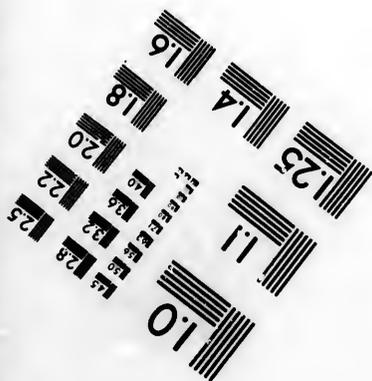
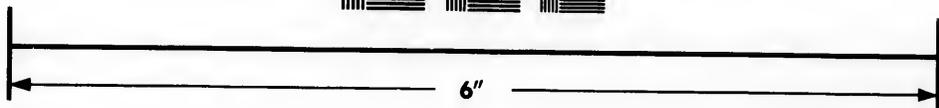
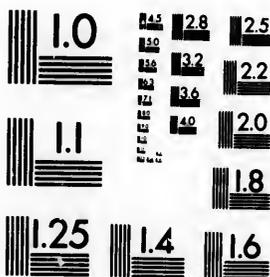


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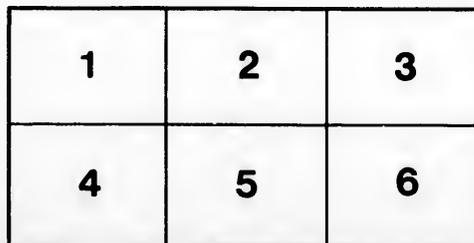
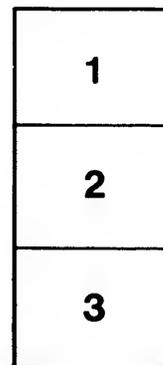
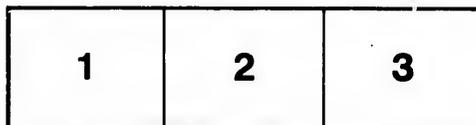
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A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
Soil, growing Timber, and other Productions,

O F T H E  
LANDS in the COUNTRIES situated in the back Parts of  
the States of *New-York* and *Pensylvania*,

I N  
N O R T H A M E R I C A.

A N D  
PARTICULARLY the LANDS in the COUNTY of ONTARIO,

KNOWN BY THE NAME OF

*The* G E N E S E E T R A C T,

LATELY LOCATED,

AND NOW IN THE PROGRESS OF BEING SETTLED.

---

PRINTED IN THE YEAR 1791.

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A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
LANDS *called the* **GENESEE TRACT,**  
I N T H E  
COUNTY of ONTARIO, and STATE of NEW-YORK,  
I N  
N O R T H A M E R I C A.

---

**T**HE lands generally known by the name of the Genesee Tract, are situated in the back parts of the State of New-York, and contain upwards of Two Millions of Acres, mostly good Arable Land, forming nearly an oblong square of 80 miles in length from south to north, and 42 miles wide from east to west. Extent of the Lands.

B

These

These lands were granted to Messrs. Gorham and Phelps, the original purchasers from the State of Massachusetts, in the year 1788. And this grant was afterwards confirmed by the six nations of Indians,\* who, on receiving a valuable consideration, alienated the whole of this property, and soon after these nations removed themselves and families to a distant country.

Situation,  
Latitude,  
and Longi-  
tude.

The south-east corner of this tract is in latitude 42°, longitude 82°, miles west from the river Delaware; and 77 miles west from Philadelphia.

The dis-  
tance from  
the great  
Towns in  
America.

The actual distance of the eastern boundary, from the Hudson's River or Albany, is about 140 miles. From Philadelphia, by the nearest road, the distance may be about 180 miles. And not more than 200 miles north of the proposed new city of Columbia, the intended seat of government of the United States, as will appear from the map hereunto annexed.

But the peculiar advantages which distinguish these lands over most of the new settled countries of America, are these following:

\* The Six Nations; viz: Mohawks, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Senecas, Cayugas, Onondagas.

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1st, The uncommon excellence and fertility of the Soil.

2d, The superior quality of the Timber, and the advantages of easy cultivation, in consequence of being generally free from underwood.

3d, The abundance of Grass for cattle in the woods, and on the extensive meadow grounds upon the lakes and rivers.

4th, *The vast quantities of the Sugar Maple Tree, in every part of the tract\*.*

5th,

\* The Sugar Maple is likely to become extremely valuable, in consequence of a very important discovery which has been made, of the mode of graining the sugar which is extracted from the juice or sap which is drawn from this singular tree.

It has been known by the Indians time immemorial, that a species of sugar or a saccharine substance, answering this purpose, could be extracted from the sugar maple; and not only the Six Nations, and other Indians inhabiting the back countries from Pennsylvania to Canada, were accustomed to use it, but also the first settlers upon the North River and New England, who, having learnt from the Indians how to boil up the juice, have for many years supplied their families with this kind of sugar, exhibiting the appearance of a kind of black cake, and answering all the common purposes of sugar.

But

5th, The great variety of other fine Timber, such as oak, hickery, black walnut, chefnut, ash of different kinds, elm, butter-nut, basswood, poplar, pines, and also thorn trees of a prodigious size.

6th The

But until within the last two years, it was not ascertained that the sugar of this tree was capable of being grained, so as to become an article of merchandise; neither was it satisfactorily authenticated, till very lately, that there was a sufficient number of these trees to produce that quantity of sugar which could induce the pursuit of this object upon a large scale.

The surveys, however, that have been made (particularly of the forests in the Genesee country) as well as the lands in the back parts of Pennsylvania and New-York, incontestibly prove that this tree is so abundant as to afford a resource for the supply of all North America with sugar; and the arrival of a quantity of this sugar at Philadelphia and New York, in spring 1790, prove also, that the quality is equal to any muscovado sugar imported from the West Indies.

An American farmer of great respectability, who had been for many years acquainted with the usual way of making this sugar, being desirous of improving the method, he obtained instructions from a sugar refiner in Philadelphia; and with the additional advantage of this information he began his experiments in February, 1790, at Stock-port, about three miles below the junction of the Mohock and Popatchtunck branches of the Delaware.

He soon found that the business was only in its infancy, and that, by a departure from the old practice of boiling down the sap, and graining the syrop, great improvements might be made, so as to produce sugar in colour, grain, and taste equal to any imported.

The

6th, The variety of Fruit Trees, and also smaller fruits, such as apple and peach orchards, in different places, which were planted by the Indians, plumb and cherry trees, mulberries, grapes of different kinds, raspe-berries, huckle-berries, black-berries, wild goose-berries, and strawberries in vast quantities;— also cranberries, and black haws, &c.

7th, The

The result of his experiments have fully confirmed his hopes on this head, for the sugar he has made and sent down to Philadelphia, in the opinion of well qualified judges, is equal to the best sugar imported from the West India Islands. The respectable individual who made these interesting experiments, whose judgment is much to be relied on, as well from his experience in the business, as from his known and established character for candour and integrity, is clearly of opinion, “*that four active industrious men, well provided with materials and conveniences proper for carrying on the business, may turn out in a common season, which lasts from four to six weeks; forty hundred weight good sugar; that is, ten hundred weight to each man.*”

If four men can effect this, and produce as much sugar in six weeks, (equal to 15 shillings sterling per day to each man, at 6d. per pound) what must be the produce of the separate or associated labours of many thousands of people who now inhabit and may inhabit, the immense tracts of lands which abound with the sugar maple tree? It is an interesting æra in the history of the world. A resource for commerce and productive industry, which till now was not even in the contemplation of those individuals who have been long in the practice of converting this sugar to domestic purposes.

