they navigate; and, never pretending to question their leader or bourgeois, fearlessly expose themselves to the greatest hardships, and the most frightful dangers. When singing their celebrated boat-songs, two usually begin, two others response, and then all join in full chorus. These songs make them forget their labour, and enliven their long and perilous voyages. Nothing can be more imposing than a fleet of canoes, and the voyageurs all singing "cheerily," while paddling over the bosom of a lake, or along the sylvan shores of the St. Lawrence, or Ottawa.

The remnant of the Indian tribes scattered over the Canadas, and over the maritime colonies, exhibit a state of deplorable wretchedness, which claims the consideration, not only of the government, but of every reflecting individual. To say that the Indians are incapable of civilization would be to express the most gross absurdity that was ever uttered. A North American Indian, except when maddened or stupified by the liquors introduced by Europeans, is the most dignified person in the world. He is never awkward, never abashed, nor ever ill bred, or intrusive. The grave, dignified taciturn, yet, when occasion requires, eloquent, gentleman of nature, has never been properly respected by Europeans, and least of all by the English. The proud heart of the Indian, deprived of his fine country, the forests of which once afforded him abundant game, and in the rivers of which he alone fished, rather than submit to the degradation of working for the robbers who now despise his race, pines in silent anguish while he beholds the melting away of his tribe amidst the encroachments of Europeans. All the attempts to ameliorate, or, to speak more properly, to raise the condition of the Indian to the state which is indisputably his right, are useless and futile, unless we convince him that he is respected. The schools which we have pretended to establish, the religion which we have endeavoured to teach, have not, let well-meaning and zealous missionaries state or write what they please, been as yet of the smallest utility. The Indian must have the place to which he has a right in the society of man-

kind, and he must believe that he is respected as a man, before he will embrace civilization, or adopt those useful arts, which are necessary to obtain the comforts of life, or to promote the happiness of a race, who, from the encroachments of Europeans, cease to be a nation of hunters.

THE LAKES.

(From the same.)

LAKE ONTARIO.—Lake Ontario opens into full view immediately above Kingston, and unfolds, not the appearance we associate with a fresh water lake, out of which a great stream issues, but a vast rolling ocean, receiving the waters of many rivers. It is about 180 miles long, 40 to 50 broad, 50 to nearly 500 feet deep, and 222 feet above the tide level of the ocean. It is navigated by sloops, schooners, and steam-boats; and the sea is frequently so rough, that steam-boats of common size were at first not considered fit to traverse its waters with comfort or safety.

LAKE ERIE.—Lake Erie is 270 miles long, and from 30 to 55 miles broad. It is shallow, when compared to the other great lakes, being only from 60 to 70 feet average depth; and its waters, from this circumstance, are frequently rough and dangerous. Schooners, sloops, a few steamers, *bateaux*, and Durham boats navigate this lake. The Americans have the finest vessels; some of their schooners resemble the Baltimore *clippers*. Chippawa, on the British side, at the mouth of the Welland, is the entrepot for goods sent to, or received from, the upper country. The goods discharged or laden at this place will be much diminished in quantity, in consequence of the Welland Canal now obviating the necessity of land carriage, as formerly, between Queenston and Chippawa.

Lake Erie is said to be filling up with deposits, carried down by the rivers, at the mouths of which deltas are evidently increasing. Through the River Detroit, it receives apparently the surplus waters of Lakes St. Clair, Huron, Michigan, and Superior.

LAKE ST. CLAIR.—Lake St. Clair is about thirty miles long, and nearly the same breadth, and its shores as yet not well settled. It receives several rivers; the principal of which, named the Thames, winds for more than a hundred miles from the north-east; and on its banks, settlements and embryo towns are growing. It has its Chatham, London, and Oxford; and certainly the situation of the Canadian London is much better adapted for the capital of the province than York.

