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T.P.L. 4957

*The following are Copies of Letters from SETTLERS in UPPER CANADA to their Friends here, containing important practical Information relating to that Country, for the guidance of Emigrants.*

Goderich; Lake Huron, 16th October, 1831.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

It is with much pleasure I now fulfil my promise in writing to you. I suppose you would like to know all you can respecting this country; I will endeavour to write to you in the best manner I am able.

Many persons at home told me that I was insane to think of coming here, and as I heard so much against the country at the time, by those who knew nothing about the place, I really thought I was so; but I thought I would, at all events, give it a trial. Now I can speak for myself, and find it fully and doubly answers my expectations. I was told, once I got here, I should never have it in my power to come back again; but in this, I say they are quite mistaken.

I have plenty of work at the Carpentering Trade, and am well paid for doing it. This is a good country for an industrious person, he may live well and be more *independent* than in England.

SAMUEL SIMPSON says he never was so happy in his life; nothing shall entice him back; and he shall never repent the day he came here. He has bought eighty acres of land, and it is to be paid for in five years. I can say, with truth, he is more comfortable and as independent as half the people at Framlingham. People may question the truth of the statements in this letter, but be assured, what I have written is true, and I have written plain, so that you cannot but understand me.

I like Goderich very much: the longer I am here the better I like it, and better I am likely so to do. This is a finer country than any in all America. The Town stands in a most beautiful situation, and is likely to be as fine a place as any in the province of Upper Canada. Around about the town Farmers are settling very fast, and new settlers are constantly coming in. Two new Shops are just established, and also a Tan Office. A Tavern is now about being finished. There is a Butcher set up, so that we may get a piece of Beef at three-pence a

(1832)



pound, which is thought to be very high. The regular price in the old settled Towns is  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. The Grist Mill is expected to be set going in about a month; then flour is expected to be about five dollars a barrel (196 pounds). A dollar on the Yankee side is eight shillings, and one of their shillings is the value of  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , if you reckon you can soon see the value of a dollar.

Cows are very high this season,—sixteen dollars each. The land here is worked by Oxen. When I came there was no Minister settled here, the nearest Church was forty miles off, but now there is a Methodist Minister here, and I expect there will be a chapel built in the spring. Divine service is at present conducted in the School Room. There is here a Sunday School. A Roman Catholic Priest comes here every quarter of a year; he is going to build a Church next Spring. A Temperance Society is also established here. The Post runs from *Guelph* to this place every fortnight; this will enable us to have our Letters more regularly. As all this has recently happened, I leave it to you to judge whether the Town improves or not.

I am enjoying a good share of health and am getting quite fat and strong. I am quite a different creature to what I was when I left England, I do not think you would know me. This Country is the healthiest spot in all America, and agrees with me well.

I am about buying a Town Lot to build a house upon. The Winter will commence here in about ten weeks, and break up in the latter end of March. I was told in England that the Winter here came on all at once, and that it was like a *Russian Winter*, that it lasted very severe for six months. What do persons mean by talking about what they know nothing of? If a person have an hundred pounds in this country, if he mind he can do well. I should advise all the people to come here that find *tough times* in the old Country. I must say again, they must be industrious, as this is not a place for *lazy* people.

My brother John and his Wife like this Country very much, and would not go to live in the old Country again upon any account.

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(Signed) THOMAS FREEMAN.

To MR. ALFRED FREEMAN, Builder,  
Framlingham, Suffolk.

Goderich; Lake Huron, 17th October, 1831.

DEAR SON AND DAUGHTER,

I TAKE this opportunity of writing to you, hoping you are in good health, as it leaves us at this time, and thank God we are very comfortable, not having to scheme from one meal to the other, but can eat all we want



without fear. Wages are very good here, I work at my trade when it suits me. When I want a little ready cash, I sit down, perhaps make a pair of Men's Shoes, for which I get a Dollar, they finding leather, and at other times I work on my Land. I have bought 80 acres of the Company for 120 Dollars, which is just £30, to be paid in five instalments, of £6 per year, the first to be paid down, and the Company to find provisions till I get a piece of Land cleared to grow my own at Market Price, by paying six per cent. interest on the whole debt, which any one may do in two years, if he is industrious, but it won't do without hard work. The third year he may get stock, begin to clear off his debt, and sit himself down comfortable. I am endeavouring to cut down 3 or 4 acres to burn off in the Spring, and get in a few things for the Summer. I like the Country well, much better than I do the States; we are under the English banners and laws, but the best of them independent and free. The Climate in this part is much like England, except hotter in the Summer and colder in the Winter. I do not know what a man wants more to make him comfortable in this world, than when he has got a sufficient quantity of Land, where he can grow his own provisions, rear his own Sheep, Pigs, Cows, Oxen, Fowls, make his own Sugar, Soap, Candles, and every thing for his own use, without the Exciseman, the Tithe, or the Tax-gatherer. Taxes are not so heavy as in the States; there is a small Land Tax, but so small that they gather it but once in four years, then it is applied to the repair of Roads.

