

The Emigrants Guide 1818

Taking the passage—Preparing for the voyage, &c.

Thomas Smith

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The first step to be taken by the emigrant, respecting his voyage, will be an arrangement with the captain or merchants of the vessel, which, on enquiry, he may find, as to the time of sailing, and other particulars, most suitable to his purpose.

There are two situations in each vessel for passengers—namely, the Cabin, and, as it is called, the Steerage, or between decks.

In the first of these an individual will have to pay for his passage from thirty-five to forty-five guineas ; and in the steerage from seven to ten pounds, according to the ease or difficulty with which the Captain may expect to obtain his complement of passengers, before his time of sailing. Smaller sums than these, even, are said to be taken occasionally, especially when a family, or a number of persons engage together.

But it is not the difference of situation in the vessel merely, that makes this variation in the price of the passage. The cabin passengers being supplied by the Captain with all necessary provisions for the voyage, including porter, spirits and wine, unless a special agreement be made to the contrary, in which case an abatement may be expected in the fare ; while the steerage passenger is entitled only to fresh water, and the use of the fire for cooking, etc.

Having made his arrangement with the Captain respecting his fare, &c. the passenger will have leisure to provide himself with the necessaries and conveniences for the voyage. These, with both description of passengers, will consist of a small bed and bedding, which are to be had at shops in all the sea-ports, made up in a suitable manner, and sold at moderate sums. Flannel waistcoats and drawers, too, should be provided for each passenger. Nor should any neglect to lay in a small stock of medicine, such as rhubarb, salts, cream of tartar and magnesia. These may become necessary for the preservation, not only of health, but of life. The change of situation, exercise, diet, &c. producing often a change in the system, which, without the judicious use of little correctives of this kind, might prove highly detrimental, or even fatal.

There are little delicacies, such as preserved fruit, eggs, &c. which would be highly grateful to the appetites of tender persons, and which, as the Captain cannot be expected, it would be well for such individuals to provide for themselves.

When a family, or a number of persons undertake a voyage together, a few pigs will be found an excellent resource for occasional fresh meat. Fowls, which many persons take, are very troublesome, and too tender to thrive on the voyage ; they sicken, and become very indifferant food.

But the steerage passenger will have to lay in a stock of provisions for the voyage, which he must calculate at two months, though it may be frequently accomplished in half the time. The articles which he will find useful and necessary, are hung beef, dried fish, ham, tongue, biscuits potatoes and porter : with tea, coffee, sugar and molasses, or treacle. Some tin, or other metal vessels will also be required to cook, and take his victuals from—glass and

earthenware being so subject to be broken. These articles may all be cheaply packed up in small hampers or butter-firkins, and sent on board the vessel, just before the expected time of sailing, with the name of the owner written thereon, and the word—STORES.

A few instructions for the conduct of passengers while at sea, may be found useful. The following are from Mr. Mellish's Travels :—

“ A short time after setting sail, the passengers generally become sea-sick. This complaint, though lightly esteemed, because not dangerous, is often very severe while it lasts, and, if treated improperly, it may cause a relaxation of the stomach, that will be very troublesome. While the sickness continues, people have an aversion to all kinds of food and drink ; many abstain from both three or four days. This is a bad plan. The stomach should never be allowed to get entirely empty. A little chicken broth, or water gruel, should be freely used ; and people should go upon deck as soon as possible. Breathing the foul air of the cabin or steerage promotes the disease ; whereas, exercise and free air on deck relieve it. A little soda-water will at this time be very exhilarating ; and, as soon as the stomach is so far relieved as to keep free from retching, a little Peruvian bark will be very beneficial as a restorative. Care should be taken to guard against costiveness, a very troublesome complaint at sea. Attention to diet and exercise will often prevent it ; but, when that fails, a little laxative medicine, such as rhubarb, cream of tartar, or castor oil, should be resorted to. [1]

“ When the weather is good, people should rise early.—The air of the cabin is not only affected by the respiration of the passengers, but is often contaminated by the bilge-water—while the sea air on deck is always pure and healthy. The breakfast hour at sea, is eight o'clock ; dinner one, and supper six or seven. It is a general rule amongst the passengers to have themselves washed and dressed before sitting down to breakfast. Betwixt breakfast and dinner, the time may be profitably employed in walking, reading, drawing, &c. ; and such as have a taste for navigation will have a good opportunity for practical improvement, as they can have access to the log-book ; and the captains and the mates are generally very obliging, in lending their navigation books and instruments to those who want them.

