

went on board, eagerly endeavouring to bribe some of the new-comers to settle on his farm, but all in vain. They said they had cousins and friends in "Upper Canada," and were all resolved to go there. I could not help sympathizing with him in his disappointment, and the more so, as I had seen at Toronto large bands of Irish and Welsh peasants in a state of destitution for want of work; and in spite of the liberality of the citizens, several gangs of them, while we were there, committed robberies in the neighbourhood. It appears that during the late troubles in Canada the tide of immigration was almost entirely stopped for several years; now it is setting in more strongly than ever: but as they come from all parts of the British Isles, it is scarcely possible, unless the whole system of colonising were under government regulation, and conducted on arbitrary principles, to adjust the supply of labour to the various and ever-fluctuating local demands.

When passing in a carriage over the rich alluvial grounds on the left bank of the St. Lawrence, I expostulated with some of the English proprietors on the intolerable condition of the muddy roads. I reminded them that all this part of Canada was a cleared and cultivated country, when half the United States was still a wilderness. They replied, that the French farmers, to whom most of the land belonged, refused to pay taxes for bettering the roads, contending that it was preferable to spend more time on the way, and to wear out their horses and vehicles somewhat faster, than to pay down money to a tax-gatherer.

The anecdotes told us by the British settlers, of