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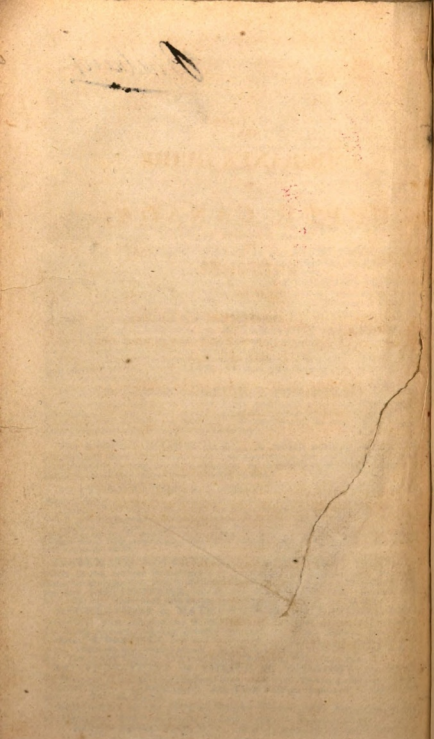
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SECT. XXI.

...

SECT. XXII.

...

Local Location, located.

DEFINITION

OF

PROVINCIAL TERMS.

Reserve, Reserves, or Reserved.

These terms denote the proportions retained by government, to support eventually the ecclesiastical establishment, and the public purposes of the crown. They are in equal portions, and are called "Crown and Clergy Reserves."

A Township.

This is a piece of land of uncertain extent; but from seven to twelve square miles may be said to comprise its general compass. It is divided into concessions and lots.

Locate, Location, Located.

These terms denote the settlement of an individual, of a lot, of a concession, or of a township, &c.

A Lot.

The quantity of land generally given to individual settlers: from one hundred to two hundred acres.

A Concession.

Parallel with the front of the township, but at an uncertain distance behind it (generally speaking a mile and a quarter, or a mile and a half), a second line is marked. This line is the rear of the front or the first concession (except, as is sometimes the case, where the front and first concessions differ); space for a road is then left, and a third line, parallel with the two former, becomes the front of the second concession;

thus, the whole depth is divided into concessions, with space for a road between every two.

These concessions are divided into lots, by taking a certain breadth on the front line of the township, for the front of each line of lots (commonly from five to ten acres, with a road between every five lots), and running this same breadth, perpendicularly, through every concession, from front to rear of the township. See Plate.

Deeded, Deeded Land, or Lands.

These terms signify lands, possessed, on authority of former grants, by persons not residing on them. They are left by their proprietors to improve in value by the labour of others around them; a fund of private and selfish gratulation, but a public disgrace and nuisance.

Thus the whole depth is divided into concessions
 with space for a road between every two.
 These concessions are divided into lots by
 taking a certain breadth on the front line of the
 township, for the front of each line of lots (com-
 monly from five to ten acres, with a road be-
 tween every five lots), and running this same
 breadth, perpendicularly through every conces-
 sion, from front to rear of the township. See
 Plate.

Becked, Beaded Land, or Landed

ERRATA.

Page.	Line.	
37	.. 1	.. for Clearanus, read clearances.
42	.. 19	.. for port, read post.
61	.. 19	.. for the, read their.
103	.. 4	.. for genera, read general.
115	.. 13	.. for free, read true.

has been telling for the last fifty years
with accumulating swarms from Europe
The winter climate the eastern parts

of Lower Canada, first encountered after
EMIGRANT'S GUIDE,

Atlantic, has stretched a shroud gloom
over the whole, which as she has been in
parent state, rivaled as she has been in

concerns of far more interesting import
ance; and her own remembrance from the
ocean, the great number of the

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS.

by which the most distant nations are
THE province of Upper Canada, sub-
ordinate to the British government, and
blessed by Divine Providence, through
the wisdom of the mother country, with
a peculiarly free and unburthened consti-
tution, remains, amidst the wild expanse
of its native forests, in great measure un-
known. Its enterprising neighbours (the
people of the United States), of larger
growth and more extended connexions,
have drawn to their own flourishing ter-
ritories, the vast tide of population, which

has been rolling for the last fifty years, with accumulating sweep from Europe. The wintry climate of the eastern parts of Lower Canada, first encountered after traversing the boisterous waves of the Atlantic, has stretched a shade of gloom over the whole: the inattention of the parent state, involved as she has been in concerns of far more interesting importance; and her own remoteness from the ocean, that great medium of intercourse, by which the most distant nations are in a manner approximated, have conspired to veil from the public mind, a soil and a climate, scarcely surpassed by any upon earth.

Upper Canada is situated between the 41° 40' and 47 degrees of north latitude, and between the 73 and 83 degrees of west longitude from Greenwich. In this large extent, much variety of climate and of soil, naturally exists. The north-western parts indeed, are almost totally unknown; and the general idea, indicated

by the term of Upper Canada (and that to which my remarks are almost exclusively pointed), comprises only that portion, the bounds of which are, north and south, the rivers Ottawas and St. Lawrence; east, the adjoining limit of Lower Canada; and west, an indefinite line, stretching E. by N. from the eastern extremity of Lake Huron, to the nearest point (in that direction) of the Ottawas River. Here it is especially, that nature reposes, under the rough shelter of her forests, prepared to yield to industry and skill, all that necessity, convenience, or elegance, could demand.

The Author, who is warmly attached to his country; whose interests are involved in the prosperity of her colonies; who, in the British isles, hath seen industry pining for labour, and the most diffusive system of charity in the world, exhausted, without being able to afford more than a temporary and mournfully inadequate relief; and in Upper Canada, the

riches of nature covered with barrenness, and abandoned to desolation, for want of that willing arm of industry and skill—who deploras the sufferings, which sometimes half avert, even the loyal heart, from its country; and who has witnessed a region, promising to the harassed energies of that heart, the fairest field of hope and of exertion, while the sacred flame of patriotism may glow, unclouded by foreign manners and by foreign domination, offers the following lines to his countrymen, and to all, in every country, to whom they may attain; whose circumstances may render emigration desirable to them, and at the same time enable them to undertake it; and who may be willing to become British subjects, under the mildest and wisest form of that admirable constitution.

He pledges himself for the general truth of what he shall state as *facts*, and he prefixes his name and designation, that he may be open to correction or to

reference, should any such be offered. He says the general truth, for much of what he advances must, of course, be on the report of others; and of such parts, he can only be responsible for the probable correctness.

He would premise, that the settlement of a new country is always a work of toil; that it necessarily subjects to many privations; that, to be encountered with success, it demands, together with a certain compass of means, prudence and energy, combined with a contented and persevering spirit; and that the advantages which it offers, great as they are, at the same time that they may be easily forfeited by a want of those qualities, are more eventual than immediate. The first settlers may, almost always, be said to toil for others more than for themselves; except, indeed, where a peculiar disinterestedness and activity of mind, appropriates to itself a rich and sweet reward in those very exertions, which to general minds would yield but drudgery.

The Author also submits (in order to avoid frequent repetitions) that he wishes it to be recollected, that where he states, not facts, but opinions, they are but the opinions of an individual: offered, with moderate information, he believes honestly, fairly, disinterestedly, and in utter rejection of every party feeling: but still only the opinions of an individual; and while he demonstrates, by asserting them, that he deliberately believes them to be correct, he is particularly solicitous, if not so, that they may be neutralized, and an opportunity afforded him of reconsidering, and, if requisite, of correcting them.

C. STUART.

Amherstburgh,

Western District, Upper Canada.

SECT. I.