“ Temperance at table is necessary every where, and especially at sea, where the exercise is necessarily limited. Where wine is used, three or four glasses will generally be found more beneficial than a larger quantity, and people ought, on no account, to indulge themselves at table a whole afternoon, though it is frequently done. It is much better to take exercise in the open air on deck.

“ In the evening the company frequently amuse themselves at cards, backgammon, &c. ; these, when resorted to for amusement only, are rational and innocent enough : but, when the play is for money, they ought to be avoided.”

Little remains to be stated but what the good sense of every person would dictate. Passengers will do well to make all their preparations for their voyage, in good time, so that they may not be hurried into a forgetfulness of many articles they may afterwards find themselves greatly in need of, when their wants cannot be supplied. They should also be careful not to be absent at the sailing of the vessel in which they have taken their passage, and thereby lose it—a misfortune that occasionally happens, and one that might entail irreparable ruin on many an enterprising emigrant.

To render the passage agreeable as possible, by accommodating attention to the convenience and comfort of the other passengers, will be the duty and interest of all. The

author we have just quoted very sensibly observes, “ that, generally speaking, people’s happiness is very much in their own power. A suavity of manners, and an obligingly civil deportment, are calculated to secure the esteem of mankind ; and when things are not exactly as we could wish them to be, it will add to our own comfort to take them as we find them.”

Arrival in the United States

Having proceeded thus far, as we trust, in the safe conduct of our charge,—having furnished the Emigrant with a brief, yet comprehensive view of society, of trade, manufactures and agriculture in the United States ; having recommended to his consideration a sober estimate of the advantages and disadvantages to be expected from a settlement in those countries, and suggested the requisite precautions, and most prudent course of proceeding on the part of those who determine to remove thither, our duty leads us to a new scene, in which, if the emigrant be careful to act on a wise and prudent plan, he will have every moral assurance of a prosperous and happy termination of his enterprise.

The Emigrant, from the inland parts of the old country he is about to leave, has been apprized of the various errors into which the inexperienced are likely to fall, and put on his guard against several practices in the sea-port towns, for the purpose of stripping him of his money.—Human life, at least every situation in it that is valuable, is but a series of temptations, of difficulties and of dangers,—whilst virtue and manliness consist in a watchful and prudent resistance of the first—in a wise removal, or a conquest of the second—and in a calm and dignified encounter with all that is unavoidable in the last. New temptations, new difficulties, and new dangers await the enterprise we are conducting, on our approach towards its termination, and the editor is desirous of awakening the mind of the emigrant to a proper sense of them, in order that he may overcome them, and finally reap the reward of his prudence and exertions.

On landing at the wished-for port, the stranger-emigrant may expect to be met by unprincipled individuals, similar to those he has left behind him. For although America every where furnishes a plentiful, easy and happy life, to all who are able and willing to make themselves useful, like every other country, it contains idle, dissolute and rapacious schemers, who have no relish for honourable industry, and who exist only by making a prey of the heedless and the indulgent. Against this species of devourers the emigrant has now to guard himself, and this may be a less difficult task than those he will have previously encountered. In the country he may have left behind him, it is no easy course to resist the pleadings of hunger and wretchedness that every where assault one ; bankruptcy and want, too, may be the lot of many meritorious individuals, in the lands of taxation and oppression from which he is escaping, and the prudence and energies requisite to enable a man to rally, and to recover himself under the pressure, is more than can be expected in many individuals. Considerations of this kind have a tendency to soften the heart, and leave it open to the practices of imposture. But in America, where all who will work, can live well ; and, where all who cannot work, and who are without provision of their own, are comfortably provided for, there is no occasion for the indulgence of any such feeling ; and the stranger will do well to spurn from him, without ceremony, every attempt to excite his compassion. But the emigrant, on landing, will be approached by but few in the character of beggars ; the most dangerous assailants will be those who come under the guise of friends. Is he a labourer or mechanic ? they can find him employment, but, previously, they must take a glass together.—Does he want to purchase foods? his new friends can supply him, or recommend him to the best stores.—Is he a farmer ? lands are recommended to him on terms the most promising.—Or, should he have money ? they are acquainted with the best possible means of disposing of it, in loans or purchases—Or, has he goods to dispose of ? they can find him customers. And