It is here to be remarked that *no cultivation is necessary*; that no contingency, such as hurricanes or bad seasons, can disturb the process; that neither the heavy expence of *mills, engines, machinery, or a system of planting, which occupies*

7th, The vast variety of Wild Animals and Game which is to be found in this country, such as deer, moose deer, and elk of a very large size, beavers, otters, martins, minx's, rabbits, squirrels, racoons, bears, wild cats, &c. many of which furnish excellent furs and peltry.

8th, The

occupies negroes for the whole of the season, is necessary at all to make the maple sugar:—The process occupies six weeks, from the middle of February to the end of March; and the whole of the buildings, and other articles necessary for carrying it on, are to be obtained at so trifling an expence, as to be within the reach of any person of common industry, whose conduct in life can entitle him to the most moderate credit.

Upon the scale of four men, and for the purpose of making 40 cwt. of sugar, all the implements that are necessary, are these following:

	EXPENCE.
1st, Sixteen kettles of 15 gallons each, to boil the sap, with pot racks for each kettle, - - -	£16 0 0
2d, Two iron ladles, with bowls of a gallon, to shift the sap from one kettle to another - -	1 5 0
3d, Four screw augurs, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, for boring the trees ,	0 6 0
4th, Ten buckets with covers, of 3 gallons each, for collec- ting the sap, and yokes for carrying two between the shoulders - - - - -	2 10 0
	Carried over, £20 1 0

5th,

8th, The great variety of Birds for Game, such as wild turkeys, pheasants, partridges, pigeons, plovers, heath-fowl, and Indian hen; together with a vast variety of water-fowl on the rivers and lakes, such as wild geese, and ducks, of many different kinds not known in Europe.

9th, The

Brought over, £20 1 0

5th, Sixteen hundred wooden troughs, of three gallons each, to receive the sap from the trees, 3d. each - 20 0 0

N. B. One man, acquainted with the business, may cut down wood and make 20 troughs in a day, (or eight days work of ten men)

6th, Six wooden troughs, dug out from large timber, like a canoe, for holding the sap - - - 4 10 0

In a new country where cisterns cannot be had, such large troughs, made of well-seasoned timber (of which there is vast abundance, of an uncommon size, wherever the maple tree grows) answer the purpose very well.

Upon the top of this cistern there should be a linen strainer fixed, through which the sap brought in the buckets should pass.

7th, A shed and walls for the fire places to be erected, of stone or clay (of both which there are plenty in the country) of sufficient length for the 16 boilers; which shed should be covered so as to keep out the weather - 10 10 0

Carried over, £55 1 0

9th, The uncommon abundance of very fine Fish, with which the lakes and rivers abound; among which are to be found excellent salmon of two different kinds, salmon-trout of a very large size, white and yellow perch, sheep-heads, pike, succos, and eels of a very large size, with a variety of other fish in their different seasons.

10th, The

	Brought over, £.55	1 0
8th, Sugar moulds may be made of seasoned boards, until earthen ones can be procured	-	1 10 0
9th, Pickers (so called by the sugar bakers) to run up the moulds, may be also made of hard wood found in the country	-	0 9 0
10th, Spouts for the trees, 3,200 in all	-	6 10 0
11th, Wooden gutters and narrow troughs for facilitating labour	1 10 0	0
	Total cost, £.	<u>65 0 0</u>

These are the whole implements that are required for a sugar work in America, all which, it is to be observed, excepting the sixteen kettles, the two iron ladles, and the four augurs, are prepared by the workmen themselves from the resources they find in the country.—If, however, a large work were to be established, the expence would probably be less, in proportion, than upon the scale of four men engaged in this pursuit.

SEASON

10th, The excellence of the climate in that region where these lands are situated, which is less severe in winter, and not so warm in summer, as the same latitudes nearer the sea.—The total exemption from all periodical disorders, particularly the fever and ague, which does not prevail in the Genesee country, on account of the rising grounds and fine situations.

11th, The

SEASON FOR TAPPING.

By trials in February each year, it will be discovered when the maple tree ought to be bored, for the purpose of extracting the syrup or sap, as in that month, sometimes earlier and sometimes later, it begins to yield a sufficient quantity for commencing business.

TAPPING OR BORING.

Four hundred trees, each tree bored with two holes on the south side, and also with two holes on the north side of the tree in the early part of the season, with few augurs from half to one inch, according to the size of the tree. And towards the middle of the season, a like number of trees to be bored in the same manner.

*This upon the Scale of Four Hands.*

Eight hundred trees in all, to be tapped.

The sap of the second tapping will be found richer and more productive than the first.

At first, the augur should go no deeper into the tree than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch, and to be deepened afterwards to the extent of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, as the manner of the saps running may render necessary.—The hole to be made in a slanting or descending position, that the sap may run freely in frosty weather.—In these

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SEASON

11th, The vast advantages derived from the Navigable Lakes, Rivers, and Creeks, which intersect and run through every part of this tract of country, affording a water communication from the northern parts of the Grant, by the Genesee River one way, or by the Seneca River another way, into the Great Lake Ontario, and from thence, by Catoraqui, to Quebec, or by the said Seneca River, the Oniead Lake, and  
Wood

holes there should be fixed spouts to project from the tree 12 inches, but not to enter the orifice more than half an inch. Elder wood spouts to be prepared in the season.

*PRESERVING THE SAP OR SYRUP.*

In the early part of the season, the sap will keep during frost, but as the spring advances, it will be necessary to boil it the day after it is drawn from the tree, to prevent souring and fermentation.

*BOILING THE SAP.*

A smart fire should be kept up while the sap is boiling, and a table spoonful of slacked lime put into each 15 gallon kettle, while the sap is warming, and before it boils, to raise the scum, and give the sugar a grain.

When the scum rises, it should be skimmed off.—When the liquor is reduced one half, discharge it into the one half of the kettles continuing the process, till the whole is placed in one kettle, filling up the empty ones as soon as possible with fresh sap.

When the liquor in the last or aggregate kettle becomes a syrup, it should be strained through a woollen cloth, before it becomes too thick.

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Wood Creek to Schenedady on the Mohawk River, with only mile of land carriage, and from thence to Albany, with a postage of 16 miles ; affording also a water communication from almost every township of the southern part of the Grant, by means of the different branches of the Tioga River, which joining the Susquehanna, affords an outlet to produce, through an immense extent of country on every hand, to Northumberland, and all the towns upon the

When thus cleaned, it should stand in buckets or other proper vessels 12 hours, that the whole sediment may fall to the bottom, and the clarified syrup to be poured off into a kettle or boiler. The sediment to be boiled up again with fresh sap.

In graining, cleaning, and whiteing the sugar, the method of the sugar-bakers to be used.

In graining the sugar, pour the syrup into a boiler, after having stood 12 hours, and place it over a smart fire of charcoal, so as to prevent any flame, using butter or hog's-lard to keep down the sap when it rises to the top. This should be carefully attended to when the sugar is graining.

The mature state of the boiling is known by taking a little of the syrup from the boiling stick, and trying if it ropes or draws into a thread between the finger and thumb; then it should be put into a tub or cooler, and stirred incessantly until the grain can be felt, when it is in a fit state to be poured into the moulds.