*General Topographical Sketch of Upper Canada,
together with the Emigrant's Route through
it, by the River St. Lawrence and the Lakes.*

UPPER Canada is bounded to the southward by an immense, but irregular line of water. Of this, those inland seas, Lake Superior and Lake Huron, slumber on shores little known, and it is believed, little susceptible of improvement. Advancing to the eastward and southward, it extends itself from Lake Huron, in a southwardly direction, by the River St. Clair, the small Lake St. Clair, and the Detroit River, into Lake Erie, its most southern boundary. From the eastern extremity of Lake Erie, it tends northwardly by the Niagara River to Lake Ontario; and from the eastern extremity of Lake Ontario, by the vast sweep of the

River St. Lawrence in a north-eastwardly progress to the Lower Province, through which that river pursues its way to the sea.

At the distance of about 550 miles from its mouth, between Cape Chât and Cape Monts Pélés, ascending the St. Lawrence, is the eastern limit of Upper Canada, in the county of Glengary. This boundary is situated on Lake St. Francis, a shallow lake, in the course of the St. Lawrence, about thirty miles long. Its communication by water is interrupted, both above and below, by rapids; that is by passages in the river, where shallow rocky slopes in the bed, cause a violent rushing and agitation of the stream, and where boats only can be used,—in descending with little labour; but in ascending, with severe and perplexing toil. The eastern boundary is about mid-way in the course of these rapids, which begin a little below the village of Prescott, in the county of Grenville, and end at the

city of Montreal, in Lower Canada. Above Prescott, the navigation is open for vessels of a moderate size, to the immediate vicinity of the great cataract of Niagara, a distance of about 250 miles.

The navigation up the St. Lawrence is good for about 210 miles, that is to Green Island. Thence to Quebec, about 120 miles further, it is more intricate, though, with pilots, tolerably safe. A regular establishment of these exists, and it consists of experienced men; their lowest station is "Father Point," below Green Island; but their regulation needs improvement. They are not sufficiently controlled to keep a good look out below the dangers. When a great many vessels are expected up, they crowd down the river, leaving the vessels under dispatch from Quebec sometimes at a loss. Or, when Quebec is crowded, and few more expected from sea, they linger about the port, while the lower parts of the river remain destitute. The substitution in

this particular of such a plan as that used at Liverpool, would readily correct the evil, and it greatly needs correction.

From Quebec (the capital of Lower Canada) various conveniences of travelling exist, as far as Montreal, about 180 miles higher up the St. Lawrence. Vessels of considerable burthen sometimes navigate it; a line of steam-boats, starting almost every day, affords every convenience, (with elegant accommodations for cabin passengers) together with peculiar expedition; and a course of stages, offering the jolting choice to those who prefer travelling by land.

Above Montreal, in the course of a distance of 120 miles, to Prescott, the greatest interruption exists. The rapids before mentioned, at irregular intervals, and with various degrees of violence, preclude the ascent of the river to all but boats; and here of consequence arises an increased difficulty and expence.

There is indeed a line of stages ; but this can accommodate, even in a very *incommodious* manner, only a few ; and the road is interrupted with ferries, one of which is about eighteen miles long, extending through the greater part of Lake St. Francis.

The principal of these rapids are as follows, viz.

The *La Chine* rapid, near Montreal, which is generally or universally avoided by a land carriage of nine miles to *La Chine* (pronounced *Lâ Sheen*.)

The *Cascades*, the *Split Rock*, and a little above them the *Cedars* (between thirty and forty miles from Montreal) where the boats are unloaded, and their burthens conveyed on carts to the village of the *Cedars* (a distance of about six miles) just above the rapid of the same name. The boats are tracked up this distance with great toil, and then again laden for their voyage.

The *Coteau* or *Coteau de Lac*, at the

lower end of Lake St. Francis, near a small military post and fort of the same name, and where by a short canal, the chief violence of the rapid is avoided. About two miles above the fort, is the long stage ferry before mentioned.

The long saut or long rapid, not far above the village of Cornwall, in the county of Stormont, extending with unequal force eight or nine miles.

And the Gallooz, the least considerable, a few miles below Prescott.

From Prescott again, the navigation becomes commodious. One steam-boat constantly plying from May till November, goes to and fro between Prescott and the head of the bay of Quinté, stopping at Kingston on her way. Another traverses as constantly, and during the same period, between Kingston and Queenston, stopping on her way at York, the capital of the province. Kingston is situated at the head of the St. Lawrence, where it issues from the north-eastern extremity of

Lake Ontario. York is situated on a small bay, about 180 miles westward of Kingston, along the northern shore of the same lake: and Queenston, south of York, on the Niagara river, about seven miles below the great cataract of that name. The distance across the lake, from York to Queenston, is about 40 miles, passing by Niagara, or *Fort George* at the mouth of the Niagara river, seven or eight miles below Queenston. Besides these, there is an American steam-boat, affording also an opportunity every ten days from Prescott to Lewiston, which is on the American side of the Niagara river, nearly opposite to Queenston. There are further, small schooners and sloops, of occasional, but very uncertain convenience.

From Queenston the passage becomes more uncertain and more expensive: for this a double reason may be assigned.—1st. The interruption of water communication by the great cataract just above it:

and 2dly. The scantiness of the interior population.

Of these, the last is decreasing, and the other, which may be said to be dependant on it, will no doubt, as population advances, be obviated by canals.

From Queenston there is a land carriage of nine or ten miles to Chippewa, a village situated on a creek of the same name, about two miles above the cataract. Here are boats to convey lumber and baggage up to Fort Erie, a small military post at the head of the Niagara river, where it issues from Lake Erie; and 18 miles above Chippewa.

At Fort Erie, and in its neighbourhood, the accommodations for travellers are scanty, and the means of further progress very precarious.

Lake Erie extends in a direction W.S.W. about 250 miles, and communicates by an uninterrupted river navigation of 100 miles from its western extremity,

in a northern course, with Lake Huron. This river navigation, between Lakes Huron and Erie, has various names. Issuing from Lake Huron, in a southern course, it is called the River St. Clair, until it reaches the small lake of the same name; through that lake it pursues its way for about thirty miles; then again contracting, it assumes the name of the Detroit river, and falls into Lake Erie, about 21 miles below the American city of Detroit.

About three miles from the mouth of the Detroit river, where it issues into Lake Erie, is the village and military post of Malden or Amherstburgh, and about 16 miles higher up the river, the small town of Sandwich.

From Fort Erie * above-mentioned (at

* Care should be taken to distinguish this from another place, called Erie, or Presqu'isle, on the American side, higher up; that is to say, further to the westward.

the head of the Niagara river) there is (except during the winter months, from December to March) a constant intercourse by vessels, though their times of proceeding are very uncertain; and these afford the only means of transport on the British side, as the road along the northern shore of Lake Erie, is, in great measure, impassable for carriages, nor are any such to be obtained there. Along this shore, however, are two intermediate depôts: one at Long Point or Vittoria and their vicinity, about 60 or 70 miles westward of Fort Erie; and the other at Port Talbot, about 70 or 80 miles further. Both these places are approached casually only by small vessels or by hired boats.

A more favorable means of conveyance exists on the American side. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile below Fort Erie, is a ferry across the river. On the British side it is called the ferry, or Waterloo; on the American, Black Rock. From about half a mile

below this, a fine steam vessel, with excellent accommodations, traverses Lake Erie to Detroit, and returns every ten days at latest; and, if required, she lands her passengers near Amherstburgh, or Sandwich.

The expence of this progress may be stated as follows:

From England to Quebec, according to the port of departure, and to the terms made on the spot, which are very various. Liverpool, I believe, is the best place.

The remainder I shall state for cabin passengers, as the rates of these are less liable to fluctuate; noticing, that steerage passengers have to provide themselves with every thing, and with this addition, may generally obtain their passage for about one-third of the cabin price. Indeed a very liberal spirit is frequently displayed to them by the steam-boats, especially where there is any thing of a party.