I wish I knew whether you intend coming in the Spring,—judge for yourselves, don't let me advise you against your will, but of course we should like to see you. There will be a Brewery built next Summer, and I could get you the Malting, which will be a grand thing in the Winter, when you cannot work on your Land. Land wants but little cultivation in this Country. I have seen Land in the States which has been cropt for fifteen years and has good crops this year, and Land is reckoned better in Canada than in the States. If please God to give me strength ten years longer, I hope I shall have a good Farm for all my children. Stock is cheap, you may get a good Cow with Calf from £3 to £4. A pair of good working Oxen from 10 to £12. I am at present living in a house belonging to the Company, which a person left in their debt. I shall build up a good House next Summer on my own Land, which is just three miles from the Town, and then I shall buy about 100 acres more. It is expected land will rise after next year, to 10s. per acre. Harriet is in place, at four Dollars per Month, and Samuel is living at the Governor and Magistrate's of the place, at three Dollars per Month, for a time, but on rising wages. We reckon cleared land in cultivation to sell at £5 per acre. Now I will endeavour to give you as correct an account of the place as I can. The Town of Goderich is situated on a level hill, with a good Quay and Harbour, by the



side of Lake Huron, (which is 250 miles in length, and 100 in breadth,) and is laid out a Mile square, with the Market-Place in the centre. There are four principal Streets a Mile in length, but the place is very young at present, it was not discovered four years back, nor inhabited but by the native Indians, who are now becoming moralized and good kind of people. The inhabitants I judge to be at present from 2 to 300, scattered in different parts, there have been a great many settled in the Town since I came up, but it is not a place for trade at present, like the old settlements, but there is every prospect of its being the finest place in Upper Canada. But, for my part, give me Land. Things are much the price as in England, except Tobacco, which is 1s. 6d. per lb. for the best. The regular price for labour is from 3s. to 3s. 9d. per day. The Year round, except in the time of Harvest, then it is from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day. Things will be much cheaper after a time, they are much lower than they were. We have got a good Grist Mill up this month, which will be a good thing for those who have grown Wheat.

Now I will give you and every one who emigrate to this Country, the following advice, viz:—take provisions for Six Weeks; a few good Biscuits, a Ham or two, some Potatoes, Flour, and Yest, as there is every convenience for baking on board; some Plums, and a little Brandy, which is better than Rum, in case of sickness, and what little dainties you can think of. The passage from London to Quebec, is £3: 10s. per head, children under twelve years of age half that price. The next thing, bring as little Luggage as possible, excepting your Beds, Clothes, and Cooking Utensils. When you arrive at Quebec you can get provisions as you want, every two or three miles, and when there you may have to wait a day or two for your own convenience.

The following things I could wish you to bring. A few Garden Seeds of all kinds, some scarlet Beans, some broad Beans, a few real Midsummer Potatoes, about a pint of good Spring Wheat, a pint of good Barley, and any thing in a small compass you can think of, a good Gun, if you can get one cheap, an old Almanack, some Gun flints, a Whetstone or two, for the Axe. I hope you will send this Letter to my Brother and he will be sure to return it, for I have an opportunity of sending it to you by a person who is going to Manchester, and the Ship is this minute leaving, and I have not time to write a Letter to him as I could wish. I hope you will send a Letter as soon as possible.

We all join in kind love and true respects to Friends.

We remain, your loving Father and Mother,  
(Signed) SAMUEL AND ANN SIMPSON.

P. S. Bring a little useful Medicine, some Red Precipitate Powder, and some Bitter Aloes.

To MR. WILLIAM NOBLE, Maltster,  
Framlingham, Suffolk.



*Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Freeman,  
Carpenter, in Upper Canada, to his Mother.*

*Goderich; Lake Huron, 18th October, 1831.*

MR. SAMUEL JENNINGS, brother to *Mr. William Jennings*, of Framlingham, has taken a Farm Lot; he has eight acres of wheat in this fall, and expects to have land cleared for a good Spring crop. He gives a very favourable account of the Country.

