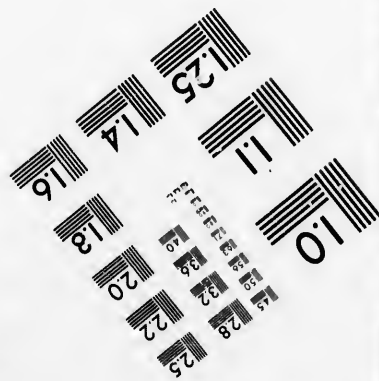
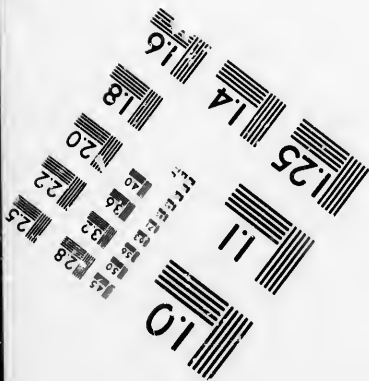
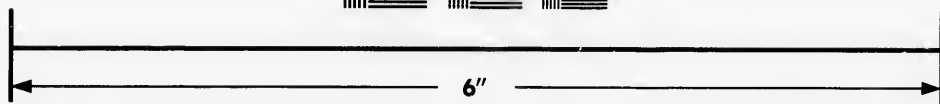
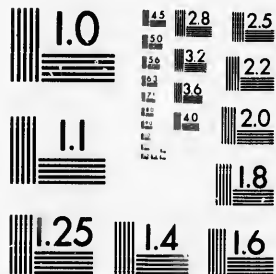


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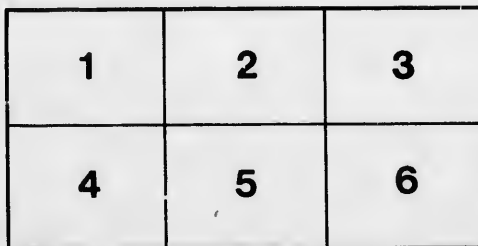
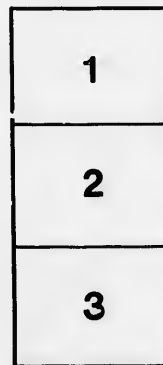
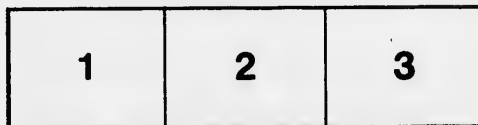
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SKETCHES



of

Plans

FOR

SETTLING IN UPPER CANADA,

A PORTION OF THE

Unemployed Labourers

OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

THIRD EDITION.

By JOHN WILLIAM BANNISTER, Esq.
RICE LAKE, UPPER CANADA.

Colonies were the works of heroic times.—*Lord Bacon.*
Agriculture is the proper business of all new colonies—*Adam Smith.*

London:

PRINTED BY F. MARSHALL, 30, KENTON STREET,
BRUNSWICK SQUARE.

1826.

2023

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INTRODUCTION.

THE following sketches of plans for establishing settlements of indigent colonists in *Upper* Canada, have been made after some experience, in minute detail, of the advantages of locating wild land. The projector was also previously acquainted with practical farming in England. Being interested in the prosperity of the province, he may have deceived himself into the opinion that its value is inexcusably under-rated in England. But trusting, that his testimony, even thus qualified, may assist in correcting the error, he gives it without reserve, that in climate, general fertility, and the means of

comfortable subsistence, no country in the world surpasses *Upper Canada*.

It is conceived, that for many years, the inhabitants of this province will be most profitably occupied in husbandry and coarse manufactures. But it does not appear to be material that settlers should be chosen from the agricultural counties only. Able bodied men of any class will quickly be qualified for the necessary occupations of a new country. Skill in certain works is *advantageous* in Canada; but mere manual labour is at first chiefly wanted; and if England does not afford good employment for the mechanic, he may go thither without regret. He will not find himself less qualified by his previous habits from gaining a comfortable livelihood upon his own land. They will sometimes prove valuable to him, when at intervals he labours for hire, or