Miles	BY STEAM-BOATS.			Time.	
	£	s.	d.	Days.	
180	From Quebec to Montreal	3	0	0	2 or 3
	BY LAND.				
9	From Montreal to La Chine				
	Stage	0	5	0	1 or less
	A cart . . .	0	12	6	
	BY BOATS.				
111	From La Chine to Prescott.				6 or 8, or 10.
	Price according to the terms made on the spot.				
	The hire of a whole boat of from two to three tons burthen, completely equipped for the passage, is about £20: say an individual place	1	0	0	
	Eight days provisions from Montreal to Prescott, say	1	0	0	
	(This is supposing the provisions to be carried with you, and used in the boat); and this is independent of lodging, (unless you choose to lodge in the boat, which would				
300		5	17	6	say 11

Miles		£	s.	d.	Time.
300					Days.
	Brought over	5	17	6	11
	be extremely uncomfortable); and of the transport of baggage.				
	BY STEAM-BOAT.				
60	From Prescott to Kingston	1	0	0	1
180	— Kingston to York, or to Niagara and Queenston	3	0	0	2
	BY STAGE.				
27 or 28	From Queenston to Waterloo, or the ferry, or to Fort Erie.....	0	12	6	1
	(Independently of provisions and lodging, &c.)				
	Ferry to Black Rock	0	2	0	
	BY STEAM-BOAT.				
250	From Black Rock to near Amherstburgh, Sandwich, or to Detroit.....	4	5	0	2 or 3
	(The above distance is to Amherstburgh.)				
	Ferry to Amherstburgh, or Sandwich	0	2	0	
817	Total	14	19	0	say 18

This is rather an approximation than an exact estimate. The variety of con-

veyances, and the fluctuation of terms resulting from that variety, and from other circumstances, together with the inconsistencies of the provincial currency, render it difficult to be perfectly exact. But from the above, an approximate idea of the expence may be formed. The steam-boats and stages will generally carry, besides your person, at the above rates, without question, say one cwt. The transport of all baggage beyond that quantity must be added to the estimate. Lodging and meals at the inns on the road, may be generally said to be about two shillings sterling each, or perhaps, a little more; and if, therefore, you were to cater and sleep on shore during the above passage, at the public houses, and take two meals a day, there would be an additional expence of about, from

Montreal to Prescott, . . . - -	£1	8	0
From Queenston to Waterloo,	0	6	0
	<hr/>		
	£1	14	0
	<hr/>		

Besides the days of detention on the road, which from the changes of conveyances and their discordant periods of arrival and departure, would probably increase the time, by, say, one-third; that is, six additional days on shore at six shillings per day - - - - - £1 16 0
 Last addition - - - - - 1 14 0
 First estimate - - - - - 14 19 9

Days 24. Total £18 9 0

Besides additional luggage.

In the most penurious style, this journey might be accomplished, perhaps at one-third of the above expence; but, it would be at the risk of health, without great care and skill in providing against exposure to hunger, and to those inclemencies of the weather, which must be expected to be encountered in so long a jaunt.

The boats on the River St. Lawrence,

are of two descriptions. The smaller are called batteaux (pronounced battoes), are from two to four tons burthen; have commonly three rowers and a pilot (with a fragment of sail to use when occasion offers), and their crews are French Canadians. Large depositories of these are kept at La Chine by various managers, and they may be there obtained at all times with inconsiderable delay. I had occasion once to freight one from the firm of Grant and Co. and was most satisfactorily served.

The larger are called Durham boats. They are generally manned by Americans; are more commodious than the batteaux; are better found; and when the wind favors, are more expeditious; but they cannot always be so much depended on as the others. Both are abundantly safe under the Divine mercy. A person named Tucker, who is a native of the State of New York, and who has an establishment of the Durhams, may be

safely recommended where that description is preferred.

Boats (of the batteaux description) may sometimes be obtained at Chippewa and at Fort Erie, for traversing Lake Erie; and when the emigrant does not wish to go to the extremity of the lake, and they can be obtained, they are sometimes the most convenient. Their fare depends upon the terms made at the time. It should be known, however, that the northern shore of Lake Erie is, in the greatest part of its extent, abrupt and high; that a strong wind from the southward, heaves the body of the water northwardly, and surmounting the narrow and casual beach, dashes its encroaching waves against the cliffs. On these occasions, no landing-place remains; and persons, therefore, navigating boats in such a situation, require boldness and caution, experience and skill.

Beyond Detroit (an American city,

about 18 miles above Amherstburgh, on the opposite side of the Detroit river) the means of passage or conveyance are very precarious; but as the tide of emigration flows to the extensive purchases of remarkably fertile lands lately made on the Rivers St. Clair and Thames, this disadvantage will diminish until it cease. On the immediate banks of the Thames, there is already a flourishing settlement, and the climate and soil around, promise every thing to the persevering hand of industry.

Such is the great central line of communication. Its inflections are,

The Bay of Quinté or Canty, between which and Kingston, a small independent navigation already exists.

The small bay of York.

The bay near Burlington, at the western end of Lake Ontario; a large exposed road, without any shelter from eastern storms.

And the bay of Long Point, on the north side of Lake Erie; also without any shelter from the eastward.

One universal remark may be extended to the rivers of the province, which are out of the great line above denoted, that they are all interrupted with rapids or with cataracts, generally at no great distance from their mouths. *They still afford, indeed, vast advantages for internal intercourse; yet those advantages are in a very important degree lowered beneath the standard, which would naturally be imputed to them. Nor is this evil compensated by the presence of any of that bold and commanding scenery, the idea of which is concurrent with that of rapids and cataracts. The imagination is chilled by the surrounding tameness. The evil remains alone. An evil blended, as above-stated, with important advantages; and those advantages cast the reproach of ingratitude upon the sentiment which in their presence can dwell upon that evil.*

The general course of the Ottawas, which forms a sheltered communication between Lake Huron and Montreal, is through a wild and reputedly sterile country, and is little frequented except by the north-west canoes.

In reviewing this head, we may observe, that from the sea upwards, there are three great courses of internal navigation.

1st. That between the sea and Montreal, a distance of about 500 miles.

2d. That between Prescot and Queenston, which includes the expanse of Lake Ontario, about 250 miles, and

3d. That between Chippewa, or Fort Erie, and the Falls of St. Mary, at the north-western extremity of Lake Huron, including the whole extent of Lakes Erie and Huron, about 600.

Besides the navigation of Lake Superior, above the falls of St. Mary, which I have not yet mentioned, as, except to the Hudson's Bay and North-West traders,

it is without the present range of Canadian intercourse :

And two prominent interruptions,

1st. That of the rapids between Montreal and Prescott, 120 miles, and

2d. That of the great cataract of Niagara, between Queenston and Chipewa, nine miles. Of these, it will be recollected, that the latter only is an absolute interruption—as, although the whole ascent of the rapids is difficult, yet it is only for a short distance that the boats are compelled to unlade.

RECAPITULATION.

From	To	Conveyance.	Time.	Fare.			Dist. Miles.
			Days.	£	s.	d.	
Quebec	Montreal	Steam-boat	2 or 3	3	0	0	180
Montreal	La Chine	Stage	1 or less	0	5	0	9
La Chine	Prescot	Boats	8, &c.	1	0	0	111
Prescot	Kingston	Steam-boat	1	1	0	0	60
Kingston	York	ditto	2	3	0	0	180
		miles.					
York	Niagara	33 } ditto	1	1	0	0	40
	Queenston						
Queenston	Fort Erie	Stage	1	0	12	6	28
Fort Erie or Black Rock	Amherst- burgh	Steam-boat	2 or 3	4	5	0	250
Additional, by delays on the road..			6	3	10	0	
Total			24 or 25	23	12	6	858

SECT. II.

