

## Notes and observations on America, and the Americans

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS ON AMERICA, AND THE AMERICANS: INCLUDING  
CONSIDERATIONS FOR EMIGRANTS.

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**NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS ON AMERICA.**

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EMIGRATION from the British Islands to America has, during late years, become so extensive, that multitudes of books of different sizes have issued from the press on the subject. Before the writer of this tract ventured to cross the Atlantic Ocean he read carefully every work he could obtain, and under the influence of information thus gathered he went over to America, with prejudices vastly in favour of a trans-atlantic residence. In many respects he found his prejudices highly gratified, but in many others he was greatly disappointed, having privations and difficulties to undergo which none of his readings had previously introduced to his notice. Such being the case he has ventured to embody his own observations, and submit them to the consideration of his own compeers:—the working classes of this country.

As most of the works on Emigration which have appeared in print, give some geographical notices of America, it would seem superfluous in a person without pretensions to learning to occupy the reader's time with a subject which has been so respectably treated by those of superior talent. Yet as this tract is addressed to the working classes, many of whom

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have never troubled themselves about the situation and circumstances of the country to which their neighbours have fled, and to which some of themselves have serious thoughts of being transported; it would be an unpardonable omission not to give something like a B 2 geographical survey of the country they think of adopting. It is therefore deemed expedient to proceed first with the following

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The great continent, or extensive portion of land called North America, lies at an average distance of three thousand miles west from Great Britain; and is divided from it by the Atlantic Ocean, over which every person going to America, must necessarily pass. This vast extent of land is much larger than all the nations of Europe put together, measuring 4376 miles in length from north to south, and 3000 miles across from east to west. Civilization however can hardly be said to extend further than 1000 to 1200 miles westward, and that only in some few places. The scattered inhabitants of the remaining 1800 to 2000 miles are "the untaught Indian's brood," and the wild beasts of the forest. The principal part of North America may be considered under the control of three different governments, beside those of the aboriginal inhabitants: namely, the United States, the British, and the Mexican. Although many Emigrants have found their way into Mexico, yet as but few go directly thither, we shall confine our descriptions to the United States and British America; leaving those who wish to proceed further, to make their enquiries after having crossed the Atlantic.

The United States consist of twenty-five free and independent states, the district of Columbia, and five territories. The following table will exhibit at one view, the names of the states, &c., the number of square miles in each state, the mean length and breadth, population in 1830, and the chief town in each state with its population, and the number of inhabitants to a square mile in each state.

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STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Those States marked with an S are Slave States. And it should be remarked, the Population of some of the Chief Towns is now perhaps double and even treble what is here stated.

NAMES. No. of Sq. Miles Mean length. Mean breadth Population in 1830. Chief Town. Population of Chief Town No. to a Sq. Mile Miles Miles. Maine 32,250 235 136 399,462 Portland 12,601 12 New Hampshire 9,488 160 58 269,533 Concord 3,780 29 Vermont 10,212 157 65 280,679 Montpelier 1,793 27 Massachusetts 7,570 130 60 610,014 Boston 61,392 78 Rhode Island 1,342 47 29 97,210 Providence 16,832 71 Connecticut 4,765 90 53 297,711 Hartford 9,789 62 New York 46,760 280 165 1,913,508 New York 203,007 41 New Jersey 7,800 138 50 320,779 Trenton 3,925 46 Pennsylvania 44,100 280 157 1,347,672 Philadelphia 167,688 30 Delaware 2 120 94 22 76,739 Wilmington 6,638 36 ½ Maryland S 11,240 119 91 446,913 Baltimore 80,625 41 Virginia S 64,040 320 200 1,211,272 Richmond 16,860 18 ½ North Carolina S 45,500 362 121 738,470 Raleigh 1,700 16 ¾ South Carolina S 28,120 188 160 581,458 Charleston 30,289 19 Georgia S 58,750 300 194 516,567 Savannah 7,303 8 ¾ 4 Alabama S 48,950 275 185 308,997 Cahawba 2,300 6 Mississippi S 45,178 275 165 136,806 Jackson 1,700 3 Louisiana S 48,208 240 200 215,775 New Orleans 46,309 4 ½ Tennessee S 42,708 430 104 684,822 Nashville 5,566 15 Kentucky S 41,000 289 135 688,844 Lexington 6,104 17 ½ Ohio 39,100 210 185 937,679 Cincinnati 24,830 24 Indiana 35,500 240 145 341,582 Indianapolis 1,200 9 ¾ Illinois 54,300 865 162 157,575 Vandalia 2,373 2 ¾ Missouri S 61,850 272 222 140,074 St. Louis 5,852 2 # Florida S 53,600 385 150 34,723 Tallahassee 2,633 D. of Columbia S 100 10 10 39,858 Washington 18,827 398 ½ Michigan Territory 34,830 251 135 31,260 Detroit 2,222 Arkansas Territory S 58,550 278 196 30,383 Little Rock North-west Territory 93,790 347 270 Missouri Territory 375,500 Oregon Territory 420,000 Astoria 5

1. Maine is the most north-eastern State of the Union, and is bounded on the north by Lower Canada, on the east by New Brunswick, on the south by the Atlantic Ocean, and on the west by New Hampshire and Lower Canada. The climate like most northern countries of America, is subject to extremes of heat and cold. The soil is barren, but it has extensive forests, and the inhabitants are chiefly supported by by the exportation of timber.

2. New Hampshire is bounded on the north, where it terminates nearly in a point, by the eastern townships of Lower Canada, on the east by Maine and the Atlantic, on the south

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by Massachusetts, and on the west by the river Connecticut which separates it from the State of Vermont. The white mountains which are so high as to be covered nearly all the year with snow, are in this state.

3. Vermont is bounded on the north by the eastern townships of Lower Canada, on the east by New Hampshire, on the south by Massachusetts, and on the west by the State of New York for nearly half its length, and then by the lake Champlain which separates it from the northern part of that State. Although this state is very hilly, and even mountainous, the soil is tolerably good, and produces all the necessaries of life in abundance. It is particularly noted for breeding large numbers of sheep, and is said to send more wool into the market than any other district of equal extent in America. Iron ore abounds in this state, whence it is the seat of flourishing manufactures of many articles made of iron and steel. Many old country people are scattered over different parts of the state in consequence of the easy and cheap conveyance from the two great seaports, New York and Quebec, to its entire western border. Farms may be purchased at from £4 to £7 per acre, half or two-thirds being cleared land, including a log house, barn and other conveniences. The winter is generally very long and severe, particularly in the northern counties; but the climate is extremely salubrious and healthy.

4. Massachusetts is bounded on the north by Vermont and New Hampshire, on the west by New York, on the south by Connecticut and Rhode Island, and on the east by the Atlantic Ocean. This, it will be seen by reference to the last column of the preceeding table is the most populous State in the Union. The soil is not unproductive, and there are mines of copper and iron, with manufactures of iron, paper, leather, linen and woollen cloth, 'c.

5. Rhode Island, the smallest state in the Union, is bounded on the north and east by Massachusetts, on the south by the Ocean, and on the west by Connecticut. This state contains some good pasture land, but there is a great deal of sandy barren soil. It produces, however quantities of iron ore, and here are extensive manufactures of cotton and other goods.

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6. Connecticut is bounded on the north by Massachusetts, on the east by Rhode Island, on the south by Long Island sound, and on the west by the state of New York. This is a productive and well settled country, containing many good towns and villages and is divided nearly in the middle, from north to south, by a river of the same name, which is navigable as far as Hartford for vessels of a large size.

7. New York is one of the largest and most important states in America, being of itself nearly as large as all England and Wales. It is bounded on the north, from the river St. Lawrence to lake Champlain, by Lower Canada, on the east by lake Champlain, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, on the south by Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and on the west and north-west by lake Erie, Niagara river, lake Ontario, and the river St. Lawrence. Long Island which makes a part of this state (being separated from it by a very narrow channel between New York city and Brooklyn), is bounded on the north by Long Island 7 sound, and on the south by the Atlantic. It is 140 miles long and about 10 miles broad on a medium. To persons wishing to settle in America, and who do not choose to exile themselves in the wild woods of the "far west," the State of New York will afford every advantage for location that can be looked for in any part of the world. The climate is various, but generally dry and in the north the winters are severe and long; but in the south, although the weather is very keen for a few weeks in December, January, or February, it is very pleasant, and in summer, though the heat beat is sometimes very great, it is not unbearable, any more than is the heat in England during the dry and hot days which frequently occur. The great thoroughfare from New York city to the west is through this state, by means of the Hudson river to Albany, and and from thence by the Erie Canal to Buffalo at the eastern extremity of lake Erie. So much business is transacted along this canal, that the state at whose expense it was first made, is about to have it made ten feet wider, and something deeper, through the whole length which is 363 miles. If it be not now, it will then be the greatest work of the kind in the world.

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8. New Jersey is bounded on the north by New York, on the east by the Hudson river and the Atlantic ocean, and on the south-west and west by the Delaware bay and river which divides it from the state of Delaware and Pennsylvania. Considerable portions of this state are barren and unproductive: yet the greatest part is fertile, producing plenty of corn and fruits of all kinds common to the climate.

9. Pennsylvania is bounded on the north by New York, on the east by New Jersey, on the south by Maryland and Virginia, west by Ohio, and on the north-west by lake Erie where it has a good port of that name. Vast portions of this state are still in a state of nature; but the cultivated parts are generally productive, and the cattle, and particularly the horses are of a very superior breed; while the teamsters, as the drivers are called, manage them more after the English method than is observable in any other part of America.

10. Delaware is bounded on the north by Pennsylvania, on the east by a river and bay of the same name, and on the south and west by Maryland. Much of this state is unhealthy, the land being low, and in consequence full of stagnant waters.

11. Maryland is bounded on the north by Pennsylvania, east by the state of Delaware, south by the Atlantic and Virginia, and west by Virginia. The principal productions are wheat and tobacco. It is divided into two parts by Chesapeake bay.

12. Virginia, the largest State in the Union, is bounded on the north by Pennsylvania and Maryland, on the north-east and east by Maryland and the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by North Carolina and Tennessee, and on the west by Kentucky and Ohio. The climate is generally hot, and not very healthy for people from this country. It produces in many parts quantities of tobacco, wheat, maize, and rice.

13. North Carolina is bounded on the north by Virginia, on the east by the Atlantic, on the south by South Carolina, and west by Tennessee. Besides the productions common to the states just mentioned, there are ground peas, which run on the surface of the earth,

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and being covered with a light mould, the pods grow under ground. They are eaten raw or roasted, and taste something like a hazel nut, Cotton is also universally cultivated here.

14. South Carolina is bounded on the north by North Carolina, on the south-east by the Atlantic, and on the south-west by Georgia. The productions of the earth's surface in this state is much the same as the preceding, and in addition here are found some precious ores and pellucid stones.

15. Georgia is bounded on the north by Tennessee, 9 on the north-east by South Carolina, on the south-east by the Atlantic, on the south by Florida, and on the west by Alabama. Winters here are mild and pleasant, and snow is nearly unknown. The productions are multifarious, being rice, tobacco, indigo, cotton, figs, pomegranates, &c., &c.

16. Florida is bounded on the north by Georgia and Alabama, on the east by the Atlantic ocean, and on the south and west by the gulph of Mexico. This extensive tract of land was ceded to the United States in 1821, and admitted into the Union in 1833. As it is the most southern part of the United States, and extends itself nearly to the torrid zone, it produces all the fruits which are found in those regions of the world; and in many instances two crops in a year. The climate however is generally too hot for Englishmen, and winter is not known.

17. Alabama is bounded on the north by Tennessee, on the east by Georgia, on the south by Florida and the Gulph of Mexico, and on the west by Mississippi, It produces every thing in common with Georgia, having a climate very similar as it lies precisely in the same latitude, but the staple production is cotton which is exported in large quantities, from a thriving sea-port on the Gulph of Mexico called Mobile.

18. Mississippi is bounded on the north by Tennessee, on the east by Alabama, on the south by the gulph of Mexico and Louisiana, and on the west by Louisiana and the Arkansas Territory. The climate and productions are much the same as those of Alabama.

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19. Louisiana the most south-west of the United States, is bounded on the east by Mississippi and the gulph of Mexico, on the south by the gulph, and on the west by Texas a province of Mexico. The summers are hot and sultry, and the climate is mostly unhealthy. The staple productions are cotton and sugar. It produces also grain, grass, fruit, and indigo. C

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The nineteen states thus hastily described, may all, with the exception of Vermont, be considered maritime, possessing altogether a sea-coast of upwards of three thousand miles; which contains many sea-ports inferior in extent of business to none in the world.

20. Tennessee is bounded on the north by Kentucky, and Virginia, on the east by North Carolina, on the south by Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, and on the west by the Arkansas Territory. The climate is for the most part hot in summer and mild in winter, but on the whole not unpleasant. The soil is variable, and the productions are like those of other southern states.

21. Kentucky is bounded on the north by Indiana and Ohio, on the east by Virginia, on the south by Tennessee, and on the west by Missouri and Illinois. In some places the soil is bad, but in others it is very good and produces every thing incident to the country in abundance. The climate is agreeable, being seldom either too hot or too cold.

22. Ohio is bounded on the north by lake Erie and Michigan Territory, south and south-east by Kentucky and Virginia, east by Pennsylvania, and west by Indiana. The soil is generally good, particularly in the south-west part of the state; and the climate is temperate and healthy.

23. Indiana is bounded on the north by Michigan Territory and lake Michigan, on the east by Ohio, on the south by Kentucky, and on the west by Illinois. The soil is for the most part

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rich and fertile, producing abundance of grain and fruit; while the climate is temperate and pleasant.

24. Illinois is bounded on the north by the north-west territory, on the east by lake Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky, on the south it terminates in a point at the junction of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, and on the west it is bounded by the Missouri state 11 and territory. The soil is rich, producing every species of grain and fruit in abundance; and the climate is temperate and agreeable.

25. Missouri, the most westernly State in the Union, is bounded on the west and north by the extensive territory of the same name, on the east by Illinois, on the south-east by Kentucky and Tennessee, and on the south by the Arkansas Territory. The climate and productions are similar to the preceeding.

The District of Columbia ceded by Maryland and Virginia to the United States in 1790, became the seat of general government in 1800; it contains, beside Washington, two considerable towns, namely Alexandria and Georgetown. Its situation is beautiful on both sides of the Potomac river. The soil is thin and sandy, and the climate pretty warm in summer, and sometimes very cold in winter. Washington contains many elegant buildings, particularly the capitol; but the city itself taken as a whole, has much more the appearance of a stragglng village than the metropolis of a great nation.

Michigan, though not at this time admitted into the Union as a State, is one of the most important portions of America; and will hereafter, most probably attain a high respectability among them. It is a sort of peninsula in the heart of a great continent, being bounded on the west by lake Michigan, on the north and north-east by lake Huron, and on the east by lake Huron, the beautiful river St. Clair, lake St. Clair, the river Detroit and lake Erie, making altogether an extent of nearly one thousand miles in lake and river coast, capable of floating ships of any burden. On the south it is bounded by Indiana and Ohio. The soil,

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taken as a whole, is perhaps as good as any portion of equal extent in the world, and the climate is temperate.

The Arkansas Territory is bounded on the north by Missouri State, on the east by the river 12 Mississippi which divides it from the States of Mississippi and Tennessee, on the south by Louisiana, and on the west by Mexico and the Missouri Territory. The climate is warm and not particularly healthy, and the soil is of every variety.

The remaining portions of America which are claimed by the United States' government, are the three great territories called the north-west, or Wisconsin. The Missouri and the Oregon, extending westward from lake Michigan, Indiana and Missouri to the Pacific ocean, and southward from the frozen regions to the Republic of Mexico. Of these extensive wilds but little is known, the foot of the white man having scarcely trodden in any direction to its bounds.

Such is a hasty sketch of one of the greatest nations in the world, which altogether embraces an extent of land measuring two millions four hundred and fifty-seven thousand square miles. Being about forty-six times as large as the whole of England and Wales. Large however as is this country, the entire dominions of Great Britain are still larger.

As the greater number of persons emigrating to America do not so much regard the government under which they settle, as the soil and climate, with the prospects of doing well in the world, we shall proceed to describe that part of America under the British government, which is Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Cape Breton, Prince Edward's Island, Newfoundland, Lower Canada, and Upper Canada; to which may be also added the Hudson's Bay Settlement.

Nova Scotia, (a peninsula connected by a narrow isthmus to New Brunswick which forms part of the mainland of North America) is bounded on the north by part of the gulph of St. Lawrence which separates it from Prince Edward's Island, on the north-east by the gut of Canso which divides it from the Island of Cape Breton, on the west by the bay of Fundy

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which lies between it and New Brunswick, and on the 13 south and south-east by the Atlantic Ocean. It measures about three hundred miles in length, but is of very unequal breadth, altogether it contains including a number of lakes, about fifteen thousand square miles. The soil and climate have been described as barren and unhealthy, but such is not strictly the fact. The climate is rather severe in winter, but not so much so as to be either unbearable or unpleasant; and as for the soil it produces abundantly in many parts, wheat, rye, buckwheat, barley, oats, Indian corn, pumpkins, carrots, onions, parsnips, beets, celery, cucumbers, potatoes, &c. Cape Breton is an Island about one hundred miles long and sixty broad, politically annexed to Nova Scotia, with a climate and soil pretty much the same.

New Brunswick is bounded on the north-west by the river St. Lawrence, on the north-east by the gulph of St. Lawrence, on the south-east by the bay of Fundy and Nova Scotia, and on the west by Lower Canada and the State of Maine. It is an extensive tract, comprising nearly twenty-eight thousand square miles, the greater part of which is still covered with thick forests; the land however is not unfertile, but well adapted for the settlement of emigrants.

Prince Edward's Island is a rich and productive island in the gulph of St. Lawrence. It measures one hundred and forty miles long, and thirty-four in its greatest breadth. The climate of this Island is more temperate than that of neighbouring countries, the atmosphere is free from fogs, and the soil is good.

Newfoundland is a large island north-east of the gulph of St. Lawrence. It is barren and unfruitful. The chief support of its inhabitants is the extensive fisheries successfully prosecuted in the neighbourhood. St. John's is the chief town, which is situated nearer to Great Britain than any other part of the American Islands or continent, being 1656 geographical miles, or 1918 British statute miles from Valentia in Ireland.

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Lower Canada is an extensive territory belonging to the crown of Great Britain, lying on both sides the river St. Lawrence; nearly from its mouth to some distance above its confluence with the Ottawa or Grand River. It contains 205,863 square miles, and is bounded on the north by Hudson's Bay Settlement, on the east by the gulph of St. Lawrence, New Brunswick, and the State of Maine, on the south by the New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York, and on the west by Upper Canada. The greater part of this province is generally deemed cold and unfruitful; but many of those who have treated upon the subject were ignorant of its real character, and followed one another without once suspecting the truth of what they wrote. The chief objection to the lower province seems to be the great number of French settlers in it, who universally profess the Roman Catholic faith, which is indeed the established religion. They are kept by a domineering and wicked priesthood, in the most profound ignorance of every useful and religious acquirement; not one in a thousand being able to read, and, although they pretend to speak French, in reality their languages is nothing but a sort of gibberish, utterly unintelligible to an inhabitant of Paris. The English language, however, is spoken pretty generally at Montreal, and throughout the more southern part of the province and we think universally in what is called the eastern townships. Settlers coming to this part, will, if they have patience to bear awhile with a little difficulty and inconvenience, find themselves comfortably circumstanced, after a trial of a year or two. The winter indeed is somewhat severe, but not so much as to make it dangerous or even uncomfortable. On the contrary it is a time of universal relaxation from toil; scarcely any work being attended to but the foddering of cattle, and cutting wood for the fire. To an Englishman it may seem strange that so much time should be spent without doing anything to the soil; 15 but let him bear in mind that out of the produce of his lands, the farmer has comparatively nothing to pay; no rent, no taxes, no poor rate; if therefore he works eight months out of the twelve, he is much better off than the English farmer with all these burdens on his shoulders.

Upper Canada is also a province belonging to Great Britain, and is bounded on the north and east by Hudson Bay Settlement and Lower Canada, on the south by the river St.

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Lawrence and lake Ontario, which separates it from the State of New York, and also by lake Erie, which divides it from the State of Ohio, and on the west by the river Detroit lake St. Clair, river St. Clair, and lake Huron, which lie between it and the Michigan territory. The most important part of this Province, like Michigan, is an inland peninsula, being surrounded on all sides by navigable waters, except a narrow neck between lakes Simcoe and Ontario. The soil and climate of this Province are equal to any in the world for the settlement of persons brought up in the British Isles.