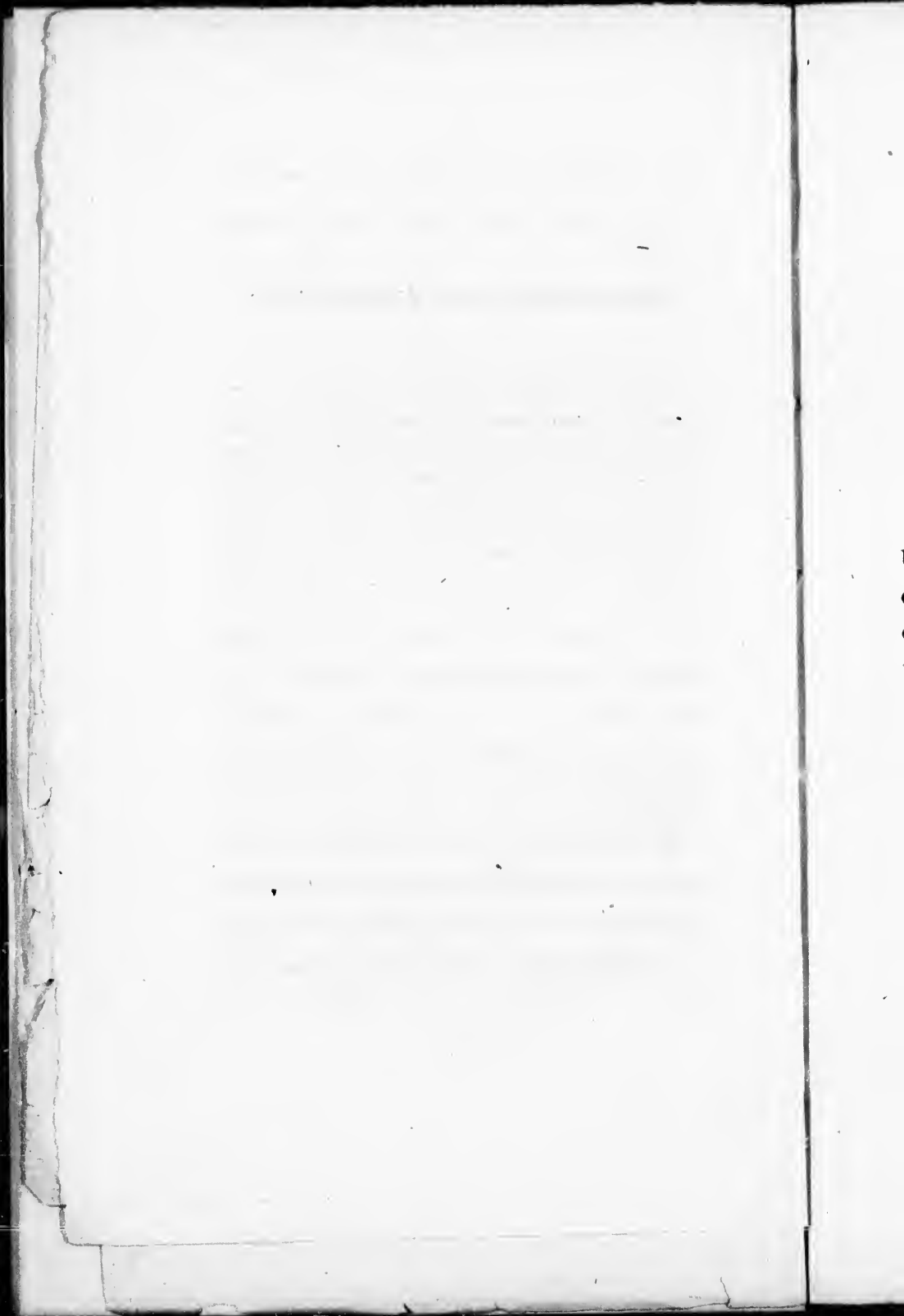
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for himself, at his original trade; and the change from the shop, to the axe, the hoe, and *rough* ploughing, if made profitably, will scarcely be attended with dissatisfaction.*

* Since the original publication of these Sketches (in 1821) several hundred Emigrants have been sent to Upper Canada by *His Majesty's Government*, and the Returns made to Parliament of the Expenses attending the establishing these People comfortably upon their Lands; will fully justify me, in the alterations I have made in my calculations respecting the cost of "settling" Families in that country.

J. W. B.



Agricultural Colonisation

IN

UPPER CANADA.