#### MOLASSES AND VINEGAR.

When the trees of the second tapping become poor, which may be about the 31st of March, or perhaps not till the 10th of April, the number of fresh tapped

the great branch of this river, down to Maryland and Virginia; and (with a postage of 12 miles) even to Philadelphia with small boats; and when the improvements are made in the Susquehanna, and the projected canal cut between the Schuylkill and that river, there will be an uninterrupted good water communication for boats of 10 or 15 tons from the interior parts of the Genesee country, all the way to Philadelphia.

12th, But

tapped trees will yield a sap, of which may be made good molasses, and excellent vinegar.

Rum has also been made of an exceeding good quality from the rich sap.

#### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In Maple Plantations, it may be useful to cut down all other timber which grow intermixed with the sugar trees, and also those of that species which are not thriving.

It is not yet ascertained from experience, how long a tree may be tapped with success.—But there are *instances among old settlers on the North River, of trees being tapped for 50 years, and still continue to yield their sap in season, the same as new trees*; and it is even asserted by persons of some experience, that these trees become more valuable, yielding a sap of a richer quality the more they are tapped.

How far a careful cultivation in plantations may still encrease the quantity, and enrich the juices drawn from this valuable tree, remains to be ascertained by experiment.

The presumption, however, is in favour of still greater advantages from cultivation and art.

12th, But above all the uncommon benefits these lands derive from the vicinity to the thick settled countries in New-York and New-England governments on the one hand, and Northumberland County in Pennsylvania on the other, from all which quarters, from the great advantages that are held out, there must be an overflow of emigrants every year, until these lands are fully settled. Which expectation is already fully evinced, from the rapid population that has taken place on the east boundaries of the Grant upon the Tioga River, and between the Seneca and Cayuga Lakes, up to Lake Ontario\*, where, in the course of three or four years, above eight hundred families have fixed themselves in this fertile country, most of whom having emigrated from the eastern states of New-England, New-York, and Pennsylvania, have all the advantages which are to be derived from a perfect knowledge of the country, and from that kind of education and local resource.

\* These lands are part of the tract of country which was granted to the officers and soldiers of the Continental army, for military services. The soil is in general the same as the Genesee pre-emption: but they do not possess equal advantages, in being exempted from the land-tax for 15 years. These lands are not only subject to the usual taxes of the state, as soon as located, but settlements must be made, and houses built, within a limited time, otherwise they revert back to the state.

E

which

which soon renders the situation of a new settler comfortable and happy, enabling them, at the same time, to assist new comers, who may be less acquainted with the nature of the country.

As a proof the estimation in which the Genesee Lands are held by the neighbouring inhabitants, it is only necessary to state the following facts, relative to the population, soil, and produce, &c. which have been extracted from letters and public documents, upon which the utmost reliance can be placed. The information is in these words :

“ There are already settled in this particular tract, upwards  
 “ of 1000 people, in different townships, *although two*  
 “ *years ago there was not a single person on the whole of*  
 “ *the Genesee Lands.* This winter there is to be a  
 “ great addition to the number. The return made by  
 “ the deputy-marshal of New-York, shews not only the  
 “ precise number of inhabitants that have made settle-  
 “ ments in these lands, but also the different townships  
 “ upon which these settlers have established their farms,  
 “ and fixed their residence.—*Of this Return the following*  
 “ *is an exact copy :*

A RETURN of the Settlers on the PRE-EMPTION LANDS,  
in the County of ONTARIO, December, 1790.

Ranges	Families	Males above 16	Males under 16	Females	Indians	Free Negroes	Slaves	No. of Town- ships.	Total Number
In the 1st range,	—	10	22	11	26	0	0	No. 2	59
ditto, —	—	12	24	16	25	0	0	7	65
ditto, —	—	3	12	4	9	0	0	8	25
ditto, —	—	10	30	13	7	0	0	9	50
ditto, —	—	8	33	5	17	0	0	10	55
ditto, —	—	2	4	3	4	0	0	11	11
In the 2d range,	—	6	8	7	12	0	0	No. 1	34
ditto, —	—	5	9	7	9	0	0	2	25
ditto, —	—	1	1	2	6	0	0	5	9
ditto, —	—	7	20	9	9	0	0	8	38
ditto, —	—	6	12	1	0	0	0	10	13
ditto, —	—	2	4	0	0	0	1	11	5
In the 3d range,	—	18	70	8	20	0	0	No. 10	99
ditto, —	—	12	32	10	13	0	0	11	55
ditto, —	—	4	10	1	3	0	0	12	14
In the 4th range,	—	4	18	2	0	0	0	No. 8	20
ditto, —	—	3	7	4	2	0	0	9	13
ditto, —	—	10	38	6	20	0	1	10	65
ditto, —	—	4	13	2	4	0	0	11	20
In the 5th range,	—	1	2	0	0	0	0	No. 9	2
ditto, —	—	7	18	4	4	0	0	10	26
ditto, —	—	2	5	3	2	0	0	11	10
ditto, —	—	8	15	4	9	0	0	12	28
ditto, —	—	4	10	6	4	0	0	13	20
5th and 6th,	—	10	17	12	21	0	0	No. 3 and 4	50
In the 6th range	—	4	7	5	11	0	0	No. 10	23
ditto, —	—	9	26	12	18	0	0	11	56
ditto, —	—	1	3	1	4	0	0	12	8
In the 7th range	—	1	1	3	1	0	0	No. 6	5
ditto, —	—	8	16	4	11	1	0	9	34
ditto, —	—	8	18	15	26	0	0	10	59
West of the Genesee River, Indian Lands opposite to No. 5, 8, and 9, in the 7th range	—	7	10	9	15	0	0	0	34
	—	4	8	3	6	0	0	0	17
Total,	—	201	523	192	318	1	2	11	1047

RE-

Respecting  
Settlers and  
Population.

“ Besides these settlers who actually occupy the Genesee  
 “ Tract, there is an establishment of quakers, called the  
 “ *Friends Settlement*, situated on the eastern ridge of the  
 “ Grant, and at the outlet of the Crooked Lake, consist-  
 “ ing of 260 persons, who are very industrious, and  
 “ have already made considerable improvements, having  
 “ completed an excellent grist and saw mill some time  
 “ since.—It is expected there will be double that number  
 “ before a twelvemonth.—To the northward of this  
 “ settlement, 12 or 15 miles distant, at the north-west  
 “ corner of the Seneca Lake, and about three miles from  
 “ the boundary of the Grant, is the town of Geneva, in  
 “ the neighbourhood of which there are many settlers,  
 “ and so on northwardly to Lake Ontario, and in dif-  
 “ ferent directions for about 30 miles. About 20 miles  
 “ south from the Friends Settlement, near the head of  
 “ the Seneca Lake, is the village of Culvers, and four  
 “ miles further on is Cathrines Town. In the neigh-  
 “ bourhood of these villages there is a district of country  
 “ bounded by the Pennsylvania line on the south, and the  
 “ heads of the Seneca and Cayuga Lakes on the north,  
 “ and running east from the Genesee southern boundary,  
 “ to Owega Creek, in which there are near 600 families  
 “ settled. Between the Seneca and Cayuga Lakes, and  
 “ particularly to the eastward of the latter, the country  
 “ is

“ is settling very fast, and so on along the east branch of  
 “ the Susquehanna, to its source at Lake Osega.—It  
 “ would be difficult to ascertain the present population  
 “ of the lands adjoining the Genesee Grant, but it may  
 “ be safely concluded, from the progression of settle-  
 “ ments for two or three years past, that in the course  
 “ of a very few years, the whole country to the eastward  
 “ of the Pre-emption line, will be well and thickly  
 “ inhabited \*. The New-England settlers, who have  
 already

\* An idea of the rapid population may be formed, from a detail of the towns and villages which have been built within the last three years, and which are now in a state of progressive increase, namely,

INHABITANTS.