SAMUEL SIMPSON, who was sent out by the Parish of Framlingham, has every thing here that a man can wish for, and will do well, provided he keeps from *drinking*. I could write to you the evils which excess of drinking ardent Spirits has done here, and were you to see in your Country as much evil arising from it as I have, you would join with me in saying, "*touch not,*" "*taste not,*" "*abstain!*" for it is the commencement of "*tasting*" which has done the mischief. I will not keep Spirits in my house, nor provide them for the entertainment of my friends, nor furnish them to persons in my employment, but discountenance the use of them entirely.

Dear Mother, My Wife and myself live very happy and comfortable; I never enjoyed myself more in my life, and had I been mindful of the Country from whence I came, I have had opportunities of returning. My brother Thomas is following the Carpentery Trade with me, and is improving very much; he likes it better than any thing else. He likes the place exceedingly well, and is after purchasing a Town Lot, to build his house upon.

I have a good house and home, and find this a very pleasant Country. I was the *first* that was married in the Town of Goderich, and the *first* that settled upon the Market Square, so the Canada Company have given me Ten Acres of Land near the Town. This Land is of great value to us, we can keep several head of Cattle upon it, and save the produce for the Winter.

(Signed) JOHN FREEMAN.

To MRS. SUSANNA FREEMAN,  
*Framlingham, Suffolk.*

*Guelph, Upper Canada, Feb. 26, 1831.*

DEAR JOHN,

I RECEIVED the letter, jointly wrote by my brother Adam and you, and you can hardly imagine the joy we felt to hear from our dearest old friends in the land of our forefathers, that you were in health, and able to handle the awl and shuttle; but I fear you will have enough to do to make your hard earn-



ings support the cravings of nature. When we sit down to our meals, I think how happy I would be to share them with my dear friends in Scotland. After arriving at the head of Lake Ontario, which we reached in July, I took a house for a month, and leaving the family set out to see a little of the country, in company with two fellow emigrants; and after traversing between 500 and 600 miles—through fourteen townships, we gave the preference to the Company's lands at Guelph, being good, well watered, and a healthful country, although it is a dollar higher in price than many other townships: so returning to the Lake we struck our camps, and came direct to Guelph on the first of August. It is twenty-six miles north-west from the Lake Ontario; I immediately went through the lands of the block, and selected a lot of 100 acres; they are all laid off in 100 acre-lots, but you can purchase as many of these as you please, and have five years to pay it in; it is three dollars per acre, you pay a fifth, that is £15 when you enter on your lot, and a fifth yearly for the other four years. A dollar here is 5s., a British shilling 1s. 2*d.* and a sovereign varies from 24s. to 23s. 4*d.* A lot of 100 acres is laid off a quarter of a mile in breadth, by five-eighths long, and a road laid along the head, and down betwixt every second lot twelve yards wide,—you have your measurement exclusive of the roads.

I was desirous to have some wheat sown in the fall, as it would yield us bread of our own growth for next year; and it does not answer here to sow wheat in the Spring, so I engaged a young man, who came over in the ship with us from Edinburgh, for two months, and, commencing immediately, we succeeded, with my boy's help, in cutting, clearing, and getting sown, in wheat, four acres, which looks excellent; the product in wheat here, I understand, varies according to circumstances, from twenty to forty bushels per acre. I next set to work with the lad, and got up a house twenty-nine feet long by twenty-one wide, with a cellar below, twenty by eighteen, and six and a half deep; our houses are all of wood, the manner of building is—you have your blocks cut and prepared, and drawn to the place by oxen, (you get a man with a pair of oxen for drawing your wood together for 7s. 6*d.* per day;) then you go round to the settlers in your neighbourhood, letting them know the day you wish your house raised, inviting as many as will manage it in a day, when they assemble and help you up with the logs; I had twenty at mine; you then finish the rest yourself, or pay tradesmen to do it, but that comes very expensive, wages being so high; a joiner and mason has 8s. and 10s. a day, a labourer from 3s. to a dollar, and victuals, and they by no means work too eagerly. I did all my house myself, put on the roof, and built the chimney, indeed every thing till I came to lay the floors, when I had to engage a joiner a week to plane and plough the deals; I paid him