LAKE SUPERIOR.—Lake Superior is 480 miles long, 420 broad, and 900 feet deep. The southern, and the most valuable part of the north-west coasts, belong to the Americans. The northern shores, as far as we know, are wild, barren, and rugged, and only known to those who have been engaged in the fur-trade. But from the information obtained from them, the whole country between this great lake and Hudson Bay, and from thence north and west from Lake Athabasca to the Arctic regions, is of little value, except for the furs of the wild animals, or the fish that may be caught in the rivers.

LAKE SIMCOE.—The lands round Lake Simcoe are considered excellent, and some spot near it has been considered far preferable to Kingston for the seat of government.

This lake is 40 miles long, twelve broad, and throws off its surplus waters by the River Severn, into Gloucester Bay, Lake Huron. Roads also lead from York to the River Nottawasaga, which falls into Lake Huron, and to Burlington Bay. Settlements are forming along all these roads.

LAKE HURON.—Lake Huron is 250 miles long, 120 broad, and 860 feet deep, without comprehending a branch of it called Georgia Bay, which is 120 miles long, and fifty miles broad. Near the head of the latter, at Pentagushine, there is a small naval depot.

A WORD TO INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

(From Chambers' Journal, March 22d, 1834.)

THE interest we have uniformly taken in the subject of emigration, and our numerous papers descriptive of countries

sued for the settlement of persons inclined to remove to scenes better fitted to reward their exertions than the place of their birth, have, we are glad to say, turned the attention of many thousands of individuals to this mode of improving their condition, and induced not a few families to emigrate within the period of the last twelve months. This, it will be perceived, is a favourite subject with us. We know of the deplorably hopeless prospects of innumerable families in this country; we know that nothing can or will occur in the natural order of things, to relieve them of their embarrassments; we know that even with the advantages given by capital, it now requires an enormous degree of skill—an immense deal of calculation, and finessing, and struggling, and striving, to make anything beyond a humble subsistence in most branches of trade or commerce; and we also know, that in very many instances, the more children there are in a family, the greater is the curse, instead of the blessing, to the parents. Now, all this, we know, originates in the peculiar circumstances in which society is placed in this country; and as it is entirely beyond a possibility that any degree of patience, or theorising, or grumbling, will ever effect a remedy, it therefore, in our opinion, behoves every man, whose condition or prospects require it, to remove to one of those countries calculated to afford him a large and liberal return for the degree of exertion he puts forth. If, for instance, a married man in Great Britain or Ireland can, by ten or eleven hours of hard labour, barely procure a comfortable subsistence, comfortable clothing, and comfortable lodging, for himself, his wife, and family, and, by similar labour for only seven or eight hours a day in Canada, procure *double* the amount of all these comforts, then, the man, by staying here, is either blind to his own advantage, or so stupid that he hardly deserves to be pitied. As for the pain of removing, or the trouble of the voyage, in proceeding to the better land, that we do not consider worthy of a moment's consideration. However abstractly amiable the love of the place of our nativity may be, it is an idea which, to a certainty, creates hordes of paupers, and ought therefore to be put aside by men of rational understandings. Wherever an active-minded man can earn an honest and a comfortable subsistence, that is the country he should love, and thither he should transport himself.

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We have been led to make these observations from having recently received a number of letters from emigrants who have settled in Upper Canada, all descriptive of the comforts of their new homes, and of their gratification in having taken the important step of removal. They in general, however, do not conceal the fact, that the emigrant must neither expect to see a beautiful country—according to our home notions of beauty—nor expect to succeed without considerable labour, and the exercise of no small degree of patience and humility. Among others who have emigrated to America, from our representations, we have learned that one individual, who had proceeded from Edinburgh to Canada, had speedily left it in a state of horror: he had expected to see a paradise, and he saw nothing but dense forests of trees; he had imagined he would find no difficulty in commencing the business of a farmer, and the first day he was sickened with the toil. We are sorry to think that such foolish visionary schemers should ever resolve on trying to exchange a life of comparative ease, want, and refined indolence, in this country, for a life of labour in the backwoods. We have never disguised the truth in this matter. We have again and again warned our readers that nobody should emigrate with a view to farming, but persons who can and will work with their own hands, and will not hesitate to cast their coats when they take up an axe or a spade, and will, in real earnest, set their hearts to all kinds of labour, such as killing their own meat, thatching or repairing their own houses, wheeling their own grain to a mill in a wheelbarrow, or carrying it a few miles on their back—and, even, at a pinch, sweeping their own chimnies. If a man can do all this, should necessity require it, then he may emigrate; but if he cannot or will not, then he had better stay at home, and take his chance of starving, or falling into a poor condition. We would not, by any means, say that nobody but those accustomed to country labour should emigrate. We have known gentlemen, who hardly ever did any manual labour all their lives, make better settlers than peasants; because their minds were more alert, better educated, and less prejudiced in favour of old ways of doing things. An example of this kind has just been brought under our notice, by a letter written by a gentleman who emigrated to Upper Canada in July last. He