Shades of Climate, as well in relation to Health as to Vegetable Productions.

THE general character of the climate of Upper Canada may be designated as warm and good. But these two characteristics vary under particular circumstances, and exist in proportions somewhat unequal.

From the eastern boundary of the province to Kingston, and between the St. Lawrence and Ottawas rivers, its proportion of warmth is least; from Kingston to the head (or north-western border) of Lake Ontario, and southward of the line of small lakes and rivers, which intersect the country between Lake Ontario and the Ottawas, the proportion of warmth is somewhat greater. From the head of Ontario to Port Talbot on Lake

Erie, including the Niagara district, the warmth increases; and its greatest degree is from Port Talbot to the Detroit and St. Clair rivers. The western extremity, as it has permanently a greater proportion of heat, so may it, perhaps, in very hot and dry seasons, be a shade less healthy than the other parts of the province. Such seemed to be the case in the summer of 1819, when a degree and a continuance of warmth was experienced, greater than had been known for the preceding twenty years: and when, amidst the universal sickliness which prevailed in both provinces, that of the western district of the Upper Province, seemed somewhat to preponderate.

The fact that increased sickliness arises in very hot and dry seasons, may seem here to demand explanation; for it is the action of heat upon moisture which depraves the air. This was the exact case in the instance in question.

The country is intersected with marshy

spaces, which flourish in the moisture dripping from the woods around them. Where these are more considerable, they generally have vents into the approximate lakes; and while the water is abundant, these vents being kept open, preserve the circulation, and carry off the superfluity. But their mouths are subject to the general liability of all rivers to bars. When the season is particularly hot and dry, these bars, under the circumstances, then favourable to them, are formed. The issue of the water is impeded or stopped. The fluid extends itself in a shallow surface, over the neighbouring flats. The interior dampness also, diminished by the season, and hemmed in in consequence by every little inequality of the surrounding surface, stagnates in its own hollows. The natural effect of heat upon thinly and widely diffused stagnant moisture, is of course experienced; and that effect is in a measure proportionate to the degree and duration of that heat, and to the ex-

tent of that moisture. Perhaps it would be impossible, more strongly to characterize the general salubrity of the climate, than by recording the fact, that in a season, wherein arose such an extraordinary concurrence of unhealthy influences, as those which took place in the summer of 1819, and when a similar parallel of latitude in the United States, was visited with that dreadful disease, which is commonly called the yellow fever, Upper Canada, including its western district, experienced only a fever of a mild and totally non-infectious type, tedious indeed and perplexing, but generally speaking, very far from dangerous.

With respect to general vegetation, the climate of the western districts has a decided superiority. Wheat indeed, together with the rest of the British grains and vegetables, cannot be finer than they are on the shores of Ontario. But for the cultivation of Indian corn, tobacco, and fruit, the north-western shores of Lake

Erie, the banks of the Detroit river, and those of the Thames, of the St. Clair, and of Big-Bear creek, excel every other part, and offer peculiar advantages, in these particulars, to the settler. The comparative shortness of the winters also afford a facility in wintering cattle, and in various other cares of husbandry, which is not equally possessed elsewhere: though a counterpoise to this advantage exists in the colder districts, where severer weather forms a greater continuance (in winter) of better roads.

It should always be recollected that stagnant moisture is every where injurious; that in proportion to the increase of warmth it becomes more so; and hence, that marshes and their vicinity, in this province, particularly to the south-westward, are unhealthy, and should by all means be avoided. Wood lately cut down, lying around, decaying and collecting damp, has a similar tendency,

though in a greatly inferior degree, and should therefore be burnt and removed as quickly as possible after it is felled; especially near the spot appropriated for dwelling.

In mentioning above the banks of the River St. Clair, as part of the warmest division of Upper Canada, their northern extremity was not intended to be included. The colder climate of Lake Huron is felt at the distance of ten or twelve miles from its shores; and the upper part of the St. Clair therefore, within that distance, partakes of a lower degree of temperature, and of the advantages and defects incident to it: a minor productiveness of the articles above-mentioned as a defect; and a lesser liability to suffer from the casual occurrence of an extremely hot summer, as an advantage.

The whole province produces abundantly, when cultivated, every kind of British grain, and pulse or vetches; to-

gether with all the common fruits and vegetables of Britain, besides others which Britain has not so commonly.

The maize or Indian corn is raised in every part of it; but abundantly and securely, only in the western districts. In other parts it is apt to be blighted before it comes to maturity, by the early autumnal frosts. Of course, this disaster may occur in the western districts also, if the corn be planted too late; but then, it is the fault of the planting, and not of the climate.

Tobacco is also produced in every part of the province; but the western district is probably the only part where it could be advantageously cultivated to commercial extent; and there it need have hardly any limit but the means and other views of the cultivator. It has been tried on a small scale near Amherstburgh, and has been judged equal in manufacture to any obtained from the United States.

All the British fruits, &c. are congenial to the province; but the garden gooseberry does not appear to thrive in the western district; although the gooseberry, in a wild state, is universally indigenous.

The melon, in its various species, and the vine, may be every where reared with a facility unknown in England. The wild vine, the fruit of which is small, harsh, and unpalatable, abounds throughout the forests.

The various species of plums appear to suffer, to the westward, from too luxurious a growth. But the peach and the vine there seem to have found their congenial climate, and whenever cultivated, flourish abundantly with little care. A superior kind of pears needs introduction. Their cherries also, though abundant where cultivated, are not select. Currants thrive admirably.

Wild strawberries and blackberries are

common in Clearanus; but the real raspberry is rare. A few other berries are found; some plentifully. But the nuts are the pride of the woods. Where you meet the apple, or the plum, in the forests, it is a diminutive, harsh, repulsive fruit. The nuts, on the contrary, seem perfectly at home. They tower, of various kinds, amidst the lofty heads of the trees, and scatter around their treasures, the natural granaries of the squirrel, the hog, and the bear. They are,

The walnut, or black walnut, as it is called, of a peculiar and rather disagreeable flavor.

The white walnut, or butter-nut, and the hickory nut, which much resemble each other, and both of which are excellent.

The chesnut, equal to that in England.

The filbert, of a good quality.

The beechnut, and some others of an inferior description, a store for quadrupeds.

None of these, I believe, are peculiar to any part of the province; but it is in the western peninsula that they principally abound.

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 and no chestnut equal to that of England,
 and the chest of a good quality. The
 The chestnut, and some others, are
 inferior description, a store for quack-
 pills.

SECT. III.

Sketch of Settlements already made, and of Districts now open and opening for Settlement.

THE settlements already made, divide themselves into two heads, viz. Those which have long existed, or at least for a longer time; and those which have been recently formed.

A similar division will occur in considering those which are now open or opening for settlement; and those which, in every probability, will shortly be opened.

Thus, the settler may be enabled to judge more distinctly of the particular circumstances which might affect his choice. Places long settled are, of course, generally speaking, more improved; but the degree of this improvement is superior, in proportion as they are to the eastward. The immediate conveniences are greater; foreign articles are more

abundant and more cheap, and land only is higher. But, on the other hand, for moderate means, there is generally, in such places, less scope for enterprise, and the prospect of eventual benefit, to such means, is comparatively less.

It may be observed, that the lands now open and opening for settlement, probably offer superior advantages to any which not long hence may be attainable. The occupation of the fronts on the rivers and lakes, already far advanced, will then be completed; and although a vast extent of land, equal perhaps in quality to any in the world, will remain, yet it will be subject to the disadvantage of being removed from the immediate contact of water communication.