for the week ten dollars, with victuals. The houses in other respects are done much like those in Scotland, only in place of slates we have them shingled with wood, which when painted looks exactly like slating, and will last twenty years. I have two good apartments and an excellent loft up stairs, with three large windows; the glass is cheap, a pane, ten by twelve inches, is 4*d*. Mine is said to be the best house in the block, by all who have seen it; I feel sensible, at least, that it is warm and comfortable. I have since, with the two boys' help, cut six more acres since the fall, and expect to have eight more cut by Spring; our axes are quite different from yours, more like a wedge, they cut wood far better. The wood is of all sizes, from the sapling of a quarter inch to the tree of thirty feet in circumference; our manner of cutting is—all below about six inches we cut by the ground, and the larger ones two and a half feet high, the roots rot out in eight or nine years, and are then drawn up by oxen; few horses are kept till the ground is thoroughly cleared, as oxen are more steady amongst the stumps, &c. When you have your trees cut down you lop the trunks, and pile them up in heaps, the trunks cut in lengths convenient to be drawn by oxen, together into log-heaps, fifty or sixty cart loads a-piece. What is cut in winter is burned off in the end of April, and that cut in Summer consumed in October, when the wheat is sown. The wood on one acre would, in Scotland, give as much money as would here purchase 300 or 400 acres of land, wood and all,—there is here ash, elm, beech, pine, oak, larch, fir, hickory, butternutt, iron-wood, baswood, poplar, balsam, cedar of Lebanon, and the mapletree, from which our sugar is extracted; and on my lot here are many cherry-trees, seven and eight feet in circumference; all the kinds of wood grow to large trees, and all the above kinds grow on my lot, with some others whose names I have forgot; and plums, gooseberries, blackberries, and currants are growing in thousands, though their berries are small, owing to their wild state. The sugar is made in the month of March; the process is this—they make small wooden troughs, and cut a notch in the tree about an inch and a half deep by two wide, and the sap runs into the trough; it is then boiled on a slow fire, the longer you boil it the more it is refined, and the skimmings is excellent molass, when boiled it is poured into pots, or what you please, and when cooled is harder than your loaf sugar; some individuals make ten and twelve hundred weight in a season. A large tree yields from five to seven pounds weight of sugar, and the tree no way exhausted, as it will yield the same every year.

The ground requires no ploughing till the third year; after burning off the wood, we sow the grain, with only a slight harrowing, and the following year burn off the stubble, and again just sow and harrow. The seed is a short time in the ground, except the wheat; barley, oats, peas, and Indian corn,



are all sown in the beginning of June, potatoes planted in the same month, and harvest commences about the middle of August.

In summer the days are two and a half hours shorter, and in winter as much longer, than with you, and five hours difference in the time of day; twelve in the day with us is five in the evening with you. I have, in Scotland, found some days as hot, and some as cold as any here; but our summer heat and winter cold is here more equal, neither nearly so extreme as I expected; the most pleasant time is what is here called the Indian summer, from the month of October till December. Winter sets in regularly about the new year, and continues till the beginning of April, not changeable as with you, frosty and fresh alternately, but fixed and equal: our sky is always clear. The settlers say this is the coldest winter they have found, yet I do not feel it disagreeably cold; I have wrought every day without my coat. The sun has a strong influence in our long winter days, and the snow is seldom above a foot deep. As we scarcely ever have any mist, it is exceedingly clear at night. You know my sight is not good, yet I can read a small print quite well with the light of the moon. The winter is far longer and colder in the lower province.

We grow pumpkins, water and musk-mellons in the fields, with most kinds of vegetables, in great perfection. As to the face of the country, it is not easy to form an opinion. It appears one vast forest; one would suppose there are no hills in the country; I believe were it cleared I might see a hundred miles. It is well watered, however, with lakes, rivers, and fine burns, which we here call creeks; one runs through my lot very like Newtounburn; and I have already discovered two particular fine springs on my acres, I believe there may be more if I had time to search: beside the best one I have fixed my habitation, and I call my place Greenwells; for "auld lang syne," early associations you know. I have seen no whins, heather, or broom here; but we have gowaus, and "the thistle so green;" and red, white, and yellow clover grow spontaneous, and in great abundance. The fairn is also here in abundance in many places, with a variety of British flowers and herbs; but there is much here of that sort, natural to the climate, which I yet know not even the names of. We have a variety of birds of the most beautiful plumage, robin red-breasts too, much larger than yours, and of a lovely plumage; but we have too much of the bass in our music, if music we have at all; for, I must confess, I have not heard a bird sing in all the country; indeed, I believe, they are all too much the dandy to sing; they have left that branch to birds of an inferior plumage. Our frogs are very merry, they mount the trees and croak; you can hear them half a mile; they are twice as large as Scotch frogs, but they stay only in the marshes: I am glad we have none near our dwellings.