1st, The town of Cannandarqua, at the north end of the lake of that name, lying within the Genesee Grant, and intended to be the head town of the county of Ontario	99
2d, The Friends Settlement, at the outlet of the Crooked Lake	260
3d, The town of Geneva, at the north-west corner of the Seneca lake (supposed to be)	100
4th, The village of Culvers, near the head of the Seneca lake, (supposed to be)	70
5th, The village of Cathrines Town, situated on the head of the Seneca lake, four miles from Culvers	30
Carried over,	559
F	6th,

“ already fixed themselves on the Genesee tract, have  
 “ made such favourable reports of the climate and soil,  
 “ that there are vast numbers of their countrymen pre-  
 “ paring to remove thither. Some of these who at first  
 “ bought townships of the original grantees, are selling  
 “ farms to new settlers from two to three dollars an  
 “ acre, according to quality, situation, and other local  
 “ advantages.

A proposed  
 Navigation  
 to Philadel-  
 phia.

“ It is in contemplation at present to make a water com-  
 “ munication between the Susquehanna and the Skuyll-  
 “ kill, which, if effected, will lay open the market of  
 “ Philadelphia for the reception of the produce of all the  
 “ Genesee country. And as the soil and climate are  
 “ supposed to be the best in the world for raising large

	Brought over,	559
6th, New Town, a beautiful village on the eastern forks of the Tioga River (supposed)	- - -	100
7th, Cheeming Town, three miles below New Town	-	50
		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
		709
The settlements on the lands surrounding these towns, in a square of about 80 miles	- - -	5931
		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
	Total,	6640
		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
		“ and

“ and productive crops of hemp, flax, Indian corn, wheat, rye, barley, oats, buck-wheat, peas, beans, and every other species of grain produced in North America, much benefit will be derived to the settlers, by every improvement which can be made in facilitating carriage by inland navigations.

Soil excellent for Hemp, Flax, and all sorts of Grain.

“ At present wheat can be sent from the Genesee settlements to Philadelphia, at one shilling sterling per bushel; but if the water communication be opened between the two rivers, the cost will not exceed four pence.

Prices paid for transporting Produce from, and dry Goods to the Genesee country.

“ Dry goods can now be sent to these new settlements at about eight shillings sterling per hundred weight, which will probably be reduced to three shillings, when the navigation is completed.

“ No country in the world is better adapted for raising cattle than the Genesee Grant. One of the first settlers in that country asserts, that he can every season cut wild grass on his own farm, in the Genesee flats, sufficient to maintain 2000 head of cattle through the winter. And that such hay, with rushes and vegetables which are found above the snow, generally keep the cattle fat without any expence. Hogs can also be reared

The Country well adapted for raising Cattle.

have foil, pre-firt lling s an local

rom- uyl- et of l the are arge

559

100

50

709

5931

6640

and

“ reared in the woods at little or no expence to the  
“ farmer.

A Road to  
be complet-  
ed this Year  
between the  
Genesee  
Country  
and Phila-  
delphia.

Extensive  
Ranges of  
Meadow  
Grounds  
for Cattle.

Good Paf-  
turage also  
in the For-  
ests for  
Cattle and  
Horfes.

“ As the distance from Philadelphia (between which and  
“ the Genesee lands a road will be completed this year) is  
“ somewhat less by land than 200 miles, there can be no  
“ difficulty in driving fat cattle and hogs to that market for  
“ sale, as they can transport themselves at a very small  
“ expence, and as the demand for provision encreases every  
“ year, and a liberal price is given for beef and pork, there  
“ can be no doubt but the rearing of cattle and hogs, as  
“ well as horfes for sale, in the low countries, will soon  
“ become a great object of profit to the settlers, as the  
“ extensive ranges of meadow ground on the flats, and  
“ the blue grafs, white clover, and pea vine in the  
“ woods, must enable the farmer to feed almost any  
“ number he can raise, or find capital to purchase.—In  
“ many parts of the tract there is little or no underwood,  
“ and excellent pasture in the forests between the trees, in  
“ consequence of there being in general of an enormous  
“ size, and a considerable distance between them,—there-  
“ by affording even a wide range for cattle in the upland  
“ country, as well as in the flats, and meadows which  
“ have already been represented to be luxuriant beyond  
“ description, in a species of coarse grafs, very fit for hay.

“ It

“ It is said, that there are many wild horses upon the  
 “ tract, which is an additional proof of there being winter  
 “ food in the flat lands and in the forests.”

The Farming Lands exhibit a variety of different soils adapted to every species of cultivation.—The bottoms between the rising grounds being universally rich, and the soil deep in every part of the tract, may be turned successfully to the raising of hemp and flax of the very first quality, also Indian corn.—On the rising grounds, wheat, rye, oats, barley, buck wheat, potatoes, (which are said to be the best in the world) turnips, and all kinds of vegetables may be cultivated in the greatest perfection ;\* and considerable advantages may be derived from making ashes from the timber consumed in clearing the grounds.

Farming  
 Grounds,  
 and mode of  
 cultivation.

Indeed

\* However great the advantages are which result to the settlers of new lands in chosen good situations in America, it is by no means insinuated or suggested that the comforts or benefits to be derived from such settlements are to be obtained without labour and industry.—It is sufficient to say, that in no country in Europe, does labour and industry produce to the farmer, so ample, and so certain a return, where good judgment and perseverance are exercised.—And perhaps the best way to elucidate the nature of the employment of the first settlers in such a country, as has been already described ; is, by a detail of the routine of his occupation as a farmer and planter in the American woods for the three first years, which will be nearly as follows :—

G

F I R S T

“ It

Resources  
independant  
of Agriculture  
in Sugar, Ashes,  
Furs, and  
Peltry.

Indeed the Woods of America, furnish much resource, independant of agriculture, not only in the article of pot and pearl ashes, and in the sugar extracted from the sap of the maple; but also in furs and skins, from the woods

F I R S T Y E A R .

The Farmer or Planter is supposed to be a man of small property, young, active, and originally bred in this line; such a person setting himself down in the Genesee country, may enter upon the business of life, with an assurance of being soon in easy circumstances and independant, if he either possesses money or credit to stock his little farm, as follows :

1st with	{	One breeding mare,	} in all	Sterling. £. 30 0
		One milk cow, with calf,		
		Two oxen or steers,		
		Two sows with pig,		
		A few turkeys, geese, ducks, and dunhill fowls.		

2d,	{	Farming Implements.	} in all	£. 15 0 0
		Two axes, - - -		
		Two grubbing hoes, and 2 common hoes, - - -		
		A plow and harrow, with their appendages, - - -		
		A grindstone, ditto - - -		
		A cross cut saw, ditto - - -		
Other Farming Implements, with two guns, powder and shot, and fishing tackle. - - -				

3d,	Household Furniture, - - - -	15 0 0
-----	------------------------------	--------

4th,	Corn, flour, and other provisions for six months,	10 0 0
------	---	--------

Total in Sterling, about		£. 70 0 0
--------------------------	--	-----------

With

woods surrounding the farm; and such articles always produce ready money to the new settler, to assist him in his agricultural pursuits.—On the Genesee lands, iron ore has also been discovered, which, at a future period, may be productive of great advantage to the proprietors.—Already very good ore has been found on the township No. 12, in the 5th range, and information

Iron ore also  
on the Ge-  
neesee Lands.