thus, under one shape or other, is the incautious emigrant to be stripped of his property, and plundered of what is quite as valuable—his time.

The prudent emigrant will decline all such ready offers of service ; and, if he be not fortunate enough to have friends at the place of his landing, ready to receive him, he will be cautious with whom he deals. For the government of his immediate and future conduct, he will find much valuable information and advice in the following pages, which have been collected with considerable care from various sources. Entering on an entirely new scene, “ the world all before him,” on his present conduct depends, in all probability, the prosperity or adversity of his future life. A little further exercise of his discernment and caution, may now be all that is required to ensure a happy settlement for himself, and for all that may be dependent on him.

For the purposes of greater clearness, and more easy reference, the succeeding information is classed under the different heads of “ *Information and Advice to Emigrants generally, especially to Mechanics and Labourers ; to Farmers and to Monied Men.*” But the Artizan, the Teacher, the Professor of Physic or of Law, together with the Trader or Merchant, will, it is presumed, find many useful hints interspersed through the work.

Information and Advice to EMIGRANTS generally,
particularly to
MECHANICS AND LABOURERS.

If a European have previously resolved to go to the western country, near the Alleghany or Ohio Rivers, he will have saved much expence and travelling by landing at Baltimore ; from thence to Pittsburgh, at the head of the Ohio, is not more than 200 miles direct, perhaps not more than 210 by the course of the road. A few days journey will bring him along a fine turnpike from Baltimore, nearly to Cumberland, in Alleghany county (Maryland) from whence the public road, begun by the United States, crosses the mountains, and is to touch the Ohio at Wheeling.—A smart fellow, in a little time, will reach Union, in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. Here is a flourishing county adjoining Green, Washington and Westmoreland, in either of which may be found almost every thing that is desirable, and a population hospitable and intelligent.—From Union to Pittsburgh is but a day’s journey. There one may ascend the Alleghany River to the Upper Countries ; or he may follow the current, and descend the Ohio to the State of that name, cross it to Indiana, or continue his voyage to Kentucky, He may proceed to the Mississippi River, and go up it to St. Louis, in the Missouri territory ; or he may proceed a little further up, and ascend the Illinois River, in the Illinois Territory. Such are the facilities of going by water *from Pittsburgh* to various parts of the west ; and those states and territories named, are among the most fertile in America.

From Philadeiphia to Pittsburgh is about 300 miles, chiefly through a fine, plentiful, and well cultivated country.

In the state of New York the advantages are great, whether we regard soil or situation, or roads, lakes and rivers. Few, if any of the States in the Union, have finer lands than the great western district of New York. It has risen exceedingly in a few years, and the price will be much encreased as soon as the intended canal, from Lakes Erie and Champlain, shall be completed. These most useful and magnificent works will probably be begun next summer, and afford for several years to come, to many thousands of industrious poor men, an opportunity of enriching themselves. If prudent, they may realize their earnings on the spot, and become proprietors, in fee, of landed estates in the beautiful country they shall have so much improved.

From no other city in the Atlantic can a person sooner reach the country, than by means of the Hudson, (N. York,) and the roads that branch from the towns on either of its banks. Lands of good quality may still be purchased, even in the midland parts of New York, at a reasonable rate.