For all our woods, we have no crows, except stragglers, of the corby (raven) kind, but their want is fully made up in wood-pigeons; their flocks sometimes nearly darken the air. Our woodcock is a most beautiful bird; the woodpecker, also, most beautiful,—you can hear it half a mile off; I often, when I see it, remember the song of “The woodpecker tapping the hollow beech-tree.” As for game, our variety is not great. We have plenty of pheasants; you may shoot the whole flock, as they don’t fly the gun; it is just fire and load as long as you please, but I very seldom or ever take a shot. I think we have no hares; but large rabbits, which grow white in winter; and plenty of deer, which come to the very doors, as large as a year old calf. Numbers, also, of wolves and bears; you hear them braying, in the night-time, like a pack of hounds; they never attack any person, but take a sheep, calf, or hog, when they can get it. We have few serpents in this place, and none of them venomous; but there are many in the lower parts of the province. Dear John, I would not just wish to advise any one to come here; but, for my own part, I would not return to Scotland, though any one would pay my passage back and give me twenty pounds a-year,—not that I do not love the land of Caledonia, which will ever be dear to my bosom, (and I could knock down the man who speaks ill of it,) but I never could have the prospects for my family in Britain that I here have; only one thing is to be remarked, no one need come here in prospect of doing well unless he intend to be diligent, and work hard; and he who does so will, in the course of seven or eight years, feel independent. Our taxation is here so moderate: a man with a hundred acres does not pay a dollar a-year altogether. A quite wrong opinion of this country prevails in Scotland; the United States being generally preferred. Now, in the States, you are far heavier taxed, and emigrants are there certain to be cheated out of what they may have by the Yankees. I have seen above forty persons, Scotchmen, who had first gone to the United States, and they told me it would have been hundreds in their way had they come here at the first: they are now coming as fast here from the States as from the old country.

Dear John, how happy would I be to have you here, with my dear brother and sisters, and the sooner the better would it be for yourselves. Your business is very good here; they pin all the shoes instead of sewing them; they cost from ten to twelve shillings a pair, and the leather is not half the price as at home; you can buy a side of good natch leather for 16s. half-bend, &c. in proportion. A smithwright and tailor are, also, good trades; but spirits being so cheap too many fall into the drink. We have got up a good corn-mill this summer in the village, with four run of stones; a brewery and distillery. We have been but poorly off for sermons, but have now every prospect of soon enjoying that blessing, as Government has



given £70 yearly to help, and the Company 400 acres of land, for a glebe. We had a meeting a month ago, and have subscribed as much as will make a good stipend, and will get a church built in the spring.

I have not written to our friend David Ovans yet, (teacher, at Cobourg,) he is about 200 miles below us, but I will write him now immediately. We have a post-office in the village, and are at no loss for British news. We get two papers in the week; they are very cheap, cost only 10s. a-year. I am sorry to hear of such disturbances in England, but I trust the new ministry will do good. Be sure and write me soon, and send it by Liverpool and New York, as that way it costs me only 2s. 6d. and by Quebec 7s.; direct to me, John Inglis, Guelph, Upper Canada, N. America. Our joint love to your wife and family, and all friends and acquaintance; how happy have I been to hear that my dear aged mother is still the first up in the morning; nothing, perhaps, dulls my spirits so much as the thoughts of not likely being able to look on her again with the eye of mortality, while I have hope of seeing all the rest.

Margaret and the family all like this country well, and join me in mutual love to you all. You will, I hope, be able to make it out, though you see I am not a first-rate scribe. I wrote Ann Inglis, my sister, a month ago.

Yours, ever truly,  
(Signed) JOHN INGLIS.

To JOHN YOUNGER,  
Shoemaker,  
Lessudden, Roxburghshire, N.B.

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*York, Upper Canada, 9th Nov. 1830.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

I HAVE been engaged, since my arrival in Upper Canada, in a thorough examination of the country, with a view to ascertain whether it affords such prospects of future comfort and independence, as to induce me to remain and establish myself and my family in it. Having, by this time, gained a general knowledge of the soil and climate—of the system of government—of the state of society and religion, throughout the province, and made myself more particularly acquainted with this neighbourhood, by excursions into all the different townships, I am now enabled to give you my opinions on these points with some confidence. The information which I communicate, and the advice which I may venture to give, are as much for the guidance of my old friends and neighbours, whose interest and happiness I have much at heart, as for your own, and I trust you will receive them as the result of an anxious and careful investigation, and a statement of facts, which have come under my own eye



—for it has not been my object to be taught by others what, by any labour or pains, I could learn myself.