Having thus given a descriptive sketch of the country, we shall next lay before the reader particulars of our voyage and of the observations we made while sojourning there. And here let him that meditates on emigration pause, and consider well what he is about. Be assured that it is no trifling undertaking to remove from the land of our forefathers and transplant ourselves into another region of the earth. However poor he may be, his home is his comfort, and he is much better off than he will be when completely a houseless, homeless wanderer in a strange land. It is a proceeding altogether most interesting, and of the utmost consequence, for the poor or the wealthy, the man in middle circumstances, or he that is by his own industry just above poverty, to break up his home, sell his furniture, bundle up his little effects under his arm, abandon his old acquaintances, take his wife by 16 his side and his children by the hand, expose himself and those who are nearer to him than his own life, for many weeks to the merciless, and to him, untried Ocean, and finally exile himself and household into a territory of the world previously unknown to him. No man should take one step in such a business until he be fully, clearly, and we should say, if possible, infallibly convinced, that it would be better for his temporal and eternal good. That the reader may decide on this important point, we shall endeavour to bring before him some of the advantages and disadvantages he will meet with in emigration, and leave him to judge for himself, which will be the better line of conduct to pursue: to toil on under his present difficulties, or to try what can be done by transporting himself to the western continent.

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Having made the necessary arrangements for leaving home, and being resolved to visit America, we arrived at Liverpool on the 19th of May, and went directly toward the docks to enquire for a ship in which to take our passage to New York. Our means being limited, it was proper to lose no time in obtaining a vessel; and also to secure a passage on the lowest terms. Accidentally meeting with an acquaintance who had come to Liverpool a few days previously with the same resolution as ourselves, and who had taken his passage on board a ship then preparing to sail, bound for New York; we went with him to the agents, whose office is not half a mile from the north-end of Prince's dock, and engaged our berths in the same ship, being assured she would sail on the 22nd or 23rd, without fail. We were also assured that the very lowest that would be taken for a steerage passage would be three pounds five shillings, and then we should have the company of a number of the very dregs of society from Ireland; but that for four pounds we could have much better accommodations in the second cabin, and particularly (owing to the 17 extra charge) the company would be more select; we should also be allowed the privilege of walking on the quarter deck as well as on every part of the ship, a privilege that would be denied to those who were merely steerage passengers. Having therefore settled it in our minds from the information we had received, and from the less number of berths in the second cabin, that the extra fifteen shillings would be well bestowed, our passage was engaged at four pounds each; expecting to sail in four days at furthest. We were, however, in everything disappointed, and may fairly put down every word spoken to us by the agent and his clerks, as false; and we shall certainly consider them as long as we live no better than swindlers. Indeed the poor man who leaves home for the purpose of crossing the Atlantic, must be very fortunate who does not suffer more, or less, from some of the sharks who keep offices for emigration in each of our seaports; for no men in the world seem to us more a-kin to the crocodile, which is said to weep over its prey: with words and countenances deeply interested in your favour, they tell you of the great kindness they are doing you and of the anxious concern they feel for your welfare, until your money be paid

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and you are fairly out at sea, then from bitter disappointment you feel that all they have said was untrue.

Instead of sailing on the 23rd we did not get out till the 28th, our scanty means all the time sensibly diminishing by the expense of living in a great town where we were perfect strangers. In the mean time we had laid in our sea stores, which for three of us, all men, were as follows:—

£ s. d.

126 pounds Sea Bread 1 5 0

51 ditto Ham at 5d. 1 1 3

11 ditto Cheese 5d. 0 4 7

4 ditto Butter 10d. 0 3 4

8 ditto Sugar 6d. 0 4 0 D

18

2 pounds Coffee 2s. 0 4 0

28 ditto Flour 0 4 0

2 ditto Currants at 9d. 0 1 6

2 ditto Treacle and Jar 0 0 8

½ ditto Tea 0 3 0

1 pint of Vinegar 0 0 4

53 Eggs 0 2 0

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18 Herrings 0 1 0

90 pounds Potatoes 0 3 9

6 ditto Oatmeal 0 1 0

2 dozen Oranges 0 2 0

2 ounces Black Pepper 0 0 4

2 loaves of Soft Bread 0 2 0

Total for Provisions £ 4: 3: 9

Besides which we had to purchase the following utensils for cooking, &c.

£ s. d.

Tin water bottle 0 1 6

Frying pan 0 1 0

Coffee pot 0 1 0

3 tin cans 0 0 9

Pan for boiling 0 1 9

Wash-dish and plates 0 1 0

Tin convenience 0 1 0

Bags for Potatoes, Sea Bread, Flour and Oatmeal 0 4 0

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£ 0: 12: 0

In addition to the money paid for our fare, we had to pay four shillings and sixpence each, for what they pleased to call hospital money; which made the entire cost for three of us amount to seventeen pounds nine shillings and three-pence. And now being under-way as the seamen call it, that is having got 19 fairly out to sea, we reviewed our circumstances and situation in the vessel, and found that the apartment in which fifty-nine of us were crammed together with our luggage, was thirty feet by twenty-eight, and six feet six inches high; and in this den we were to perform a voyage of more than three thousand miles in an indefinite length of time. Ourselves, our beds, our bedding, provisions, and every particle of our luggage was stowed in this place; for the hold of the vessel was carefully filled with various kinds of merchandise. Several berths were put up after we took our passage, and thus the space which we expected to occupy was most unjustly curtailed, and that in a manner which at once excited our regret and raised our indignation, for the persons who occupied the additional berths were accommodated for twenty-five shillings each less than ourselves. As many of those who think of emigration never saw a ship, and have no idea how poor passengers are thrust together, we shall further inform the reader that our berths were nothing more than mere shelves made of coarse unplained boards, without any curtain or shade whatever to hide us from one another's gaze, during the times of undressing, dressing, or repose; so the modest matron and chaste maid, the sober husband and diffident young man, with the lewd, vulgar, base and impudent of both sexes, were promiscuously huddled together without decency and without shame. Another abominable business in which we found ourselves cheated, was the manner we were supplied with conveniences for the relief of nature; we had particularly stipulated in our bargain that proper water-closets should be provided, but as nothing of the kind was on board, we several times made enquiry about them, and were assured that they would be on board and properly fixed before we sailed; and just as the vessel was moving out of the dock two things made their appearance, but conveniences they certainly were not; 20 they were the contrivance, one would think, not of men but of brutes. They were

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a few boards nailed together forming a sort of box, just one foot ten inches square and five feet six inches high, placed carelessly upon the deck over a tub, which was to be daily emptied by the passengers themselves; but this we knew nothing of till we were out at sea. However, our *in* conveniences did not long remain to brutalize us with their presence, for on the night of the 31st of May we encountered a pretty brisk gale, and in the morning no more was seen of our preposterous pettoes. And what says the reader did you then do? We had to risk our lives by climbing over the sides of the ship in all weathers, and hanging by our hands in the best manner we could. Such was the accomodation for the boy of five years, and the old man of seventy; the danger to people accustomed to the sea is trifling, but with landsmen the case is very different; especially when they first go out, and are suffering severely from sea-sickness; many of the passengers were at different times while in this situation most seriously alarmed, particularly one poor fellow, who was thus hung by his hands when the vessel shipped a heavy sea, and at the same time rolled deeply on her side; the man was doused over head and for a moment thought himself lost, for when he again made his appearance on deck, drenched like a sheep at washing, he declared he had well nigh let go his hold; thinking the ship was sinking upon him. Now we are speaking upon this indelicate subject, the reader will naturally recur in his mind to the women; but here we must be silent, only telling him as he may well suppose, that they suffered most serious inconvenience. There was a proper place at the stern of the ship, but that was kept constantly locked, for the use of the captain and cabin passengers. Some ships have better accommodation in these respects, but ours was by no means a solitary case. And many 21 are much more crowded with passengers, having nearly three hundred in the same space which was occupied in our ship by one hundred and seventy-two.

The passengers were a strange mixture of different characters from nearly every part of the United Kingdom; professing all kinds of religious creeds, and brought up to the practice of almost every trade. The majority however were Irish of the lowest caste, whose bodies were pretty well depastured with a certain species of live stock, held in great detestation by all people of cleanly habits. Hence arose many broils and disturbances during our voyage,

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for the creatures, being like ourselves, bent on emigration none of us were free from their presence long ere we reached New York.

We were borne along by a gentle breeze, till the 31st, and all was merriment and health, many began to think the story of sea-sickness all a farce, for no symptom of it was felt by any one; but on that day about noon, the wind began to blow rather hard, and the sea was soon overspread with rolling surges, which gave the ship sufficient motion to make us feel strangely uneasy in our stomachs. From this uneasiness however, we soon obtained some temporary relief, by throwing overboard our half-digested breakfasts. Our relief was not of long continuance, for the gale increased, and the motion of the vessel became so great, that we were reminded of our boyish days, when at the great annual fair, in our neighbourhood, we were treated with a ride in the highflyer rotundary boat, which sent us up at one moment, high as the village steeple, and instantly brought us down again to the surface of the earth; only here was a great difference, the highflyer would stop the moment we desired the master to allow it to do so. But none of our desires seemed to have any influence with the wind, and the sea; for they continued to "make us their sport" three or four days, without once allowing us a moment's respite to breathe, and recover our strength. Our stomachs were kept in the most trying agitation by the continual heaving of the ship, till we were driven by exhaustion and pain to resign ourselves to fate, and keep still in bed, where we lay till near fainting for want of food; being more than four days unable to taste a morsel of solid aliment. Some few persons altogether escape this self-created malady. There are, however, but few who do not feel enough of it to make them heartily wish themselves once more safe on land. When we were suffering from this dire complaint and groaning with the sickening excitement of our stomachs, a fine young fellow who slept in an adjoining berth, hastily crawled rather than sprang out of bed, and with an air of despondency we shall never forget, lifted up his hands and exclaimed in a tone of voice that made us feel as well as hear, "Oh sirs, had I known, I would not have been made thus sick for ten thousand pounds!" After the first fit of sickness was over, which continued in different persons, one, two, three, four, or five days; most of the passengers felt no more

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inconvenience. Some, however, never recovered completely, but whenever there was a little extra motion in the ship they were again as sick as ever, to the very last week we were at sea. Yet no pains seem sooner forgotten than those of sea-sickness, for when we had recovered our appetites and were again able to eat a hearty meal, the sickness we had suffered, and the effeminacy of our conduct during that sickness, was made the butt of universal merriment and fun. Sea-sickness nevertheless is a most terrible ordeal, and persons who have not felt it can have no idea of its influence on some people, who are altogether unprovided with any medicine to counteract its effects. All should be provided with some kind of opening physic; for we have known persons who have been from seven to fourteen days without any excremental discharge.

It has already been intimated that some of our fellow 23 passengers were from the lowest grades of society. And of this we were destined to feel the unpleasantness during the whole of our voyage. For as when the sickness had ceased, every man was left "unfitted with an aim," imagination seemed to be strained to find employment; and as the greater part were destitute of mental resources, and also of religious principle, the time was chiefly spent in the most impious amusements, and vulgar conversation. Tales abominable to every serious man's ear were told; and songs so profane and lewd were sung, that vulgarity itself blushes at the recollection. Nay we were sometimes forcibly reminded of what we had read of the orgies and the bacchanals of heathenism. Although we were hanging by such a slender thread over the great unknown of eternity, every thought of religion and God seemed banished from the mind. Whilst hardened by one another's example, almost every one seemed determined to devolve all the badness of his heart. We were indeed fully convinced that idleness and wickedness are inseparable companions, and that when a number of people meet together without employment, the devil soon sets them to work. Yea, and that in the very gateway of eternal ruin.

Nothing particular occurred during our voyage, only what arose from the circumstances to which we have alluded. But as we had contrary winds a good part of the time, it was rather protracted. And before we reached our destination, many of the passengers were

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short of provisions. Fuel and water too were nearly exhausted, although the agents affirmed to us repeatedly, while at Liverpool, that enough would be on board to supply us for a much longer time than we were at sea. We were however for the last week stinted in our water to two pints a day, old wine measure. And for fuel we were driven to the necessity of breaking in pieces, and burning parts of our berths, and some of our own chests and boxes. Much bickering and disagreement took place during the whole of our passage between the captain and passengers, in consequence of the rascally manner in which we had been cheated by the agents. There being some cabin passengers we were forbidden to mix with them, although we knew them to be no better in rank or profession than ourselves, being a noted American tight rope dancer and his retinue who were returning with a harvest of British gold, that had been bestowed upon him by a too generous public, who are always ready to reward every practiser of odd tricks and unseemly deeds, provided the exhibiter be a foreigner. A rope was stretched across the deck immediately aft the capstan, beyond which it was rebellion in us to intrude. Yet some of the passengers would not be at all times thus restrained, more than once we were just upon the point of mutiny, which would certainly have broken forth but for a few quiet spirits amongst us, who judged it wiser "to bear the ills we felt than fly to others that we knew not of." One night however some unlucky wight cut the barrier rope, and next morning the whole one hundred and seventy-two passengers were denied their supply of fresh water, till the perpetrator of this foul deed should be discovered. As however it is likely no one knew who was the offender but himself, this was very difficult, seeing he was not forward to criminate himself. After therefore being all day without water, the tyrant commander who was a thorough-bred yankee from New Hampshire, in the evening again condescended to allow us to take our own. And here we shall venture to affirm that these doughty advocates for liberty, are, only give them the opportunity and power, the greatest tyrants in the world. The doctrine they most dearly love, is, *let me be free, but as for my neighbour let him be a slave.*

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Some persons in crossing the Atlantic talk of meeting with many objects of curiosity and amusement, 25 but as for ourselves we saw little to please; the same ship, the same company, and the “blue lone sea” afforded so little variety, that we were worn out by the dull and monotonous scenes. Certainly the ocean itself is a grand and sublime object to look on, especially when rolling, billow after billow, from the continuance of a strong gale; yet poets have misled us in our ideas about a storm at sea, by talking of seas, “mountains high” and “billows up to heaven,” when in reality the most tremendous storm that ever blew perhaps never lifted the billows more than thirty feet. The grandest spectacle the ocean afforded us, was in a dark night immediately after a storm, when the waters were still trembling as it were with the recollection of the gale. It was then illuminated with millions of natural lamps arising we presume from phosphoric matter brought near the surface by the great movement of the water; and being thrown up and exposed to the air by a peculiar breaking of the waves, glistened like myriads of bright stars, and altogether outvied the firmament above in the clearest night we ever saw. We were sometimes indeed amused with thousands of porpoises playing round the ship, and chasing one another or some object we could not discern; like hundreds of packs of fox-hounds after one poor reynard. And one day we were entertained with the sight of scores of whales playing round the ship, and blowing in all directions. Some of these enormous inhabitants of the deep came close to us, and gave us a full view of their entire size which could not be less than seventy or eighty feet long and thirty or forty feet in circumference.

After being at sea forty days, the last four of which we were shut up by a dense fog, toward evening on the 7th of July, the fog clearing off for a short time, we saw land at no very great distance, with a light-house which we at first understood to be one of those at Sandyhook; but soon found we were disappointed, E 26 and that during the fog we had run too much to the northward, and made land in Martha's Vinyard instead of Staten Island. The ship was put about at sun set and stood out for sea, the fog again enveloped us and there seemed no guide to direct the vessel but constantly heaving the lead. At two in the morning, July the 8th, we were alarmed by a harsh grating noise on the fore-part of

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the ship; in a little time all was confusion, for it was said she had struck on a sand-bank. However, upon our going on deck we found that the sand-bank was land, immediately under her bow, which to our surprise had been struck on the west side. Fortunately the wind was still and with a little exertion to remove some of the heaviest lading in about an hour she was again fairly afloat, and we were soon out at sea and out of sight of land, which we did not again see till the morning of the 10th, when a fine breeze carried us past the light-houses at Sandyhook into New York bay. Nothing could exceed the cheering prospects now before us, all the miseries we had endured were immediately forgotten, and the animating scenes on all sides made some of the passengers nearly frantic with joy. Indeed, after having been so long accustomed to no sights but the broad waters of the great deep; and leaving home as some people do with gloomy fears about a country with nothing but woods, waste lands, and wild beasts. The charming views as we approach the quarantine station on Staten Island are truly exhilarating, particularly at this season of the year. Some of the passengers seemed almost to fancy themselves in an enchanted country, and were as much enraptured as if they and the scenery had been touched with queen Mab's magic wand. The beautifully diversified hills and dales on each side of us; the green pastures and greener Indian corn; the ripened rye and nearly ripe oats, with the wheat about a week or a fortnight from harvest; the houses, some 27 of wood painted white, others of bricks as red as a cherry spangled the neighbourhood over like stars in the firmament, intermixt with regular and irregular plots and rows of trees with differently shaded green leaves, made up the landscape.

About noon on the 10th of July we came to anchor in quarantine, six miles from New York, and proceeded to prepare for the health officer's inspection which we were told would be very strict. And all our linens and other dirty clothing and bedding must be carefully washed up. But in this business we had the greatest difficulty, there was no fresh water on board and salt water is perfectly useless for the purposes of washing, as it refuses to form any lather with soap. And if it would, or if we had had plenty of fresh water, but few of the passengers had any soap. Such were the circumstances in which we were placed when

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required to make ourselves, and our linens, &c., perfectly clean. Fortunately at this crisis there fell a heavy shower of rain, and we contrived by stopping the scupper holes to retain a good deal upon deck into which we threw our shirts, stockings, sheets, and every other article to be washed; while some of the parties taking off shoes and stockings, washed them with the soles of their feet. The skilful and cleanly housekeeper will not require to be told that such a washing was worse than useless, being better calculated to fix the dirt than remove it; especially when performed by persons who in all their life never before attempted washing. Here we were detained by the quarantine regulations till the morning of the 12th. In the mean time all our wetted linens were dried and carefully folded with the cleanest places outward, to evade if possible, the scrutinizing eye of the officer. For we were told that if all was not clean, we should be detained till they were properly washed. At length, about eight in the morning, two small schooners came along-side to carry us and our luggage, first 28 to an extensive platform laid upon piles in the water, about a hundred feet from land, and then to New York. On this platform we stayed about four hours, when a revenue officer but no health officer examined, but without being at all particular, our luggage; we were counted like so many sheep, and getting again on board the schooners landed at three o'clock in the afternoon on one of the wharfs at New York.

We were now strangers in a strange land, and as we had no inclination to stay in this city, we took our passage in a tow-boat which was to depart that afternoon at five o'clock for Albany, merely staying long enough to change our money, and purchase a little fresh provisions; our sea stores laid in at Liverpool being all exhausted, except biscuit, tea and coffee, and of these more than half remained. Of biscuit during the whole voyage we had eaten very sparingly, for such was the dislike we had for it that nothing but hunger could prevail on us to have recourse to its use; and this dislike was not peculiar to ourselves but with nearly every passenger on board it was equally discarded. And as for our coffee, having taken a hearty breakfast of it just before we were first attacked with sea-sickness, the very smell ever afterwards was enough to satisfy our qualmish stomachs. In exchanging our money, we got four dollars and eighty cents, or four hundred and eighty

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cents for a sovereign; which makes the cent exactly the same as the English halfpenny, and the dollar worth just four shillings and two-pence.