had been a naval officer, and accustomed to a refined mode of living; but that does not seem to have at all cramped his energies. The letter is written to his brother in Edinburgh, who has obligingly permitted us to give it publicity, for the benefit of intending emigrants.

LONDON DISTRICT, UPPER CANADA.

“ MY DEAR J.—As you will have heard through — of our safe arrival across the Atlantic, and settlement in this part of Canada, I regret the less that till now it has been out of my power to write to you, so much have I been, and still am, engaged in various ways. We have now been about two months fairly located on the spot of our future home; and I am happy to say, that, upon the whole, I have to congratulate myself greatly upon the step I have taken, of coming to this country. The only drawback to my entire satisfaction has been the state of my wife's health. Both she and the children have had a very severe seasoning of bowel complaint, to which most new comers here are, I believe, subject. However, all are now getting better. My own health has been excellent since I came from England (except occasional attacks from my old enemy, headache); and I am delighted with the life of vigorous activity which I am entering upon. I made a purchase of 200 acres of land here, very shortly after my arrival, for I was determined to lose no time; since that, I have bought the adjoining 200 acres, so that I have now 400 acres of the finest land, in one piece, which is a very snug property; to this my government grant will add 300 more, where I choose to make my selection. The country in this part of Canada is beautiful, and the soil of exhaustless fertility. I have already commenced farming in a small way; for as there were 20 acres cleared upon my first purchase, I have put part of it under crop; and I number among my live stock a couple of cows, two teams of capital oxen for farm work, and about a dozen hogs. I have also an excellent waggon, and a sledge for the roads in the winter, which is now beginning to show itself, though we have had no severe weather yet. You see I have made the most of my time since my arrival. I intend also to clear 30 or 40 acres more this winter; so that, in the course of next year, I hope to have a clear farm of 50 or 60 acres under crop,

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which will supply my household with all the *needful* in the way of plain produce, and something over for the market. Our nearest *regular* vent for agricultural produce is about twenty-five miles off, and that certainly is no small distance on our horrid corduroy roads; but we hope in no long time to overcome the difficulty of transport, as it is in contemplation to carry a railroad through this part of the country to the head of Lake Ontario. We are getting a very respectable neighbourhood around us here, and on that score particularly I consider myself fortunate in the locality I have chosen to settle in. I found here several officers, old shipmates, and friends of my own, besides others, both army and navy men, with their families, planted near us. My friend Captain — has built a church within a mile and a half of where I intend my own mansion to stand, and this I feel truly a blessing and comfort in prospect for us. The church will be ready for service next summer, and our minister is to be a Cambridge man, of whom I hear an excellent character. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Adam Ferguson in York, a few weeks ago; he has made a large purchase on the Grand River, about thirty-five miles from us, which, however, is no impracticable travelling distance during winter in the sleighing time. If any of your acquaintances really intend coming hither, the sooner they take this important step the better; for land is rising in value so rapidly, particularly in good situations, that a year or two more will make a serious difference in the purchase-money. Much do I regret that I did not come here a few years ago, for I should have been twice the man of substance that I can be by the same amount of capital now. You will understand this when I say, that the price of crown lands has risen, within the last year or two, from 5s. to 12s. and 15s. per acre. I am at present busy clearing my land, at which vigorous work I labour with my men from morning till night. The snow is on the ground, and the air pretty sharp, as you may suppose; but the exercise of chopping is such fine warm work, that in five minutes we all have our coats off. I am living at the loghouse which was on the first farm I bought, along with my nephew and two men I have hired; so that we make a respectable force when we sally out in the mornings to attack the woods. We have no lack of wild animals about us, such as wolves, a few