After a passage of nearly eight weeks, which, parting from friends and relations, and leaving the land of our birth, must always render gloomy and dispiriting, I landed at Quebec, and made a stay there of upwards of a month; but, not liking the appearance of the country, which is very mountainous and sterile, I refused several offers of land in the townships of Inverness and Leeds, and came to Montreal, 180 miles higher up the river Saint Lawrence, by steam-packet. At Montreal I remained another month, determined to give every part a fair trial, and to form no opinion without good grounds for it. The land here, although better than that at Quebec, was, still, not what I had been led to expect. I, therefore, again set out, and finally reached York, the capital of Upper Canada, situated on Lake Ontario, about 300 miles from Montreal. It is from this place that I am now writing, and you will understand that the following remarks have reference to this neighbourhood.

The climate appears to me very similar to that of England, but drier, and without those violent storms of wind and rain so often experienced there. The summer is warmer, and the winter, perhaps, colder; but the air is always clear and bracing, and there is scarcely a day's work in the year lost from bad weather. For my own part, although I have been a good deal exposed on my frequent journeys, I have never enjoyed better health, nor felt myself in better spirits.

The land is generally level, watered by fine streams, and covered with timber—oak, beech, birch, elm, ash, maple—from which excellent sugar is made—bass, pine, hemlock, spruce, and several kinds of nut, grow to a vast size, and form the principal cause of the difference of appearance between this country and England. Every description of soil can be found, so that a man, if he understands the cultivation of one kind better than another, may suit himself here, without difficulty. On the surface is always a coat of vegetable mould, which has been formed by the leaves of the trees, and the decayed wood, and which causes all sorts of grain and grass to grow with the most astonishing luxuriance. In the township of Toronto, I saw a crop of oats, estimated to produce five quarters to the acre, and was assured by the proprietor that it was the ninth crop of grain which had been grown on the same ground without any kind of manure. The price of land varies from 5s. to 25s. per acre; but the medium price in the townships in this neighbourhood, is 15s. equal to 13s. 6d. sterling money—part is payable in cash at the time of purchase, and the remainder generally in four or five yearly instalments, with interest at six per cent. The expense of bringing an acre into cultivation—that is, cutting down and burning the timber, is from £2 : 10 : 0 to £3 : 10 : 0,



where the wood is of the hard kinds, and not unusually thick. After this process, the only thing that remains to do, is, to sow and harrow in the seed, which is generally wheat—one bushel to the acre. The surface is naturally loose, and is rendered still more so by the trampling of the men and cattle, so that there is no occasion for ploughing. The crop is generally from 25 to 35 bushels per acre, and is worth, at the present price in York, 5s. a bushel, equal to 36s. sterling per quarter; from £5 to £8 : 15s. per acre. A second crop, equally good, may often be taken; and the land, then sown with grass-seed, will produce excellent hay and pasture. Barley is not much cultivated; the produce is equal to that of wheat, but it is not worth more than 2s. 6d. per bushel. Oats are also a good crop, and sell for 1s. 6d. a bushel. And the white pease equal any thing that I have seen, both in quantity and quality. Vegetables of all kinds are abundant, and bear good prices: potatoes, turnips, carrots, and cabbages, in particular, grow to perfection. Horses cost from £20 to £40 a pair. Some of them are very good, but they might be much improved; and it would be well worth a man's while to bring out a stout, compact English stud with him. Oxen, from their being better adapted for the work of a new country, are more used than horses, and, of course, better attended to. They are well-formed, thrifty beasts, but not equal, in size or appearance, to the short horns we have been accustomed to see in Yorkshire. From £10 to £15 a pair is the price for working oxen, according to size and age. Cows are sold at from £4 to £6 each, and young beasts in proportion. Very little trouble or labour is required in the raising of cattle in this country, as they are left to brouse in the woods, where they find plenty of food, and thrive remarkably well. Sheep are not yet numerous, the wooded lands not being adapted for them; but as the country becomes more cleared, they will increase. Some manufactories of cloth are already established, and wool is in good demand at 1s. 8d. a pound. The new Leicester breed, and its crosses, will be the kind required, and, if imported, would soon repay their cost and expenses.

Religion, in this country, is entirely free from restraint. Every man is allowed, in this respect, to think as he pleases, and to attend what minister and what place of worship he may choose to prefer. So long as he conducts himself in obedience to the laws, which are precisely the same as those of England, he is at liberty to act as his conscience may direct. Our persuasion is very numerous, and I have been happy to learn that some of the most industrious and respectable settlers belong to it.