About six o'clock the boat in which we had taken our passage was lashed along-side an enormous steam boat, and we began to move at first rather slowly up the fine river Hudson. The boat or barge we were on board of has no parallel in England; it was one hundred and fifty feet long and thirty feet over, and had accommodations for men, women and children, horses, sheep, hogs and black cattle, coaches, carts, 29 waggons and gigs; and indeed every thing, and anything that might happen to want transporting up the river. The greatest part of this boat was covered with a kind of awning or roof made of boards, and so strong as to be sufficient to support any number of persons walking upon it; and withal so high as to allow the tallest man to walk underneath with his hat on. There was another boat precisely the same as the one we have described, lashed on the other side of the steamer; and another of somewhat smaller dimensions in tow behind. The steam boat itself was one hundred and seventy feet long and forty-five feet across, two stories high above deck, and propelled forward by two powerful engines of one hundred and fifty horse power each. The whole of this magnificent flotilla moved majestically up the river at about seven miles an hour. Soon after we were well out of the smoke of New York, the shades of evening closed around us, and nothing remained to gratify our curiosity but the glittering of fire flies, which by hundreds and thousands were fluttering from leaf to leaf and sailing through the air in every direction like myriads of inextinguishable and brilliant sparks from the chimney of a smith's forge. We were sitting on the windlass of the boat admiring these little luminaries of the night, and enjoying the cool and refreshing breezes of evening after a very hot and sultry day, when a man of an intelligent look, but rather shabby appearance, sat down also and entered into conversation by asking: you are an Englishman I guess?—Yes sir.—Have you been long in the United States?—No sir, landed to-day.—The people of England are much oppressed by the clergymen I guess?—In some places where tithe is taken in kind and where the clergyman has it in his power to tithe every improvement the farmer makes, certainly the people feel

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themselves oppressed.—Is not that way of taking tithe general?—No sir.—How then do  
30 the clergymen derive their incomes?—Most probably it was originally all tithe, but when  
the open fields were inclosed an allotment of land was apportioned to the parsonage as  
a commutation, which land is now the property of the clergyman as long as he holds the  
cure to which it is appended.—Have they much property in this way?—Yes sir.—I am  
surprised that the enlightened people of England should submit to it.—They are at present  
making much stir on the subject, for some think it would be better to sell the churches and  
church property, and apply the proceeds for the liquidation of the national debt. But great  
changes must be effected before such things could take place, for at present we might as  
well be surprised that the people should submit to any other person holding property as to  
the clergyman holding his.—But are all clergymen provided for in the way you speak of?—  
There are some few exceptions where the clergyman is provided by the free contributions  
of the people, and those who are for selling church property think that all ministers of  
religion should be so provided, which would effectually exclude from the cure of souls  
the thousands who care not for the flock, so long as they are able to secure the fleece.  
—Are not all the ministers of religion called clergymen in England?—No, that appellation  
is seldom, or never applied to any ministers but those of the church of England.—They  
are all called clergymen here, and are the most unprincipled villians in existence, living  
entirely on the industry of other people.—It is to be lamented that many unworthy and  
merely mercenary men take upon them the priest's office; but they cannot be so bad in this  
country as in England, where they are imposed upon the people without their consent.—  
I think they are much worse.—But you do not intend to say that all ministers of religion in  
the United States are “unprincipled villians.”—Certainly I do.—Then the American people  
must be very weak 31 in their intellects to allow such abuse and support it by their free  
contributions. In England, although such men it is to be feared might be found ministering  
in the house of God amongst all parties of christians, yet, but few of them can continue  
long where their removal depends upon the will of the people; and where the established  
usages of that people would not only exclude from their office all “unprincipled villians”  
but every man guilty of immorality, the moment it becomes known.—I do not conceive

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that there is any want of intelligence in the Americans, but there is certainly no bound to their superstition.—And may not the ministers as well as people be superstitious, seeing they have no means of acquiring knowledge which is not equally open to all?—Certainly they are so.—Why then accuse them of being “unprincipled villains,” since according to your own shewing, it is not a want of principle but a want of intelligence both in ministers and people, upon which their existence depends, if they live upon “the industry of other people.” For wherever superstition holds dominance over the mind there must be great want of intelligence, whether in England or America, now in the nineteenth century. But it is plain enough that your objections are not taken against the defective ministers of religion, but against religion itself, and the whole of christianity is doubtless in your view, a farrago of superstition, the invention of none but “unprincipled villains.”—Certainly it is so; which two of your own countrymen have clearly proved.—Then you think they have proved the bible itself to be the invention of bad men, or to use your own words of “unprincipled villains.”—No person whose mind is free from superstition can think otherwise.—Your assertion will not easily be believed by the vast majority of mankind, and particularly by those who deem themselves, and are by their neighbours deemed, most free from superstition: because it involves a difficulty so hard to be removed, that most men will have it to be absurd. For if bad men were the fabricators of the bible, they must be a species of bad men unknown in the world at this day. Since the bible universally, and in the most severe terms condemns the practice of unprincipled villains, particularly when found usurping the offices of religion; and whatever you may think of the superstitiousness of christians in believing the bible to be a divine revelation, it would be a mark of still deeper superstition, to imagine it the work of bad men. Nay, sound philosophy on taking a careful survey of the precepts and threatenings of the bible, and also of the conduct and conversation of immoral men, has pronounced, and ever will pronounce such a belief palpably absurd. I know that you christians think the imposition will always prevail, but in this you are greatly mistaken, for it is now evident that the labours of those men I have named begin to be properly valued, and the book you rely upon as a divine revelation to receive the neglect it deserves.—But, sir, you must be aware that calling the bible an

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imposition is not disproving the arguments that have been offered against the position you have taken; that the bible was the work of bad men. And as for the men whose labours you say begin to be properly valued, one of them has long ago left the stage of existence under circumstances no man in his senses would choose; although he frequently and imploringly called upon the despised Nazarene for mercy. And with regard to the other, it is confidently reported that he has renounced the principles you so much admire, and now preaches the gospel of Jesus Christ.—Oh! that I would not believe, though every person present should tell me that he had heard him.—And such sir is your character, and the character of every infidel in the world, you will not believe the most unquestionable evidence that can be adduced; therefore it seems imprudent to continue this conversation any longer, since you have not subtlety enough to prove that to be false which every one knows to be true; nor common sense enough to discern when you are beaten.

With these words the bye-standers who had become pretty numerous, murmured their approbation, the doughty advocate for infidelity replied to an observation made by another person, and we thought it better no further to encounter a man, whose answers to reason were blasphemy, and whose determination was to resist the strongest evidence, when opposed to the prejudices of his own mind. It was now growing late in the evening, and we began to think of retiring to rest, for which the boat had tolerable accommodations for most of the passengers, who were very numerous. But some were under the necessity of sleeping on deck; and others, among whom were ourselves, slept there by choice. For being among a number of strangers, one of whom had developed the worst of principles, we thought it prudent to remain by our luggage all night; and slept soundly, lying on the bare boards a few hours, till the engineer on board the steam vessel had occasion to throw off a superabundance of hot water, which caused such a tremendous and horrifying noise as was truly alarming to persons unacquainted with the steam engine: most of the people were not only awakened, but frightened, till the cause was ascertained. Day-light soon came, and our attention was fully occupied during the whole day, by the beautiful and diversified scenery on the banks of the noble river Hudson, or as it is commonly called the

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north river. We were however much annoyed all day by the zealous infidel we encountered the evening before; who was constantly wrangling with some person or other on the subject of divine revelation, and although always beaten, never would be persuaded to give up the contest. But whenever any evidence was adduced that flatly contradicted his propositions he would “guess” there was some mistake F 34 about it, and refuse to believe though told so by every person present. It was gratifying however to observe, that although there were several hundreds of passengers on board the three boats, only one man was found who seemed in any way to be an abettor of his opinions. And amongst those who themselves were destitute of true and heart-felt religion, there were many strongly and even bitterly opposed to his blasphemy. Two young men particularly, at one time, we observed and overheard swearing solemnly to each other if they could find opportunity they would throw him overboard, for his blasphemy they observed was shocking, and his annoyance to the passengers unbearable. No such opportunity however offered, and well it was so, for their mistaken zeal in the cause of truth would surely have produced a bad effect. For only let a man be persecuted for his opinions, however gross they may be, and his adherence to them will increase, and if he suffer in their support, both himself and his admirers, (and there is no absurdity without its friends,) will consider him a martyr for the truth.

We did not reach Albany till after sunset. And being sunday, did not choose to employ any one to remove our luggage from the boat that night, so we took up the same position we had done the night before, and slept on board. Before retiring to rest we took a walk into the city, and found our way into a church. The congregation was numerous and respectable, but not gay; though the dresses of the women were of a fashionable cut, and their bonnets we observed were the last new shape that was worn when we left England. The minister wore gown and bands, his sermon was in our opinions a plain fire-side discourse, alike destitute of eloquence and power. We did not learn of what sect they were. We spent the next morning in looking round the place and making enquiries about employment, but were disappointed in our applications for work. There were many persons

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35 who wanted work people, but we were constantly told "we could find you plenty of work but have no money to pay your wages, and none we can get." The fact seemed to be that the President's plans for limiting the paper currency, and establishing a more firm and permanent circulating medium, with a safer banking system, was just then beginning to be felt; and there were many and conflicting opinions on the subject, a great part of the people prophesying nothing but ruin; a universal stagnation in all monied transactions was the consequence. Our hopes of success in the country were greatly damped, and we resolved, (instead of proceeding by the Erie canal to Oswego, and thence across the lake Ontario to Toronto in Upper Canada, as we had intended,) to go northward into Lower Canada, where we had some relations residing. We therefore in the afternoon went by steam boat to Troy, from whence we proceeded by a canal boat to Whitehall, at the south-end of lake Champlain. In this boat our accommodations were very poor, as it was not fitted up for carrying passengers, and we were not sufficiently acquainted with the customs of the country to know that plenty of boats might have been found going the same route, fitted with every comfort persons can expect in such situations. Bad however as were our accommodations, the master and his men were exceedingly civil and obliging, and we chose to proceed by the same conveyance about thirty miles along the lake, which was as far as that boat was going. We landed in the township of Orwell, in the state of Vermont; left our luggage in the care of a store-keeper to be forwarded northward by the first conveyance, and determined ourselves to proceed on foot, that we might be the better able to see the country and look for employment. We had not proceeded more than three miles before two men who were at work in a piece of Indian corn, called to us and enquired if we wanted work; they told us that 36 their master wanted men, and would be glad to employ us. We went with them to the house, and two of our party engaged to work for him at harvest work. We remained in his house all night and were treated with kindness by the farmer who was a magistrate, and his wife who seemed to have had a good education, was equally ready to bestow upon us the attention of a kind hostess. We had a good deal of conversation with this man. He told us his wife belonged to the presbyterian church, and that there were also in the neighbourhood methodists and baptists, but as

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for himself he went to no place of worship. You may however take courage he observed, you will meet with many friends, for you are in a christian country. We were afterwards surprised to learn that this man, who thus gave his testimony in favour of the benevolence of our religion, was a professed deist. Another of our party obtaining employment in the neighbourhood; we returned to the place where we had left our luggage, and proceeding by steam boat to Platsburgh were landed there at midnight. It was a fine clear night, with a full moon, and the first in which we had had our feet on land at such an hour in the western continent. So instead of going directly to a tavern which was open to receive the passengers; the "ruling passion" was first indulged by going slowly through every street of the town, and silently enquiring into the circumstances and business of the place, by reading the signs, counting the number and variety of tradesmen, and marking how many new houses were being built. After curiosity was gratified we returned to the tavern, but found the doors closed, all lights extinguished, and silence reigned through the whole place. It was now past midnight; for a moment we thought of knocking for admittance, but we knew nothing of the customs and usages of American inns, never having taken up our abode in one. So we made a few more turns 37 through the streets, and finally lay down in an empty wagon; and the night not being cold, slept till morning. This was the first and last night that we ever slept in the open air, and a more fearful spot could hardly have been chosen, except we had actually laid down "midst skulls and coffins, epitaphs and worms." But the recollection of the spot, being once the field of battle, where many of our brave countrymen fell victims to the demon of war, did not prevent sleep. Yet the philosophy of those who make it impossible for "spirits of the vasty deep," to be seen by mortal man, could not calm our childish fears, and, but for our confidence in that Divine Being, who holds all things spiritual and temporal, in everlasting chains, sleep would have departed from our eyes, and slumber from our eyelids.

Next day we crossed the lake to St. Albans, in Vermont, where we arrived about one o'clock, but could find no one who could give us positive instructions as to the distance we had to travel, to reach the place of our destination in Lower Canada. Some said one

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thing, and some another, all differing so egregiously both as to distance, and route, that we were completely at a loss what to do. One person said it was upwards of fifty miles, and another declared he had been, and it was no more than seventeen. The real distance proved to be thirty-three. An old man who was waiting when the steam boat arrived with a wagon and pair of horses, or in the Yankee dialect, a span of horses, to take a load of goods into the interior, told us that he really did not know the distance; but he knew that he was going with his team ten or fifteen miles of the road, and would, as the goods were not come, take us and our luggage if we thought proper, as far as he went on the way: to his kind offer we acceded. Our chest was put into his wagon, and we trotted off, through woods, over hills, and round mountains, in such a circuitous route as made it seem 38 that the old man was carrying us into one of the far corners of the world; and being alone, (for the reader must be here acquainted, that though the writer chooses to express himself in the plural, because for the most part he had a companion, he was now prosecuting his journey alone,) many reflections of a disturbing nature frequently obtruded themselves upon the mind, we had read in the romance of childhood, of strange things happening in olden times, when extensive tracts in Old England were

“With birch, and darksome oaks between, Spread deep and far a pathless screen, Of tangled forest ground.”

And perhaps we thought these woods, wastes, and forests of New England, may be infested with villains who subsist on plunder. For nothing could be more in accordance with such an employment than the appearance of the country through which we past. This was the first overland journey we had made, and the first view we had had of the interior of the country; of course the ruggedness of the scenery made the deeper impression on the mind. Persons accustomed to green fields, and verdant meadows; to waving corn, and brown fallows; divided into portions of endless variety, by straight, green, and beautiful hedges of living hawthorn, can form but slender notions of the strange scenery in a Vermontese landscape, amongst their green mountains; peaks towering high as the clouds, hills composed of massive rocks, with fearful steeps and deep clefts, out of which

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protrude many strange figures, like colossal sphinxes' heads, formed by some disruption of nature; and not indebted for their admirable, though caricatured appearance to the skill of the statuary. Whilst all, mountains, hills, and vallies, are covered with a dense and almost impenetrable forest of thick bush, and tall trees of beech maple, and butternut; ash, elm, hemlock and pine, round some of whose spiky tops the clouds seem to 39 be perpetually playing. Here and there, however, one observes small patches of land, in a roughly cultivated state, with numberless foul stumps, and ugly great stones, scattered over the surface, which is devided into lots by most unsightly zigzag rail fences. Such is a vague description of the country over which we travelled, with the old man; whose conversation, appearance, and whole deportment, did not impress us with the strongest ideas of his goodness. On the contrary, it was not unnatural to imagine that such a man might be purveyor to some gang of thieves and murderers, inhabiting the hidden recesses of the forest. When arrived at that part of the road, where we should have taken another route, no house was near, our chest was heavy; what could be done, for ourselves it would have been easy to proceed on foot, but we could not carry our luggage, and to leave our property in the hands of a perfect stranger would have been madness. There seemed therefore no alternative but to allow the old man to carry us forward, to his own house which was several miles out of the way, but as his opinion was, not further from our destination than the place where we then were. We came to his house about sun-set. It was, as we then thought, a dirty hole, partly built of logs, and partly a frame building; since then however, we have seen many much more dirty and confined, in which reside persons who think themselves, and are by their neighbours, thought respectable. The old man introduced me (here I must speak in the singular) to his daughter-in-law, who was house-keeper and mistress. I sat down, and felt lonely, never till now had I so keenly felt the pain of being a wanderer, far from home. The old man went out to take care of his horses. I thought I would make some apology to the young woman, for what I felt to be an intrusion. I would have said *madam I am a stranger in a strange land* , I made an effort, my heart was full, I lifted my eyes to look at 40 her, the spirit of woman, or the spirit of childhood, held my whole soul in possession my heart was too full; *madam I* —but no more could

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be uttered, my heart felt unutterable things, I could not speak; she turned to ask what was said, again I tried, *I am a stranger*—again my eyes sunk to her feet, and my head involuntary fell into my hand, the elbow resting on a table: she went about her domestic affairs, and the silent tears trickled down my face; “home, home, sweet home,” rushed into my soul, while I pensively sat, hiding my tears as well as I could, and reflecting on my wandering situation. I had eaten nothing since my breakfast, at Platsburgh. The good woman prepared a most homely repast, I was invited to partake, but every thing looked so dirty, I could scarcely eat; however I managed to make a slender meal, and my courage a little returned. I was shown to bed, and was happy to find it much cleaner than anything I had before seen in the house. Altogether I was treated with great kindness, according to the habits of the people, amongst whom I was entertained.

Having ascertained that all was right with respect to the propriety of leaving our luggage in care of the people of this house, and also the road we were to travel; we proceeded on foot, next morning, to the termination of our journey. Towards noon we emerged from amongst the mountains, and hills, which had bounded our view, the whole week, and all the way from New York; and a wide tract of flat country lay before us, over which the eye could travel extensively, without mountain, and without hill, to intercept the view; and all this broad expanse seemed covered with one continuous forest, of the finest and most luxuriant timber. In looking round from an eminence, over this extensive champaign, the eye caught the view of a large building, a little more than a mile distant, standing on a gently rising ground, 41 around which seemed to be gathered a multitude of men, horses, and carriages. The first idea which struck us was, that the people were holding a fair; we thought, however, that could not be the case, because it was Sunday. But as our road lay in that direction, the difficulty was soon cleared up, when we came to the place we found to our no small satisfaction, that the building was a chapel for religious worship, and that there were more than a hundred wagons, and upwards of two hundred horses, standing outside, which had brought the worshippers to the house of God. The building which is forty-six feet by thirty-six, with a gallery on three sides, was full to overflowing, and many

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people were walking about on the outside, unable to gain admittance; it is not always so filled: this was a particular occasion. The country all round would appear to a person just from England, to be very thinly settled, there being scarcely any where two houses so near together as to be within call.

In this neighbourhood we remained some time, and shall give every particular about it, which appears most likely to inform or amuse persons on this side the Atlantic. The province of Lower Canada, is perhaps not so well calculated to give comfort to settlers as some other parts of America; but persons coming into the Eastern Townships will find many advantages, not always found in a more agreeable climate, and more promising soil.

The townships here, as in every part of the Canadas are what would in England be considered very extensive, being from ninety, to one hundred and twenty square miles, and upwards. The surface of the land particularly in those townships adjoining Vermont, and New Hampshire, is rather hilly, and in some instances even mountainous. These townships contain a goodly number of the inhabitants, whose habitations are scattered over every square mile of each township; and in the same way, nearly every township G 42 in America, which has been surveyed a few years is settled. In one township we counted the number of houses on the principal street or road lying through it, and found about one hundred in ten miles: this was the most thickly inhabited ten miles we recollect to have noticed, not including a village or city. And here let it be observed that in the American phrase, these townships are universally called towns; so that although in England we call a place where a number of houses are built near to one another a town; in America a town is tract of country, containing from thirty, to one hundred and twenty square miles, more or less, surveyed and laid out in regular lots, of from eighty, to two hundred acres, with a house upon every lot, or a house on here and there a lot, or, perhaps, without a single house in the whole district, and covered with one interminable forest of every variety of timber. The townships are intersected in all directions with roads, and in the eastern townships, of which we are more particularly speaking the roads are tolerably good, and preserved in repair at a very trifling expense, notwithstanding broad

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wheels are unknown; but the general practice is to carry light loads, with two horses yoked abreast, and the driver holding the reins in his hands, proceeds at a brisk trot; so that one-fiftieth part of material will keep the roads in order, because they are never cut up with ruts; and in consequence, every team that passes, instead of injuring the road by loosening the materials, (exposing them to the action of the weather, and making them more liable to be ground down by succeeding carriages,) actually condenses them, and makes the road better. The land, is for the most part cleared of timber, from six to sixteen chains on each side of the roads, and the rest is all in a state of nature, being overrun with dense woods; the cleared land is still full of innumerable old stumps, left to decay of themselves, as time shall wear them out. Much of the land also is scattered over with stones, which are of all sizes, from the bigness of one's fist to the size of a horse, and so near together, that a man, without much difficulty, might step over many fields in any direction, without ever setting a foot on the ground. These stones are by the better managing, and more industrious farmers, collected together, and formed into good, and durable fences, and the land, after their removal, is generally of a superior quality. The soil, however, can hardly be considered of a fine quality, and is rendered of much less value by the negligent way in which it is in many places cultivated. Their ploughing is performed in the most slovenly manner imaginable. We have somewhere read, that the people of one of the islands, in the Mediterranean, when they wish to plough a piece of land, bury a number of acorns in every part, then turn in a herd of swine, which by rooting for them, tear up a great part of the surface, and the grain is sown without further preparation; and there can be little doubt but that their hogships would do the work quite as well as in many cases a yankee ploughman, and his yoke of oxen. Their plough is made short and strong, for the purpose of being more adapted for usefulness among the many stumps, with which the land abounds for many years after it is first cleared, and they continue to use it on their perfectly cleared land, although a more preposterous thing cannot well be conceived. Their harrow also, is precisely the same which was used by the first settlers, in the days of the pilgrim fathers: it is made exactly in the shape of the capital letter A each arm being four feet six inches in length, from the outward angle; and furnished with nine straight

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teeth, each ten inches long out of the wood. The land always being under this inefficient tillage, has at all times a very rough, and uneven surface, most monstrously offensive to the eye of an Englishman; and then it is divided into lots, and also separated 44 from the road by their ugly Virginian fence, which is composed of rails, and rails only, each rail on an average about four times as thick as an ordinary rail in England, and thirteen feet long. That the reader may have a proper understanding about these fences, he may take forty or fifty common matches, and lay eight or ten of them in a zigzag manner across a table with the ends upon each other, thus And then the same number again in the same zigzag position upon the others, and so on till they are laid six or seven high; he will then have a real Virginian fence in miniature. Such fences are nearly universal in every part of America; living hedges being almost unknown, as also are ditches, for although we travelled nearly three thousand miles in the country we never recollect to have seen any living fence, or ditch, except in the flat country about St. John's. In consequence of the inferior culture, the land is overrun with thistles and other noxious weeds, which the moon-observing farmers never presume to molest, unless when the aspects of the queen of night are agreeable, which takes place when she is full in August, and as this happens sometimes toward the end of the month the seeds have been scattered in every direction before the old stock is destroyed, and thus the weeds are propagated a thousand fold over the whole neighbourhood; the rough state of the surface being well calculated to retain them wherever they may chance to fall. In the neighbourhood of which we are more particularly speaking, the land-holders are for the most part graziers, and only raise enough grain to supply their own families, with a little to pay some part of their tradesmen's 45 bills. Indeed, the crops of wheat are very poor, and often mixed with so much darnel and fitches as to render it of little value; rye is a very good and productive crop; oats are tolerable; barley is scarcely ever sown, the practice of making it into malt being rarely or never followed, and for the purpose of feeding hogs and cattle, Indian corn answers their purpose better: beans are unknown, except a kind of dwarf kidney bean, which is boiled and eaten at table all the year round; buckwheat is cultivated to some extent; potatoes are generally a very good crop, but do not come in early in the year, being for the most part

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the middle of August before the earliest are ready for the table; turnips are not cultivated for the use of cattle but are in plenty for the table, as also are cabbages, carrots, beets, and other garden stuff, including pumpkins, which are, as Jonathan says, fed in pretty considerable kind of quantities to the cattle, besides being made into pies and served at table; and also cucumbers, which are gathered when full grown and salted down in a tub or barrel with the end out, and kept all the year round, taking a few out at a time, to which vinegar is added a day or two before using. The varieties of fruit in Lower Canada are not numerous, consisting chiefly of apples, raspberries, and red currants; gooseberries, with black and white currants, are scarcely known. Apples are a very abundant crop, and are made partly into cider, and partly dried for winter use. The drying is performed by taking off the paring, cutting the apple into quarters, extracting the seeds, and then stringing them on thread by means of a needle, and hanging them up all over the house, and when the weather is fine they are carried out of doors and exposed to the sun. In this manner large quantities are dried for family use, and also for sale. When they are to be used it is only necessary to boil them a short time in water, by which they are restored to their original plumpness, and are fit for use. Sometimes 46 they are boiled in cider, or partly so, and by that means are made more palatable than even green apples. Raspberries which grow wild in vast quantities, are gathered when ripe, and dried also for future use, by exposure to the sun, being spread thinly upon paper, and then packed together till wanted.

