

FOR THE ROYAL GAZETTE,
No. 1.

MR. RYAN,

IT is an observation made by a late traveller—"That the people of America have a strange propensity to change their situations."—He says,—"It is not an uncommon thing to see families (who have encountered and overcome all the obstacles which naturally arise in forming new settlements, and are just beginning to realize the comforts and enjoy the sweets of their own labour) consenting to abandon their possessions, and engaging anew in the same scenes of difficulty and distress."—Had that judicious writer passed through the Province of New-Brunswick, he would have seen instances of this disposition which might have excited a greater degree of astonishment than any which he could possibly have met with in the back parts of the United States.

The following facts, carelessly thrown together, may serve to place this subject in a new point of view before the public, and will furnish satisfactory proof that the late emigrations from our Province are to be imputed entirely to that caprice which is acknowledged to be the characteristic of Americans. I shall be well pleased—and amply paid for my trouble, if these remarks have a further tendency to induce others of that restless character to be more cautious in their enquiries before they take a step on which the future comfort of themselves and families seems so materially to depend.

In the first place—It is an established fact that the Province of New-Brunswick has been principally settled by an order of Men who call themselves Loyalists—Men who fought in the service of the King during a long war, and who (at the unfortunate termination of it) made an election to plunge into a wilderness with their wives and children, rather than submit to the humiliating and degrading necessity of soliciting mercy from those whom they were in the habit of considering as Rebels. Actuated by the same laudable and manly spirit they persevered, and they combated—difficulties, fatigues and toils—which (in a bad cause) they would have sunk under. Here they soon obtained a Constitution or Government similar (as far as was practicable) to the British; which was one of the objects for which they had contended.—Lands were assigned to them—and cherished by a temporary bounty from a benevolent Sovereign they went to work with a degree of alacrity which was never exceeded—perhaps never equalled. Huts were erected which at first were hardly sufficient to shelter their families—and little holes were cut in the forest; a few Potatoes and a scanty crop of Rye were the only rewards for the immense labor of the 1st and 2d years; during the 3d and 4th, 5th and 6th, although the prospects brightened a little, the difficulties were great and many discouraging circumstances occurred; but under all this pressure of care and perplexity, the voice of murmur could scarcely be heard among them.—At the expiration of fifteen or sixteen years the scene is materially changed. Enter the habitations of the Farmers in almost every part of the Province now, and (with very few exceptions) you'll find them tight, warm and comfortable, you'll see the man and woman surrounded by a flock of children—robust, hearty and useful—clad in homespun—feeding upon their own mutton, with bread, butter and cheese in abundance: In many instances you may discover not only the comforts of life, but luxuries procured by their overplus produce, which never fails to find an easy and a sure market,—or by their winter exertions in making—getting timber, wood, &c. for which they receive the most liberal wages. Their barns and out-houses contain a flock of cattle, horses, sheep, swine, &c. of more value than their ancestors in Jersey or New-England ever possessed for three generations before they were born. Enquire among 'em for a Grievance and they'll not be able to point out one. Are you oppress'd with taxes?—No.—Does any body interrupt you in matters of conscience?—No.—Do the Laws afford you sufficient protection?—Why Yes.

This is the unexaggerated state of the Province now—and this too at a time when one half the Countries in the world have been ruined by a calamitous war. Notwithstanding all which—such are the whims and caprices of mankind! Among the very people that