With this stock of cattle, implements of husbandry, and other conveniences, the settler chuses his spot of ground, and commences his operations in the month of March, having previously cut down and prepared a small quantity of timber.

- In March He builds himself a log house or cabin, which, with the assistance of his friends and neighbours, is generally completed in one day.
- He grubs 3 acres of his best ground for Indian corn, &c. and occasionally employs himself in shooting game and in fishing, for subsistence through the year.
- April He plows the land which he has grubbed, and cuts rail timber for fencing it.
- May He plants his Indian corn, (1 peck to 3 acres) and between the rows, pumpkins, cucumbers, and squashes are planted.
- He also plants half an acre of potatoes; and
- He likewise makes a small garden for pease, beans, collards, and other vegetables.
- June He weeds and hills his Indian corn and potatoes; and He proceeds to clear land for sowing wheat in the fall.
- July He continues to weed and hill his Indian corn, and to clear more land for wheat.
- He also clears half an acre for turnips.
- August He sows his turnips, tops his Indian corn, and blades it for the cattle—Continues to clear and prepare his wheat land.
- September

With

Iron works  
to be erected

information has been actually received, that iron founderies are soon to be erected on the township No. 13, in the 4th range, on the property of a Mr. Facit.

“ Every part of the tract abounds with springs of excellent  
“ water.—

“ It

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| September | He continues clearing his wheat land, and begins to plough it up.   |
| October   | He sows his wheat, (one bushel to an acre) harrows it in—Also sows wheat between the rows of his Indian corn.—Kills game for the family.  |
| November  | He fences his wheat land, which should extend to 10 acres, if he is industrious.  |
| December  | He takes in his Indian corn, potatoes and turnips, and builds a crib for holding his corn, and a pit in the ground for securing the potatoes and turnips against the frost.<br>Builds a shed for shelter for the cattle, also a small house for the hogs. |
| January   | He cuts and splits timber for fence rails, and he also cuts logs for enlarging his house, which he haws upon the snow.  |
| February  | He continues cutting timber for fence rails, and deadening trees on such land as he intends to prepare for cultivation during the ensuing season.   |

Having thus detailed the progressive employment of the American Farmer for the first twelvemonths, after he settles in a new country.—It may be proper to state the probable produce of his farm, which may be estimated as follows :

- 1st, 90 bushels of Indian corn.
- 2d, 100 bushels of potatoes.
- 3d, 200 bushels of turnips.
- 4th, 150 bushels of ashes.

5th, 1

“ It has also been asserted, that there are Salt Springs on the Grant, and that some of them are now worked by the new settlers, so as to supply the whole with good salt, at a moderate price.—

Salt Springs  
on the  
Tract.

“ There is likewise a natural Sulphur Spring in the tract.—

Sulphur  
Spring.

“ The present Settlers have already got a fine stock of cattle

Settlers have  
got a fine  
stock of  
Cattle.

and hogs, and find that they thrive and encrease very

fast; but as yet, there are few sheep, although, it is

supposed, they would succeed well on the hills, after

“ the

- 5th, 1 colt.
- 6th, 1 calf.
- 7th, 8 or 10 pigs.
- 8th, 3 or 4 dozen of turkeys, geese, and fowls.
- 9th, Vegetables for family use, such as squaf.  
pumpkins,  
melons,  
cucumbers,  
garden stuffs.
- 10th, Game and fish equal to half the subsistence of his family, such  
as deers, elk, wild turkeys, wild geese, ducks, pigeons,  
pheasants, &c. &c.—Also, salmon, salmon-trout, cat fish,  
chub, &c. &c.
- 11th, Furs and peltry from deer, elk, moose deer, minx, otter, &c.

Several genteel Families to settle on the Tract.

“ the country is more fully peopled. Several genteel  
 “ families are preparing to settle on the tract this season,  
 “ which will greatly facilitate the population of these  
 “ lands.

Crops last year very abundant.

“ The crops of Wheat, Indian Corn, and other small  
 “ grains, were very abundant last year, so that the pre-  
 “ sent settlers are in a situation to assist and to supply the  
 “ wants of new comers.

“ The

S E C O N D Y E A R.

- March, - The farmer must now, in consequence of the additional quantity of land, be assisted with one labourer.  
 He clears more land for corn, to the extent of 6 acres, and prepares railing for fencing it.
- April, - - He plows the land, and completes the fencing.
- May - - He plants his corn land, with pumpkins, squashes, and cucumbers between the rows.  
 He clears more ground for potatoes.  
 He now extends his garden ground, by converting a part of his last years potatoe land into that use.  
 He plants all kinds of vegetables, pease, beans, &c.  
 He sows hemp and flax on the remainder of his potatoe ground and turnip ground cleared the former year.
- June, - - He plants his potatoes on new ground, grubbed for the purpose, to the extent of an acre.  
 He clears more land for wheat.
- July - - He reaps his wheat, (about 13 acres) with a cradle scythe—after he has reaped one acre, he carries the grain off—Plows the ground

“ The Market for Grain and Provision raised in the Genesee The market for produce.  
 “ Country, will be on the spot for some time to come, and  
 “ the constant influx of settlers, who may be expected,  
 “ until the whole of these lands are occupied, will, at  
 “ least for a time, consume all the surplus produce; after-  
 “ wards the city of Philadelphia will probably be the best  
 “ market; and while the country is in the progress of  
 being

ground immediately, and sows buck-wheat on that one acre.  
 (half a bushel is sufficient for an acre.) He then proceeds to  
 cut the rest of his grain, and brings it to his barn-yard, and  
 stacks it up.

- August, - Pulls his flax early this month, and preserves the seed.  
 Prepares half an acre of new ground for turnips, and sows them.  
 Tops his Indian corn, and blades it for the cattle.  
 Continues to clear more ground for wheat, and to prepare fence  
 railing.  
 Pulls his hemp towards the end of the month.
- September, Begins to plow his wheat ground, which is generally a boy's  
 work.  
 Spreads out his flax, after being watered.  
 Spreads out his hemp also in the weather, to remain till winter.
- October, Sows his wheat on his new ground; also sows wheat between the  
 rows of his Indian corn.  
 Cuts his buck-wheat; thrashes it in the field; takes home the  
 grain, and stores it in the loft of his house.
- November, Fences his wheat land about ten acres more.  
 Also sows rye on ten of the acres which formerly bore wheat;  
 the other three he reserves to sow with oats in April.

December,

“ being settled, the hemp and flax raised by the Genesee  
 “ farmers, and also the ashes and sugar made upon these  
 “ lands, and the skins and furs procured by hunting,  
 “ must ultimately go to Philadelphia and New-York ; but  
 “ this will be the business of the merchant, who will  
 “ receive all these articles from the farmer in return  
 “ for dry goods, implements of husbandry, salt and rum,  
 “ and such other articles as the settlers may want.