To begin from the eastward, in which course the tide of emigration necessarily flows, we may comprise, generally, under the first division, that is, of settlements long made,

The northern skirts of the St. Law-

rence, from Cornwall to Kingston, including both of those places : from Kingston, by the high road, to York, inclusive: from York, round the head of Lake Ontario, by the Niagara river, to Fort Erie; and returning to the road round the head of Lake Ontario, from Dundas, on that road, to Port Talbot. Then, omitting the large intervening space, introduce what is called the new settlement, on the northern shore of the western extremity of Lake Erie; Amherstburgh, or Malden, which borders upon the new settlement; Sandwich and its vicinity; the settlements on the Thames; and the small settlement of Beldoon, lately belonging to Lord Selkirk, who first established it. The western high road also, by Dundas Street, from York to Amherstburgh, where it extends beyond the above-mentioned settlements on the Thames, which form a part of it, may be comprised in this division.

The second division (that is, of settle-

ments recently formed) is of narrower compass; is less continuous, and is more devious in its track.

Its first point may be held to be Perth, (or the *Depôt* (*Depo*), as it is familiarly called in the neighbourhood) on the river Radeau. This is of a peculiar character, and has peculiar advantages and disadvantages.

Struck by events of the last war, with the risks incident to the navigation of the head of the *St. Lawrence*, in case of contest with the *United States*, it became an anxious object with the government, to provide for the public service another route, more sheltered from those risks: and the result of the research, produced by this desire, was the choice of Perth, as an original port, for the prosecution of the work.

At the distance of about forty miles from *Brockville*, the nearest and most favorable frontier to it, and far out of the route of common observation, this place

would probably have slumbered unknown, beneath the retired wildness of its native forests for another half century, had not this circumstance called it forth; and its remoteness, even when thus produced, required for it a fostering hand to support what had been founded. The assistance of government was liberally advanced; a fine soil, with a salubrious climate, corroborated the effort; the unusual impulse produced a corresponding effect; and Perth, though commenced but the other day (that is, about four years ago), already assumes the appearance of a flourishing colony. The extension of the settlement is continuing, both towards Kingston and the Ottawas; and the spirit which planned and supports it, sees this great object of public utility, apparently approaching to a favorable conclusion.

The more recent settlement of Richmond on the Ottawas (in furtherance of the route by Perth), is, I believe, of a somewhat similar character.

Westward from Perth, somewhat inclining to the southward, at the distance perhaps of 130 miles (by the road it is a greater distance) lies the Rice Lake. This is the south-eastern extremity of a small chain of lakes, extending from the eastern end of Lake Huron, and communicating with the bay of Quinté by the river Trent. South of it, have lately been formed, and settled as far as local disadvantages would permit, the townships of Cavan and Connaught. These are principally peopled by Irish.

The next point, passing over the intervening space, is the neighbourhood of York. Here, great numbers, within the last two or three years, have been settled; and this section may be extended indefinitely, along the line of communication, by Yonge Street and Lake Simcoe, to Penetangushene Bay, at the eastern extremity of Lake Huron.

After this we have a long interval. Port Talbot on the northern shores of

Lake Erie forms a new department. Its proprietor, Col. Talbot, superintends the settlement of a new road, called Talbot Street, extending from the eastern vicinity of Port Talbot, nearly one hundred miles west. And north of Dundas Street, the London Township, stretching northwardly from the forks of the Thames, has been recently appropriated, under the same superintendance.

Under the second head, the lands now open for settlement are,

The remainder of the Radeau or Perth settlement, and the Richmond settlement, in the line of communication between Kingston and the Ottawas,

The remainders of Cavan and Connaught, near the Rice Lake,

The remainders of Townships near York, and of settlements on the line of communication between York and Lake Huron,

And the remainder of the lands under the superintendance of Col. Talbot, North

of Lake Erie, and in the township of London.

Those which in every probability are now opening, or will soon be opened, are more extensive.

They are, in the line between Kingston and the Ottawas, by Perth and Richmond, such parts as shall be deemed most suitable for completing that line, and are not deeded or reserved :

In the lines between Lake Huron and York by Yonge Street, and between Lake Huron and the Bay of Quinté by the small lakes and the River Trent, such parts as shall be deemed most eligible for the completion of those lines, and are subject to no restriction :

New townships, in the distant neighbourhood of York :

Parts on Dundas Street :

A new road under Col. Talbot's superintendance, parallel with, and north of that lately settled under him, on the northern side of Lake Erie :

Townships on the River Thames, formed out of lands lately purchased from the Indians :

Townships on Big Bear Creek, between the Thames and the St. Clair, similarly formed :

Townships similarly formed, on the eastern banks of the River St. Clair :

And probably, a small township (expected to be purchased from the Indians) near Amherstburgh.

These several anticipated settlements, comprise millions of acres of some of the finest lands, in one of the finest climates in the world.

And here I shall offer some conjectures on the comparative advantages and disadvantages of the above divisions. They are my own conjectures, and would, no doubt, be controverted by many. The event only can fully determine their character.

These opinions are as follow, viz.

That in a general comparison of cli-

mate and soil, with respect to salubrity, the banks of the St. Lawrence from Montreal to Kingston, and the whole of the northern shores of Lake Ontario, together with the opposite district of Niagara, and the high lands about Ancaster, are to be preferred. Here, in my opinion, exists the happiest medium of heat and cold, for health; and vegetation, generally speaking, is abundantly luxuriant. Here also, are the most favourable situations for commerce; and here, the most agreeable scenery.

On the other hand, with a climate also salubrious, though probably less so, the western districts appear to me to have a decided superiority in vegetable productions. They yield in equal abundance every thing which is afforded by other parts of the province; they produce some things with greater luxuriance and certainty; and for some (tobacco, for instance, as an article of commerce) they alone are suitable. The labour and ex-

pence of wintering cattle, though still serious, is less, and an equal product of every kind is reared with somewhat minor toil.

The great cataract of Niagara, however, shuts them out from the sea; and although the intervening distance of land carriage which it produces, be not great (only nine miles), yet it is sufficient, together with the additional distance, to give them a decidedly inferior character in this respect. Canals, no doubt will, ere very long, lower this balance against them; but it will probably never be effaced, until the productions, suitable to their warmer air only, be cultivated to a proportionate extent.

For that vigour of constitution, which to a certain extent, is the concomitant of exertion and of labour, and to which a certain degree of heat seems prejudicial, the climate of the first of these sections, would, in my opinion, be preferable. The human character requires at once, a com-

pulsory call to exertion, and the restriction of that call within moderate limits. If not urged by necessity, it will decline into indolence; if urged too far, it will decay through toil. The medium which it requires, as far as relates to soil and climate, appears to me to exist from Montreal inclusive; westwardly, along the banks of the St. Lawrence and the northern shores of Lake Ontario, to the western limits of the Home and Niagara districts.

Further to the westward, tending, in the course of our settlements, southwardly, this happiest medium appears to me to fail. There is less necessity for labour, and a greater proportion of heat. Emigrants indeed, at first, will here, as elsewhere, always have an excess of labour. But that excess, temporary though it be, is rather prejudicial than useful; and the permanent influence, which would exist when this was past, and which would form an abiding feature of the country,

would, in my opinion, be, a minor degree of that constitutional, indefatigable, and steady vigour, which marks the happiest classes of the human race. I mean the happiest with respect to habitual energy of body and of mind; not, in regard of those enjoyments, which constitute the general idea of happiness, and to which, the westward promises to be most favourable.

SECT. IV.

General Terms on which Settlers are received by the Government; and the usual Extent to which they are provided for.

EMIGRANTS are received as subjects, and are required, before they receive lands, to take the oath of allegiance. They should not expect pecuniary assistance of any kind; neither provisions nor utensils. The magnitude of the national debt, and of the public burthens, forbid their being furnished with any. With themselves rest all the cares and expence of arriving at their several places of destination, and of there providing for themselves. The government can only supply them with land.