I have above described, a few giddy eccentric and discontented characters have appeared—who (forgetting all the favors which they received from our Government) have made a voluntary sacrifice of their former honorable principles and professions, have sold the Lands which were granted them; and meanly skulked into the United States—there they have made their submissions in form—there they have become literally "hewers of wood and drawers of water"—and as an act of Grace they are permitted to eat, drink and vegetate; but in place of being buoyed up under afflictions by the reflection of having done their duty as honest men and faithful subjects, they are compelled to consider the most meritorious actions of their lives as the most atrocious offences which they ever committed. These men and their leaders will furnish subject matter for a future essay. I shall therefore quit 'em for the present and pass on to another class, who are not quite so culpable, but who appear to be influenced by the same extraordinary caprice—I mean those who have lately removed with their families to other parts of the King's dominions, particularly to Niagara. In comparing the two Countries I declare that I have no intention of casting a reflection upon the Province of Upper Canada—I have a high respect for the Government there—a good opinion of the country, and sincerely wish it's prosperity, the final determination of a few changeable people with respect to the place of their residence is a matter of no importance either to them or to us, and the remarks which I shall make will perhaps apply with equal force to those who would wantonly and inconsiderately leave that Province and come to this.—The principal object I have in view is to enquire whether there is any sufficient temptation offered to induce a Farmer who has conquered the great difficulties of making an establishment here—to disturb the peace of his family and to undertake the arduous task of removing to a place so difficult to approach—and so remote. It is an obvious fact that there is no essential difference between the Constitutions and the Laws of the two Provinces—Allow—that in Canada the climate is more mild—the winters not so long—the Land (if you please) easier cleared, and the crops (particularly of wheat) more abundant—possibly these considerations might have afforded good reasons for an original preference—but let us put against these advantages—the acknowledged unhealthiness of the climate—the impossibility of selling that part of their produce which they cannot consume.—The immense prices of many of the necessaries of life, and the total want of winter employment.—Would any man in his senses readily barter sound health, activity and vigor, for fevers, agues, and debility?—Would he relinquish a Farm, cleared with his own hands, which supplies him with every thing he wants and something to spare, for a redundancy of wheat which he can't sell, and a surplussage of Pork which he can't find salt to save?—Would this be a profitable exchange?—Now, let us throw into the scale a small proportion of the troubles which must be encountered in the course of such a removal.—I hate misery so cordially that I can hardly bear to draw a picture of it, but in the present case I can't help it, and although I may appear tedious to your readers, I am determined to trace this business to its source.—A single instance which has happened within my own view, is as good as a hundred for this purpose.—Mark then the progress.

One of these adventurers who has arrived at Niagara, and finds himself a little in a scrape (on the principle of the old song of "Welcome—welcome brother debtor") sets down and writes a letter to his cousin B— in New-Brunswick, in which he courts him to come to the same place, and he amuses him with a ridiculous and romantic tale, of produce without labour—spontaneous grain—and wild hogs.—B— reads this letter to his wife Martha just as they are going to bed—both of them dream that they are transported to the Elysian-fields, where they have nothing to do but to gaze on the beauties of the scene—to open their mouths—and to swallow the delicious things that are ready cut and dried for them: In the morning they compare notes, and they are astonished at the similitude of their delightful visions. From this moment the whole matter is settled—Time begins to hang heavily—all the rational anticipations of further clearances and

extended cultivation, which used to animate and encourage them, are now at an end. Labour becomes more severe. Even the winters grow longer in imagination, and a thousand dreadful things start up in their distempered minds, which were never before contemplated. Poor Martha is bitten by the maggot in a very tender place—the can't fit still a moment—the nestles continually—and nothing now is heard but—"Let us move"—"pray let us go"—"Oh Niagara! Niagara oh!" Without further ceremony the place is offered for Sale—to the credit of the Country be it written—a purchaser instantly appears—and the bargain is concluded.

Now comes the trying scene.—The new proprietor calls to take possession—those who bought the cattle apply for them: one drives off a favorite Cow—another the Oxen—a third takes the Mare and Colt, &c. Even the Beasts, as they face to the right about, seem to reproach their former owner for this unnatural and wanton separation: The Plough and Harrow so long the instruments by which they procured their daily bread, are transferred to other hands—the articles of furniture collected with care and exactly calculated for their use are scattered and sold for less than half their value. B— and his wife, followed by their train of Children (too young to counteract a project so preposterous) walk slowly from that habitation where till lately they were content and happy—and seek a temporary shelter among the neighbours. In a few days you find them at the first place of embarkation, waiting for a vessel or a wind—exposed to heavy expences and many inconveniences. If you follow them to St. John, you will see them for days together loitering in the streets—the man and woman beginning to be dejected—the children in their best clothes staring about, eating cookies—the money going in all directions.—At length an opportunity offers for York, they are cram'd on board a vessel, and in a few hours are tumbling upon the ocean, sea-sick and completely wretched. After a long passage they arrive in that great City, where, in a few days young Joshua is seized with the yellow-fever and dies—others of the family are sick, their pockets are pick'd by cruel extortioners; and thus oppressed with grief and almost borne down by the weight of their misfortunes, the unfortunate parents with the surviving children are compelled to set off upon their tedious journey. God forbid! that I should attend them a single step further, or that I should bear witness to that variety of distresses which they must necessarily experience. I had rather bring them at once to the land of promise, with the miserable remnant of their hard-earn'd property. Here they must be obliged to go through the usual forms of application, and to meet with those delays, and to incur those expences which are incident to proceedings of this nature. But to conclude, let us suppose that every obstacle is removed and that they are put in possession of a tract of land, their stock of cash exhausted, every member of the family enfeebled by that most disheartening of all disorders the fever and ague, and that they begin to realize that they have the same serious duties to perform which they have been accustomed to in New-Brunswick, that houses cannot be built without hands, and that crops are not produced without labor.