Wherever my business has led me, I have found friends and acquaintance; and it has been a great satisfaction to meet many of my old neighbours, whom I had known long



and intimately, before either they or I had thought of crossing the Atlantic Ocean. Old country people form a great proportion of the inhabitants, and their numbers are daily increasing. It is with gratitude I mention the kindness shewn me in every part of the country through which I have travelled. I have been made welcome in all places, and have never wanted a meal or a lodging.

It now only remains for me to speak with respect to your plan of coming out to this country. I will not advise you directly to do so; because we often think so differently upon a subject, that what pleases one may, perhaps, displease another: and because men sometimes allow their hopes and expectations to be raised to such a height as cannot be reached by any thing in Nature. But I can scarcely foresee any disappointment to you. On the contrary, I feel confident that every sober and industrious man, however poor he may be, on arriving here, will, in the course of a few years, find himself in comfort and independence, if not in affluence. I have met with persons who came from England, ten years ago, without a shilling, and who now possess farms with seventy or eighty acres cleared, eight or ten stacks of corn, besides well-filled barns, horses, horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry; every thing that is wanted to render them contented and happy. I have, on the contrary, met with men who, whatever they may have had originally, are beggars now, and ever will be beggars. But these are characters whose disgusting intemperance makes them a disgrace to themselves as well as to their country, and who must be despised and shunned by all sober men. Many inconveniences must be suffered, many difficulties overcome, both in the voyage from England and in the first settlement on land here. But these once over, an establishment once effected, and I have little doubt that, with prudence and economy, the emigrant will receive a fair return for his toil and privation.

I remain, dear Brother,

Yours, affectionately,

RICHARD BEILBY.

(Signed)

To MR. JOHN BEILBY,  
Benton, near Burlington,  
Yorkshire.

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On reaching Quebec, you should proceed immediately, by steam-packet, to Montreal; from thence to Prescott, you will travel partly by land, and partly by boats on the River St. Lawrence; but, in all cases, prefer the fastest mode of conveyance, notwithstanding the increased expense. From Prescott, a steam-packet will bring you direct to York, where you will hear of me. My expenses from Montreal to this place, with my daughter, amounted to £4:10:0, but I



have since learned that I could have come up for half that sum. The Canada Company have contracted with the proprietors of the packets and river-boats to have their settlers forwarded at very low rates; and any person is allowed the advantage of this arrangement on depositing with the agent, at Quebec, a sum sufficient to cover the expenses incurred by the Company. Besides the saving of expense, the passengers, by this means, are secured from all risk of being imposed upon along the route.

I annex a more particular statement of the present prices of farm-produce in this town, and, also, of the common rate of wages for journeymen of different trades. You will see by these that very great encouragement is offered to industrious men generally, and to mechanics in particular. As the expenses of living are not much greater here than in England, and as there are no taxes whatever, I feel confident of the correctness of my former statement, that no man, if honestly inclined, can fail in securing a comfortable livelihood and independence for himself and his family.

(Signed) RICHARD BEILBY.

#### MARKET PRICES.

	♠ Bushel.		♠ Quarter.		
	s.	d.	s.	d.	
Wheat ....	4	8 to 5	37	6 to 40	Pork per lb. 3d. or 25s. per 100 lb.
Barley ....	3	2	25	4	Tallow ,, 4½d. rough.
Rye .....	3	3	26	0	Lard ,, 5d.
Oats .....	1	6	12	0	Butter ,, 9d. fresh, 7½d. do salt.
Indian Corn	3	9	30	0	Cheese ,, 5d.
Pease ....	3	2	25	4	Eggs, per dozen, 9d.
Flour, 25s. per barrel of 196 pounds.					Geese, per couple, 3s. 9d.
Beef, per lb. 3d. or by the quarter					Ducks ,, 1s. 10d.
22s. 6d. per 100 lb.					Fowls ,, 1s. 3d.
Mutton, per lb. 3½d.					Turkeys ,, 3s. 2d.
					Hay, per Ton, £2:10:0