The usual quantity lately given has been, one hundred acres to each man arrived at the age of twenty-one, or up-

wards. The choice of the several parts of the province open for location, is commonly allowed, if the means of the individual enable him to proceed at his own expence. But when he has chosen his township, the particular lot which he is to have, is not always optional. In order to concentrate population, and to preserve impartiality, it is often found requisite to proceed by lots, and the person then remains located, on that which he draws.

These terms, however, have not been universal; particularly on Talbot Street, where 200 acres were given, and a free choice allowed. I am not aware whether the same advantages will be continued, on the new parallel street, about to be formed, under the same superintendance.

Superior means of cultivation, displayed to the satisfaction of the council at York, entitle to the expectation of larger grants, in proportion to those means, and within the provincial limit of 1200 acres to any one individual.

A condition attends every grant. It is, that a certain portion of the land shall be cleared and cultivated, and a small log house of certain dimensions built, within a certain time.

This portion is, five acres in the hundred; and the dimensions of the house (I believe) are, eighteen feet by sixteen; to be completed within two years; and in default thereof, the whole to be forfeited. The final right to the land, is not given, till these duties, which are called the settling duties, are fulfilled; and certain fees (amounting to between five and six pounds for 100 acres, but more in proportion for larger quantities) are paid upon receiving the final title or deed or grant from government.

The casually impending forfeiture above-mentioned is never exacted, except in cases of extreme remissness, or of total abandonment.

It is at once apparent, that the above settling duties, are a benefit and not a griev-

ance; and were all men, who seek new lands, inclined to become real settlers on those lands, no necessity could exist for such a clause. But this is, unfortunately, not the case; and here, as in many other particulars, the arm of public authority must interfere to watch over and secure the interests, as well of the individual as of the public.

At the same time, the wisdom of government is displayed in retaining the duty on so small a compass. Were the settlers always unincumbered; or had they means independently to provide for themselves, few of those actually settling, would, in any probability, confine themselves to so small an improvement. But this is by no means the case. They are frequently obliged to spend great part of their time in working for others, in order to obtain the means of subsistence, implements of husbandry, cattle, household utensils, &c.; and hence, they find the completion, even of these moderate duties, sufficiently arduous.

SECT. V.

Particular Difficulties of first Settlement; and local Facilities for overcoming them.

THESE are the concomitants of the circumstances to be encountered, acting upon the nature of such a being as man.

In one view, "a stranger in a foreign clime" should anticipate nothing beyond the fullest compass of his own means. He is unknown—and what may he not be? Suspicion looks upon him, and spontaneously interprets evil—Caution keeps him at a distance—Benevolence has been often deceived, and fears to trust the warmth of her heart, that longs to receive him. Pride, and intolerance, and malice, take offence even at his efforts to serve and to please; and slander spreads her willing wings, fraught with their fabrications. The stranger must be strong, or he may often tremble; and often will

he have to turn from human gall, to the sweetness of Calvary, there to find a spirit that can understand, and there a hope that can cheer him.

In another view, want begets sympathy: and we almost universally find, that hospitality is concomitant with privation. Place a people at their ease; surround them with security and with comfort, and let them possess within themselves all that they chiefly desire; and whatever social or domestic affections or habits may adorn their little circles, the stranger will find a cold heart and an averted eye amongst them. But, let them be themselves struggling for independence or for comfort; place around them the like battle which he is encountering; and make exertion and suffering as essential to them as they are to him, and he will be hailed, in a measure as a brother; and mutual want will be to them a bond of union, and of reciprocal comfort and advantage.

The difficulties to be first encountered

by foreign settlers in Canada (by foreign, I here mean those who come from any distant country, British as well as others) are such as ought to make every stranger pause. They demand the whole energies of our nature to overcome them, and should be contemplated with an enlightened and steady eye before they are confronted.

How many have had cause bitterly to mourn the want of this precaution.

Yet let me not be misunderstood. These difficulties are not peculiar to Canada. They are even less there, I believe, than elsewhere. But they are the inseparable difficulties, to which, in various degrees, all emigrants must be exposed, when they proceed to colonize a new country; and for that purpose, have to rescue it from the barrenness of nature.

The general character and local situation of these lands, are already briefly stated. The following remarks apply to them all.

They are universally in a state of nature; and the almost universal nature of the lands in these provinces, is, to be covered with a thick and stately growth of forest trees, beneath which flourishes a perplexing covert of underwood. This covert is the abode of numerous tribes of herbs, the qualities of which appear to be most highly interesting (particularly in the western districts), though yet but very imperfectly known. Grass is rare, and is of an inferior kind, appearing only in the less shaded intervals. Small natural meadows (or half marshes) of very luxuriant, but very insipid hay, occasionally intervene, and where they are not too swampy, offer to the settler a highly useful supply of winter fodder for his cattle during the first years, before he can supply himself with meadows. But where extensive and swampy, they are unfavorable to health, and should by all means be avoided.

These forests consist of various kinds

of wood ; and the description of wood denotes, to a certain degree, the quality of the land.

The oaks and chesnut, generally grow on dry ground ; the latter more especially on ridges.

The black oak and chesnut grow on a sandy and poor soil ; as do the various species of the pine, including the hemlock.

White and red oak, blended with other woods, bespeak a strong and lasting soil.

Beech and white oak lands seem most favorable for wheat.

The maples and black walnut, particularly the latter, where it grows in large clusters, point out the richest soils ; generally low and somewhat damp in a state of nature, but only requiring clearance to become abundantly dry.

Amongst the underwood, the prickly ash and spice-wood, promise the best.

The growth of most of these may be destroyed by what is called girdling them ;

that is, by making a double incision all round, quite through the bark, and removing the rim of bark thus cut. The beech, and, I believe, the maples, are exceptions. This method, however, even where the trees yield to it, is not generally advisable; as the decaying branches and trees are apt at times to fall unexpectedly, and many mournful bereavements have been the consequence. Necessity only should ever sanction it.

The oaks, but more particularly the black oak and chesnut, where not much mixed with other wood, have generally the thinnest growth, and may, consequently, be most easily cleared away; but the land on which they thus grow is the least productive. The various species of pine also grow thinly; but the roots are so indestructible, that the preparation of pine land for culture, is, I believe, the most difficult of all.

In a general view, the largest, tallest,

and thickest wood, denotes the most fertile soils.

In every case, however, the settler has to go to the forest, and select for himself, from its damp and gloomy shades, the immediate scene of his exertions. With toil, and subject to privation; that is, with but poor shelter, and poor diet, and destitute of almost every convenience, he must open for himself a place of shelter, and, under mercy, of future comfort and independence. He must first clear away the underwood; he must cut down the thick and lofty trees; he must deprive them, after they are fallen, of their branches; of these, he must separate the more massy from the smaller parts; he must pile together in compact heaps whatever he can lift; he must divide the formidable trunks into moderate lengths (generally of twelve or fourteen feet); he must toilsomly burn those heaps after they are sufficiently dry for that purpose;

he must get hauled together, by the help of his neighbours and of cattle, the massy logs which remain; he must have them heaped and burn them. Then may he begin to look forward to a reward.

A harrow amply prepares the ground, thus recently cleared, for an abundant harvest: and all that remains is, to sow, to harrow again, and to fence it, by splitting for that purpose the wood which he has reserved at hand: by getting the wood thus split (into rails as they are called) hauled to the circumference of his field; and by laying it up in the manner, and according to the rules of the country.

To clear a spot and build a cabin, and to clear, prepare, and cultivate, a few acres in this manner, must obviously be, in the first place, a discouraging and an oppressive toil. It daunts many a heart; and it is accompanied with some aggravating, and with some alleviating circumstances.