UPPER Canada contains many millions of acres of fertile unoccupied land, with a climate suited to all agricultural pursuits. It possesses the same manners, nearly the same laws, and the same constitution, as England; and, speaking comparatively, it has not yet developed to the mother-country even a small portion of its resources.

The first of the following sketches proposes to place in independence an almost unlimited number of the people, now subsisting by parochial relief; and to employ productively, *for a few years only*, the capital expended in the

enterprize. The second of them, which was added to the edition of the pamphlet, will require a very small advance of *money*, and will depend upon supplies of produce to be drawn from the present inhabitants of the province. They differ from other plans of this nature lately suggested for diminishing the public burdens, inasmuch as they rely for success on the personal exertions of the colonists, uncontrolled by the *perpetual* presence of superintendants; and inasmuch as a boon or charity is not intended to be given to them.

It is thought that even the poorest families will be better pleased with their new acquisitions if they have been only *assisted with the means*, of personal exertion, than if they should be made mere objects of bounty, by receiving the money, without the necessity of repayment: This remark is made after some actual inquiry into the state of popular feeling.

The risks attending these plans will, it is believed, be inconceivably small.—The money

to be advanced in the first plan will not be paid over to the people, but it will be laid out in provisions and supplies of implements, and in stock for the settlement: the cleared lands will constitute a mortgage to secure the repayment of that which then will be the colonists' debt, for goods consumed and converted into property by them.

During the laying out of the money and the clearing of the land, some restrictions on the *alienation* of the property will be imposed on the owners of it: but after the repayment of the capital employed, each individual in the settlement will be free from all interference. The time of such repayment within ten years, will depend on the exertions of the settlers, who may receive their deeds on redeeming their land; and in the mean time they will be enabled to vote for members of the legislature. The strong stimulus of exertion which fair hopes of personal advancement affords, will be in full activity, and after the end of ten

years the property will be subject to the usual process for the recovery of debts.

Families disposed to colonise, may be assumed to average five persons each, and it appears to the settler that sums of £80, managed with ordinary prudence, will enable any number of such families to acquire prosperous settlements in two years without exposure to privations; and within ten years to repay *without interest* the whole money advanced for them. The interest on the loan will be replaced, as it will be seen below, out of another source of profit as well as by the withdrawing of so many families from being chargeable to their respective parishes.

A familiar mode of statement will illustrate the view of the author: Let it be supposed that a parish is determined to settle in Upper Canada 100 *willing* families (500 souls) on half a township, according to the usual rules of settlement now in force in that colony. The first expense to be incurred will be the

passage to Quebec, which has been estimated at the cost of £12 a family.* The parish will appoint managers to accompany the colonists; who are to be remunerated by a share of the wild land. Every necessary arrangement previous, and three years subsequent to embarkation, will be attended to by these managers; and the parish will provide funds from which the sum of £6,000 may be advanced in the instalments mentioned below.

Before any engagement is entered into, it should be particularly understood, that the proper quantity of land, in a part of the country *previously*† selected, should be put into the hands of the managers, subject to certain fixed modes of settling.

* Or 2*l.* 8*s.* per head, men, women, and children. 3*l.* is the sum mentioned by Mr. Howison. About 15*l.* would be required for the Cape of Good Hope; 25*l.* for the passage to Van Dieman's Land.

† This precaution is of the greatest moment. Many, otherwise, well planned projects for colonies have greatly

The quantity of land required for 100 families, is half a township, or 31,500 acres ; which will be divided in the following proportions :

| | Acres. |
|--|---------|
| For the Settlers | 10,000 |
| For the Managers | 5,000 |
| For the Clergy and Schools | 4,000 |
| For the Crown and Civil Government | 4,000 |
| For the town Plot, to belong to the Parish and Managers | 2,000 |
| For the Surveyors | 1,500 |
| For the Parish advancing the Capital | 5,000 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 31,5000 |
| | <hr/> |

suffered from inattention to it. No prudent man would involve himself in the responsibility of leading emigrants to a new country, if he had not *personal* knowledge of arrangements being made before their arrival for their due reception. The consequences of inattention to this point will be estimated by a consideration of what took place in the Brazils with a body of 1600 Swiss in 1819; and at the Cape of Good Hope in 1819; and see the consequence of Lord Selkirk's delay in reaching Prince Edward's Island, after his colony of 800 people in 1805. Lord Selkirk's Narrative.