Horses (which are all of the hackney kind,) and Oxen may generally be considered something smaller than in England, but that does not arise from a defect in the climate or soil, but in the management; for we have seen many specimens of stud horses, as stallions are called, equal to any of the same kind in Britain. Many of the more careful managers amongst the graziers also raise very superior oxen. quite as good as the general breed in this country; but as nobody thinks of charging the owners of cows for the service of bulls, there wants a stimulus to the breeders to make improvements. Sheep are very small, scarcely ever exceeding sixty or seventy pounds weight when slaughtered, but the mutton is sweet and good though not fat, and the wool is fine: several Englishmen

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have introduced rams and ewes from this country, and the breed may be expected in a few years to be much improved; the climate being agreeable to their production, and amongst many other advantages they are said not to be subject to the rot or the fly. Hogs are fed rather numerously, and are often large and fat, but the pork is not so good as we generally have it in the midland and southern counties of England. The great defect in the management of every species of live stock, is the want of attention when young; by which neglect they are stunted in their growth, and are ever afterward incapable of being made either so large or so fat. Hogs are commonly two years old when killed. Horses are hardy, and will bear a great deal of fatigue and cold, much more so than in this country. The ox is a most valuable creature for draught among the trees of the forest, in drawing out logs for 47 firing and other purposes; and also for ploughing among the stumps and roots, with which as we have said, the land abounds for several years after it is first cleared. Asses are nearly unknown; we never saw or heard of but one, which cost the owner twenty pounds sterling. A stud ass, as uncle Sam would call him, would be valuable property for any emigrant to carry out; the raising of mules being a desirable object with the Canadians. One thing respecting all domestic animals in America, forcibly strikes the attention of new comers; that is, their remarkable tameness and docility, for even a child may manage them at any time, without danger and without fear.

The wild animals are not numerous, being confined to a few hares, foxes, and squirrels, and sometimes a stray deer, or a moose; we say stray, because when these animals are found in the district of which we are speaking, it is plain they have strayed from their native woods, which are more retired from the habitation of man. Bears, wolves, panthers, and lynxes, are still talked about as having been inhabitants of the forest; but the name only now exists to frighten children, and alarm the timid. Of reptiles, none are worth notice but the snakes, which are rather numerous, but harmless; and frogs, some of which, called bullfrogs grow to an enormous size, being frequently from four to seven inches long; the larger size, however, are seldom seen, they may sometimes be heard making a horrid noise, much like the single blast of a bugle horn in the hands of a person unacquainted

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with the art of blowing it. Altogether, the inharmonious croaking and whistling (for many of them whistle like a dry cart wheel,) of myriads of these unsightly inhabitants of the mud and mire, have a most melancholy effect upon the mind of the homesick emigrant, particularly if he happen to arrive soon enough in the spring which is early in May, to be saluted with a full chorus of their croak, croak, croak; 48 whute, whute, whute. The birds in their general character are much like those of the old country; being the same in genera, though differing a little as to particular species; in plumage they may be considered superior, but the whole of America has not a songster equal to the thrush, blackbird, skylark, grey linnet, goldfinch, or even the hedge sparrow. Crows are much the same as in this country in appearance, but their voice is more like the barking of a dog than the cawing of a rook. The cuckoo and magpie are unknown; and what they call blackbirds, are more like starlings, while their robin, with the colours of that favourite of the British children, has the size and manners, but not the song of the English blackbird. Of insects, the musquitoes, grasshoppers, and the fire-flies which have been noticed, are most remarkable. Musquitoes are a large kind of gnat, and might flutter about by thousands unnoticed, if it were not for their bloodthirsty disposition, which leads them to spend their whole life in persecuting superior animals, and particularly man, and more particularly when he first enters their umbrageous abodes. Day and night do these bloodsuckers attack him, and, not content with extracting food from his veins, they inject into the wounds a virulent poison, which causes acute pain, troublesome itching, and in many persons much swelling of the parts affected. It should be observed, however, that they seldom attack a person while in motion, but chose for the most part to effect their purposes while he is at rest, and asleep. Grasshoppers are only particular for the great number, that abound, which by their continued chirp, keep up day and night, an universal whiz, so as to make the entire landscape seem full of life.

Houses in the eastern townships, and in every part of America, except in the principal cities, are chiefly built of wood, and are either log houses or frame buildings; the log house is built by selecting a sufficient 49 number of straight trees, of ten or twelve inches

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diameter, and of a length proper for the size of the the house intended to be built; these trees (or sticks, as brother Jonathan calls them, for with him, every tree, however large, is a stick) are laid one upon another, without any preparation but taking off all the branches, and notching the ends, so as to form a sort of dovetail at the angles; when the wall is raised sufficiently, and made firm by joists over-head, a door-place, and window places are cut out, where wanted, with a saw, and the frames being put in, hold the ends of the timbers in their proper places; the entire wall is then generally, but not always, hewn with a broad axe, to something like a smooth face, the crevices are carefully stopped with well-tempered clay, and the building is finished. The frame house, is erected, by first putting up a strong frame, the size of the intended building, of square timbers, then inserting the door-frames, and window-frames, in places designed for them by the architect, who is generally the owner, or his carpenter; after which the walls are covered on the outside, with, first, a thickness of one inch coarse boards, placed edge to edge, as near as the straightness with which they are sawn will admit, and then the whole is again covered with clear half-inch pine boards, each about six or seven inches broad, well planed, and laid on so, that the board above, always reaches about an inch over that below, by which means when the building is painted, all wet is effectually excluded. The partitions inside, are formed with rough two-inch planks, placed upright, and at convenient distances, upon which, mouldings and other ornamental joiner's work is fastened; the whole is then covered with laths, formed by splitting half-inch coarse boards, with an axe, and being plastered with lime and hair, the rooms are finished. The roofs are formed in nearly the same way in every description of building; as the covering is light, the rafters are not H 50 required to be strong, and kingposts, with tye-beams are unnecessary; for a covering, one inch coarse boards are first laid upon the rafters, and upon them, thin pieces of split pine, each eighteen inches long, and of different widths, from two inches to twelve or fourteen, put on exactly as slates in this country, only giving them a little more lap, being laid no more than one third to the weather, they are called shingles, and are a very good and effectual covering.

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The outward walls, of a few houses, are built of stones, and there are some brick houses, but the making of bricks, does not seem to be well understood, they are generally very inferior in quality, and much smaller in size than the standard in this country. Barns, and stables, are built after a similar manner, and in the more northern parts, every farmer should have room enough in these, to hold the whole of his live stock; as in winter, it is necessary that every living creature should be housed. A few, indeed, of the inferior buildings are not covered with shingles, but with rough boards, and slabs; thatch, being no where used, and some of the superior edifices, are covered with plates of tin, which from the great dryness of the atmosphere, do not contract rust, and are in consequence, a very beautiful, and durable covering. From the same cause, iron or steel tools will remain out of doors a long time and retain their brightness. Upon the whole, those houses which are owned by industrious, and managing men, have a peculiarly neat, and some of them elegant appearance; by far the greater part, however, are the merest hovels imaginable, and many of them more fit to be the habitations of swine, than of human beings. Many houses have no more than one room, which is both kitchen and sitting room, cellar and dormitory: being the same temporary or make-shift building which the settler put up ten or twenty years ago, when he first came into the forest. Age, indeed, has greatly affected the respectability of its appearance, which at first was only a decent hovel. Glass windows, once gave the place some appearance of comfort, but these no longer remain, except one or two solitary panes may be considered as such. The wooden frame, (which was never allowed the touch of a painter's brush,) it is true is still there, but the place of glass, is supplied with patches of paper, and old rags, worn-out straw hats, and cast-off bonnets, pieces of thin board, and bundles of straw, with here and there a square left entirely open, into which, Jonathan and uncle Sam, with little Abram, are fain to thrust their hats or caps, taken unwillingly from their heads, whilst remaining in-doors, to eat their meals. In front of many of the more respectable, and later built houses, the same signs of poverty, and slovenliness, are constantly exhibited; and although, one might judge such houses from outward appearance, to have being finished at a heavy expense to the owner, on entering we find it a complete deception; there are, perhaps, no interior

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partitions, and no plaster or other finish on the walls, to give it even the similitude of a house. The number of glass windows, and the smallness of the doors, forbid us to fancy it a barn; and although it is quite big enough for a village church, it wants the internal finish of one, and holds instead two or three stump-bedsteads, with the bed and bedding, a large table, with two pair of cross legs, half a dozen gaudily painted chairs, with a few others of the roughest workmanship, for common use, a large cast-iron stove, placed just in the middle, that it may give warmth to the entire dwelling, and allow the family to be seated all round. The walls are hung with sundry gowns, and spare petticoats, holiday coats, and winter pantaloons; and the upper beams, with numberless festoons of dried apples, sliced pumpkins, ears of Indian corn, and ropes of onions; all of which, have the singular advantage of being there for “ornament 52 and use.” Some few houses are more respectably furnished and more neatly finished, but we shall certainly speak within compass if we say, that three out of four, are never completed; and not one in ten has any convenience, which they call a back-house, in the garden or elsewhere.

Most parts of America, and especially the eastern townships, have abundance of the finest water, both from wells, and brooks, and other little streamlets from living springs. The wells are various depths; some very shallow, and none so deep as many wells in this country. Divining by hazel rods, for the purpose of finding springs, is very common, though for some reason or other, as far as we could ascertain, very often without any success; notwithstanding the opinion of a late learned and shrewd philosopher and mathematician, of this country: but perhaps the persons who exercise the calling in America, are some of them only pretenders to the gift. Pumps are scarcely ever used.

The labours of husbandry in America have a very different character from those labours in this country; and are performed after other methods, and with different tools. The Yankee being extremely inventive to avoid hard work; for if his manual operations can be dispensed with, he cares not how slovenly, or by what means the work is accomplished. Horses, oxen, and even dogs, are put to employments which an Englishman never thinks of being executed but by his own hands: horses, it is said, tread out the corn; oxen dig the

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cellars; and dogs churn the butter. And in many things, although he talks of progressing in improvements, he certainly remains stationary with the times when the first settlers landed on the eastern shore; and from the manner in which some operations are performed, one seems to be carried back to the days of the prophets of Israel. We one day had a silent, but practical and forcible illustration of the 53 baptist's expression about the Saviour. Matt. III. 12. Having purchased some wheat of a farmer, when we called to take it away he was dressing it in his barn; the implement with which he performed this operation, he held in his hands, and the business required no second person to assist; it was a semicircular board, of eighteen or twenty inches radius, furnished with a border from four to six inches deep, all round the circular edge; into this fan, for such is its name, the grain with the chaff is taken up from the floor, and by an appropriate shaking, the wheat descends toward the rim, which is held lowest, and the chaff rising to the top is gradually thrown over the straight edge, till nothing but the pure grain is left in the fan. By this means it is common to "purge" every "floor" in succession, as the operation of thrashing proceeds, so that when the labour of beating out the grain is ended, the wheat is immediately gathered, (being thoroughly purged), into the garner. But if we were solemnly impressed with this manual explanation of an awful scripture, our risible muscles were at another time strangely disturbed by seeing a yoke of oxen employed to dig a cellar. An enormous shovel or barrow, made of wood and shod with iron, is attached by a chain to the oxen's yoke, and they are driven round and round in the same spot, the shovel being emptied at every turn by the man who guides it, till the hole is deep enough for its intended purpose; it is a most tedious, slovenly, and idle business, any Englishman used to digging, would do the work quite as soon as the oxen, their master, and his man, and in a much more workmanlike manner: but the Yankee farmer knows no more of using a spade or shovel, than a London tailor, who has never seen one. In every operation to which the oxen cannot be applied, these useful and proper tools are neglected, or rather supplanted by a hoe, in the use of which he is somewhat expert; yet from the kinds of work to which it is 54 applied, (such as digging a well, for instance,) one is naturally reminded of the operations of chanticleer and his harem upon the dunghill: in digging potatoes, however, with this tool, we thought

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the Yankee nearly as successful as an Englishman, with his three or four pronged fork. Their mowing is performed with about as much expedition as in this country, but their scythe is much lighter, and we think calculated for despatching that laborious work easier, than the heavy tool used in this country. They have a ready way of reaping wheat and rye, with the scythe, which they call cradling; the cradle is made with three or four long teeth, of some light and tough wood, cut out of a solid piece, of exactly the same curve as the scythe, and shaved as small as possible to retain their strength, these teeth are inserted in an upright which is attached to the shaft just where the scythe is, and made to range in exactly the same direction as the back of the blade. In using this tool, the right hand takes hold of a handle fixed on the shaft, after the same manner as in this country, and the left hand holds the shaft itself; the straw is cut nearly as high above the ground, as in England, with a sickle, and each stroke gathers as much as is usually taken up at once when reaping with that instrument. We have been told of one man, in this way, cutting down four or five acres in a day; and laying it all straight and even, as if done with a sickle, and gathered in the hand. But we conceive that this way of reaping would not be well adapted to heavy crops. In reaping with the sickle, the Americans are truly poor creatures. The only tool they can use with dexterity and success, is the axe; with this they are superior to every old countryman, at first settling among them. In the use of which they are literally trained from the cradle, and in consequence acquire a degree of ease in its management that is surprising. But their axe is doubtless better constructed for ease 55 and expedition in using, than anything of the kind in this country. Yet, strangers on the first sight of one, generally bless themselves for having been brought up amongst people who know better than to use such ridiculously shaped things: they soon, however, find that the balance of information with respect to this tool, is in favour of the Yankees; whose axe, old countrymen universally adopt. This instrument, when new, is made of one uniform shape, and is seven inches deep, and three inches and three-quarters broad on the head above the eye, and four inches and a half broad at the edge which is a little curved: of the seven inches length or depth, we may reckon seven-eighths of an inch above the eye, two inches and one-eighth in the eye which is five-eighths of an inch wide, where widest, and four

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inches below the eye; in the widest part of the eye, the whole is an inch through, gradually tapering to the edge. The weight is four pounds and a half, or five pounds. Great pains are taken to have what they call, an elegant helve, which is mostly made of hickory.

The manners of the people, differ a good deal from those of the people in this country. The original stock were English, Irish, Scotch, Dutch, Germans, and French, and there is a continual influx of new settlers, from each of those countries; so that the people in their manners, are like all those nations, and like none of them. This does not apply particularly to any one section of America, but to every part of Canada, and the States; and there is a degree of sameness in these respects through the whole territory, not observable through two counties, in any part of England.

Their way of living, and of preparing food for the table, is not very agreeable to an Englishman, on his first coming among them; and if he has been used to habits of cleanliness, and to seeing every thing prepared for table in a wholesome manner, he is sometimes not a little disgusted with some of the dishes, which are set before him. As however, there is commonly great variety on the table, and every one is expected to help himself; one may generally manage to “make out a meal.” The usual practice is to eat three times a-day, and no more even in harvest, and each of the meals pretty nearly the same thing. When any meal is deficient in quantity or variety, it is dinner; and on sundays, it is very common, not to take any at all; for of the three, the Yankee always “guesses” that to be least necessary; therefore, it is very common to dine out of nothing but bread and milk, with cheese and butter. Breakfast, they consider the principal meal; and it consists of boiled potatoes, served in their skins, fried meat, often dried so much in cooking, as to be completely destitute of nutrition, bread, cheese, and butter, apple sauce, and pumpkin pie, pancakes made of buckwheat flour, and johnny cake made of Indian meal, pickled cucumbers prepared with vinegar, not more acid than dead small beer, and saur kraut or boiled rotten cabbage,\* boiled onions, carrots, turnips, and beets, preserved peaches, raspberries and cream, and honey, baked dumplings,† and nutcakes,‡ cabbage, cut small, and prepared with

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\* The following is from an American edition of Mackenzie's Five Thousand Receipts. Take a large strong wooden vessel or cask, resembling a salt beef cask, and capable of containing as much as is sufficient for the winter's consumption of a family. Gradually break down or chop the cabbages (deprived of outside green leaves) into very small pieces; begin with one or two cabbages at the bottom of the cask, and add others at intervals, pressing them by means of a wooden spade, against the side of the cask, until it is full: then place a heavy weight on the top of it, and allow it stand near to a warm place for four or five days. By this time they will have undergone fermentation, and be ready for use. Whilst the cabbages are passing through the process of fermentation, a very disagreeable, fetid, acid smell is exhaled from them: now remove the cask to a cool situation, and keep it always covered up. Strew aniseeds among the layers of the cabbages during their preparation, which communicate a peculiar flavour to the saur kraut, at an after period. In boiling them for the table, two hours is the period for them to be on the fire. They form an excellent, nutritious, and antiscorbutic food for winter use.

† What we have called baked dumplings, they call biscuits; but as there is nothing of the biscuit about them, we have ventured to give this new name, the better to express their nature.

‡ Made of common light paste, rolled into cakes, then cut into shreds, and twisted like rope ends; and so boiled, or fried, in a frying pan half an inch deep in hog's lard. Sometimes, sugar is added to the paste.