It

- December, Takes in and secures his Indian corn, turnips and potatoes early in the month, and cuts down rail timber.
- January, - Begins to cut logs to carry over the snow to the nearest saw mill, for boards to assist in building a better house, and also for planks for doors, and for building a proper barn and threshing floor.
- Beats out his hemp and flax with a brake.
- February, Continues to dead more trees, and to clear more land for Indian corn.
- Begins, for the first time this month, to draw the sap from the sugar tree, and to make as much sugar, molasses, and vinegar as will serve for the family use.

*Second Year's Crop ought to be nearly as follows :*

Indian Corn,	180 bushels	Hemp about,	150 lb.
Wheat,	- 260 ditto	Flax ditto,	100 lb.
Buck Wheat,	30 ditto	Ashes ditto	200 bushels
Turnips,	- 200 ditto	Skins and furs for sale.	
Potatoes	- 200 ditto		

N. B. The wheat is carried to the nearest grist mill and there ground into flour for family use, and for sale.

LIVE

It is the constant practice in America, for small traders to establish what is called Flying Stores, for the sale of goods wherever new settlements are made. And already there are actually such merchants established in the Genesee Country, at the county town of Canandaqua, at the north end of the lake of that name, where all kind of produce is bought and sold by the merchants already settled there.

Stores established, and Produce bought and exchanged.

Wheat is at present, one dollar per bushel, 4s. 6d. sterling.

Price of Produce in the Country.

Indian Corn, - - ditto, 2s. 6d. ditto.

Salt, from the Onandago works, 60 miles east of the Grant, is half a dollar a bushel,—in time it will be cheaper.

At

LIVE STOCK increased,

- 1 Mare.
- 2 Colts.
- 1 Cow.
- 2 Calves.
- 2 Steers.
- 20 Hogs and shoats.
- Poultry in abundance.

*The OPERATIONS of the AMERICAN FARMER, for the THIRD YEAR.*

He is then assisted with two stout hands, on account of the additional quantity of lands which are by this time cleared for cultivation; and his crops will now afford him the means of paying wages. He purchases an additional horse and yoke of oxen.

I

March,

Quebec will probably become a great market for produce.

At a future period, when population shall have rendered various markets necessary, the heavy articles raised on the northern part of the Grant, will probably be transported to Quebec, by the way of Lake Ontario, Catoroqui, and Montreal; and such articles as will bear land-carriage, by the way of the Mohawk River, and New York.—As the crops are extremely uncertain in Canada, it is by no means improbable that this country must often be resorted to in order to supply the Canadians with bread.

The

March, - He continues, with the assistance of his wife and domestics, to draw off the sap of the sugar tree, and to boil it up for sugar, molasses, and vinegar.

This month, for the first time, he turns his attention to meadow ground. He chutes for this purpose his lowest land, which he prepares and sows with Timothy grass, which is deemed superior to clover for new lands in America.

April, - - He sows a little spring wheat on new land.

He sows oats on the three acres formerly reserved.

He sows spring barley on the six acres in corn last year.

May, - } He proceeds in the same routine as the former year, in clearing  
 June, - } land, planting corn and potatoes, sowing hemp and flax,  
 July, - } pumpkins, squashes, cucumbers, and melons. Improves and extends the garden ground, and sows and plants all kinds of vegetables. Sows buck wheat in July. Also finishes his harvest of wheat, oats, and barley, and stacks it up in his barn-yard.

August, - He clears and prepares ground for an additional quantity of turnips; also for wheat. Tops his Indian corn; pulls his hemp; waters his flax, and saves his flax seed

He also sows his meadow ground with turnips, along with the Timothy grass.

September,

It has been already mentioned, that the climate of this Climate. country is reckoned more mild in winter, and less sultry in the summer, than the same latitudes nearer the Atlantic Ocean, and as agriculture advances, and the country becomes more open, the climate will improve. At present it is extremely healthy, and none of those periodical disorders are known among the settlers, which prevail in those parts of America which are nearer the sea, such as intermitting fevers, agues, and bilious complaints.

The severe weather generally sets in about the beginning of December, with sharp cold, black-frosts, and falls of snow. About Christmas the grounds are covered with snow, which  
continue

September, } He proceeds in the same routine of agricultural pursuits as the  
 October, } former years, but on a larger scale.

November, The necessary parts of the improvement of the farm being then pretty well advanced, the farmer now thinks of planting orchards. For this purpose he appropriates the ground nearest his house, which had been cleared and cultivated the first year, to the following purposes :

1st, For an apple orchard, 3 acres, *which bear fruit in four years.*

2d, For a peach orchard, 1 acre, *Idem.*

3d, For cherry trees,  
 plumb, and pear } 1 acre, *Idem.*  
 trees, &c.

Between the rows of trees in the orchard may be raised every year, Indian corn, wheat, oats, &c.

At

continue about two months, or till the first week in March, during which interval there is a clear serene sky, with fine weather. It is then that the farmer transports his corn and other produce to a market, or to the granaries and stores at the landing places, to be in readiness when the weather opens for water communication. This transportation is managed with great ease by means of flays over the snow, where one horse

Advantages derived from the Snows in Winter, over the more southern Countries.

At the end of the third year the aggregate produce of the farm should be nearly as follows :

	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Bufhels.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>Sterling.</i>
1, Indian Corn, -	10	300	2 6	£37 10 0
2, Wheat, - -	20	400	4 0	80 0 0
3, Spring Wheat,	3	60	3 6	10 10 0
4, Buck Wheat, -	5	100	1 9	8 15 0
5, Oats, - - -	3	120	1 6	9 0 0
6, Barley, - -	3	120	1 9	10 10 9
7, Potatoes, -	1	200	1 6	15 0 0
8, Turnips, - -	3	900	0 5	17 15 0
9, Hemp, - - -	1	1000 lb.	0 2	8 6 8
10, Flax - - -	1	500 lb.	0 5	8 6 8
11, Garden, - -	1	{ Vegetables, 10 bufhels of Peas, &c. also Flax Seed. }		10 0 0

51

12, Meadow Ground, 4, for hay next year.

Total, 55 Acres.

13, Ashes, - - -	500 bufhels,	0 3	6 5 0
14, Hogs for sale, - -	10	10 0	5 0 0
			<u>£.226 18 4</u>

LIVE

horse will perform more than four times the number in those latitudes in North America, where snows do not lie in the winter.

This period, when the snows are upon the ground, is also the season of festivity with the American farmers, as it affords an easy and expeditious, as well as a cheap mode of travelling, and of paying visits to one another, and in holding a friendly intercourse with their relations at a distance, in which they appear to have more real enjoyment than the same class of people in any other country in the world.

These snows are therefore reckoned extremely beneficial, for while they meliorate the ground, and assist the farmer in removing

LIVE STOCK increased, viz.

- 1 Horse, purchased this year.
- 1 Mare.
- 3 Colts.
- 2 Cows.
- 2 Calves.
- 2 Yoke of oxen, or 4 steers.
- 20 Hogs and shoats, &c.
- Turkeys, geese, ducks, and fowls in abundance, for family use.

This is the routine of farming which a man of small property, or who went upon credit, would consider it as most prudent to pursue. But to settlers of substance, who could afford to hire servants, and purchase a stock of cattle and horses, the plan would be different.

K

ist, A

LIVE

**Winter.** removing his heavy timber and produce, at an easy expence, they contribute much to his comfort and happiness, in the intercourse with his friends and neighbours, in the facility of travelling from one place to another, and in the fine, serene and clear atmosphere which is experienced during the whole of the winter.