bears, deer, racoons, squirrels, partridges, &c., but so wholly engrossed am I with my labours, that, with three guns, I have not fired a shot since I landed. The wolves are no way troublesome. We get the finest venison for twopence a pound, and good beef for threepence; but of all table dainties, commend me to a roasted racoon. When we first heard of the dish, we thought it could be no better than a jolly tom-cat, but one mouthful convinced us of our mistake, and then a racoon a-piece would scarcely have satisfied us.—I am, dear J—, your affectionate brother, J.— G.—”

Our readers will be pleased to remark, that the gentleman who writes the foregoing letter had no idea that it would ever be printed, and had therefore no object to serve in the representations he gives of his comfortable condition. We are delighted to hear of the well-doing of settlers of this hearty character—men who dash into their new occupations in the woods with something like a proper degree of enthusiasm—men who do not care for soiling their fingers or soiling their coats like heroes—men who would be ashamed to sit down in their loghouse to pass the cheerless day in moping over their dismal fate, or to lament the error they have committed and the delusions they have been under. It is these intrepid men who are entitled to win the world they are seeking. It is they who are laying the foundation of opulent families beyond the Atlantic, and it is they who will deserve the thanks of succeeding generations.

BIRDS OF CANADA.

(From *M. Gregor.*)

WILD pigeons migrate north during summer, in flocks of incredible numbers. They have been known to darken the sky for miles; we do not, however, meet with them in the maritime colonies in such vast multitudes, although very abundant in Upper Canada; and in parts of Lower Canada, they are astonishingly numerous, and very destructive to corn-fields. They have a beautiful blue plumage, tinged with shades of green, red, and gold, and a long tail. They are excellent eating, and their price in the Quebec and Montreal

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markets, in consequence of their plentiful numbers, is less than the same weight of any other animal food.

The birds called indiscriminately partridges, in America, are different from the partridges of England.

The birch partridge is a large variety of grouse. It is, in fact the ruffed grouse. Its colour is beautifully variegated with brown, white, and black. Its handsome tail, which it spreads like a fan, is prettily crossed with stripes of black, light chocolate, and white: they have a beautiful glossy rich purple ruff round the neck, which they can erect at will. They are larger than an English partridge, and equally delicious. They lay ten to fourteen eggs, making their nests on the ground. A peculiarity of this bird is, the noise, resembling distant thunder, which it makes by clapping its wings. When doing so, it generally sits on a fallen withered pine or hemlock-tree, and it is probable that the sound is produced by flapping its wings against the wood.

The spruce partridge resembles the partridge of Europe more than the other; but its flesh is different, and it feeds principally on the branches of spruce fir.

All the kinds of partridges are easily shot; sometimes a whole bevy perch on a tree, and remain until shot, one by one, apparently stultified by the first fire. There are no game-laws in North America, unless the provincial laws, which prohibit the shooting or destroying partridges between the 1st of April and the 1st of September be considered such.

Of the wild goose there are several varieties, some of them probably accidental. The common wild goose, of a dark greyish colour, with a large white spot under the neck, is best known and most abundant; the Canadian goose only differs from it in size. In the more northerly parts, as at Hudson's Bay, the white and snow geese are most abundant.