57 pepper, salt and vinegar, as it is customary to prepare cucumbers in England, raw onions sliced and prepared in the same manner, maple sugar, and mush, a sort of hasty-pudding made of Indian meal and milk, with tea for beverage. We do not pretend to say that this multiplicity of dishes was on the table every time we came to breakfast, but we wish it to be understood that full half the number was, and sometimes much more, with several others that have not been named. The reader will think we must require a very large table: but he is mistaken. The greater part of the dishes were very small, being no

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other than common tea saucers: and it frequently happens that every one of them is taken from table completely disburdened of its contents. This manner of living is not confined to any particular class, but is common to every body. We for sometime boarded with one of the first families in the country, where the master was an Englishman, who had resided there nearly thirty years; his wife was a Yankee, of Dutch origin, to whom he had been married some twenty years. While sitting at this gentleman's table, our risibility was frequently laid under severe constraint; for, looking at the scene before us, and calling to mind what would be the appearance of things in a family of equal rank in our own country, a smile could not be prevented; and if it could have been possible for the eye of one of our English friends to have fallen upon us, a burst of laughter must have been the consequence. There 58 was a filthy-looking table without any cloth upon it; the farming man in his working clothes at one end, and the lady of the house (dressed in a common print gown, made rather low about the neck, which was ornamented with a heavy string of clumsy gold beads, and the hair of her head without any cap on it, fastened up with a comb, like a plain country girl's in her teens), at the other end; two or three dirty boys, the gentleman's sons; ourselves also in working attire; and the gentleman's eldest son, a respectable looking, polite, and sometimes well dressed youth of nineteen, made up the company, to breakfast, dinner, and supper. Upon the table we had the odd contrast of potatoes and tea, fried meat and buttered fish, apple sauce and raw cabbage, with half a score other dishes, such as have been named. The gentleman himself retains so much of the spirit of English aristocracy, as to eat his meals alone.

Men, for the most part, dress much the same as in England, except as to wearing clothes of home manufacture; the making of which affords the women a considerable part of their employment, for nearly every farmer's wife is to a certain extent a manufacturer, and can card, spin, weave, bleach, and dye, either wool or flax. So that the land with a little of the occupier's ingenuity, produces all the necessaries of life; most of the comforts, and some of the superfluities. The greater part of the women have, particularly when about their work, a very slatternly appearance in their dress; they seldom wear any stays, and

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generally no cap, and in summer no stockings or shoes. We one day had occasion to call on a neighbouring justice of the peace, A—B—esq., senior magistrate of the county in which he resides, and found his wife a stout fat woman, upwards of fifty years old, busy in her kitchen, dressed or rather half dressed, precisely as we have described. The greater part when full dressed, are what in this country 59 try we should call shabby genteel: at a distance you fancy them very gay, but when near enough you find their dress is extremely defective; the bonnet, veil, gown, shawl, shoes, and stockings, have a completely different character; if the bonnet be good, the veil is worthless; if the gown be rich, the shawl is naught; if every thing else look tolerably well, there is a pair of coarse blue yarn stockings, and strong shoes that were polished with some kind of animal fat, a fortnight ago, and have been worn every day since. This mode of dressing is pretty general in distant parts of the country; but where population has increased, and considerable villages built, a more uniform mode is common, though by no means universal. Not only in dress, but in the management of the house, and in every part of their business, the women as well as men, want that neatness and tidiness which is ever observable in this country: nothing in the house seems to be arranged with order, and pains are not taken to keep things right and clean, when once put so. A scraper is never found at the door, for men to clean their shoes before entering; and the use of pattens is unknown to the women. This reminds us of a little amusing incident, which one day fell under our own notice. A respectable neighbour was walking along the road, and we observed him stop every few paces and gaze intently on the ground, sometimes looking backward, then forward, then on every side, then he advanced a few steps further, and stopping, set his arms a kimbo and stood for a minute in an attitude of staring astonishment; which, as he was dressed in a suit of home-made or fulled cloth, and fur cap, reminded us of Robinson Crusoe when he first saw the print of a human foot on the sea shore: in this manner he advanced till we met him, when he accosted us with,—Do you observe all these impressions (pointing to the prints of patten rings, which had been made by an Englishwoman, who had a little before walked 60 along wearing them) upon the ground? I feel puzzled to account for them.—We see nothing particular; somebody has been on in pattens.—Pattens! what are they?

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—An explanation followed; and the gentleman said you must have been surprised to see my conduct, and I was certainly surprised to see you meeting me without appearing to notice what I thought such a strange and curious circumstance. Another cause of so much dirt and nastiness, is the low price of tobacco, and the idle custom almost every one has of using it; which induces a constant disposition to spitting. This filthy habit universally prevails through all ranks of society, and in every section of the country: not only with mechanics and husbandmen, but with those who may be considered persons of the first respectability; the bar, the bench, the senate, and the pulpit, is equally polluted by this unhealthy and loathsome practice; the most beautiful carpet in the parlour, the benches in the courts of justice, and the hassocks in the house of God, are each receivers and dispensers of this foul excretion of the salival glands. In this practice, many of the women are as deeply implicated as the men: such has sometimes been our disgust at the conduct of some women, in this respect, while worshipping in God's house, that every effort of the preacher, however well he might speak, was lost upon us. The Americans have done wonders in the cause of sobriety, by the establishment of temperance societies: let them next if they would be healthy as well as sober people, make an effort to institute health and cleanliness societies, and let the first article of their pledge be, never to use tobacco, nor spit, unless directed to do so by a *British physician*.

From some parts of the picture we have exhibited, many, will doubtless fancy, that the people are generally very poor; and a great portion of them are certainly very far from affluence; yet, real poverty is no where to be found. Every man, has, or may have, all the necessaries of life, and if he has not something more, it is certainly his own fault, and shows that he is either idle, or drunken, or both. Every one who will work, and keep sober, must in a few years, become independent; yet, strange as it may seem, this is the chief reason why so many persons are found, who seem to possess nothing but poverty. Their farms (and almost every person, even tradesmen, has a farm) with very little effort, produce all the real necessaries of life, and this they know it will continue to do from year to year: with these they are contented without ever trying to possess what an Englishman

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would think comfort, much less wealth. They through indolence make but little, and they make that little serve; or by extravagance, and the use of ardent spirits, they destroy all they make; and this they may do without any alarm for future consequences, because, come what will, so long as the little farm, and log hut remain, they have nothing to fear, and even if these should go also, they can be recovered with two or three years strong effort. This explains, why so much apparent poverty exists, and why a few only grow rich, in a country, where all have an equal chance. We say there is no real poverty, and we consider the poorest man, woman, or child, in America, if in possession of health, rich, when compared with thousands, in our own country; that man is poor who is obliged to beg for subsistence; but there are no beggars in America, and the wandering tribes of idlers, called gipsies, have no existence there. No man in America, if he lose a day's or a week's work, must necessarily starve himself and family, to make up the deficiency, which such a loss of time causes. How many thousands of such poor men, have we in this country? The [poorest man in America, who has health, and industry, is in possession of some acres of land, with cows, oxen, and hogs, which produce plenty of wholesome food for himself and family; such a man is rich, though he have no money, while the Englishman, who gets his wages once a week in cash, finds it all due to the shopkeeper for the past week's provisions, and is obliged to go on credit for the succeeding week, is truly poor. Poverty, and hunger, have not driven the people to pilfering for support: theft in rural districts is scarcely ever heard of, and nobody thinks of being fortified against robbery; not one in a hundred of the people ever fastens the door at night, nor indeed, are the doors furnished with either locks or bolts. Property is considered safe any where; tools are left in the fields, and even by the road sides, without once being thought unsafe; mechanics leave their tools exposed in open sheds, where they always find them secure, thus have we known those of carpenters, joiners, millwrights, and others, left night after night, without ever being disturbed.

Mechanics' wages are no where less than a dollar a-day, and labourers half a dollar, with board; and, although, in some parts of the country, but little of those wages are paid

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in cash, the workman gets that which is as good, if not better, especially if he have a family, and be settled in the country. In England, we value every thing by its equivalent in gold, and reckon those articles most worth notice, which can most easily be turned into the greatest portion of cash, because for cash, we can at the shortest notice, any time, procure all the necessaries, and superfluities of life. But pounds, shillings, and pence, have not therefore, an intrinsic value. Food and raiment, are the only things that are really valuable, and these the working man in America, can always get in abundance, for his work. The mechanic, will receive a cow, for fourteen or fifteen days' work, a fat sheep, for three, a bushel of wheat, for one, and an acre of land for from one to fifty, according to the quality, state of cultivation, and other circumstances.

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Persons coming fresh into the country, may always obtain a farm, half, or two thirds cleared land, in almost any section, whenever they choose to purchase. For every where we find numbers of people, who are dissatisfied with the place where they reside, and are only waiting for an opportunity to sell, that they may "clear out," and proceed to some distant settlement in the far west, where rumour has reported a paradise. Indeed, that portion of emigration, which proceeds from the British Isles, to the western states, and Upper Canada, is nothing to that which is perpetually flowing from New England, Lower Canada, and other eastern parts of the American continent. From this whimsical, and roving, or in Jonathan's own dialect, this "enterprising spirit," changes are continually taking place, and farms are at all times, and every where, on sale. During our residence in the eastern townships, several new settlers from the old country made their appearance, and purchased farms in our neighbourhood; the venders pocketing the cash, marched off westward, scarcely knowing whither they were going. An old man, near us, determined on going to Ohio, sold his farm, upwards of eighty acres, more than fifty cleared land, and in a good state of cultivation, with house, barn, and other buildings, for one hundred and fourteen pounds sterling; and the purchaser, a Scotchman just arrived, was considered by the neighbours to have a dear bargain. Such, however, is about the price for which

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farms may, at any time, be bought in that neighbourhood: and any where they may be obtained cheap, for cash; if you show a Yankee, in New England, or Lower Canada, the dollars, you instantly fire him with the idea of beginning his rambles, and Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, or Upper Canada, is marked out as his future residence. He takes your money, sells off the heavier and more cumbersome parts of his furniture, disposes of such portions of his live stock, as he does not wish to take with him; places his wife, children, and such articles of bedding, furniture, &c., as he wishes to retain, in a covered wagon or wagons, according to the extent of his establishment; puts his axe where it will be ready, if any accident should happen on the road, and commences his journey, of five hundred, one thousand, or fifteen hundred miles, without one foreboding thought of what may befall him by the way.

Persons from this country, are often discouraged, on their first arrival in America, with things that old settlers hardly think of as being inconvenient. In some districts, they have to go ten, or fifteen miles to a mill, and in all cases, the farmer has to carry his own grist thither, and bring the meal away, as the miller, never troubles himself about collecting his work. The making of bread, sometimes puts the good English housewife very much out of her way, and makes her sigh for a little yeast, the loss of which, she greatly feels, before she acquires the art of making light bread without it. The bread, commonly, is not so good as in England; yet, we have frequently had it as good, and think by proper attention, it might be so always. In the distant parts of the country there are no butchers, and a joint of mutton, or a piece of beef, cannot be bought at any time, but if a person wishes to have fresh meat, and has none growing on his farm, he must purchase an entire "creature" and either kill it himself or employ a neighbour to do so; but the general practice is for every man to be his own butcher, and such is frequently the rough manner in which the animal is dressed, that a qualmish stomach sickens at the sight.

Again, the manner of transacting business with respect to barter, or cash payments, is a great annoyance to strangers, and the strong propensity, that all the Yankees have for litigation on the most trifling occasions, creates disgust in the mind of an honest

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Englishman. But, one Yankee can prosecute another 65 for a debt of a few shillings, in one of the petty courts, held, once a fortnight in every township, by the county magistrates; send a distress into his house, compel payment by attachment of his property, and the next day they shake hands, appear good friends as ever, and go on to trust one another as usual. The greatest evil, and that which most frequently deceives a stranger, is the practice of having two prices, fixed upon every article offered for sale, according to the kind of payment intended to be made. If the payment is to be made in cash, then, the lowest price possible should be fixed; if in some article which, by being carried to the nearest market, can be turned into cash, the price will be regulated by the expense of carrying thither, and if the commodity to be paid in purchase, be something that it would be difficult to turn into cash, the article to be purchased, is then raised in its price. Business is not conducted on the principal of simple barter or exchange, as is generally imagined in this country; but if you wish to purchase any article, to hire a labourer, to contract with a mechanic, you bargain for the price at so many dollars, to be paid in cash, grain, cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, pork, fulled cloth, or other articles of produce, or of home manufacture, or partly in one, and partly in another; and if the articles you agree to pay in are not ready at the time when payment is to be made, you give your note of hand to the following effect:—For value received, this 6th day of September, 18 I promise to pay to J C, or bearer, the sum of twenty dollars in good and merchantable grain, on the first day of January next, with use, J K. or, For value received this 10th day of March, I promise to pay to Mr. W W, or bearer, the sum of twenty dollars in cattle, on the 1st day of October next, with interest. J K.

If the person, giving such note, be considered in respectable circumstances, and able to meet all demands when they become due, or to use a Yankeeism, K 66 if he be “good,” the note will be current till the time when it is payable, and if the person, who gives the note, does not meet it when due, with cattle, or grain, as the case may be, he is afterward liable to payment in cash, which the holder of the note, whether he be the person to whom it was originally given, or some other bearer, takes care to enforce by appealing

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immediately to the law. Hence many of the causes sued in the petty courts arise. If the grain, cattle, or the like be ready at the appointed time stated in the note, and the two parties disagree about the value, it is without further trouble submitted to arbitration: which is the best thing, with regard to bargain and sale, we recollect to have met with in the country. The practice of giving notes bearing interest, has had a ruinous effect upon the settlers in many cases, it has thrown themselves and their property into the hands of two classes of men, if men they may be called, the most unprincipled, and merciless in existence, namely extortioners alias storekeepers, and usurers. Legal interest is six per cent, but the usurer, taking advantage of the necessities of his neighbour, frequently gets as much as twenty-five, or thirty; this he contrives by lending, perhaps eighty in cash, or forty or fifty in cash, and two or three heads of cattle, which he values himself at twice as much as they are worth, to make up the hundred; for that amount he gets in either case, the borrower's note, which, he, being threatened with an attachment of his real property, and hoping for better times, is simple enough to give. Americans also generally, if not universally, have an unconquerable disposition to cheat and overreach one another in all matters of bargain and sale; or, to use their own phrase, "in trading;" and the suffering party thinks no more about having been cheated, by the person with whom he has "had a trade," than that he is a "smart man," that is, a clever man. Respectable writers, on men and manners 67 in America, have expressed a doubt, whether there be in this respect, three honest men in the whole country, and we suspect such a doubt is not entirely groundless. They are trained to "trading" from the cradle, and accustomed to hear, the man who overreaches his neighbour, and he who is really sober, industrious and skilful, equally praised as "smart men." When school boys they "calculate" upon making a "good trade" with their playmates, and "trade away," with an eye to being thought "smart young fellows," the very clothes off their backs. Englishmen settling amongst them, soon discover this want of frankness and honesty in their dealings, and make use of the word Yankee as a verb expressive of a disposition in any one to over-reach in a bargain.

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Some persons who have visited America, and have taken what is there called the homesickness, but which might perhaps be more properly called the emigrant's mental jaundice, have told most fearful tales about the length and severity of the winters. And if England should be visited with a winter as long and severe as it usually is in America, north of New York, no doubt hundreds of poor families would suffer excessively: but there, as it is expected every one is prepared for the worst, and instead of proving a season of affliction and sorrow to any, it is a time of amusement and joy to all. It is neither uncomfortable nor unhealthy, even in Lower Canada, although the cold is sometimes so intense, as to produce very curious effects. If the traveller be not carefully wrapped up in his buffalo skin and fur cap, he is in danger of having his extremities converted into ice before he is aware that anything has befallen him. And it is not uncommon that the first intimation you have of the frost having taken hold of your face is given by a person you meet, who exclaims, "Sir, your nose is frozen:" when you take a handful of snow and rub the part effected, till it recovers its original feeling. If this be neglected you lose the skin, and the part for a long time afterward is so easily frozen as to cause much inconvenience. A young man of our acquaintance, one day assisted a neighbour to lift a stove from a waggon into the house, and while in the act of doing so he felt in his fingers a strange feeling as of burning, and when he loosed his hold he found that the coldness of the iron had produced precisely the same effect as it would have done had it been burning hot, for his hands were so blistered that he was unable to work for nearly a fortnight. The other persons who took hold wore gloves, which it is necessary every one should do on all such occasions. Sometimes more serious effects are produced by the frost; persons are frozen to death, but such cases generally occur from their having drunk too freely.

Travelling in winter, is to all new comers, as well as to the old settlers, a real amusement. A drive in a sleigh, when winter first commences, is hailed with pleasure by all parties, and pursued with eagerness on every occasion. Nothing can exceed in delight this mode of sliding over the snow and ice; which is enlivened by every horse carrying a string of small bells about his neck, that keep up a constant jingle, to warn one another of their approach

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and prevent collision, which otherwise would necessarily take place, because the persons riding are probably muffled in furs, which in some measure prevents their seeing; and owing to the snow, there is no noise made by the horses' feet or the runners of the sleighs. Their sleighs, to which they give different names according to some trifling variation in the construction, are sometimes handsomely got up, and agreeably to the American taste very gaudily painted. For carrying one or two persons they are made extremely light; and it is not uncommon when travelling to proceed at full gallop, especially when crossing the lakes and rivers upon the ice. It sometimes happens when so doing, before the driver is aware, he comes to a crack or cleft in the ice, which from some cause or other opens several feet, over which it is necessary to attempt leaping the horse, in doing which, he sometimes falls into the water; when the driver having a rope with a running noose about the animal's neck, pulls with all his might, which stops his breath, and he immediately floats; is hauled on the ice, and the rope being loosened, he gets on his legs, is again harnessed, and again is driven off at full speed. When we first heard this story, it was past off with thinking, "what monstrous lies some travellers will tell." But upon further enquiry we found it to be fact; and one very respectable and creditable person to whom we expressed our doubts, assured us of its truth, and declared that himself had once thus hanged his horse to save his life three times in one day.

Whether in winter or summer, the Americans may be considered an unsettled, wandering people. And such probably they have been from the day the first colonists landed from the old world. They seem to have no attachment to any particular spot; but on the least prospect of mending their condition, they undertake the most tedious and lengthened journeys; so that in any part of the country you may choose, more than one-half the people who are upwards of thirty years old, were born perhaps five hundred miles from the place where they reside. This rambling disposition has produced not only a uniformity of manners, but a uniformity of language; and although we cannot say that they every where speak the purest English, we may fairly reckon their dialect of it to approach nearer to propriety than the dialect spoken by the uneducated classes in any county of the mother

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country. The principal objections one has to their manner of speaking, is the drawling way in which their words are pronounced; and the frequent repetition with which they use a few words and phrases that seem to be their greatest favourites. The dubious manner in which they answer your questions is also a matter of dislike to an Englishman: and it is to them a matter of surprise to hear the direct and positive way in which an Englishman will answer theirs. If you ask a Yankee a question as to number, quantity, distance, time, or the like, his uniform answer will be "considerable." If you repeat your question, it will be "some." If you still press him for a direct answer, he will "guess" so and so. And if you are determined to have a positive reply, he feels himself very awkwardly circumstanced, and wonders what you are "calculating at." If you wish him to perform any business for you, the strongest promise you can get, is "I'll try." And when you learn to know him, you will be satisfied with this answer; for you find him a persevering character, who, if he try, he will succeed. One of the most remarkable perversions of language that obtrudes itself upon an English ear, is, their constantly using the word Miss for Mistress or Mrs. So that the stranger is surprised to find that Miss such-a-one is an old married woman with a family.

Their uniformity of language and manners may in part arise from the uniform means of education, which all enjoy. Common schools, where the poor child can be taught gratis, abound every where. Hence, nearly every person can read; and the cheapness and variety of newspapers give all persons an opportunity of enjoying something in reading suitable to their taste. Yet few persons can be found who possess what in England is considered a tolerable education: and many of their public journals would stand but a poor chance of success in this country. But America offers no reward to literature; and whilst they can rob the literati of Great Britain of all their hard earnings, with impunity, but few of their own sons will "Climb the steep, where fame's proud altar shines afar." Every work of merit that makes its appearance in England, crosses the Atlantic, and is there reprinted, and sold at a price only just sufficient to pay for the paper and print: and every subject is so successfully treated in Britain that there is no room left for Americans, (who are all merchants, farmers, and mechanics) to spend their time in the less certain

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pursuits of literature. To show how cheaply British talent is expended for these wholesale plagiarists, it is only necessary to say that we purchased at New York an American reprint of Pollok's *Course of Time*, soon after its first publication, for a York shilling, equal to six-pence farthing sterling.