The managers should be competent to give the settlers proper directions for the sale of so much of their household goods as cannot usefully be carried with them. For the purpose of the present sketch the whole party will be assumed to be safely landed at Quebec, in May.

£20. a portion of the capital of £68. hitherto untouched, will now be drawn for by the managers.

The expenditure upon one family will be traced as a convenient example of the progress of the whole party.

| | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| <p>£20 to be drawn by the Managers in May 1822.</p> | <p>The journey to Kingston with their luggage, at about 17. 12s. for each individual, will cost</p> | <p>£8</p> |
| | <p>Thence to the farthest settled Township...</p> | <p>8</p> |
| | <p>To keep the family and the father during the time he is visiting the lands and fixing on his lot</p> | <p>4</p> |

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| £21 in June 1822. | Putting up a log-house | £3 |
| | To keep the family six weeks whilst preparing a piece of ground for a spring crop, 4 <i>l.</i> ; and to take them to the house, 1 <i>l.</i> | 5 |
| | A yoke of Steers | 0 |
| | Seed for spring, viz. potatoes, oats, wheat, Indian corn, &c. axes, spade, and shovel, brush hooks, and hoes | 3 |
| | An old settler, to assist for a few days in order to direct them in the proper method of managing new lands | 1 |
| £11 10 <i>s</i> to be drawn in October 1822. | Keeping the family till the autumn | 4 |
| | A cow and sow | 4 |
| | Seed for autumn crop | 10 <i>s.</i> |
| | Putting up a log-barn..... | 3 |
| £7 to be drawn in Ja- nuary 1823. | To assist in keeping the family during the winter months | 4 |
| | Item for Cattle | 1 |
| | An ox cart | 2 |
| £4 10 <i>s</i> in May 1823. | Seed for the spring..... | 10 <i>s.</i> |
| | Some little addition to their keep in the the spring | 2 |
| | One heifer | 2 |

Thus assuming the plan to be adopted for 100 families, and to be carried into effect in 1822, the advance of money must be made in the following manner :

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| | For the voyage to Quebec, in March 1822. | 1200 |
| | For the expenses to be incurred between May and June 1822. | 2000 |
| | Item, between June and October, 1822 | 2100 |
| | Item. October 1822 and January 1823. | 1150 |
| | Item. January and May 1823 | 700 |
| | Item. May and July 1823. | 450 |
| | Item. in July 1824. | 400 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | Total expense for settling 500 men, women, & children on comfortable farms in Upper Canada. | <u>£8000</u> |

It appears to the writer to be impossible, that upon equal capital any set of men of the class here contemplated, can be placed so advantageously in any other part of the world as in Upper Canada. The families will probably average three individuals each, able to work, and at the end of two years from their first

settlement they will be found to have made the following progress.

Under favourable circumstances the people will be placed on their lands early in June, prepared to clear away for a spring crop. With common industry three such persons as we ought to presume our able settlers to be, will not find it difficult to get 5 acres sown in proper time in 1822; from which they may expect to raise about 50 bushels of wheat, 80 bushels of Indian corn, with a large quantity of pumpkins, musk and water melons, 100 bushels of potatoes, and a quantity of corn stalks and straw with garden productions; during the summer before the crops are harvested, the people will be employed in preparing 5 acres more for an autumn season, and this cleared ground with the former 5 acres will be ready for wheat in the first autumn. After sending a portion of their first crop to market, a certain quantity turned into flour, salted their pigs, and put up a warm hovel for their cattle;

they will in the winter of 1822-23 again be occupied in clearing more land for the ensuing spring. From my experience I can say, that the quantity prepared will be about 10 acres; which will be sown with oats, Indian corn; barley, pumpkins, and turnips, and planted with potatoes. Besides this work, they will sow the first ten acres, with seeds for a meadow; during the second summer 5 acres more will be prepared for the second autumn; and the several seasons will bring their own works on the lands previously cleared. Having thus, in the second autumn 10 acres of wheat land, and 10 acres of meadow, with additional occupations for the winter of 1823-24 on this increase, they will be able to clear for the third spring only 5 acres more; so that in the third harvest of 1824, such a family as we have assumed will possess 30 acres of cleared land, and 70 uncleared; 10 acres of the 30 will be sown with wheat, 10 with spring crops, and 10 will be in meadow.