Wild geese generally appear in Canada about the middle of March, and, after remaining five or six weeks, proceed to the north to breed, from whence they return in September, and leave for the south about the end of November. They fly in flocks, and in two regular files, following a leader, from which both lines diverge, so as to form a figure like the two sides of a triangle. They hatch their young in the northern and inland parts of Newfoundland, on the continent of Labrador, and the countries north of Canada. In size, the

common wild goose is larger than the domestic goose, and many consider it finer eating. They are decoyed and shot in a variety of ways. They come forward towards the call, that resembles their note while flying. The Indians and others, who conceal themselves within small houses made of ice, and who have wooden decoys close by, in shape, colour, and size like these birds, bring them within half a gun-shot, by imitating their note, and often, at one shot, kill several out of a flock.

TAXATION IN UPPER CANADA.

(From the Montreal Weekly Abstract—5th June, 1833.)

	CURRENCY.	
	s.	d.
Cultivated Land,	0	1 per Acre.
Uncultivated, 1-5th of	0	1 ”
Houses with flatted Logs,	2	6
Framed Houses under 2 Storeys,	2	11
Framed, Brick or Stone Houses of 2 Storeys,	5	0
Flouring Mills, one run of Stones,	12	6
Saw Mills,	8	4
Merchant Shops and Storehouses,	16	8
Horses, 3 years old and upwards,	0	8
Oxen, 4 do.	0	4
Milch Cows,	0	3
Young Cattle, under 4 years,	0	1
Currieles and Gigs,	1	8
Waggons kept for pleasure,	1	3

These Assessments, when collected, are paid into the District Treasury, and are applicable to local purposes, within the District for which they are levied.—*Canadian Magazine.*

ROUTES TO UPPER CANADA FROM MONTREAL.

To emigrants proceeding to the upper provinces from Montreal, it is of considerable consequence to determine whether

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they shall go by the St. Lawrence, or by the Ottawa and Rideau Canal. The first has formidable rapids to be encountered, and, although it is the most direct route, yet the passage into Lake Ontario is accomplished in much less time by the second. At Montreal, the emigrant will hear very different advice on this subject, probably offered by parties interested in these two lines of communication; but there is no doubt that the Rideau Canal is now both the speediest and safest way to the Lakes and their adjacent lands. The Rideau and Ottawa Steam-boat Company advertise to convey cabin passengers to Kingston at £3, including provisions, and allowing 50 lbs. of luggage to each. Their steamers have also second cabins, and passengers are taken on deck at much lower rates.

The following interesting extracts are from the *Montreal Herald* of the 29th of May last, and will give a little insight into the rivalry between the two companies.

THE RIDEAU CANAL.

It affords us the utmost gratification to state that this magnificent work is daily developing its usefulness and its superiority over the river navigation. Sixteen cabin passengers, thirty deck passengers, and eight tons of luggage, left Montreal on the afternoon of the 13th, and arrived at Kingston on the afternoon of the 18th inst. on board the steam-boat *Enterprize*, from Bytown, having in tow a Durham boat, laden with passengers and luggage.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT OF THE KINGSTON HERALD.

"Hurrah! The Rideau Canal for ever! I have just seen a gentleman who left Montreal in a Durham boat on Wednesday, and arrived here on Saturday night or Sunday morning. The scene which he describes as having taken place at the point where the canal and river navigations separate, is both amusing and disgusting.—Some half-dozen clerks and other persons, apparently in the employment of the river Forward Companies, got on board the vessels from

which emigrants and baggage were to be forwarded, and used every kind of exaggeration to terrify passengers from coming by the canal—"that they would be swamped in the mud, that their vessels would have their bottoms stove in by the stumps, &c. &c. &c." However, all would not do, for by the canal they came. He also states, that a craft that could have brought, at the utmost, only *eight* tons by the river, actually brought *thirty-six* tons by the canal. The canal is in full operation—Hurrah!"—*Kingston Herald*.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MONTREAL HERALD.