The place where all this toil must be

encountered is, generally, distant from every market; from every place where provisions of any kind may be procured; and the roads around, if any such exist, are next to impassable. The difficulty of procuring even the most indispensable articles of food, is extreme, the rate is generally high, and the loss of time and of labour great. Truly a man must go to it with a soul prepared to suffer and to persevere.

These are the aggravating circumstances, and they ought to be known without disguise.

The alleviations are, that the original settlers, at least where I have been to the westward, (and I should hope elsewhere) are extremely hospitable and kind. They are as willing to yield as to receive assistance; and an industrious, sober, and good-tempered stranger, may, under mercy, depend upon the most friendly furtherance from them, in his efforts after independence. This disposition in his

neighbours affords the new-comer a vast facility, and is often the means of crowning with success, efforts that were otherwise useless.

Mechanics, particularly carpenters, blacksmiths, and shoemakers, may generally be sure of obtaining employment, with high wages.

SECT. VI.

Prospective Success amply warrants those who are on the Spot in encountering at once the whole Struggle of the Exertion, instead of pursuing the palliative Means which some adopt.

THE preceding section, aims at distinctly displaying the difficulties and hardships which are at first to be encountered. They are weighty, and it is the particular wish of the writer that they should be estimated at their fullest extent. Nothing, perhaps, tends more ruinously to damp the spirit of exertion and of persevering enterprise, than an exaggerated impression of the advantages or facilities to be expected. We are naturally prone, alike to undue suspicion and to vain confidence. But our confidence once deceived, we aptly rush with displeasure into doubt and depression; and while thus disturbed, the most

obvious truth often seeks to be heard in vain.

The Emigrant, before he starts for Canada, or for any foreign settlement, should strenuously endeavour to obtain the best possible information, respecting the difficulties which he has to encounter. Human nature, a rebellious and ungrateful thing, generally depreciates present blessings and exaggerates future good. The most lovely flowers, even the everlasting flowers of Christian friendship and of Christian love, often lose their fragrance when possessed; and we are capable of glooming amidst the enjoyment of blessings, the bare idea of which is full to us of unutterable sweetness. Thus, future scenes, viewed by us through the same perverse and darkened medium, present prospects of advantage or of joy, which we doatingly cherish, but which, while the prospect is mortal, shall never be realized. How truly, indeed, in the poet's words, doth "distance lend en-

chantment to the view." We travel onward, and discover our delusion, but are deluded still. Instead of profiting by the experience; instead of resting with grateful hearts upon the blessings which we possess, and struggling, with contented and obedient energy, to overcome the difficulties and the disappointments which have encountered us, we are apt to shrink from them with depression and disgust; and with similar lunacy of expectation to that which has already deluded us, but from which we have drawn no improvement, we rush on to new views and to new enterprises, which, as certainly, shall again delude and betray the obstinate extravagance of our expectations.

The author would most earnestly and affectionately offer these considerations to the serious judgment and conscience of every one, who, under feelings of dissatisfaction with his present condition, contemplates a change. Beware, he would exclaim, with what principle you pro-

secute your views; expect many difficulties and depressions, foreseen and unforeseen; commit your ways to the Lord; be grateful and submissive to his common providence; look forward to toil and to exertion; and be prepared for perseverance, whatever obstacles you may encounter, or you will still be disappointed and repine.

But with all these warnings, most serious as they are, he continues to be of opinion, that the prospective advantages of settling in Upper Canada, amply warrant those who are on the spot in encountering at once, the whole struggle of the exertion, instead of pursuing the palliative means which some adopt.

By those who are on the spot, he means those who have already overcome all the difficulties and expences of the passage, and have arrived at York, (the capital of Upper Canada, between eight and nine hundred miles from the sea,) with their finances not yet exhausted. Between

these and others at a distance, there is a most important difference. Though much remains, still the greatest part of their struggle is overcome. (Here I speak of persons in narrow circumstances; the case is essentially different with those of more enlarged means.) The land, which under mercy is to form their future establishment, is, in a measure, within their reach. The risks and expences of a passage over the ocean; the uncertainties and anxieties of recent arrival in a foreign country; the perplexities of determining upon future plans; the disheartening fact of being still an unsettled and wandering stranger; the trouble, the charge of passing into the interior, and all the delusions which may be encountered on the way, are in great measure past; and all that remains, is to obtain the chosen or allotted portion; to proceed to it without delay; and in the active and persevering use of all the means of Providence and of grace, to struggle through every toil

and every privation, for its redemption from the barren gloom of uncultivated nature! You are then among neighbours, whether you succeed or fail; but under mercy, you cannot fail, if your health be preserved, and you are sober, industrious, and persevering. You are soon surrounded, as it were, with your own people; and the danger, that most hideous danger, of finding yourself destitute upon arriving on a foreign shore, without means to return, and without means to prosecute your journey and your purposes, is no more!

The palliative means which some adopt, in preference to encountering at once the toils and the privations of settling in the above manner, in the forests, is the rent or superintendance of lands not their own; a rent, or superintendance, obtainable on favorable terms in various parts of the country already settled, where the same privations do not exist,

and where, while the immediate toil is less, present comfort is far greater.

People who prefer this plan, may, in almost every part of the country, procure the charge of farms in a state of cultivation, with a log house and barn, provided with implements of husbandry, and moderately stocked with cattle, on condition of yielding one-half of the produce of every kind to the proprietor. The evil is, that they are still labouring on the property of others; and unless, in addition to their own maintenance, they can lay by sufficient eventually to purchase, they are securing no permanent provision for themselves or their families.

The difference is, that whereas those who at once encounter the effort, undergo immediately the severest privations, and the most harassing toils; but, under Providence, have a certain prospect of eventual, and not very distant, independence.

Those who seek for more present comfort, and greater immediate convenience, are absolved from the excess of those privations, and of those toils; but remain, until death, the servants of others, and leave a similar state of dependance to their posterity.

And where (were I to consult my feelings), where, should I say, is the just and vigorous mind, which, provided the comparison be fairly drawn, would not prefer the former? But I know there are minds which would not prefer it, although I believe the comparison to be drawn with simplest fairness. To such then, I would add, that Montreal, in my opinion, and its neighbourhood, probably offer the most favourable situations; but I should regret what I believed to be their delusion; I should excite minds of a different cast to the contest, while, without disguise, I endeavoured to lay open to them, the very desperate struggle which they would at first have to encoun-

ter; and through the privations and sufferings, and hardships of a few short years, I should look forward, with grateful expectation, to the independence that, in my opinion, would be awaiting them.

to a similar state of dependence to
that possibly I should have been in
if I had waited until I could consult my feelings
(I say) which I should have done just and
reasons which I should have provided the con-
sideration of the fact that I should not prefer
to be in the same state as I am now in
I know that I should have been in a
which I should not prefer to be in
I believe the comparison to be drawn with
I say such that I should have been in
would add that I should have been in my opi-
nion and the independence of my feelings
over the most favorable situation; but
I should have been what I believed to be
that situation; I should have been in a
a different one to the one that I should
without difficulty I should have been in a
open to them, the very desperate struggle
which they would at first have to encounter.

SECT. VII.

Earnest Warning to Emigrants from Europe.

THE persons to whom I principally address myself under this head, are those of the poorer class, whose pressing necessities urge them to leave their country; but whose finances but ill comport with the delays and expences inseparable from emigration. Others of larger means, form a different class; and the warnings addressed to the former, would generally as little apply to the latter, as the cautions addressed to a man with one hand, would to another, who was blessed with the use of both. The poor man, in common language, may be said to be ruined, if his little resources fail him before he has obtained and reached his lot. The wealthier one suffers an inconvenience; perhaps a serious inconvenience in the

disappointments which cross his way (and we are all apt to expect so blindly and so extravagantly, that we are all exposed to disappointments). But he can still persevere, if he please, though perhaps on an inferior scale; a selection is more within his reach; or, he may turn away, and seek elsewhere, what may appear more concurrent with his purposes.