**Climate.** The snows are generally off the ground about the middle of March, when the spring weather commences, by mild showers of rain, which continue occasionally during the whole of the months of April and May, gradually becoming warmer and warmer, which occasions a quick vegetation. During this season the country is delightfully beautiful, with the whole

1st, A good house of framed timber, brick or stone, would be built at once.

2d, A barn, stable, and all other conveniences.

3d, An ash work with sheds, for making pot and pearl ashes.

4th, Sheds and proper apparatus, for making sugar in the season.

5th, A corn mill, and also a saw mill, upon some stream near the house, the cost of both would not exceed £250 sterling.

6th, Meadow ground would be taken in the first year, for hay for the cattle.

7th, A large tract of ground would be cleared for corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, buck wheat, potatoes, turnips, hemp, flax, &c.

8th, A garden and orchard would also be completed the first year.

9th, A seine, or fishing net, would be procured for providing the family with fish, and other measures would be pursued for a constant supply of game of all kinds.

fruit

fruit trees in bloom, as well as every shrub or vine which bears any wild fruit in the woods.

In June the weather begins to grow warm. In July and August it is occasionally sultry, with frequent thunder-showers, which are succeeded immediately by fine serene weather, without the intervention of any settled rains. During this season the flies are very troublesome; but this will be less and less the case as the country is cleared. Summer.

The months of September, October and November, are delightfully pleasant. The mornings and evenings are sometimes foggy; but the middle part of the day is clear and serene, without any rains to distress the farmer in sowing his different crops, or to prevent him from reaping the full extent of the fruits of his industry. Autumn.

The great variety of fruits and game also, at this season of the year, adds not a little to the pleasure and comfort of the settlers. But still these comforts are not to be acquired without industry and labour.

The Genesee country making a part of the new County of Ontario, in the State of New-York, is consequently under the government of the Congress of the United States, which government is perfectly free. Every inhabitant is eligible to be Govern-  
ment.

All Religious Societies at liberty to exercise their own mode of worship.

be chosen a member of the legislative body, or to be appointed a public magistrate. Religious opinions exclude no man from any public situation in the government, and every sectary or society are at perfect liberty to exercise their own mode of worship, under the protection of the same laws which give the most perfect security to their property.

Native Indians tranquillized. Are removed from the Genesee Country.

The native Indians have wholly retired from the Genesee country. In this particular quarter of America, these tribes are now perfectly tranquillized, and disposed to cultivate the arts of peace and civilization. After ceding any tract of country, for a valuable consideration paid, and after a treaty signed for that purpose, as in the present case, no instance occurs of these Indians ever settling upon the same lands. They are remarkable for keeping faith in this respect. Indeed they always retire from the settled countries, on account of the scarcity of game, upon which they principally depend for subsistence.

Additional Security derived from the encreased Population of White Inhabitants.

But above all, the extended society of white inhabitants, amounting to upwards of six thousand persons, already established in this new country, half of whom may be presumed able to bear arms, gives the most perfect security to the settlers, and the more especially as their numbers will daily increase.

With

Seminaries  
of Learning,  
and  
Churches  
established.

With this increase will also be introduced, in a greater degree every year, public schools and other seminaries of learning for the education of youth of both sexes, as well as places of public worship. Some churches and chapels are already built in this new country; and the latest advices state, that the Rev. Mr. Ross was to establish an academy, for the education of youth, in the county town of Cannandarqua, in the Genesee Tract, in the course of the spring or summer 1791.

To these improvements in civil society are added, courts of justice, and public magistrates; and judges for the new Country of Ontario; where court-houses, and other public buildings, are either erected or in progress, so as to extend to the inhabitants the same civil and political privileges, in well-executed laws, and in sending representatives to Congress and to the Assembly, which are enjoyed by other citizens of America.

F I N I S.

With



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## THOUGHTS ON EMIGRATION.

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**I**F any country in Europe has more people than can be comfortably subsisted in it, some of those who are incommoded may be induced to emigrate. As long as the new situation shall be found to be preferable to the old, emigration may possibly continue; but when many of these, who in the old countries in Europe interfered with others in the same rank in the competition, (for farms, shops, business, and other means of subsistence) are gradually withdrawn to another country, the inconvenience of that competition ceases; the numbers remaining no longer half starve each other.—They find they can now subsist comfortably, and, though perhaps not quite so well as those who left them; yet the inbred attachment to a native country is sufficient to over-balance a moderate difference, and thus the emigration ceases naturally of itself, without the necessity of any legislative restrictions, which are neither necessary nor politic.

The waters of the ocean may move in currents from one quarter of the globe to another, as they happen in some places to be accumulated, and in others diminished; but no law beyond the law of gravity, is necessary to prevent their abandoning any coast entirely. Thus the different degrees of happiness

pinets of different countries and situations find, or rather make their level by the flowing of people from one to another, and where that level is once found, the removals cease. Add to this, that even a real deficiency of people in any country, occasioned by a wasting war or pestilence, is speedily supplied by earlier, and of course more prolific marriages, encouraged by the greater facility of obtaining the means of subsistence; so that a country half depopulated would soon be re-peopled, till the means of subsistence were equalled by the population. All encrease beyond that point must perish, or flow off into more favourable situations.—Such overflowings there have been of mankind in all ages, or we should not now have had Thirteen States in America, containing near four millions of people; but to apprehend absolute depopulation from that cause, is to suppose that by the ebbing and flowing of a great river, in time its waters would be exhausted.

That great national advantages may be acquired to the old countries in Europe, from whence people emigrate has been shewn in one point of view: But if such overflowing of people should go to another country where land is easily acquired, and population encouraged by early marriages, there is another point of view in which the parent state may be benefited by the removal of the people it can spare. This benefit will arise from predilections for the manufactures of their native country,  
hence.

hence an extended consumption of the labour of the people who are engaged in manufactures in the old countries, from whence these people emigrated; and in so far as these people multiply in a greater degree than they could have done in Europe, and in so far also as they, by means of cheap land and agricultural pursuits, can consume more of the manufactures than they could have done in their own country, from being richer and better able to buy them; in the same proportion are these people rendered more useful to the state, than if no emigration had taken place, seeing that their labour is rendered productive abroad, which was not the case in their own country.

The new settlers in America finding plenty of subsistence, and land easily acquired whereon to seat their children, seldom postpone marriage through fear of poverty. This natural increase is therefore in proportion far beyond what it would have been had they remained in Europe.

New farms are daily every where forming in those immense forests, new towns and villages rising, hence a growing demand for the manufactures of their mother country, to the greater employment of the manufacturer, and enrichment of the merchant. By this natural augmentation of the demand for manufactures, the strength of an empire is increased, and its members are multiplied.

Was this country (already attached to Great Britain by the tie of consanguinity, a similarity of language, religion, and natural affection) secured by these means, and the mutual advantages which would arise from a treaty of commercial alliance;—it would afford an additional strength to the British empire far superior, and more to be depended on, than any advantage that ever could have been acquired by the most successful conquest.

These national advantages would certainly more than equiperate with any ideal inconveniences that might be suffered by the emigration of superfluous cottagers, who would remain in poverty and misery in Europe, useless to themselves, and a burden to their country. By removing to enjoy plenty and happiness, in cultivating the vast unoccupied tracts of fertile land in North America, they would not only ease their own country of its supernumerary inhabitants, but as they advance in opulence, consume its manufactures.