Emigrants from Europe usually arrive here during summer, and, every thing considered, it is the best they should ; for, in the middle and eastern states, the winter is long, fuel very dear, and employment comparatively scarce in that season. In winter they will expend more, and earn less. But if arriving at this time bear more upon the pocket, the heats of summer are undoubtedly more trying to the health. In the Middle States, namely, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland, a northern European usually finds the climate intensely hot from about the middle of June until towards the first of October. The thermometer frequently ranges from 84 to 90, and sometimes above it, in the middle part of the day ; this, to a stranger who works in the open air, exposed to the burning sun, is certainly dangerous, and requires some precautions on his part.

First of all he should regulate his diet, and be temperate in the quantity of his food. The American labourer, or working mechanic, who has a better and more plentiful table than any man in the world of his class, is, for the most part a small eater, and we recommend his example. The European of the same condition, who receives meat or fish, and coffee at breakfast ; meat at dinner ; and meat or fish, and tea at supper, an abundance of animal food to which he was unaccustomed, insensibly falls into a state of too great repletion, or fullness, which exposes him to the worst kind of fever during the heats of summer and autumn. He should, therefore, be quite as abstemious in the quantity of food, as of strong drink ; and, in addition to this method of preventing sickness, he should take a dose of moderate physic, every now and then, especially in the hotter months of July and August. By this prudent course, an ardent climate will have no terrors, and after some residence here, he may preserve his health by regimen and exercise alone.

The labourer or mechanic should put off his ordinary clothes, and wear next his skin a loose flannel shirt, while he works : and it should be taken off again when he has done.

The stranger, as well as native, must be particularly careful not to drink cold water, after being heated by exposure to the sun or exercise—Sudden and severe pain at the stomach, and even death, are frequently the consequence of such imprudence. The Humane Society of the city of New York, has published the following directions to be observed in such cases : —

1st. Avoid drinking water while the body is heated, or during profuse perspiration.

2d. Wash the hands and face with cold water before drinking.

3d. If these precautions have been neglected, and cramps or convulsions have been induced, let a tea-Spoonful of laudanum be given immediately in a cup of spirits and water, and repeat the dose in half an hour if necessary.

4th. At the same time apply hot fermentations of spirit and water to the stomach and bowels, and to the lower extremities, covering the body with a blanket ; or immerse the body in a warm bath, if it can be immediately obtained.

5th. Inject into the bowels a pint of warm spirit and water, mixed in the proportion of one part of the former to two of the latter.

Do you ask by this time, with a view to the ordinary business of life,—What is America? What sort of people may expect to succeed in it? The immortal Franklin has answered these questions—“America is the land of labour!” But it is, emphatically, the best country on earth for those who will labour. By industry they can earn more wages here than elsewhere in the world.—Our governments are frugal, they demand few taxes; so that the earnings of the poor man are left to enrich himself; they are nearly all his own, and not expended on kings and their satellites.

Idlers are out of their element here, and the being who is technically called a man of rank in Europe, is despicable in North America. He must become a useful member of society, or he will find no society; he will be shunned by all decent people. Franklin, whose sage counsel is the best that can be given or observed, has said, that it is not advisable for a person to come hither, “who has no other quality to recommend him but his birth. In Europe, indeed, it may have its value, but it is a commodity which cannot be carried to a worse market than that of America, where people do not enquire concerning a stranger, *What is he?* but *What can he do?* If he has any useful art, he is welcome, and if he exercise it, and behave well, he will be respected by all who know him. The husbandman is in honour here, and so is the mechanic, because their employments are useful.” “And the people,” he adds, have a saying, that ‘God Almighty is himself a mechanic, the greatest in the universe.’ Franklin further illustrates the generality of industrious habits by the negroe’s observation, That the white man makes the black man work, the horses work, the oxen work, and everything work except the hog, which alone walks about, goes to sleep when he pleases, and lives *like a gentleman*.

“The only encouragements we hold out to strangers are, a good climate, fertile soil, wholesome air and water, plenty of provisions, good pay for labour, kind neighbours, good laws, a free government, and a hearty welcome. The rest depends on a man’s own industry and virtue.”