However uniformity may exist in other respects, the Americans know nothing of uniformity in religion; every man being free to judge for himself, forms his own creed, and regulates his practice according to his own judgment of the Divine precepts. The predominant sects, however, seem to be episcopalians and presbyterians, or what in England are called independents, baptists, and methodists. There are innumerable other sects, some of whom hold doctrines which seem plainly to contradict both scripture and common-sense. Amongst the most extravagant of these are the shakers, and universalists. As to the former, notwithstanding they make dancing or rather jumping about with all their might till they fall down from sheer exhaustion, a part of their religious worship, and forbid to marry, men and women living in separate communities, they have the character of being honest, harmless, and industrious people; and make very little effort to promote their opinions, they may therefore be said to live above criticism. But with regard to the universalists, nothing can be more preposterous than their opinions; and although they are extensively and industriously pomulgated in America so far as our reading and experience have gone, no such thing was ever thought of in England. We are 72 aware that many people, and some particular sects, hold the doctrine of universal restoration; but universalists across the Atlantic, hold opinions widely different from anything we can find in the works of Winchester, Vidler, or others of that school. The sum and substance of their peculiar doctrines is, that all men however bad their lives, through the merit and mediation of the Redeemer, are instantly admitted into eternal rest when they cease to live in this world: this opinion is most industriously disseminated through every section of the country, both from the pulpit and the press; particularly the latter; and numbers of weekly newspapers are issued whose leading features are in support of this doctrine; but the spirit in which their articles are written is anything but becoming, for argument, they give us sneers, for

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reason, laughter, whilst all persons who think differently are called “partialists,” and held up to ridicule as malevolent, misanthropic, and unmerciful. In short, they are a new sect of infidels, who, finding that the authority of the bible cannot be disproved, have turned the tables, and determined to make its merciful purposes justify the wickedness of their hearts.

They make themselves particularly merry with the camp meetings and protracted meetings of the “partialists;” and one would imagine from their evidence, that nothing can be more ridiculous and even dangerous than these extra efforts of christians for the good of mankind: but as for ourselves, if we may trust the evidence of our senses, we must consider these extraordinary means of grace as highly favoured with the presence of the Most High; and the medium of extensive and real good. At a protracted meeting, where we had the happiness of being present for several days in succession, some scores of people were effectually wrought upon by the good spirit, and brought to a saving knowledge of christianity: and although it was held in a large chapel that stands 73 amid a scattered and distant population, it was crowded every day. We confess there is something very strange to an Englishman, who has always worshipped in a neat and commodious house in his own country, when he enters the area of an American camp meeting. But camp meetings are exactly suited to the circumstances of the country; and through them, hundreds and thousands hear the gospel, who would otherwise scarcely hear a sermon in seven years. For every christian knows, when the gospel is once heard and felt, the recipients of it do not rest till they and their neighbours have an opportunity of hearing it constantly. Hence, from the camp meetings, many go home, and inviting the ministers to follow them, continue with their neighbours to hear the glad tidings of salvation, to the end of their lives. When a camp meeting is proposed to be held, a place is usually fixed upon in the bush, or as we should call it, in the wood; the trees are cut down and formed into seats, a temporary platform is erected for the speakers, booths are put up for the accomodation of those who come from a distance, provisions, with the means of cooking, are brought upon the ground; and thus provided, it is not uncommon to stay from four to fourteen days, or more, preaching, exhorting, singing, and praying, all the time, only allowing regular

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intermissions for eating and sleep. And whatever rudeness or indecency may be found without the camp, the utmost order and regularity prevail within. Persons are appointed who act as constables during the day, and others as watchmen in the night: during which, the whole camp is brilliantly illuminated with large fires, kept constantly burning; and that these may enlighten the camp more extensively, some of them are placed five or six feet from the ground, which is done by putting on the tops of four large posts, a sort of floor, with the branches of trees and a sufficient thickness of mould to stand the fire without burning the supporters. L

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There are several peculiarities belonging to the professors of religion in America, that would not be relished in this country; and we are of opinion that their devotedness is less earnest, and their piety less exalted, than with us. Many continue members of churches, whose conduct would certainly exclude them in England; we were acquainted with some such, who never attended the means of grace peculiar to the sects with whom they professed to be united: and with others who lived in open violation of their rules. The sabbath is neglected on the most flimsy pretences, by many of those who are professedly highest in christian experience; and many things are left to be done on that day, which every man in England having the least pretensions even to morality, takes care to perform at another time. Many people, also, amongst whom are all presbyterians, have a strange whim in keeping the sabbath from six o'clock on saturday evening to six o'clock on sunday evening, after which, business of every kind proceeds as on other days.

We have named some things, which, working on the mind of the wanderer whilst a stranger in a strange land, leads him to a painful recollection of the comforts, customs, and prejudices of his native home; and makes him sigh, like the Israelites, for the leeks and onions of slavery, rather than enjoy the manna of liberty. There is, however, one or two things remaining to which we have not alluded, because, in themselves they are rather blessings than otherwise; but which, the mind sickened with the pain of parting with, and being separated from old neighbours, looks upon sometimes with disgust, and magnifies

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into reasons for wishing to return. One of these is, the manner in which marriages are performed: and the main difference is this, that the performance is not confined to any particular class or religious sect, but may in different parts be done by any minister of 75 religion, or without one, or by a magistrate; it may also be done any where and at any time, in the church or the meeting-house, in the parlour or the kitchen, by your own fire-side, or if it be preferred in the open air, at sunrise or at sunset, at noon or at midnight; and all with expence, or without, as the parties may wish. The usual custom is, to have the banns published thrice, which sometimes is done in three different places in the same day; a certificate of which is taken to the person who marries, and if the parties choose, the ceremony is performed directly, or in some states, where if the parties prefer, there is no ceremony, the contract is closed without further trouble. An amusing incident, illustrative of the manner in which this important business is managed, happened when we were in the country, to a young English couple who presented themselves before a magistrate to be married. The magistrate who was a merchant, was at the moment busy at his desk with some accounts. The young man said, we wish to be married; the merchant, without looking at them, asked, Where is your certificate? which was instantly laid before him, and he, happening to have the register open at the time, entered their names, and without looking up went on with his business. The young couple waited till their patience was exhausted and then ventured again to remind the squire of their errand, when to their astonishment and satisfaction, he looked at them and observed, Oh, you may go, you have been married "considerable."

The close of life, is attended with some circumstances which disquiet the minds of those persons who are still chanting as they wander from place to place; "Home, home, sweet home, there is nothing like home." Or who in the patriotic sentiments, if not the language of the inimitable Cowper, turn from every new thing they see, with a sort of sullen dislike, and ponder in their minds, 76 England, with all thy faults, I love thee still— My country! and, while yet a nook is left, Where English minds and manners may be found, Shall be constrain'd to love thee.

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Praise enough To fill th' ambition of a private man That Chatham's language was his mother tongue, And Wolfe's great name compatriot with his own.

When a person dies, a minister, if there be one at hand, is invited to preach a funeral sermon, or rather to make a funeral oration, or if no minister be near, some other gifted person undertakes the task; which is delivered to the assembled neighbours before they leave the house with the corpse. All further ceremony is commonly dispensed with, and the body is put in the ground, often not in the churchyard, or other common burying place, but in the garden, orchard, or paddock, or perhaps in the neighbouring bush, and there, not always to rest till the general resurrection, but to be raised again at a more convenient time, to be again interred in a more suitable place. Hence the gloominess of the landscape is increased, by a number of public and private cemeteries; which further sickens the mind of the already sullen, and disapointed aspirant after a visionary happiness in a strange land.

Thus far our observations on America and the Americans, were made whilst residing in the Eastern Townships of Lower Canada; but in copying, and arranging our notes, we have embodied many remarks which occurred in our subsequent peregrinations in other parts of the country. We have before noticed, that our primary intention was to proceed to Toronto and Upper Canada, and having recruited our strength, and obtained some acquaintance with the habits and manners of the people, we resolved to carry our first 77 purposes into execution, and proceed to the Upper Province. We had some near relatives already settled on a new tract of land, on the banks of the beautiful river St. Clair, who had written very favourably of the country where they had chosen to locate, so we commenced our journey, intending to proceed thither. Nothing particular happened in this journey that we shall notice at present, till we reached the great falls of Niagara, to see which, we went several miles out of our way, and thence made a pedestrian tour to the outlet of lake Huron. On reaching the falls, we felt some disappointment, because it does not answer Goldsmith's description of it, which, owing to its having been printed

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in a popular school book, had often fallen under our notice. There are two distinct, and altogether separate falls, divided at least by a space of five hundred feet over; that part next York State is straight, and considerably lower down than that on the Canada side, which forms the segment of a circle, but by no means a horse-shoe. However it is a most grand, and even terrific sight, whether viewed from the top, where it makes one's head swim to look down, or from below, where you feel awed with its tremendous rattle, that seems to threaten you with wrath, for daring to look it in the face. Large quantities of ice, at the time we saw it, (9th of May) which had come it is likely from lakes Superior, and Huron, had rushed down the cataract, and being arrested in its progress by the narrowness of the river below, was completely wedged together in the deeps just under the falls, so thick, and so close, that we past over it on our feet, with perfect safety. The man, who manages a ferry, when the river is clear, assured us, that the ice so wedged, was in the middle of the river not less than one hundred and twenty feet thick. After viewing the falls some time, we proceeded on our journey, not knowing one foot of the road, and without being able to find any person who could give us the least information about it; we proceeded therefore in a western direction, being guided by our reminiscences of geography alone. Not having access to a map or any thing else to guide us, till we arrived at Camboro', which we did on the second day, where upon enquiry we found a gentleman, who had considerable knowledge of the country, and who very politely, and kindly showed us a good map, from which we ascertained our route, and found that so far we were right. So we came that night eight miles through the woods to Cayuga, on the banks of the Ouse, or Grand River, where we slept in piece of a house, dignified with the name of a tavern. From whence, next day, we proceeded on the banks of Grand River, through an Indian settlement to Brantford, a populous and thriving village, on the great road which is opened from Dundas at the west point of lake Ontario, to London, Chatham, Sandwich, on the one hand, and to Adelaide, and other new Townships in the Western District on the other. From Brantford to London the road lies through as fine a country as any in the world, for agricultural purposes, where with industry, every thing that is necessary for a family, may be raised in abundance; London is a growing place, but will require some time to

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make it of any importance, in a commercial view, as the Thames, on which it is seated, is not navigable within a many miles of the place. There were however, when we visited it, many respectable stores, with a court house, gaol, church, and weekly newspaper. A few hours after we left London, we entered on a tract of country, into which the first settlers had only come about a twelvemonth before, and now for the first time we began to learn something of the difficulties of emigrating from the comforts of old England, and settling in the wild woods of the western forest. After traversing the woods several hours, sometimes in our road, and sometimes not, and for 79 several miles at one time through a part, the underwood and fallen dry leaves of which were all on fire, only having a path of six or seven feet wide, we came to the log hut of a poor Irish settler, nearly an hour after sunset. We asked How far is it to the next tavern? "Fait an' its four miles" says Pat, "but there's never a living, man that dares to go there this blessed night, or he will be kilt by the wolves, and his bones scraped by their ugly teeth, as clane as a silver dollar." We could have smiled any where else, at the man's simplicity, but viewing our situation as the man described it, ours were by no means laughable circumstances; we asked him therefore if he could accommodate us with a lodging, "By the holy virgin" he replied, "if I was in your place, I will enter the first house I will come to, and no living man should turn me out till morning. For not long ago a man at the next house was refused a lodging, and I tell ye the poor cratur's bones were found, a little after, just at the back of my cot, picked as clane as a silver dollar." Under the effect of this fearful, but at the same time encouraging declaration, we involuntarily entered his hut, which was one of the most miserable we recollect to have seen. There were two beds, which occupied full one third of the area upon which the whole building stood; there was neither window, nor chimney; the fire was made at one end, and a hole in the roof served for an outlet to the smoke, and an inlet to the light. We were each of us furnished with a block of wood for a seat, and assured by our host that we were perfectly welcome to remain all night under his roof, and he would make a good fire to keep us warm; but he could accommodate us with no lodging but his floor, and with nothing to eat, as he had nothing in his house but what was sufficient to supply the immediate wants of his family. We lay therefore down on his hearth, having a sack,

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partly filled with wheat, for a pillow, and slept during the 80 greater part of the night, if not very soundly yet safely, having no apprehensions of being devoured by wolves.

Early next morning, we commenced our journey towards the village of Adelaide, of which we had heard so much the day before, that we thought no doubt it was a “considerable kind of place.” We found however, that two log huts, and one frame building, composed the entire village, and although there was a tavern it was such a mean place, with a scrap of paper stuck on a tree for a sign, that one of us past, without seeing, the inn we had been looking for, upwards of twenty miles. We continued our route several miles through the woods, where in many places, the road could only be pursued over the swamps and creeks, by running along the prostrate trunks, and limbs of fallen trees; and by leaping from one tree to another. About ten o'clock this day we came to another tavern, but to our utter chagrin and disappointment, they had no bread in the house and nothing to supply its place as a substitute. With empty stomachs therefore but not very empty hearts, we continued our journey till we arrived at another of those little make-shift huts, which the first settlers usually put up to serve their purposes, till times grow better. In this, we found a kind-hearted Irish dame, and two or three young children; we inquired if any thing could be given us to eat, either for love or money? “Och an' I would be sorry”, said the woman, “to turn any poor cratur away in this wood, but that (pointing to part of a loaf on the table) is all the flour we will have in the house for Pat, who is hard chopping, myself and the childher.” Our real wants, however led us to sue for some of the loaf, the sight of which gladdened our hearts on first coming to the door; and the good woman made us some coffee of burnt crust, and set before us also some fried pork, and maple sugar. So, although things were not so 81 clean as sometimes we have seen them, we managed to make a meal, in the strength of which we prosecuted our journey, till about four o'clock in the afternoon of that day, when we emerged from the thick wood, which had enclosed us upwards of fifty miles, on the shore of lake Huron. We were glad to take up our lodging at the first house in the township of Sarnia, formerly and generally known by the name of St. Clair; whence after

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much difficulty, we found our relations' house, shut out from all the world but one solitary neighbour, in the dense wood.

In this neighbourhood we remained several months, and became acquainted with some of the difficulties, and adventures of the backwoodsman. Till we came here we had seen nothing of the trials which must be encountered by those who go to America, and settle in the wild lands of the bush. However good the soil may be, the enterprising emigrant ought to have it for nothing; or if he pay any thing for it, the payment ought to be deferred at least four years, before his first instalment: then four or five years more should be allowed him, to complete his payment, and that without interest. A man coming into the bush ought to be possessed of a great share of good health, a strong constitution, powerful bodily strength, and above all, a determined spirit of perseverance, and with these, especially the first and last, he will without doubt, ultimately succeed in his enterprize. But, from the moment he strikes the first blow with an axe in the forest, to the end of two full years he may bid farewell to every comfort of life; even to all those meagre comforts, which are afforded by the mud cottage of the poorest labourer in England; except he be a man of discernment, and his wife, if he has one, be equally endowed with natural good sense, then he will have one great source of comfort, all the time open, which to the poor man in England is perpetually closed, we mean the comfort of hope. Nay he will realize M 82 something more than mere hope, he will have assurance, that after two or three years trial he most certainly will be in such circumstances of comfort, as the greatest dint of industry and economy could never have procured him in his native land. No man in England, however well read he may be in the business of settling in the wood, and whatever letters he may have seen from his friends, can form a proper idea of the vexations he must encounter, who takes up his abode in the interior of the forest. Let him have a family of three or four children, suppose he takes up land six, eight, or ten miles from a store, he goes to work, builds himself a log hut, and a most miserable hut probably it will be. Then he commences in good earnest, clearing his domain, but hunger attacks him, his children cry for bread, what must he do, he has money, but then his work must be left to fetch in

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provisions; the distance will be increased through the woods, for he cannot proceed in a straight line; he has no oxen, no horse, and if he has, he probably cannot use them. He has therefore no alternative but to fetch home provisions on his shoulders; and then the road he has to traverse, lies through what, to a new comer seems an impenetrable forest, guided only by a chip taken from the bark of every tree he has to pass, which in the dialect of the backwoodsman is called "a blaze." Underfoot his road is no road at all; sometimes it may be dry, but often it is ankle deep in mud and water, except he make a vast number of circuitous turns, in order to avoid the low places. Then to feed a family of six, or eight persons, think how often this journey must be repeated; his flour, his meat, his potatoes, and every lighter matter, must be brought home in this manner. Every time he goes out it is a day's work, and a hard one too. Very likely his first seeds must be brought in, in the same way; even his seed potatoes must be painfully borne home on his shoulders. The time thus taken up, is not less 83 than one third of the whole; but suppose the poor emigrant has been deluded into the bush, by some interested person, or company, and is short of money, how greatly are his difficulties multiplied!

There are however other, and more bitter grievances than the physical ones to which we have alluded. There is the want of moral, religious, and social blessings, without which, man dwindles into a mere brute. Shut out from the world, he holds no converse on the sabbath, or other days, with his religious neighbours; and "the sound of the church-going bell" is never heard, summoning him as erewhile to the house of his God. His children, and in too many cases, himself too, grow into entire forgetfulness of religion, and he exchanges for sorrow, want, and famine in his native land; grief, pain, and misery, with moral degradation in the land of his adoption: and if he has been accustomed not to meet a select band of his neighbours at the house of prayer, but to associate with others in places of amusement or ungodly mirth, this also must be foregone for the howling of wolves, the hooting of the great owl, and the croaking of the tree toad.

Of the comparative advantages of locating on the wild land of the forest, or the older settled country, opinion differs greatly; and there are a hundred circumstances in every

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man's case that may tend to make one or the other most eligible. In a new country there is a new, and generally, productive soil, which, from the creation of the world, the ploughshare has never turned, nor the harrow disturbed: therefore the emigrant husbandman has nature in her original vigour, out of which he is to raise his comforts, and build his fortunes. In the recently settled forest, also, he has an opportunity of hunting the bear, the deer, the elk, the racoon, the squirrel, and the partridge, with other animals that are luxurious articles of food. But whether these advantages, 84 the latter of which are very precarious, are a sufficient compensation for the difficulties we have seen, we shall not decide, but leave every man to judge for himself.

We have made some allusions to the business of clearing the land on first entering the forest, and we now propose giving a brief, but sufficiently detailed account of this simple, but laborious process. When the emigrant who chooses to become a backwoodsman, enters a newly surveyed township, he finds it one continuous wood, growing according to the nature of the soil in different parts, every species of timber. The hard wood, however, such as oak, ash, elm, &c., are said to grow on the best land. The township is divided by the survey into concessions and lots, according to the following diagram, of part of the township of Moore, county of Kent, western district, Upper Canada.

85

TOWNSHIP OF SARNIA.

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From an inspection of this diagram it will be seen that the lots in the front concession have their ends toward the river; this regulation is adopted to divide the valuable river frontage into a greater number of lots, and these lots are only one hundred acres, while all other lots are two hundred acres, being three furlongs or thirty chains wide, and seven furlongs or seventy chains long. The overplus ten acres is given with every lot for clearing the roads. The roads and lines between the concessions and the lots, it must be understood, are only marked out by posts put down at the angles, upon which is cut the number

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of the concession and lot to which it refers: except that the principal roads are further distinguished by "a blaze." The settler who wishes to see, and choose his land before he purchases, (and every man ought to do this, or he may make choice of a lot that is a complete swamp or otherwise worthless,) has to enter the bush with no guide but a compass; and when he finds a lot that suits him, he makes out its number, and the number of the concession in which it lies, and then goes to the land office, and under certain specified stipulation, as the case may be, the agent enters his name for that lot; which is henceforth said to be located. Having so far secured the property to himself, he may proceed to clearing, according to the following directions.

First, cut down as near the ground as possible, all underwood, and small trees, of less than six inches diameter, chop them into short pieces, and pile them in small heaps, the more the better, as by that means the ground is more generally burnt. When this is done, observe where the large trees stand nearest together, and chop one down, taking care to fall it in such a position that another may be thrown in precisely the same direction, only, with its top towards the other's root. Take care to cut off all the branches and chop them up and pile them ready for burning 87 of the first, and every other tree, before you fell another. Never have two trees down with their branches on, at the same time. Chop down the third tree so that it may fall across the two already down; and when the branches are taken off, being balanced over the others, it will be easy to swing it round and throw it parallel with them. If other trees stand so that they may be thrown in the same way as the last, it must be done; if not, chop down all the trees in the neighbourhood, taking care to throw them down in such a position as to be most conveniently drawn to the pile with oxen. Then chop these trees into two, three, or four lengths, which are called logs; and the operation is called logging. Look out another place where the trees stand near together, and proceed as before. When a sufficient quantity of underwood and trees are down to serve for one burning, they must be burnt; only, care must be taken not to attempt burning till all are thoroughly dry. Say, not till May, what was chopped in winter; except a length of dry weather should come sooner. Then burn all the brush and branches; and if they

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are dry, as they must be, a shovel full of fire thrown down will effect that purpose without further trouble; as at this season of the year, the ground is covered all over with dry leaves and decayed dry weeds. Having got rid of every thing but the trunks of the trees; these must be piled together in as few heaps as convenient, by means of oxen, or if you have no oxen, by hand, with levers and skids. Set fire to all these piles of logs, as they are called; attend to the fires well, keeping the wood as near together as possible, and in two or three days every tree will be consumed to ashes. Chop up with a hoe all remaining weeds, and rake them together, with every bit of stick that may have escaped the fire, which being also burnt; the land is ready for the seed without ploughing, or further preparation. If wheat 88 be sown, which is commonly a first crop, it is well harrowed in with the great ox-harrow, which has been described: the common practice is to sow not more than four or five pecks of wheat on the acre. If the new settler well observes this method of clearing his land; taking no notice of fifty other stories he will hear about the best way of proceeding; he will save himself much time, and go a short way to work.