SIR,—There have lately been considerable discussions on the capabilities of the different forwarding routes to Upper Canada, namely, by the St. Lawrence or front line, and by that of the Ottawa, *via* the Rideau Canal. Amongst the number two have made their appearance before the public, one in the *Daily Advertiser* of the 22d instant, with the signature of "Fair Play," and another in the *Montreal Gazette* of the same date, with the signature of "A Friend to Fair Competition," whose sole object, he pretends, is to correct misrepresentations. How modest! Whether the former is entitled to credit from his assumed name, or the latter from the honesty of his pretensions and the boldness of his assertions, I will leave the public to judge from the following facts:—Mr. "Fair Play" states, a barge belonging to the Ottawa Company took nine days to go to Kingston, and ten days to return; and, with a view of showing his candour, he says, "*it ought, however, to be mentioned, that she was detained some time in the locks for want of water;*" thereby ingeniously implying a doubt of the sufficiency of water in the canal: but let him not deceive himself with any flattering delusions; there is, and always will be, water enough in the Rideau river for half a dozen such canals. The barge, Iroquois above alluded to, left Montreal on the 29th of April, with about twenty tons freight, and was the first for the season; on her arrival at Bytown, the first steam-boat had not arrived from Kingston, in consequence of which she was detained five days at Hog's Back, and with some other detensions, only arrived at Kingston on the 11th of May; which place she left again on the 13th, and arrived at Bytown two hours after the departure of the

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Shannon steamer, and was again detained two days, but for all this delay she arrived at Montreal on the 20th, and brought 2,500 bushels of wheat for Molison & Davies, making only seven days for her trip down, including the time she was delayed. Such delay is no way likely to happen again in the course of a season, as the causes are removed. At that time, there was only one steam-boat on the Rideau, now there are four or five, and there is nothing singular in a little delay occurring in the first trip for the season through a new route. So much for "Fair Play's" veracity. The "Friend to Fair Competition," after quoting a paragraph from the *Kingston Whig*, goes on to say, "that he has the authority of a respectable merchant from that place, who informed him that the Editor of the above-mentioned paper, knew that his own statement was not true, that passengers had arrived by the Rideau in five days, but that it was necessary for him to *bolster up the Rideau route by lessening the time.*" Whether this part of his statement is or is not correct, I have not the means of ascertaining, and will leave it to the Editor to set himself right on that subject; it has nothing to do with the capabilities of the Rideau route. His next assertion is very bold, wherein he states, "It is possible, Sir, that goods and passengers may hereafter be taken to Kingston by the Rideau in five days; but I will venture the assertion that it has not yet been done." I think it is very probable that the writer knew that the second boat for Kingston only left Lachine on the 14th instant, and that the chances were favourable that no answer could yet be received in Montreal; unfortunately, however, for the writer's veracity of assertion, the boat arrived at Kingston on the 18th, four days from Lachine, and the letter containing the news of her arrival was in Montreal two days before the writer made his debut before the public; and I may also mention that the passengers were highly pleased with their accommodations: *these are facts.* And I can further inform the public, and this "Friend to Fair Competition," that it is not only possible, but extremely probable, that freight and passengers will be conveyed from Montreal to Kingston by the Rideau, within the five days, at least nine times out of ten; and that freight will go cheaper and much safer, and steerage passengers as cheap and much more comfortably, there can be but

one opinion. Who that has travelled by the stages on the front line, that has not seen the poor emigrants dragging on foot through the dust or mud, past the rapids of the St. Lawrence? while on the Rideau route they are allowed to get into the steam-boats, under cover, and are at all times sheltered from the severities of the weather. I will further give my opinion, that when the Ottawa Company have their complement of barges completed, "Fair play" and his "Friend to Fair Competition," and the most sceptical of their adherents, will have practical demonstration of the advantages of the Rideau route; indeed, from some of the late effusions, it would appear that the shoe already pinches. I will take an early opportunity of showing to the public the expenses incurred in forwarding by the different routes, and also a comparative view of the charges on freight and passengers, where, by a little arithmetical calculation (which is in the possession of every school-boy since "the master has been abroad,") the public will be enabled to judge for themselves. I understand that the agent of the Ottawa line intends publishing, after the lapse of a month or six weeks, the departure and arrival of all the boats up to that time. It is to be hoped that forwarders of the front line will adopt the same plan, so as to set the question of speed at rest, as a few facts of that kind will be worth a whole host of assertions or even opinions.