It would be very prudent for new comers, especially labourers or farmers, to go into the country without delay, as they will save both money and time by it, and avoid several inconveniences of a sea-port town. By spending some time with an American farmer, in any capacity, they will learn the method of tillage, or working a plantation, peculiar to this country. No time can be more usefully employed than a year in this manner. In that space, any smart active man can learn how woodland may be cleared, how cleared land is managed; he will acquire some knowledge of crops and their succession, of usages and customs that ought to be known, and perhaps save something into the bargain. Many European Emigrants who brought money with them have heretofore taken this wise course, and found it greatly to their advantage; for, at the end of the year, they knew what to do with it. They had learned the value of lands in old settlements and near the frontiers, the prices of labour, cattle and grain, and were ready to begin the world with ardour and confidence. Multitudes of poor people, from Ireland, Scotland and Germany, have, by these means, together with industry and frugality, become wealthy farmers, or, as they are called in Europe, *estated men*; who, in their own countries, where all the lands are fully occupied, and the wages of labour low, could never have emerged from the condition wherein they were born.

In the west of Pennsylvania, there is a custom which the farmers there call *cropping*, and which is as beneficial to the owner as to the tiller of the ground, in the present state of this country.—The cropper performs the labour of the plantation, as spring and fall ploughings, sowing, harrowing, or other work, and receives a certain share of the crop, as agreed on, for his pains.—But he must be an expert farmer before he can undertake, or be intrusted with the working of the farm. None but a poor man undertakes it, and that only till he can save money to buy land of his own.

It is invariably the practice of the American, and well suited to his love of independence, to purchase a piece of land as soon as he can, and cultivate his own farm, rather than live at wages. It is equally in the power of an emigrant to do the same, after a few years of labour and economy. From that moment he secures all the means of happiness. He has a sufficiency of fortune without being exempt from moderate labour ; he feels the comfort of independence, and has no fear of poverty in his old age.—He is invested with the powers, as well as the rights, of a freeman, and may, in all cases, without let or apprehension, exercise them according to his judgment. He can afford to his children a good education, and knows that he has thereby provided for their wants. Prospects open to them far brighter than were his own ; and, in seeing all this, he is surely blest.

Industrious men never need lack employment in America. Labourers, Carpenters, Masons, Bricklayers, Stone-cutters, Blacksmiths, Turners, Weavers, Farmers, Curriers, Tailors, and Shoe-makers, and the useful mechanics generally, are always sure of work and wages ; Stone-cutters now receive in this city (New York) two dollars a day, equal to nine shillings sterling ; Carpenters, one dollar and eighty-seven and a half cents. ; Bricklayers, two dollars ; Labourers, from one dollar to one and a quarter ; others in proportion ; At this time, (July, 1816,) House-carpenters, Bricklayers, Masons and Stone-cutters, are paid three dollars per day, in Petersburg, Virginia. The town was totally consumed by fire about a year since, but it is now rising from its ashes with more elegance than ever ; Mechanics will find ample employment there for, perhaps, two years to come.

Artisans receive better pay in America than in Europe, and can live with less exertion, and more comfort ; because they put an additional price on their work equal to the cost of freight and commission charged by the merchant on importations. But there are not many of the laborious classes whom we would advise to reside or even loiter in great towns, because as much will be spent during a long winter as can be made through a toilsome summer, so that a man may be kept a moneyless drudge for life. But this is not, perhaps, the worst : he is tempted to become a tippler, by the cheapness and plenty of liquors, and then his prospects are blasted for ever. In few countries is drunkenness more despised than in this. The drunkard is viewed as a person socially dead, shut out from decent intercourse, shunned, despised, or abhorred. The pernicious habit is to be guarded against as scrupulously for political as moral considerations.