Their produce at the close of the third autumn, may be stated thus, at a low estimate :

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| From 10 acres of wheat, about..... | 250 bushels |
| 2 ditto of oats..... | 70 ditto |
| 2 ditto of Indian corn..... | 100 ditto |
| 2 ditto of barley..... | 70 ditto |
| 2 ditto of potatoes, | 300 ditto |
| 2 ditto of turnips..... | 200 ditto |

Pumpkins, in number about 5000, or from 6 to 800 bushels, which are planted in the Indian corn hills.

Not more than ten tons of hay can be expected from the meadow, encumbered as it will be with stumps of trees, for several years. To this must be added the natural increase of the stock, together with abundance of water and musk melons in the corn fields, and of garden productions, and an ox and several hogs in salt.

After this third autumn of 1824, the repayment of the capital advanced will begin ; it

will arise out of the production of the harvest of 1825, and the rate at which it will be made may be judged of by the foregoing statement. The effect of, and the pecuniary means of supporting this colony, may conveniently be considered with reference to the following example.

A small scale is adopted for the purpose of simplicity; but effect can hardly be given to the views intended to be presented in this sketch, with fewer than 200 families.

In 1795, the parish of Barkham, * in Berkshire contained 200 inhabitants, of whom about 40, *besides the sick*, received relief to the amount of £75 a year. The average expense of supporting the families of labourers in Barkham was then about £25 each; making the rate of £75 to be divisible amongst a number of people equivalent to three ordinary families, which may be said to be the number in excess in the want of employments. If the parish could be disburdened of these three families and employment should not vary,

* The case of labourers in Husbandry stated by D. Davies, Rector of Barkham, 1795, 4to. p. 4.

those left behind would receive wages equal to their full support, until paupers again superabound. On a large scale it would be found that the withdrawing the surplus people would leave the remainder uniformly employed and well paid.

The means for settling three families in Upper Canada is assumed to be a loan of £240, to be repaid in ten years, as before stated, and this sum can be raised easily by a mortgage of the rates under the sanction of an Act of Parliament. Thus the rates will be lowered forthwith to the interest of that loan, viz. to £20 a year from £75; and they will decrease continually in proportion as the loan shall be repaid, and as the town plot and other land apportioned to the parish shall become marketable. This will be variable in point of time; and the amount of the proceeds will depend on the general prosperity of the whole settlement; it can hardly fail of making a very considerable return

within seven years of the colonists quitting England. According to the expenditure of Barkham, the rates for a surplus population of one hundred families is, £2500 a year. Upon this income it would be easy to borrow £8,000 under the authority of an Act of Parliament. The interest of which being taken at £400 a year, the parish from which the colonists could proceed would make a present annual saving of £2100.

Since the publication of the first edition of these sketches, several individuals in this country in Canada, and in Nova Scotia, otherwise well disposed towards the views of the writer, have objected, that "under the present depressed state of Agriculture, the settler will not be able to repay the capital advanced." This should not, certainly, be a subject of mere conjecture. In fact, it may be reduced to calculation. The "*York market prices for the preceding week*" are given in the *Upper Canada Gazette of the 23rd of May, 1822*, now

before the writer: from which it can easily be shewn, in the article of wheat only, that there will not be any difficulty for an industrious man to raise the required instalments.

Suppose a farmer and his two able sons, such as the writer has known many in the country, and who left England four years ago nearly destitute, about to clear and to fence off, for a crop, ten acres of good, heavily timbered land, in order to raise a small sum of money. The question will be, can they "in the present depressed state of agriculture," produce, not a surplus of corn, but a surplus of money?

In what follows, the farmer and his sons are presumed to buy every article at the market price, and dispose of the produce at the same. Any practical man will at once notice, that, if the party were established on their farm, and living upon their own produce, as in Canada the farmers universally do, the money expenditure would not be one third of what it is here estimated at; for instance, instead of giving five-pence for a gallon of flour, the