#### WAGES—Board not found.

Stone Masous earn from 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. a day, or 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. per toise of work.	Wheelwrights, 5s. a day.
Bricklayers, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. a day, or 12s. 6d. to 15s. per thousand bricks laid.	Waggon-makers, 5s. "
Brickmakers, 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day.	Saddlers, 5s. "
Plasterers, 7s. 6d. a day, or 9d. to 10d. per square yard of work.	Curriers, 5s. "
Carpenters and Joiners, 6s. 3d. a day.	Tailors, £1 for making a coat, 5s. trowsers, and 5s. waistcoat.
Cabinet-makers, 7s. 6d. a day.	Shoemakers, 22s. 6d. for making a pair of top-boots, 13s. 9d. for a pair of Hessian boots, and 12s. 6d. Wellington boots.
Sawyers, 7s. 6d. a day, or 7s. 6d. per 100 feet of pine, and 8s. 9d. oak.	Labourers and Farm Servants, 3s. 9d. a day. In harvest time, 6s. 3d. a day.
Painters and Glaziers, 5s. a day.	Reaping an acre of Wheat, 12s. 6d.
Coopers, 6s. 3d. to 7s. 6d. "	Cradling ,, ,, 6s. 3d.
Shipwrights, 7s. 6d. to 10s. "	Mowing ,, Hay, 5s. 0d.
Blacksmiths, 5s. "	Ploughing an acre of Land, 6s. 3d.
	Harrowing 2s. 6d.



Guelph, December 7, 1830.

MY DEAR WIFE,

I TAKE the favourable opportunity of conveying my warmest affections to you and my dear little children, as you are the only concern of my mind. I trust, in the mercies of God, that these few lines will find you and them in good health. For my part I have great reason to be thankful for the many blessings I enjoy. I have nothing to disturb my mind, but the absence of my little family; but I hope to have the happiness of having you with me next spring, as I took every step I could to secure your passage. Now, my dear, the method I have taken is the surest and best that I could suggest, which is as follows:—The honourable Mr. Jones, who lives here, and is chief superintendent for the Canada Company in this place, has taken the trouble of remitting fifteen pounds to the agent for the Canada Company in Belfast, for you, which I gave him, as it is the safest way I could send it, there are so many disappointments in sending it any other way. Mr. Jones will send every direction to the Agent how you are to act. I hope you will hold yourself in readiness, as I will be quite uneasy until I have the pleasure of seeing you. If you were here you would like to live here; it is the best place in Canada, and settlers are well treated here. The land is fertile, and the climate is remarkably wholesome; and, in fact, after a little time, settlers that came here poor, will be soon independent. We have neither police nor army here, and still people live in perfect harmony and mutual friendship. I have one hundred acres of as good land as James Duncan ever possessed, for which I paid £75, but it is now worth £150. There is a great deal of trouble in clearing land; but when once cleared and paid for, it is free for ever. It produces as good crops as any in the world; good potatoes as any I ever used in Ireland; as good wheat, oats, and in fact, every thing that land can produce, we have in the greatest abundance; and what is better still, if farmers have anything to bring to market, they can get as good a price for it as in the old country; and no landlord to perplex them. If any of our friends or neighbours intend coming to America, I would advise them to come here, as it is a good settlement, where they can live in peace and plenty. Now, my dear, I trust you will be determined, and come, you and my little children, to the land of freedom, where we shall meet to part no more. The aforesaid gentleman will give directions that you will be sure of, and by which you will have no trouble until you come to me. Give my love to my dear little children, and to all our friends in general; and believe me, my dear, to be your ever affectionate husband,

(Signed) JAMES MAYES.

To MRS. MARY MAYES,

Corloon, near Magherafelt, Londonderry, Ireland.



*Extract of a Letter from Mr. John Kennedy, to  
Mr. Caldwell, Mains of Park, near Glenluce, dated  
Guelph, Upper Canada, 7th November, 1831.*

“ ON our arrival here we purchased 100 acres of land of the Canada Company, and are now resident upon it, two miles from the Town of Guelph; this time last year it was in a state of nature: not a tree cut upon it; at present, we have  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres of beautiful barley,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres of oats, and about 2 acres of potatoes and turnips. We have a comfortable small house erected, with a garden in front; the land is rich and of the best quality, well watered, and pleasantly situated. Wages are high, 3s. 6d. per day for a labourer, and from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day for a tradesman; indeed, I think this is the best country in the world for an industrious working man. There are several Scotch farmers residents in this neighbourhood, who brought out some capital with them a few years ago, have now most beautiful farms, and are living as comfortable and as independent as most of the Scotch freeholders do.”

*Extract of a Letter to Mr. William Elkerton,  
Aynho, near Brackley, from his son, dated  
Woolwich, Upper Canada, 12th November, 1831.*

“ The settlers are doing well at Woolwich, near Guelph, Upper Canada. I have a friend who went there nine years ago without a dollar; has now 200 acres of land, all paid for; 130 of it cleared; had 1000 bushels of wheat last harvest, and other grain in proportion; has 50 head of cattle, 2 span of horses, 40 sheep, and 60 hogs. There are a great many settlers that began some two or three years ago; all doing well,”

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