I am, Sir, your very obedient Servant,

A FRIEND TO THE OTTAWA LINE.

MONTREAL, May 24, 1834.

*Extracts of a Letter from a Settler in Kingston, Upper
Canada, dated 26th September, 1832.*

IN the following remarks, you are not to understand me as giving advice—this I decline—but shall state for as far as known to me, correctly; and your friends may judge for themselves. I have no reason to regret my coming to this country; for many have not been so highly favoured by a

kind Providence as I have. I would observe, in the first place, that a Canadian farmer must work hard himself. He should, if possible, be able to do almost all his work with his own family. A farmer, let him be ever so good in Scotland, has little advantage from his knowledge here. He has, as it were, to commence on a new system; so that, any man accustomed to hard labour, will make as good a farmer as he will, because both have to learn. The methods of farming here are entirely different from those practised in Britain. A farmer here has to work during the months of June, July, and August, when the thermometer is at from 80 to 90 degrees in the shade; and in the months of December, January, and February, when it is 5 degrees below Zero, Fahrenheit's scale. Wild land can be bought from 10s. to 40s. per acre, according to its quality and other circumstances. A cleared farm of 200 acres, with a house, &c. would cost about one thousand pounds, within two or three miles of Kingston. Farms at a distance can be bought at much less perhaps than half. A farmer, to work his farm as I have described, cannot, perhaps, make much money; but he may increase his stock to a large amount. He can have all the comforts and necessaries of life, and be the most independent man in the world. He has no rent—his taxes are a mere trifle—about 15s. on a farm such as I have mentioned. Young men generally dislike our mode of farming—they not being accustomed to plough round and round the roots of trees, and other circumstances of a similar kind, in Scotland. Canada has justly been called the "poor man's country."—A man with a small capital and a family of industrious sons, can soon get independent. He will, perhaps, be subjected to 2 or 3 years' hard labour, with but few comforts, but afterwards, he has little or no difficulty. Should your brother conclude to try Canada, I shall be happy to be of any service to him. I have often been very sorry to see the false statements made regarding farming here. It is the work of interested landholders. The statements that I have made, you may depend are not overdrawn.

THE LAKE STEAM-BOATS.

BUT a few short years have passed away since a steam-boat first plied the great inland sea that borders the limits of our State; and now scarcely a week passes but we have some account of new boats added to those already afloat on the waters of Erie and Ontario. Instead of a boat calling once every week, or once in two weeks, at the several harbours on the lakes, almost every little port has its steamer, and many of them of large dimensions, and some that will vie with our most favoured boats of the Atlantic cities. It is but a short period since the good "*Old Frontenac*," was the only one on Lake Ontario; and in the Upper Lake, the "*Walk-in-the-Water*," for a considerable time, only "walked the water" twice each month, from Buffalo to Detroit. Now, on each lake, there are regular *daily* lines, through, besides those that run directly from almost every port; and these, too, crowded with passengers.—In a paper now before us, we observe that the United States, from Ogdensburgh for Niagara, touched at the mouth of the Genesee river, a few days since, with one thousand passengers; and a boat left Buffalo last week so filled, that some of the passengers had to take their stations in the rigging. Since the last season, we find many boats added to those in operation last year. The Brockville plies between the head of the Long Sault and Kingston, connecting the mail route between the two provinces. The Oswego (recently stranded), was to run from Oswego to Rochester. The Constitution runs from the head of Lake Ontario (Hamilton) to Toronto (York), thence keeping the British side to Cobourg, and then crosses the lake to Rochester, a distance of about eight miles. Captain Gildersleeve, the well known and much esteemed commander of the "*Sir James Kempt*," has built another boat, called the "*Commodore Barrie*," which is intended for the waters of the St. Lawrence.