farmer would send wheat to the miller, and receive in return his proportion of flour, toll being detained for working it. The same in regard to his whiskey; and with respect to his beef and pork, he never would have occasion to go to the butcher, as he has here been supposed to do; and so forth.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|--|-------|----|-----|
| The first expense will be for axes, about | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Brush-hooks | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Provisions, &c. for seven weeks for three men (the time required for the job in question), and for one man during one week, which will be necessary in order to "drag" the wheat in | 3 | 10 | 0 |
| Seed wheat. | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Provisions, &c. during the time they are reaping the wheat | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Provision for carrying the wheat | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| threshing | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Keep for the oxen when logging and getting in the seasons, independent of "browse," a most valuable feed, well known to the "afternoon" Canadian farmer, as well as to the early settler | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Taxes of all description for ten acres of land, and a yoke of oxen | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Wear of clothes, &c. and trifling incidental expenses | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | £ | 13 | 7 6 |

| | | | |
|--|-----|----|---|
| Total expense, according to the York market | 13 | 7 | 0 |
| Wheat off ten acres, 250 bushels, at 2s. 6d. per bushel, or 5l. a load..... | 31 | 5 | 0 |
| Clear surplus for the settler..... | £17 | 17 | 6 |

In the next year the expenses will be diminished.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Provision for a man whilst burning the stubble, and dragging in the seed on the same ten acres..... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|---|---|---|---|

The oxen this year can keep themselves in the woods entirely, as they have not to work in the spring.

| | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|----------|
| Seed wheat..... | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| Provision whilst reaping | 0 | 16 | 0 |
| Ditto ditto carrying..... | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Ditto ditto threshing | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Taxes..... | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Wear of clothes, &c. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Total, supposing the oxen to belong to the farmer..... | 7 | 12 | 0 |
| Supposing he has to hire the oxen twenty days, at 2s. 6d..... | 2 | 10 | 0 |
| | 10 | 2 | 0 |
| Wheat off ten acres, 250 bushels, at 2s 6d | 31 | 5 | 0 |
| | 21 | 5 | 6 |
| Clear surplus for the settler..... | 21 | 3 | 0 |

If these simple calculations be not correct, they may easily be contradicted and exposed. If it should be thought a high estimate, let half this surplus be taken, as nearer the probable result; and it cannot then be doubted that in the course of ten years the majority of the settlers will be free from any incumbrance. The only objection to this calculation seems to be, that "*The York Market prices,*" may be reduced by the access of so many new growers of corn. But it is conceived that a very great falling off may be admitted, without risk of destroying the prospects of these colonists, who have ten years allowed for the repayment of their debt.

A sketch of the second plan follows, by which a party can be settled in Canada, without burthening the mother-country, to a larger amount than the *expense of convoying them from Europe to their places of destination.*

It will doubtless be in the remembrance of many persons in the province, that a plan was

agitated in 1820, relative to making a canal from the Rice Lake to the head of the Bay of Quinté, by the means of a subscription of the *produce* of the country to defray the expense, and that subscription, entitling the contributors to proportionate shares in the canal: it may also be well remembered, how readily the views of the proposer were entered into by the richer and poorer classes of the district of Newcastle, the district in which the then proposed canal was to have been cut, as well as by many of the inhabitants higher up the country; let us then see how we can connect this plan of opening a canal by the above means of defraying the expense with that of settling 6000 men, women, and children, in comfort, in the neighbouring country.

We will divide the party into three divisions of 2000 each, to be sent out to the river Trent, which connects the Rice Lake with the Bay of Quinté, in three successive springs. On the arrival of the first 2000, let those who

are capable of labouring, immediately be put to fitting work, at the proposed canal, instead of proceeding forthwith to their location. Provisions, clothing, lodging, medical assistance, and certain instruction for the children, will be provided by preliminary arrangements, to be hereafter noticed. The second spring will bring the next division, and the course of the ensuing year, will be as the former; the arrival of the third 2000, will be the commencement of new and pleasant occupations to the first division; *they* will now be permitted to have so much time to visit the lands appointed (during which they will be allowed provision, &c.) for location, in order to fix upon a lot; to put up their "tsh-antees;" as also afterwards to put up their houses, to clear five acres of land, for a spring crop, together with the use of a pair of oxen, for a given time; to perform the "logging," again, they must have partial allowances whilst preparing for the autumn season, and finishing the settlement duties, together with some

assistance during the following winter. On the opening of the fourth spring, perfect freedom begins to dawn: we must now (for the last time) supply our friends (according to the number of their *helpless* children) with a few other necessaries, the deeds of their land *free of any expense*, and then leave them to the protection of their Maker, the laws of their adopted country, and their own industry.*

The fourth year, will also witness the approach of the second body, to freedom from their contract, and to independance; and again on their quitting for *ever* their temporary houses at the canal will be the harbinger of the third

* Should the patrons of a system for colonising upon the above principles, perceive, at, or before this period, that the result may be convenience to the mother country, advantage to the province, and happiness to the settlers, it can be continued to many succeeding bodies of 2000 persons, inasmuch as after the completion of the work from the Bay of Quinté to the Rice Lake, there will be no obstacle to proceeding thence to the carrying place in the township of Smith, and forward through the shallow Lakes to the boundaries of the Canadas.

body, *selecting* their new abode in the *wild* lands.