Whilst we resided on the banks of the St. Clair, an interesting, but painful occurrence took place, in the family of a British half-pay officer: and as the same thing has happened, not unfrequently, in other parts of the forest, and may happen again to other settlers; we deem it proper not to pass it over in silence. It was in the month of June, when the woods abound with abundance of succulent and nutritious plants, that are regularly gathered for culinary purposes, and eaten at the table; a little girl eleven years of age, was sent out immediately after breakfast, to gather a mess to be boiled for dinner; but the time of dinner came, and she had not returned. The father and mother both went out to seek her, but after spending part of the afternoon, they found her not. The shoutings of the father, and the wailings of the mother, were lost amid the hum of the forest, occasioned by thousands of chirping, twittering birds; or they were answered by the hoarse voice of the ill-omened raven. The mother returned home, but with feelings that cannot be told, for the truth had taken possession of her soul, and she knew that her child was lost in the wood. The father made his way to his nearest neighbour, and the alarm was spread to every settler in the

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vicinity; all sallied forth, horns were blown, muskets were fired, but the light of day began to withdraw, and the lost child was a lost child still. Messengers were despatched to an Indian village, ten miles off, to bring those matchless hunters of the bear, the deer, and the wolf, into the work of hunting the lost child. Before sunrise next morning more than a hundred people went forth in every direction, by three and three, each carrying a musket, three successive rounds from which were to be fired by any party that should happen to fall in with the object of their search. The mother was in agonies at home; she had seen during the night, the savage bear, or ravenous wolves, preying on the flesh of her child. The father, not less distressed than his spouse, had no strength left to join the hunters; but hung over the anguish of his wife in the utmost consternation; fearing the loss of his child would bring on a premature, and shocking dissolution of his beloved partner. The day advanced, but the wished-for signal was unsounded; every one began to fear that another night would close upon them without success, and not a few began to think the voracious wolves, whose howlings were heard during the night, had torn her in pieces, and carried her bones into the deepest recesses of the forest. About four in the afternoon, however, the concerted signal was heard, nearly three miles south of the father's house, and it was instantly answered and repeated from every part of the forest. The mother and father looked at each other with a smile of awful suspicion, for each dreaded the worst: she is found, but living or dead we know not, was the silent thought in each breast. In less than an hour, however, a messenger arrived who triumphed in being the bearer of such exhilarating news, that the lost child was alive and unhurt: and in a few minutes more, the almost maniac mother had the pleasure of seeing her best and dearest child (for if an affectionate mother loses by some sad accident, one of her children, it is always the best) emerge from the thick forest into the little enclosure around the house, borne on the shoulders of those who had providentially become her deliverers, from spending another night in the dark wood. When found, she was busy tearing the bark from a large fallen tree, and arranging the pieces so as to frame a sort of shelter from the rain; for the night preceding there had been a considerable quantity. When her deliverers drew near, she went on with her work perfectly unconcerned at their presence; and when interrogated

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as to what she was about, she said "I am building a shantee, to sleep under; for last night it was almost dark when I began, and I could not manage it very well, so I thought I would begin sooner to-night." But, said one of her deliverers, Would not you like to go home to your mother? "I cannot find the way home, or I should like to be there, and assist my sister to get dinner ready." She was then asked if she was hungry; to which she replied, no, I have eaten bass wood leaves, several times, and they are good. It appeared she had been wandering about, gathering into her basket such herbs as were proper for the table, till she was, unawares, outside the little circle of her former rambles: and, bending her course the wrong way, she had wandered further into the forest; where, having cried herself into stupidity, she seemed quite insensible of her frightful situation.

Persons going fresh into the bush to settle, should be sure, if they have the means, to take with them a yoke of oxen, and a cow or two. In the more southern parts of Upper Canada, and in all places generally south of lake Ontario, there will be no difficulty in finding them subsistence, even in winter, by browsing on the young branches of trees as they are cut down. Indeed it is amusing to see how soon they learn to know the sound of the axe; for no sooner does the settler after the first two or three days commence chopping in the morning, than his oxen, though seemingly lost in the wood, respond to his strokes, by surrounding him before the first tree is fallen to the ground. In spring and summer, the woods produce abundance of food, and there is no fear of their being lost, as they never fail coming home once or twice a-week to receive their allowance of salt, without which they cannot thrive, and for which they seem to have the greatest relish. Some people think it dangerous for cattle to remain in the woods without a guard, but we never heard of a single case of their being attacked by any ravenous beast, or of any ever being bitten by the rattlesnake, though there are many of these venomous creatures in the forest.

Having named the Indians, and as we resided a short time in one of their villages, it will not, perhaps, be amiss to bestow a few lines upon some circumstances respecting them, which fell under our notice. Most people are apt to consider persons and things

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under the influence of first impressions. Hence, having read in early life of the cruelties practised by the aboriginal inhabitants of the western continent upon their prisoners taken in war, we viewed the first Indians we saw with a sort of horrid suspicion; not knowing what kind of treatment to expect from a race of men unknown to us but in the character of wild men of the woods: for it was our lot not to meet with any of these noble minded, but often injured men, till we found them in a distant part of the forest. Many people, as well as ourselves, have enquired, Is there no danger to persons settling amongst them? To which we answer, none at all. But on the contrary, they are a civil, punctual, and trusty people, particularly when kept from the use of ardent spirits: and let it be remembered that hundreds are induced to abstain from them, by a principle much higher than the compulsory one provided by the provincial law, which enacts a severe penalty on any person giving or selling spirits to any man, woman, or child of the Indian tribes. The higher principle is the gospel. And if it be to the discredit of the white man that he gave them “fire waters” to destroy their health, debase their characters, and render them mad and furious against one another, and against himself; it is to his credit that he sends them in the gospel the only sure remedy and permanent cure for the love of drunkenness. That the gospel has this gracious effect upon the minds and conduct of many of these heathens, we saw, with gratitude to the Great Head of the church; and attended some of their divine services with the highest pleasure. When we arrived in the Indian village of Chippegan, on the banks of the St. Clair, we found very vigorous efforts were being made by a Wesleyan missionary on that station for the welfare of these ignorant worshippers of the Great Spirit. And although, (as we were assured by the English settlers in the neighbourhood), they were a year before debased by the most unhappy disposition to drunkenness; they were, at the time we saw them, nearly one and all steady attendants on christian worship; and a single case of drunkenness had not been seen for several months. Too much cannot be said in praise of the institution which sends to these heathens the glorious gospel of the ever blessed God. Nothing gave us greater pleasure of all we saw in America, than an opportunity we once had of attending one of their prayer meetings, entirely conducted by themselves, in their own language: these meetings are managed with as much order

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as can be expected, yet many of the English continually ridicule them, because of the noise, and what they think, confusion. Christianity, however, cannot be measured by vain philosophy; and men may think themselves competent judges of the way in which the worship of God ought to be conducted, and yet be quite mistaken: not remembering that God hath chosen the weak and foolish things of this world to confound the wise; yea, things that are not, to bring to nought things that are: and again, my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are my ways your ways, saith the Lord. Why then should man 93 so readily conclude himself able to judge of the ways of God in the means of grace.

In attending the meeting of which we speak, two persons particularly took our attention, concerning whom we made some enquiries; and respecting the first, who prayed with peculiar earnestness, and variety of expression, we were informed that he was till about a year ago, the chief conjurer of the tribe, and at the same time the greatest drunkard amongst them; and was also the first convert in the village. Having listened several times to the conversation of the missionary and his interpreter, he told them that he had some thoughts about christianity, but being nearly always drunk he could not think: he would however cease entirely from drinking spirits for three weeks to get his head clear, that he might be able to think about christianity. He continued three weeks sober, at the end of which time he was taken with that dreadful disorder the cholera, but recovered. There were nine in all taken with it, and he only recovered. After he was completely well, he came to the very natural conclusion that the Great Spirit had spared his life because he was thinking about christianity. He therefore took all his implements of conjuration, gave them over to the missionary, renounced heathenism and his craft together; his three weeks sobriety was at the time we saw him lengthened to more than a year, and he continues an exemplary christian. The other man observed, was much broken with age, and had a head of very long hair nearly white; about him we were informed that a year before he was the leader of a great pagan feast, held at that village, accompanied with wild dances, strange tricks, and drunken revelry. That he frequently exhorted the young men and women, to every moral duty, always concluding his exhortations with

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assuring them that they should live long, have heads as white as his, and limbs a great deal stronger; for he had broken 94 his constitution with drinking whiskey. The missionary spoke to him about the folly of their dances, and drunken revelry. He admitted that they were not what they once were, but he could not be a christian, for he did not know anything about it, whether it was good to be a christian or not; he would however hear what they had to say, and think about it. After some weeks he said he could not decide without conversing with some christian Indians at Monseytown, a distance of fifty or sixty miles: so off he went thither, and staid several weeks, but would not attend any meeting, nor be present at their family worship. At length he decided that there was one old man at the Credit river who was his companion in childhood and youth, and he would like to see him, to know if he were a christian, and if so, he would be one too. But the Credit river was three or four hundred miles distant, he could not walk thither, what could be done? It was suggested a letter might be written, he consented, and a letter was sent. As soon as the old man in question whose name was George, received the letter, and heard of the feelings of his ancient companion toward christianity, he set off on foot to Monseytown to tell him how good it is to be a christian. Old George arrived safe, satisfied the other's scruples about christianity, who immediately commenced attending the means of grace, and up to the time we left that place continued a steady worshipper with his christian brethern, and a persevering observer of every christian duty.

Nothing could give greater satisfaction to British christians, than the many delightful opportunities of observing the power of gospel truth which occur amongst the Indian tribes. What can be more pleasing, amongst other things, than to see the simple wigwam converted into a place for prayer, and to hear the hunters, after eating a supper of the game caught during the day, singing hymns of praise to Jehovah, 95 and committing their souls to his care by solemn prayer, ere they roll themselves in their blankets to rest, under the shade of a few branches cut hastily from the trees, when the fatigues of the day have so far exhausted their strength, as to compel them to cease from the chase. And it is again equally delightful to find these "simple natives of the new-found land" performing

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their family worship under the shade of the wigwam, before they proceed in the hunting excursion for the day. And not only has christianity sanctified their field sports, but it has taught them not to depend entirely upon them for support; but to clear away the timber, cultivate the soil, and trust to their own industry, more than their chance in hunting for a certain supply of their wants.

After remaining as long on the banks of the St. Clair as was deemed prudent in accordance with other engagements, it was resolved to follow another route than that by which we had arrived there, and proceed slowly toward New York, intending to embark again for England. Whatever may be said in favour of settling in the "far west," we certainly recommend our countrymen not to go too far; however they may be flattered with the hope of finding a paradise in districts beyond the Wabash, or even beyond the western extremity of lake Erie. There are, no doubt, in Indianna, Michigan, Illinois, and other western parts, immense tracts of the finest land imaginable, yet the settler will find in New York, New England, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Upper Canada, equal opportunities of providing all the necessaries of life, without the risk of sacrificing every moral, religious, and physical comfort. Even before you leave the public conveyances on the great western lakes, and rivers, you feel convinced of being in a moral atmosphere amazingly contaminated with the most outrageous conduct, of the most brutalized men in existence. For your own comfort whilst confined amongst them, 96 you can hardly help wishing with a late traveller, that in addition to the black catalogue of their sins, the sin of hypocrisy was added. Their swearing, and blasphemies are horrid, and if you happen to be confined with them on the sabbath, their card playing, and other gambling, gives you the greatest annoyance. Whilst having been used to the security afforded by British laws, you cannot help feeling suspicious of your safety, when you find that nearly all your fellow travellers carry about them secretly some description of arms. For either the dirk, a sort of dagger, from six inches to a foot long, or an unusually large knife is in every one's possession. And it would appear, from an opportunity we had of observing the spirit with which these murderous instruments were bought up at an auction sale at Detroit, that they are held as articles

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of the first necessity. A variety of useful goods in cutlery, ironmongery, drapery, and jewellery, was offered for sale, the greater part of which brought little more than they would have done in regular trade in this country; but a number of dirks, that would in England have scarcely found a bidder, were bought up one after another at the most extravagant prices; whilst very earnest enquiries were made after more. With respect to the manner in which such things are used, the most fearful tales are sometimes told, but with what degree of truth we are not able to say. Yet there can be but little doubt that in tavern rows, life is sometimes sacrificed by the infuriated fellows, who drink spirits to excess, and quarrel with one another for the sake of shewing who is best armed for destruction. Even when these deadly weapons are not used, the most savage battles are frequently fought, when each of the combatants uses the greatest effort to tear out the other's eyes. While fighting up or down, the favourite cries of the bye standers, are "Hold him down,"—"Break his fingers,"—"Gouge his eyes out." But we forbear: 97 these are some of the blessings of the paradisiacal "far west."

The means of travelling to and from the western country, when the company with whom one travels is agreeable, is pleasant, and calculated to impress the mind with strong ideas of the public spirit, and national importance of the American people. Their enormous, and elegantly fitted up steam boats; their convenient, and as far as can be expected comfortable canal boats; with their great national works the canals; each in its turn engages the attention. Travelling by the canal boats is a slow, but delightful means of conveyance, when not over-crowded with passengers. These boats are of two kinds; the packet boats, and line boats. The packets carry nothing but passengers, and their luggage, who generally victual with the master, and travel at so much per mile, including board. On the line boats also board may be had, but these carry a variety of goods in midships, while two cabins only, one fore and the other aft, are reserved for passengers. These boats are much larger, and of more respectable appearance than canal boats in England; they are about eighty feet long, twelve feet wide, and decked over from one end to the other, sufficiently high to afford room for the tallest man to stand upright.

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Passengers can either board themselves, or pay for their board at the captain's table. The accommodations for sleeping, are as comfortable as can be expected in such a situation, and every person generally has a separate berth; whilst a detached cabin is reserved for the ladies.

In journeying toward New York, two important subjects of conversation when the company happened to be disposed that way, were frequently introduced. The abolition of slavery, and the extent of religious liberty. On each of these subjects there seemed to be but one opinion, amongst these republican freemen; and that opinion was such as the king-obeying-British-people O 98 have resolutely shaken from their minds. The tenacity which Americans manifest for holding coloured people in bondage, and regarding them as an inferior race of beings, is a matter of serious disgust to every person born in England where, "If their lungs receive its air, that moment they are free." Such indeed is the illiberal spirit nearly every where seen, that one is almost afraid whilst amongst them, to offer an opinion in favour of the coloured portion of our fellow men. This subject has, however, been so much before the British public, that we forbear troubling the reader any further about it. That there should be in America a disposition to persecute persons for religious opinions may seem strange, yet we found many people who seemed to think of no other means of putting down doctrines to which themselves were adverse, and many apparently intelligent individuals seemed disposed to quarrel with the general government, for not exerting itself by coercive measures to destroy those religious professions, not agreeable to their own views.

The larger towns in America, differ but little in general from similar towns in this country; yet there are some things observable, which convince the stranger that he is in a foreign land. The whimsical devices gaudily painted over a great many tradesmen's doors, and the different way of wording their signs, have at first, an odd appearance. "Book store," "Stationary store," "Grocery" by which is intended one who sells amongst other things, particularly spiritous liquors. "Bakery," "Dry goods store," and "Ready made coffins," are

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amongst the innumerable notices which in this way admonish the Englishman that he is far away from his

“Own family and fire, And that dear hut his home.”

The filthy state of the streets also, and the wallowing 99 of the swine undisturbed amongst the mire, has an extremely un-English appearance. But that which appeared to us most out of character, was the training of the militia, which was going forward when we arrived at New York, on our return home. They were assembled in companies, in different parts of the city. The commanding officer wore a respectable uniform, but all the men wore their own clothes; and of course not two of them dressed alike; and many no doubt had put on grotesque articles of dress, on purpose to make an odd appearance. One little fellow had on a straw hat, about as far round as himself was high. Another came to parade in his red night cap; while a third was dandied up in his best suit of broad cloth. A monstrous fur cap covered the head of a big fellow, whose

“Back might well be said To measure height against his head.”

The officer gave command, but the men were all deaf: he scolded, the fellows stared, or laughed, as the humour suited. In short, they were just as much under control, as are a number of rude school boys who have got upperhand of their superannuated master. When they thought proper they obeyed, when otherwise, otherwise they acted. Such perhaps may be the result of republican institutions.

People frequently ask: Who are most proper persons to go to America? This question has been answered by nearly every writer on emigration; and from what has been said in the preceding pages, our views on the subject, may it is presumed, be easily gathered. Yet we deem it necessary to give some direct information, as to the probable success of persons with certain characters, and callings; shewing who may, and who may not advantageously emigrate.

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No man, whatever may be his abilities as a farmer, a labourer, or a mechanic, must go to America if he be fond of spiritous liquors. Of the hundreds who go and fail of success, by far the greater part cause their own misfortunes, by giving way to a habit of drinking spirits, which they are often insensibly drawn into at first landing, from their great cheapness. We will not say it is absolutely necessary in order to succeed, that the Emigrant should sign a temperance pledge, either before he leaves England or immediately on landing: but we feel certain that such an act would operate amazingly in his favour, and render his success all but infallible. The importance of temperance will appear from the fact, that many of the great public works have been accomplished without any intoxicating liquor being drunk by the workmen: and here is now lying before us an American Newspaper, containing an advertisement to contractors, for tenders toward making the New York and Erie rail road, which will be nearly five hundred miles long; and one of the leading stipulations of the Company, is, that the drinking of ardent spirits shall be prohibited. It is therefore important, that persons should be able to shew certificates of their temperance. And we advise all persons connected with any particular religious society, to carry with them properly attested testimonials of their church-membership. And even those who are neither members of temperance nor religious societies, as well as those who are, will do well to have proper attestations of good character, signed by some respectable persons to whom they are known, and if signed, or counter-signed, by a member of Parliament the better.

People who are deficient in a spirit of perseverance, will not succeed. The innumerable difficulties which probably must be encountered, are to be overcome only by determined and persevering spirits. So that it would be folly for any man to go there under the influence of mere whim. Neither can any man find his circumstances improved but by diligence and industry. Idleness must be discarded in America. For there, labour is the most valuable commodity in the market; and what Poor Richard said many years ago, remains literally true at this time,

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“He that by the plough would thrive, Himself must either hold or drive.”

Of all employments in America, those of husbandry seem to promise the greatest probabilities of success. Industrious labourers, and working farmers cannot fail of bettering their circumstances by crossing the Atlantic. Not but that mechanics of every kind may do well; yet the occupier and cultivator of the soil is most certain to succeed. And we advise even the artizan to make up his mind before leaving home, if his own calling should fail, to turn farmer: in doing which he will not find great difficulties from having been brought up to a trade, for it has many times been observed, that mechanics from the old country succeed as farmers, quite as well and commonly better than persons brought up to agricultural pursuits. Next to idleness and intemperance, the person who commences farmer, must avoid attempting to cultivate too large a farm: a little well managed will answer his purpose much better than a great deal badly cultivated. If the husbandman do not keep the size of his farm within the compass of his means, he will certainly in America, as well as in the old country, be always poor.