There will be upwards of thirty steam-boats on Lake Erie alone, during the season, besides those connected with them, and running on Detroit river and Lake Michigan. A statement which we recently saw, says that the number of schooners on Lake Erie is upwards of one hundred and fifty, and before the close of the season, will exceed two hundred.

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We had written thus far, when we received from a friend the arrangement for Lake Erie for the present season. The most expeditious boats have been selected to run *two* daily lines between Buffalo and Detroit—one leaving each city at 9 o'clock in the morning, and the other at 9 o'clock in the evening, calling, when the weather will permit, at Dunkirk, Erie, Connaught, Ashtabula, Grand River, Cleveland, Black River, Huron, and Sandusky. A daily line is to run between Buffalo and Dunkirk, and from Buffalo to Chippewa. After the 2d of June, a line will commence running between Detroit, Chicago, and St. Joseph's, leaving Detroit and Chicago once a week.—*New York Commercial Advertiser, May, 1834.*

MONEY MATTERS.

In the Canadas, accounts are kept in Halifax currency, which is of one-tenth less value at par than sterling money, and about one-fifth less at the usual rate of exchange. £100 currency are equal to £90 sterling at par, and with the usual premium of exchange, £110 currency are only equal to £90 sterling. The principal coin in circulation is the Spanish dollar of 5s. or a crown currency, from which, deducting one-tenth, gives 4s. 6d. sterling. This Spanish dollar or crown currency is divided into halves, quarters, eighths, and sixteenths, for each of which divisions there is a corresponding silver coin. In the United States, accounts are kept in Spanish dollars, and cents, or one-hundredth parts. The principal coin in circulation is also the same, and divided into halves, fourths, &c. as above. The £ sterling at par is worth 4 dollars and 44½ cents, and at the exchange of 10 per cent. 4 dollars and 89 cents. At present the exchange is below par, owing to the agitation in their monetary system, but it is expected soon to resume its former state. The best way of transmitting money is by a respectable banker's draft* (in sets) on London, at 10 days sight, which can always be readily sold at the current rate of exchange. It is best, however, before selling, to try about to see who will give the

* The British Linen Co., and the Commercial Bank of Scotland have advertisements offering every facility.

highest premium. If you are going West, you may likewise purchase inland bills at a premium of 5 per cent. or get 105 inland for 100 New York dollars. These may be found by applying to brokers in the sunk storeys of Wall Street; among whom you had better try about before concluding a bargain. Merchants' bills of exchange are not so readily sold, and the risk of losing gold, and being plagued about the weight of it, render these modes less eligible. As casualties sometimes happen, it would be highly proper, before embarking, to leave a letter or some other document with a friend, authorising him to look after your money at the banker's, and directing him how to dispose of it in such an event.

In turning British money into American, the following table will be found useful; as there is only to multiply the dollar and cents that are equal to a pound (at any rate of exchange agreed upon) by the number of pounds wished to exchange and the number of dollars and cents to be received. For example—How many dollars and cents are equal to £10, at 3 per cent premium.

By the table, 4 dollars and 58 cents = £1 at 3 per cent.

Therefore, 4 dollars and 58 cents, multiplied by 10 = 45 dollars and 80 cents, the answer.

Or, when you are offered so many dollars and cents for the £ sterling, you see at a glance what rate per cent. of premium you are offered.

TABLE.

D.	C.	£		D.	C.	£
4	44½	=1	at par	4	73½	=1 at 6½ per cent.
4	49	=1	at 1 per cent.	4	75½	=1 at 7 "
4	53½	=1	at 2 "	4	77½	=1 at 7½ "
4	58	=1	at 3 "	4	80	=1 at 8 "
4	62½	=1	at 4 "	4	82½	=1 at 8½ "
4	64½	=1	at 4½ "	4	84½	=1 at 9 "
4	66½	=1	at 5 "	4	86½	=1 at 9½ "
4	68½	=1	at 5½ "	4	89	=1 at 10 "
4	71	=1	at 6 "	4	91½	=1 at 10½ "

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