The education of those whose tender age makes them unfit for labour, viz from two to seven years old, will be taken care of in schools, managed on the plan of the infant establishments in Brewer's Green, Westminster; and in Quaker Street, Spital-Fields; with the addition of instruction in reading, writing, and accounts, to the children who have reached the age of five years. The schools will contain above one hundred each, and upwards, where situations convenient to bodies of settlers can be selected. The expense will be borne by contributions of necessaries from Canadians, and the masters will be remunerated by shares of land, selected in central, dispersed spots in the new townships, to be partly cleared by the fathers of the children whom they have educated, and to be moderately stocked out of the general fund. The masters should be under contract to do three years duty at the least, for their grants,

and afterwards to give six months notice before they quit their engagement.

Ministers of religion will be chosen according to the profession of the different sects composing the colony.

With respect to the supply of professions, &c. to meet the wants of our emigrants on their arrival, nothing can be more simple than the mode contemplated in 1820, viz. that every old resident should, according to his means, subscribe his quota of the required produce. Some would subscribe wheat, others, oats, barley, peas, beans, and hops; others whiskey and maple sugar; others cattle, horses, sheep and hogs; barrelled pork and beef, and salt from the home pits; others again hay and straw, lumber, scantling, &c. Our friend, the enterprising supporter of the new Iron works on the Trent, would experience the pleasure of contributing, for his shares, the iron implements that will be wanted; and the home manufacturers, the spinners, the possessors of wool, &c.

will not be found backward in their supplies : in short, for such an object there can be no doubt of abundant of contributors coming forward with whatever the province produces. The distribution may either be under the general management, or various bodies or gangs may be apportioned to the care of various individuals, sharers in the canal.

It will not be a work of charity, as the word is generally understood; the present inhabitants of Canada will not be gratuitously giving away so much of their staple commodities, inasmuch as they will have their shares in the canal for remuneration, according to their subscriptions; and then the acquisition of the improved water-course, and of an industrious body of settlers in the heart of the province will not be disregarded. And how well do these settlers merit their title to these supplies, as well as ultimately to their allotment of land! There is obligation on neither side, although the foundation will be laid for the intercommunication of

the most friendly sentiments. The settlers are taken to their new homes; they are maintained for three years; and they will go to their cleared land free of expense. In return they give to their old country, their absence, and to Canada the accomplishment of works desired by all who have thought upon the subject, and the acquisition of some thousands of valuable members of Society.

The quantity of provision and other requisites may approximate to the following amount; for the first 200 men, women, and children, for the first year.

- 1200 barrels of beef of 200lb, to the barrel.
- Ditto....pork..... ditto
- 50 ditto....suet
- 3000 ditto....flour of 190lb. to the barrel.
- 900 quarters of barley.
- 3000 weight of hops.
- 9800 weight of candles.
- 20,000 weight of soap.
- 30,000 weight of maple sugar.
- 6000 gallons of whiskey.
- And horses, working oxen, carts, waggons, and all sorts

of working implements will depend solely upon the nature of the undertaking ; and the clothing that may be wanted, upon the poverty of the individual emigrant. The European will perhaps marvel that no mention is made of the temporary dwellings of so large a number of people. The Canadian, on the contrary, will readily understand that they can be the work of but a short space of time, and that as to furniture, they will find little difficulty in making temporary conveniences in addition to what they bring with them. During the second year a double quantity of the above articles will be necessary, and three-fold the third year ; the fourth year will be as the second, provided the canal works be not continued further up the country ; the fifth as the first, and the sixth year will witness the whole party on their lands.