Of tradesmen; we think the carpenter and joiner will do best, and be most certain of success, inasmuch as his business is required everywhere. However, different degrees of ability will be found to succeed in different places. In the larger towns, none but superior workmen will be sure of employment; but in 102 the remote country and backwoods, any man who is at all acquainted with the use of tools will obtain work. Millwrights, wheelwrights, and all other trades working in wood, will also find little difficulty in obtaining employment. Masons, bricklayers, and plasterers, will find work in the large towns, and good workmen obtain high wages: yet perhaps wages are nearly as high in London, and some other large towns in England, but then the probabilities of keeping in constant work are in favour of America, and the means of living cheaper. A blacksmith is a profitable business, when a man can work on his own account; and a journeyman gets from twelve to twenty dollars a-month, and board. There is no work for regular painters, but in the cities and large towns; and plumbers and glaziers will not be very sure of success. There are

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but few pumps, and those are mostly made of wood; and the glazing is generally done by the joiners, who purchase the glass ready cut into panes of uniform size, and then make the sash to fit. Tailors will obtain employment almost anywhere, if they are good workmen, and masters of cutting: but from our observations on the make of men's apparel at home and in America, it should seem that many of our village tailors would make a bad figure by the side of an American, even in the backwoods. Shoemakers are sure to succeed, and their trade is very beneficial, but it must be in some measure re-learned to make it so: for agreeably to Jonathan's schemes, which are always to make the most of a little labour, he has succeeded surprisingly in the manufacture of shoes, which are made without either stitching or sewing, except in the binding and closing: the bottoms being fastened on without any welt, entirely with wooden pegs. They wear well; but the leather is not so good as in England. Men and boys generally wear boots, especially in winter: not the laced half boots so common with farm servants and labourers 103 in this country, but real closed boots. The whole of the shoemaker's work is very light, when compared with his work for farm labourers in England; and we presume a greater curiosity could not be exhibited to an American, than a pair of real strong English half boots, well nailed: for nailing is not thought of there. Indeed, we heard of one of our countrymen, who being laughed out of the oddity of wearing his English half boots, sold them to the managers of a museum, where they are now exhibited to visitors as one of the greatest curiosities in the place. Tanners, curriers, millers, bakers, and butchers, would not be likely to do well in every place, although situations might be selected where their callings would be advantageous: the first two of these are mostly united in the same establishment. Sawyers would find plenty of work, and good wages, in all parts of the country where water-privileges for saw mills cannot be obtained; but within some distance of these, all business in that line is engrossed by them. Persons brought up in our manufacturing districts, and used to work in any department of those concerns chiefly operated by machinery, will find it necessary to locate themselves in such particular places as are preoccupied by their own branches of business: and generally, those who are only capable of following other avocations than

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those we have named, will find it expedient to confine their residence to some particular spot where the number of inhabitants will ensure success.

Thus far we have given an account of what we saw amongst our trans-atlantic brethren, interspersed with our opinions on emigration, and advice to those who choose to emigrate. In doing which, we have endeavoured to speak plain truth, without favour or affection to any man, party, or company. And we venture to warn those who are about to leave their native soil, against placing too much confidence in any publication which points out some particular spot 104 as being more eligible for settlement than other places. For there is such a thing as writing to serve a party; and it is much to be suspected, that some of the works on emigration have issued under such circumstances.

Having said thus much, it only remains for us to give some directions to the emigrant, to guide him in his way to different parts of the country after he has landed, with the expense of travelling upon those routes most commonly pursued, that he may be able to count the cost before he leaves home. We shall also include some brief topographical notices, &c., of a few of the places as we pass along.

New York to Albany,\* by steam boat:—Fare, 1 dollar. Each passenger is allowed 100lbs. of luggage, which in America is called a hundred weight; and 25 cents per 100lbs. for all overweight:—Time, 24 hours.

\* Pronounced Aul-ban-e.

*State. Miles.*

Manhattanville 8

Fort Lee 2 10

Fort Washington 1 11

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Fort Independence 2 13

Phillipstown 4 17

Tarrytown 10 27

Singsing 6 33

Haverstraw 3 36

Stony Point 3 39

Fort Fayette 2 41

Saint Anthony's Nose 5 46

West Point 7 53

Cold Spring 3 56

New Windsor 4 60

Fishkill 1 61

Newburg 1 62

New Hamburg 6 68

Milton 4 72

Poughkeepsie†

† Pronounced Po-kip-se. Commonly Kip-se.

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Hyde Park 5 81

Pelham 4 85

Esopus Landing 6 91

Clermont 12 103

Cattskill 9 112

Hudson 5 117

New Baltimore 13 130

Albany 15 145

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There is an indescribable wildness in the scenery on both sides of the Hudson, which fills the stranger, who has spent his days in a comparatively flat country, with the utmost wonder. For, although his prospects are for the most part confined to the river and its banks, the following heights of the land on each side will show that those banks are not destitute of interest.

West side. *feet.*

Near Bull's Ferry 170

Fort Lee 311

Lydicher's Bluffs 407

Opposite Fort Independence 470

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Closter Landing 517

Jersey Line 549

Vredideka Hook 668

Bare Mountain 1350

Fort Putnam 596

West Point 176

Crows Nest 1418

Butter Hill 1529

East side.

Fort Washington 238

Anthony's Nose 1128

Sugar Loaf 366

Bull Hill 1486

Breakneck Hill 1187

High Peak 1580

A little to the westward of Catskill, are the Catskill mountains, the highest of which, is 3,804 feet above the river.

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Albany is a place of great importance, having an increasing population of more than 25,000. It is situated at the head of tidewaters, and where transhipments are made of all the productions of the American soil (which are brought here by the western and northern canals,) and foreign merchandise. The city contains several well finished, and noble buildings, some of which being built of white marble have an imposing appearance, particularly the city-hall which stands upon an eminence 200 feet above the river. P

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Albany to Whitehall, by canal boat:—Fare, 1 dollar and 8 cents, or 1 cent and a-half per mile. Every passenger is allowed 50lbs. of luggage; and 18 cents per 100 lbs. for overweight:—Time, 30 hours.

West Troy 7 Junction 2 9 Waterford 2 11 Mechanicsville 8 19 Stillwater 4 23 Bemus Heights 3 26 Schuylerville\* 9 35 Guard Gates 2 37 Fort Miller 3 40 Fort Edward 8 48 Kingsbury 5 53 Fort Ann 7 60 Narrows 6 66 Whitehall 6 72

\* Pronounced Sky-ler-vill.

The traveller finds in the first twenty miles of this route, a number of very important and well settled towns, with extensive manufactories of every description of cotton, woollen, iron, and steel goods.

Whitehall to St. Johns, Lower Canada, by steam boat, on lake Champlain:—Fare, 2½ dollars. Not particular about the quantity of luggage: accommodations very bad if the weather happen to be cold:—Time, 20 hours.

Ticonderoga 24 Crown Point 15 39 Basin Harbor 12 51 Essex 10 61 Burlington, Vt. 14 75 Platsburgh 24 99 Chazy† 15 114 Rouse Point 12 126 Isle aux Noix‡ 12 138 St. Johns 12 150

† Pronounced Sha-zee.

‡ Pronounced Ile-au-no.

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From St. Johns to Montreal, the distance is 27 miles, and is either by rail road to Laprarie, and then by steam boat; or by canal boat to Chambly, and 107 then by steam boat. In either case the time is short, and the charge trifling.

St. Johns, will doubtless in a few years become a place of much importance, because all goods and passengers passing by inland carriage, from New York to Quebec, or intermediate places, and vice versa, must change their means of conveyance here. From this place also, persons going to any of the Eastern Townships, will find it necessary either to travel by the stage which is rather expensive; or engage some special conveyance. Here is one of the most extensive bridges over the deep and rapid river Sorrel which is to be found perhaps in the world. It is 2,000 feet long, built at the sole expense of one man, whose property it remains. All passengers pay toll.

From Quebec to Montreal, by steam boat:—Distance, 180 miles:—Time, 36 hours:—Fare, 1 dollar and a-half. No particular notice taken of the quantity of luggage.

Montreal to Prescott, in Durham boats, or batteaux;\* but the Durham boats, which have themselves the most miserable accommodations are to be preferred. The passage is very dangerous if the boats (which is often the case) are not well managed. Fare, 90 cents, and 50 cents per 100lbs. for all luggage:—Time, from four to ten days.

\* Pronounced battoos.

La Chine† 9 1 Cascades 23 32 Coteau du Lac‡ 16 48 Cornwall 36 84 Prescott 50 134

† Pronounced La-sheen.

‡ Pronounced Cot-o-du-lac.

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From Prescott to Queenston, by steam boat:—Fare, 2 dollars. Each passenger is allowed 100lbs. of luggage; 20 cents per 100lbs. overweight:—Time, 48 hours.

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Brockville 14 Kingston 46 60 TORONTO 211 257 Queenston 30 287

From Queenston to Chippeway is nine miles; and here, the emigrant will have to hire special land carriage for his luggage, and such of his family as are unable to walk. In this nine miles he has an opportunity of viewing the great falls of Niagara. From Chippeway to Buffalo, there are steam boats constantly plying, that carry passengers, including any ordinary quantity of luggage for half a-dollar. Distance, twenty miles:—Time, three hours.

From Albany to Buffalo, by canal boat:—Fare, 5 dollars; and every passenger is allowed 50 lbs. of luggage, while 62 cents per 100lbs. are charged for all overweight:—Time, six or seven days. Common charge for a part of the distance is a cent and a-half a mile. As we consider this canal goes through, or lies contiguous to many parts of the State of New York, which are quite as eligible for settlers as any district in America. We shall give the following table of distances on the Erie canal; and other particulars, such as are most likely to engage the attention of Emigrants.

109 ERIE CANAL Intermediate. Albany. Schenectady. Utica. Syracuse. Rochester. Lockport. Buffalo. ALBANY 30 110 171 270 333 363 Troy 7 7 23 103 164 263 326 356 Junction 2 9 21 101 162 261 324 354 SCHENECTADY 21 30 80 141 240 303 333 Amsterdam 16 46 16 64 125 224 287 317 Schoharie creek 7 53 23 57 118 217 280 310 Caughnawaga 4 57 27 53 114 213 276 306 Spraker basin 9 66 36 44 105 204 267 291 Canajoharie 3 69 39 41 102 201 264 297 Bowman creek 3 72 42 38 99 198 261 294 FALLS 16 88 58 22 83 182 245 275 Herkimer 7 95 65 15 76 175 238 268 Germanflats 2 97 67 13 74 173 236 266 Frankfort 3 100 70 10 71 170 233 263 UTICA 10 110 80 61 160 223 253 Whitesborough 4 114 84 4 57 156 219 249 Oriskany 3 117 87 7 54 153 216 246 Rome 8 125 95 15 46 145 208 238 New London 7 132 102 22 39 138 201 231 Loomis 6 138 108 28 33 132 195 225 Oneida creek 3 141 111 31 30 129 192 222 Lenox basin 3 144 114 34 27 126 189 219 Canastota 2 146 116 36 25 124 187 217 New Boston 4 150 120 40 21 120 183 213 Chitenango 4 154 124 44 17 116 179 209 Kirkville 4 158 128 48 13 112 175 205 Manlius 4 162 132 52 9 108 171 201 Orville 3 165 135 55 6 105 168 198 SYRACUSE 6 171 141 61 99 162 192 Geddes 2 173 143 63 2 97 160 190 Nine mile creek 179 149 69 8 91 154 184 Camillus 1 180 150 70 9 90 153 183 110 Canton 5 185 155 75 14 85 148 178 Jordan 6 191 161 81 20 79 142 172 Weedsport 6 197 167 87 26 73 136 166 Centreport 1 198 168 83 27 72 135 165 PORT BYRON 2 200 170 90 29 70 133 163 Montezuma 6 206 176 96 35 64 127 157 Clyde 11 217 187 107 46 53 116 146 Lyons 9

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226 196 116 53 44 107 137 Lockville 6 232 202 122 61 38 101 131 Newark 1 233 203 123  
62 37 100 130 Port Gibson 3 236 206 126 65 34 97 127 Palmyra 5 241 211 131 70 29  
92 122 Fairport 11 252 222 142 81 18 81 111 Fullam basin 2 254 224 144 83 16 79 109  
Pittsford 6 260 230 150 89 10 73 103 ROCHESTER 10 270 340 160 99 63 193 Spenser  
basin 10 280 250 170 109 10 53 83 Ogden 2 282 252 172 111 12 51 81 Adams basin 3  
285 255 175 114 15 48 78 Brockport 5 290 260 180 119 20 43 73 Holly 5 295 265 185 124  
25 38 68 Murray 2 297 267 187 126 27 36 66 Albion 8 305 275 195 134 35 28 58 Portville  
4 309 279 199 138 39 24 54 Oak Orchard 5 314 284 204 143 44 19 49 Medina 1 315 285  
205 144 45 18 48 Middleport 6 321 291 211 150 51 12 42 LOCKPORT 12 333 303 223  
162 63 30 Pendleton 7 340 310 230 169 70 7 23 Tonnewanta 12 352 322 242 181 82 19  
11 Black Rock 8 360 330 250 189 90 27 3 BUFFALO 3 363 333 253 192 93 30 111

After passing the junction, the boat, in the short distance of two miles ascends nineteen locks, by which it is raised near two hundred feet above the level of the Hudson river. The canal lies beside the Mohawk river which falls into the Hudson, a short distance above the junction. To persons who have travelled a little in our own country, the junction and flight of Locks, about which the Americans make a great boast, have but little interest. But if, while the boat is getting through the locks, the stranger leaves the canal, and rambles along the river side, he is moved with astonishment, at every step he takes. He sees a mighty river, wider than any fresh-water stream in Britain, rushing impetuously down rocks and steeps with the most tremendous roar; descending in the short distance of two miles near two hundred feet perpendicular height. Before reaching Schenectady, the canal, by means of extensive aqueducts, twice crosses this river.

Though Schenectady is thirty miles from Albany by the canal, it is only sixteen miles by the rail road. Hence, many travellers take the rail road, because by canal a whole day is taken up in travelling the distance which is done in an hour by the more expeditious conveyance.

After leaving Schenectady, the traveller enters on an extensive tract of country, extending three hundred miles to Lockport, which with some exceptional portions presents every thing that can be desirable for the location of emigrants from Britain. And through every part of this tract, situations may be obtained on the shortest notice, from those who are

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waiting to “sell out” and remove to the “far distant west.” In passing along this route, we frequently made enquiries respecting the prospects offered for the settlement of emigrants: and the result was, that farms of any dimension, two-thirds cleared land, and in a moderate state of cultivation, could be purchased for thirty 112 dollars, equal to six pounds five shillings per acre, including log or frame house, barn, and stables; and farms in the very first state of cultivation at fifty dollars per acre. The average crop of wheat is thirty bushels to the acre; and other grain in proportion. Wheat was selling at the time we passed through the State, at nine York shillings, equal to 4s. 8 ¼d. per bushel; and we were informed that the price, for several years past, had not fallen below 3s. 8d. per bushel. Labourers wages are from eight to sixteen dollars per month of twenty-six working days, with board.

The cities and villages in the preceding table are many of them places of great respectability, and in any of them all the comforts of life can be obtained just as well as in any part of England: while every means of religious, moral, and literary instruction is afforded to the inhabitants. Scarcely any place being without one, two, three, or four churches, for all places of worship are churches. The episcopalians, the presbyterians, the baptists, and the methodists, are the most prevalent; and generally, a church belonging to each of these persuasions is found in every village. And in many of the places there is a public academy, conducted on such principles and terms as to give to all an opportunity of obtaining a liberal and respectable education.

At Lockport, the canal ascends to the level of the Niagara river above the falls. There are five locks, which are all made double, so that boats can ascend and descend at the same time. These locks are constructed in the most masterly and permanent manner, and seem to be the ne plus ultra of this great undertaking—the Erie canal. A marble tablet with the following inscription, is fixed in the stone work between the two bottom locks:

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ERIE CANAL.

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Let Posterity be excited to perpetuate our FREE INSTITUTIONS, and make still greater efforts than their Ancestors to promote PUBLIC PROSPERITY, by the recollection that these works of INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT were atchieved by the SPIRIT and PERSEVERANCE OF REPUBLICAN FREEMEN.

Buffalo to Detroit, by steam boat:—Fare, 3 dollars; and each passenger is allowed a bulk of luggage equal to the size of a barrel containing 196 lbs. of flour, and half a-dollar per barrel bulk is charged for all over quantities:—Time, 48 hours.

Sturgeon Point N. Y. 16 Cattaraugus “ 10 26 Dunkirk “ 13 39 Portland “ 18 57 Burgetts Town Pa. 18 75 Erie “ 17 92 Fairview “ 11 103 Ashtabula Ohio. 28 131 Fairport “ 32 163 Cleveland “ 30 193 Sandusky “ 54 247 Cunningham's Island “ 12 259 North Bass Island “ 10 269 Middle Sister Island “ 10 279 Amherstburg U.C. 20 299 Fighting Island “ 6 305 Detroit Mich. 12 317 114

From Detroit to lake Huron, by steam beat:— Fare, 1 dollar and a-half, and a barrel bulk allowed; 37 cents per barrel bulk for over quantities Time, 14 hours. There is no place of much importance in this route, but the boat stops to land passengers, either on the Michigan, or Upper Canada side, wherever they may wish to be landed.

Palmer, Mich. 63

Desmond, Mich. 75

Fort Gratiat 76

Moore, U. C.

St. Clair, U. C.

N.B. Palmer is commonly called County Seat, and Desmond Black River; while St. Clair is properly called Port Sarnia. Here, it will not be amiss to state, that great confusion often

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arises to strangers in America, from the fact, that many places are not generally known on the spot by the names given them in maps.

From Port Sarnia, there is a constant communication with Goderich, and other places in the Huron tract, by means of schooners and steam boats. And from Black river, there is a like communication with Michillimackinack\* at the north and Chicago† at the south end of lake Michigan.

\* Pronounced Mack-e-naw.

† Pronounced She-ca-go.

From New York to Toronto:—Fare, 6 dollars:— Time, 6 days.

Syracuse 316 Seneca river 6 322 by canal boat. Fulton 13 333 Oswego 12 347  
TORONTO 150 497 by steam boat.

Persons landing at New York, and desirous of proceeding to any part of Upper Canada bordering on lake Ontario, will find it advantageous to proceed as above to Oswego, and thence by steam boat to Cobourg, Port Hope, Toronto, or Niagara, upward; or to Kingston, French Creek, Brockville or Prescot, downward.

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These who are proceeding to places bordering on or Pyre near to lake Erie, river Detroit, lake St. Clair over St. Clair, or lake Huron, will find it cheapest and most expeditious to take a steam boat passage from Chippeway, on the Canada side; or Buffalo the States' side. The steam boat from Chippeway will touch at Grand River, Long Point, Otter Creek, Kettle Creek, Port Talbot, Aldboro', Raleigh, Amherstburg, and Sandwich: or generally, at any place where it will be most convenient for passengers to land. But all persons going to any particular spot in the more distant and recently settled country, should be fully instructed as to the route, before they leave home, for it frequently happens the nearer they approach to their destination the less they find is known of the place to which they have been recommended; and cases often occur, where ignorant or interested persons

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send emigrants hundreds of miles out of their way, to their very great loss both of time and money.

Cleveland to Portsmouth, by canal, which runs nearly north and south, through the state of Ohio:— Fare, one cent and a half per mile:—Time, five or six days.

Cuyahoga Acqueduct 22 Old Portrage 12 34 Akron 4 38 New Portage 5 43 Clinton 11 54  
Masillon 11 65 Bethlehem 6 71 Bolivar 8 79 Zoar 3 82 Dover 7 89 New Philadelphia 4 93  
New comers town 22 115 Coshocton 17 132 Irvile 26 158 Newark 13 171 Hebron 10 181  
Licking Summit 5 186 Lancaster Canan 11 197 Columbus side cut 18 215 Bloomfield 8  
223 Circleville 9 232 Chillicothe 23 255 Piketon 25 280 Lucasville 14 294 Portsmouth 13  
307 116

From Portsmouth to Cincinnati, by steam boat, the Ohio river:—Fare, 1 dollar and a-half.

Alexandra Ohio. 2 Vanceburg Ken. 13 20 Manchester Ohio. 16 36 Maysville Ken. 4 47  
Charlestown Ken. 4 51 Ripley Ohio. 6 57 Augusta Ken. 8 65 Neville Ohio. 7 72 Moscow “ 7  
79 Point Pleasant “ 4 83 New Richmond “ 7 90 Columbia “ 15 105 Cincinnati “ 8 113

We might give a great number of other routes, in addition to those which are here introduced; but doing so would swell our little work with too much matter, uninteresting to every body but here and there, perhaps, a solitary individual who is bent upon wandering to every extremity of Jonathan's dominions. Those which are given are such as the Emigrant will find of most service; and in pursuing some of which, he will obtain situations quite as eligible as any in America.

The sums which we have stated as fares, it must be understood, are the very lowest: and those who can afford it, may generally be better accommodated on paying higher charges. Indeed, the fitting up and accommodations on board the steam boats for cabin passengers, are as complete as can well be imagined; but the fare is generally double, and in many instances treble what we have named.

FINIS.