This is the time to make the melancholy retrospect, and to ask the solemn and important questions.—What have we gained by all these sacrifices, sufferings and distresses?—Here I must leave them to settle the account. In the mean time I call upon your speculative readers of all denominations, between the two great extremes of Philosophers and Fools, inclusive, to account for that passion or propensity, or whatever else you may call it, which causes some of the children of Men, thus voluntarily to surrender the peace, comfort and happiness of themselves and their families.

TAMMANY.

THE Partnership of LANG & TURNER, will be dissolved the 20th August next, by mutual consent.—Request all those, to whom they are indebted, to render their Accounts for Payment.—And all those who are indebted to them to call and settle their Accounts immediately.

WM. LANG,
DUNCAN TURNER,

St. John, 14th July, 1802.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.

Sloop Dove, Captain Lane, from Boston.
Schooner Fancy, Captain Roden, from Halifax.

New Advertisements.

A few Copies of
A FORM of PRAYER,
To be used on
THANKSGIVING-DAY,
the Twenty seventh inst.
FOR SALE at this OFFICE—Price 9d.

A Valuable Situation.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

ON TUESDAY the 3d day of August, at the Subscriber's Auction-Room, at 12 o'Clock, Will be Sold, the **STONE HOUSE** and **LOT**, fronting the Market-Square, in Prince-William Street, now occupied by James Codner, Esq.—The advantages attending this property is many; and too well known to require any description.—Possession will be given on the 1st day of May next.—The Conditions of Sale may be had by applying to

Andrew Crookshank.

St. John, 21st July, 1802.

To be Sold,
AT PRIVATE SALE,

TWO Hundred acres of Land, the property of HENRY GOLDSMITH, Esq. lying one Mile from the entrance of Wa-Weig Creek, on the river Scoodiac, and ten Miles from the Town of Saint Andrews in the County of Charlotte, on which is erected a good dwelling House, with an excellent Saw and Grist Mill; in the former of which may be cut Plank for Ship use, forty-seven feet long.—The terms of payment will be made easy to the purchaser on giving sufficient security: an indisputable title will be given. Application to be made to John Dunn, Esq. and Mr. John Campbell, in St. Andrews, and to William Pagan, Esq. Saint John.

St. Andrews, 18th July, 1802.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons indebted to the Estate of THOMAS STAPLES, late of the Parish of St. Mary's, in the County of York, deceased, are requested to make immediate Payment to the Subscriber; and all Persons having demands against the said Estate, are directed to give in the same duly attested, within Eight weeks from this date.

ANDREW PHAIR.

Frederickton, 15th July, 1802.

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber intends to leave this Province, in the course of the ensuing Fall; Those Persons who have any demands against him are requested to present their accounts for payment; And those indebted to him he will be extremely obliged to them to call and pay their respective balances without delay; as it becomes absolutely necessary to close his business previous to his departure.

BENJAMIN STONE.

Parish of Portland, County of St. John,
21st July, 1802.

NOTICE:

ALL Persons indebted to the Estate of REUBEN WILLIAMS, late of the Parish of Waterborough, in the County of Queen's, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment to the Subscriber;—and all Persons having any demands against said Estate are desired to exhibit their Accounts for settlement, within Twelve months from the date hereof.

MARY WILLIAMS,
Administratrix.

Waterborough, 19th July.

FOR NEW-YORK.

THE Sch'r. FANCY, WILLIAM RODEN, Master:—Will sail about the First of August, wind and weather permitting.—For Freight or Passage apply to the Master on board, or to JOHN COLVILLE, Merchant, St. John Street.

St. John, 21st July, 1802.