It may be here asked, " what return are these people to make for the sums advanced from England to take them to the proposed River ? In the first place, it has been before shewn (page 20, &c.) that the settlers can, by instalments, easily replace the amount, if that should be exacted ; secondly, suppose parishes to be the capitalists, they will be more than remunerated by the immediate absence of so many families now burdensome to them ; and if the Government send them out, it is believed that we will deny that the relief to the country ge-

nerally, according to the number of persons, will be sensibly felt, and it must be always remembered that a share of the uncultivated land is reserved to remunerate those who must otherwise be paid in money. Again, to encourage the next party, the new settlers may be bound to contribute certain portions of agricultural produce, according to what has been advanced for their support, beyond the actual value of his labour on the canal, thus rendering the shares, in that proportion, more valuable; and shewing themselves to be effective members of this new state of society.

All this may appear, to afford a stimulus to population at home; but before it can operate sensibly, the whole sum advanced will be repaid, and the measure may be repeated if experience shew it to be acceptable to the first settlers.

In the meantime the principle of compulsory relief, if erroneous, may be restricted in proportion to the number colonised, without risking domestic commotions; the pecuniary

benefits bestowed on so many indigent families, will convince the mass of the nation, that the proposed change is to be introduced upon just and kind motives; and new laws, if needed, may be passed by a Parliament freed from some of the existing difficulties.

It has been suggested to me, "that as an intermixture of classes usually improves the character of society, a defect in this point is observable in my projects." If this remark be well founded, it may be replied, that a few years will produce inequalities enough in the proposed township; and general education with the certain good consequences of independence of circumstances, will every day increase the personal respectability of these colonists. It may also be expected that a certain number of persons with capital will resort to a township upon the plan of this sketch; practitioners in medicine, attorneys, keepers of stores, and many others will not fail to see inducements to go thither. But further means may be adop-

ted for the purpose of attaining that condition of things which may be thought more desirable than what a township, consisting of small proprietors only, will present. Settlements have been made in Canada with considerable advantage by military and naval half-pay officers ; and a certain number of allotments may be given in the proposed townships to the same description of men, a few thousand acres being added for them to the quantity above specified. *A portion of their half-pay may be commuted for a fixed sum of money to provide capital for them.* Half-pay medical officers might by the same means be induced to live in the new country. It might, at all events, be proper to commission to the colonies of emigrants, a certain number of surgeons, according to the proportion usual in the army and navy. This would be wanted for a very limited period, as the ordinary demand would speedily supply the settlements with competitors for every place in society.

Thus, what may be considered a due dis-

tribution of classes may be effected with infinite advantage to many married officers, whose growing families in Europe must be the occasion of unceasing anxiety to them; and these brave men will no longer bear the appearance of listless drones amongst an active people. The colonising of Nova Scotia in 1749 and following years, when upwards of 4000 souls were settled in Halifax under the management of Governor Cornwallis, seems to have been made on this principle; and has succeeded. About £400,000 is said to have been expended in that enterprize.

To a settlement of this description, the *managers should devote their whole attention*; and a leader of intelligence would be amply remunerated by the share of wild lands to be apportioned to him in respect of a colony of from 500 to 2000 families.

The necessity of a personal residence with the people during the time of distributing the lands, needs little illustration.

In order to derive due advantage from past experience, it is desirable that the details, and the results of all the considerable attempts of government of chartered companies, and private individuals to make settlements abroad, should be ascertained. They might furnish ample materials to guide future proceedings, and shew the errors which should be avoided. A committee of either house of Parliament, or a commission from the Crown, would be well occupied in collecting papers from the public records, and in examining private persons, in order to point out the expense, the plan, and the effect of what in this kind has been done at various periods of our own history. The exertions of Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Sir Walter Raleigh, Hackluyt, Sir Edwyn Sandys, Chief Justice Popham, Lord Bacon, and others, in the reigns of Elizabeth, James, and Charles the First; Lord Clarendon, in that of Charles the Second; Penn, in 1700, &c.; General Oglethorpe, in 1733, &c.; the Earl of Halifax, in 1749; and

Lord Selkirk and others on this subject, might be traced advantageously. It has occupied so much *practical* attention at all times, and is dignified by the consideration given to it by so many illustrious names, that the author looks back, with much diffidence, upon this very brief statement of his own plans and it is hoped that he will be understood to have "sketched" and published them in the expectation of real benefit being derived as well to England as to Canada.

June, 1821.

FINIS.