The overflowings of Germany and France are now emigrating to America; and it might, in the course of a few years, be matter of serious regret if Britons and Irishmen, who have a much better right, did not endeavour to cement, by this intimate connection and a natural alliance, countries which are by nature designed for the mutual aggrandizement and support of each other.

F I N I S.

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# R E M A R K S

F O R

The Information of those who wish to become  
SETTLERS IN AMERICA.

*The Production of a very celebrated American Statesman and Philosopher, written a short Time previous to his Decease.\**

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**T**HE governments in America give every assistance to strangers that can be desired from protection, good laws, and perfect liberty.—Strangers are welcome, because there is room enough for them all, and therefore the old inhabitants are not jealous of them, the laws protect them sufficiently, so that they have no need of the patronage of great men; and every one will enjoy, in security, the profits of his own industry.—But if he does not bring a fortune with him, he must work and be industrious to live.—One or two years residence, give him all the rights of a citizen; but the government does not hire people to become settlers.

\* Dr. Franklin.  
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Land

Land being cheap in that country, from the vast tracts still void of inhabitants, so that the property of an hundred acres of very fertile soil may be obtained at an easy rate.—Hearty young men, who understand the husbandry of corn and cattle, which is nearly the same as in Europe, may easily establish themselves there.—A little money saved of the good wages they receive there, while they work for others, enables them, in a few years, to buy land and begin their plantation, in which they are assisted by the good will of their neighbours, and some credit. Multitudes of poor people from England, Ireland, Scotland and Germany, have, by this means, in a few years, become wealthy farmers, who, in their own countries, where all the lands are fully occupied, and the wages of labour low, could never have emerged from their low condition wherein they were born.

From the salubrity of the air, the healthiness of the climate, the plenty of good provisions, and the encouragement to early marriages, by the certainty of subsistence in cultivating the earth, the increase of inhabitants by natural generation, is very rapid in America, and becomes still more so by the accession of strangers—Hence there is a continual demand for more artificers of all the necessary and useful kinds, to supply those cultivators of the earth with houses, and with furniture and with utensils of the grosser sorts, which cannot so well be brought from Europe; tolerable good workmen in any of  
these

these mechanic arts, are sure to find employ, and to be well paid for their work; there being no restraints preventing strangers from exercising any art they understand, nor any permission necessary. If they are poor, they begin first as servants or journeymen; and if they are sober, industrious, and frugal, they soon become masters, establish themselves in business, raise families, and become respectable citizens.

Lastly, persons of moderate fortunes and capitals, who having a number of children to provide for, are desirous of bringing them up to industry, and to secure estates for their posterity, have opportunities of doing it in America, which Europe does not afford. There they may be taught useful and profitable mechanic arts, and may follow the same without incurring reproach on that account, but on the contrary, acquiring respect by such pursuits and abilities. The small capitals laid out in lands, which daily become more valuable by the increase of people, affords a solid prospect of ample fortunes thereafter for their children. Instances have been often known of large tracts of land being bought, on what was then the frontiers of Pennsylvania twenty years after, selling at a profit of many hundred per cent., without any improvement whatever made on them.

The establishment of manufactures have rarely succeeded in America, the country not being yet so ripe as to encourage private

private persons to set them up ; labour being generally too dear there, and hands difficult to be kept together, every one desiring to become a master, and the cheapness of land inclining many to leave trades for agriculture.—Things that are bulky, and of so small value as not well to bear the expence of freight, may often be made cheaper in the country than they can be imported ; and the manufacture of such things will be profitable whenever there is a sufficient demand.—The Farmers in America produce, indeed, a good deal of wool and flax, and none is exported, it is all worked up ; but it is in the way of domestic manufacture, for the use of the family.—The buying up quantities of wool and flax, with the design to employ spinners, weavers, &c. and to form great establishments, producing quantities of linen and woollen goods for sale, has been several times attempted in different provinces ; but these projects have generally failed, goods of equal value being imported cheaper ; for these unnatural operations must be supported by mutual prohibitions or high duties on the importation of goods, by which means the manufacturers are enabled to tax the home consumer by greater prices. Therefore the government of America does nothing to encourage such projects ; the people are by this means not imposed on either by the merchant or mechanic : If the merchant demands too much profit on imported shoes, they buy of the shoe-maker ; and if he asks too high a price, they take them of the merchant ; thus the two professions are checks to each other. The shoe-maker,

maker, however, has on the whole a considerable profit upon his labour in America, beyond what he had in Europe, as he can add to his price, a sum nearly equal to all the expences of freight and commission, risque or insurance, &c. necessarily charged by the merchant, and the case is the same with the workmen in every other mechanic art. Hence it is that artificians live better and more easily in America than in Europe, and such as are good œconomists, make a comfortable provision for age, and for their children.—Such may therefore remove with advantage to America.

In the old long settled countries of Europe all arts, trades, professions, farms, &c. are so full, that it is difficult for a poor man, who has children, to place them where they may gain or learn to gain a decent livelihood. The artificians who fear creating future rivals in business, refuse to take apprentices, but upon conditions of money, maintenance, and the like, which the parents are unable to comply with. Hence the youth are brought up in ignorance of every gainful art, and are obliged to become soldiers, or servants, or thieves, for a subsistence. In America, the rapid increase of inhabitants takes away that fear of rivalry, and artificians willingly receive apprentices, from the hope of profit by their labour during the remainder of the time stipulated after they shall be instructed. Hence it is easy for poor families to get their children instructed, for the artificians are so desirous of apprentices, that many

of them will even give money to the parents, to have boys from ten to fifteen years of age bound apprentices to them till the age of twenty-one; and many poor parents have by that means, on their arrival in the country, raised money enough to buy land sufficient to establish themselves, and to subsist the rest of their family by agriculture. — These contracts for apprentices are made before a magistrate who regulates the agreement, according to reason and justice, and having in view the formation of a future useful citizen, obliges the master to engage by a written indenture, not only that during the time of service stipulated, the apprentice shall be duly provided with meat, drink, apparel, washing and lodging, and at its expiration with a complete new suit of cloaths, but also that he shall be taught to read, write and cast accounts, and that he shall be well instructed in the art or profession of his master, by which he may afterwards gain a livelihood, and be able in his turn to raise a family. A copy of this indenture is given the apprentice, or his friends, and the magistrate keeps a record of it, to which recourse may be had in case of failure, by the master, in any point of performance.

This desire among masters to have more hands employed in working for them, induces them to pay the passages of young persons of both sexes, who on their arrival agree to serve them two three, or four years; those who have already learnt a trade, agreeing for a shorter term, in proportion to their skill, and

and the consequent immediate value of their service ; and those who have none, agreeing for a longer term, in consideration of being taught an art their poverty would not permit them to acquire in their own country.

The almost general mediocrity of fortune that prevails in America, obliging its people to follow some business for subsistence, those vices that arise generally from idleness, are in a great measure prevented. Industry and constant employment, are great preservations of the morals and virtue of a nation. Hence bad examples to youth are more rare in America, which must be a comfortable consideration to parents. To this may be truly added, that serious religion, under its various denominations, is not only tolerated, but respected and practised. Atheism is unknown there, infidelity rare and secret ; so that persons may live to a great age in that country, without having their piety shocked by meeting either an atheist or an infidel. And the Divine Being seems to have manifested his approbation of the mutual forbearance and kindness, with which the different sects treat each other, by the remarkable prosperity with which he has been pleased to favour the whole country.

F I N I S.