When lately passing through Montreal (in October, 1819), an elderly man entered a shop where I stood, and asked the shopkeeper for some assistance for his family, which he declared to be large, and to be in a deplorable condition. I learnt that he was a recently arrived emigrant, and accompanied him to his lodgings. There I found his wife, a decent woman, of middle age, extended in a confined room, extremely reduced by a dangerous fever, and surrounded by seven poor little children, three of whom were sick, and all of whom were

helpless. The man, whose serious and affectionate demeanour interested me, had failed in a small business in the south of Ireland. His brother (and he seems to have been a friend as well as a brother), himself in narrow circumstances, still not so much reduced, offered his little store, fifty guineas, which he could contrive, on such a call, to spare, offered it to his distressed relation, either to renew his struggle at home, or to seek for happier circumstances in another country. Emigration to Canada was the choice; and the poor man, after exhausting his little stock, had reached Montreal, just before the beginning of the long and rude winter of that place; to see his family pining in sickness and in want amongst strangers, while the indispensable attendance which they needed forbade him to engage in work which would necessarily have separated him from them, and at the same time, sent

him, an often rejected beggar, to the cold and foreign hand of charity.

Be it not supposed, from this anecdote, that the inhabitants of Montreal, are cold or uncharitable. No! they are a set of British merchants, and have all the liberality which distinguishes that class. But where is the liberality which can pervade every corner of distress, and apply relief even with its every expansion, to the still more expanded cases of human suffering? It exists not—it cannot exist.

But the case of this poor emigrant and of his afflicted family, is an apposite one, and ought to be a most serious warning to every poor man who desires to leave his own for a foreign country.

He will tell me, and I shall admit, while I mourn over the fact, that in Britain, even with all that the most diffusive system of charity in the world can do, in a society, and under a government, one of the happiest existing, he and his wife

and children may starve, or verge in chilliest penury on starvation, although their arms are strong, and their hearts ardent for labour; and he may ask, what worse than this can be endured in a foreign country?

It is worse than this, I would say, to be destitute amongst strangers; in a climate, fine as it is, still not yet assimilated to your constitution: to see your wife, if you have one, deprived of the comforts of an established acquaintance, and she and your children, should you be taken away from them by sickness, destitute of all human countenance or friends. True, there is a Power which watcheth over the fatherless and the widows, and which sayeth, "Commit thy destitute ones to me." But His voice of love is addressed to the sorrows of the afflicted, to cheer the souls of His faithful and His contrite ones; not to encourage the impatience of discontent, or the hasty efforts of inconsiderate enterprise.

Beware, I would say, for my heart has seen, and mourned over the sufferings in America of such as you; of arms as strong as yours, and of tempers as prepared as yours for toil. Oh, beware, nor think lightly of the evil, because it is distant. Accept the warning of one, who calls himself your friend; who contradicts his own interests (or what, in the language of the world, would be called his interests) in thus advising you; for he himself is a settler in Canada, and his temporal advantages are greatly involved in the early peopling and improvement of that country. But, perish such interests for ever, before he become an accomplice in accumulating the poor man's sufferings.

But to those, whose means warrant, and whose resolution is formed, he says, Be pointedly careful how you take your passage in the first place from England. Let it absolutely be, to be landed at all events, under Providence, at Quebec or

Montreal, in Lower Canada. Occasions have occurred, when people have taken passages for Canada, and then been put ashore at intermediate places, whence it was far more difficult to obtain a passage onward, than from England. It should be recollected, that North America is an immense country, exceedingly larger than all Europe; and that it is more necessary to be particular in the place at which you wish to be landed, in going thither, than in coming to Europe, it would be for you to engage to be brought to Liverpool (if you wished to go thither), in order to avoid being taken to the south of France, or to Italy.

And as you value all your future prospects, and those of your family, be temperate in all things.

Remember, further, that in England nothing but domestic or civil discord, can destroy your peace, or interfere with your safety. That, while war stalks over

other nations, and buries their palaces and their cottages in blood, in England the storm growls at a distance, and its fury is kept far away.

But in Canada, this must not be expected to be the case. That country stretches an extensive and very defenceless frontier, over-against a powerful and enterprising rival state; and in case of dissension, would very probably become the theatre of war. Then, instead of the distant report of battles and of slaughter, you would behold their terrors at your door; and your heart would have to tremble for the safety of those beloved and defenceless ones, whom the emergencies of public duty had compelled you, even under such awful circumstances, to leave.

Oh then especially, what refuge, what hope, what comfort would your fears for those beloved ones have, but in the Rock of Ages, propitiated by the blood of Calvary!

To shrink from danger, or from toil and suffering, where duty calls, is to dishonor that precious blood, as much as it is to rush blindly, and discontentedly, and rebelliously, upon them.

SECT. VIII.

Remarks on the Government, on the Laws, and on their Execution.

I NEED not say that the province of Upper Canada is still in its infancy. Like a younger child, it has enjoyed, and still enjoys the protection, while it has conduced but little to the support of government—and that government has been to it, a wise and a benignant one.

Amidst the revolutions of human affairs, whatever future relations may arise between the mother country and this colony, Britain will ever have a large and affecting balance of gratitude due to her from it.

Full of the magnanimity which is beneficent from choice, and inspired with that wisdom which would rather prevent than correct evil, Great Britain gave at an

early period, a free government to the Canadas. She organized it on the happy plan of her own. A lieutenant-governor, the representative of his majesty; a legislative council (emblematic of the house of peers) chosen by the lieutenant-governor for life; and a house of assembly, chosen every four years by the freeholders in their own districts: such as in England the house of commons; with this advantage in favour of Canada, that it has in fact, a much more free and fair representation of the people.

Some are of opinion, that this gift by the British government of a free constitution to the Canadas, was premature! I do not think so. They say, the country afforded not men of talents sufficiently cultivated to fill the important situation of members of the lower house, and that consequently, it could but imperfectly answer its purposes. That it might become, on the one hand, a clog in the machinery; or, on the other, a blind

and servile tool in the hands of government. Allow these objections to be valid, and I shall still think that the gift was a wise one. With Lower Canada I am little acquainted. Their interests, indeed, I know to be the same; and I know that an equally ardent spirit of loyalty pervades both. But still, there is a striking difference between the bulk of the people of the two provinces, in some very important particulars, and this difference may involve arguments and consequences of which I am not aware. But speaking from what I do know, I would say, the people in Upper Canada are free. Emigrants from our own islands, or descended from their neighbours of the northern and eastern provinces of the United States, a knowledge of their social duties and their social rights, was in a manner inherent in them. The imbecility of their infancy, only, could render them inattentive to that knowledge. Long protracted weakness and more immediately urgent cares,

together with the mask so easily imposed for a time by authority, might have lengthened out that inattention. But with each day and each emigrant, its duration would be drawing to a close. The time would come, and could not be very far distant, when the unnecessary degradation, to which they had been subjected, would appear unveiled; and reprobation, suspicion, and resistance, would usurp the places of gratitude, confidence, and obedience. The want of men of talents sufficiently cultivated (if such want have really been) was daily decreasing; (besides, we need not be told, that cultivated powers, by no means secure from corruption). The occasions when the house of assembly, from such want, would be a clog to the machinery, or a blind tool in the hands of government, would be rapidly diminishing; and a vigorous and enlightened people would be growing up, fraught from their infancy, with a knowledge, now developed in them, of their