It is the opinion of some judicious men, that though persons newly arrived ought to go without loss of time into the country, yet it would not be prudent for them to retire all at once to the remote parts of the west ; that they ought to stop nearer the sea-board, and learn a little of the mode of doing business. Perhaps this, in some instances may be advisable, but we think that young men, whose habits are not fixed, cannot post too speedily to the fine regions beyond the Alleghany. The labourer, however, will find great difference between them and Europe in every thing. The man who was accustomed to the spade, must now use the axe ; he who used to dig ditches, must learn to maul rails and make fences. These are extremes that must be met ; and the sooner, perhaps, the better.

Mr. Birkbeck, in his late valuable work on America, observes,—“ I am fully convinced that those who are not screwed up to the full pitch of enterprize, had better remain in Old England, than attempt agriculture, or business of any kind (manual operations excepted) in the Atlantic states. Emigrants from Europe are too apt to linger in the eastern cities, wasting their time, their money, and their resolution. They should push out westward without delay, where they can live cheaply until they fix themselves. Two dollars, saved in Pennsylvania, will purchase an acre of good land in the Illinois.

“ The land carriage from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, Is from seven to ten dollars per cwt. (100lb.) clothing, razors, pocket-knives, pencils, mathematical instruments, and light articles in general, of constant usefulness, ought to be carried even at this expence ; and books, which are scarce, and much wanted in the west. Good gun-locks are rare, and difficult to procure. No heavy implements will pay carriage.

“ A pocket compass is indispensable for every stranger who ventures alone into the woods of America, and he should always carry the means of lighting a fire : for the traveller, when he starts in the morning on a wilderness journey, little knows where next he may lay his head.—Tow, rubbed with gunpowder, is good tinder ; a few biscuits, a phial of spirits, a tomahawk, and a good blanket, are necessary articles. Overtaken by night, or bewildered, if thus provided, you may be really comfortable by your blazing fire,—when, without them, you would feel dismal and disconsolate. A dog is a pleasant and useful fellow-traveller in the back woods. You should make your fire with a fallen tree for a back log, and lie to leeward, with your feet towards it. The smoke flying over, will preserve you from the damp air and the mosquitoes. Tie your horse with a long rein to the end of a bough, or the top of a young hickory tree, which will allow him to graze or browse ; and change his position if you awake in the night.”

The Editor cannot better conclude this branch of his subject, than by the insertion of the following passages, from two letters, written by emigrants from Great Britain. In addition to other information which they contain, they are well calculated to introduce the reader to a further acquaintance with the western country, the condition and manners of its inhabitants, and the course to be pursued in forming a settlement.

To the kindness of a friend, the Editor is indebted for the first letter, which is dated from Marietta, January 1st, 1818. The latter is from the second volume of Mr. Mellish’s Travels, a work to which he has before confessed his obligations. The good sense and valuable information with which this letter abounds, does much more than compensate for any defect in the arrangement of the matter of which it is composed ; it is, therefore, given without alteration.

From the first letter—“ This country is new, and only settling, we cannot easily get every luxury and convenience as in England ; whatever trade a man may have, I should advise him, if he cannot make his own tools, to bring them with him.”

“ —————The country is new, and a great part of it in wood, though the land is excellent, producing capital potatoes, pumpkins, mellons, cabages, onions, cucumbers, and culinary herbs and roots in abundance, without dung or any force whatever ; likewise all kinds of grain, such as Indian corn, averaged at from 40 to 60 bushells on a statute acre ; barley, wheat, and excellent rye, such as I never saw before for goodness.

“ Yet before you can raise these things, the land must be cleared of it’s timber, and you have to buy your food until you can raise it yourself. The price of clearing land, if you hire it done, is about ten dollars per acre, to clear the brush-wood, and fence it in. The price of the land, with an indisputable title, is only two dollars per acre.”

After enumerating the prices of provisions of various sorts, which in this plentiful country are low, as might be expected,—while those of manufactured articles, as cloths of all kinds, hardware and earthenware, are at high prices, the writer proceeds :

“ I have not yet seen a beggar, nor any one asking alms, nor heard of a single theft. In the country, there is not one house, I think, in twenty, that has either lock or bar on its door. The

inhabitants are exceedingly good neighbours, and when we are on a journey, and dark comes on, we take up our quarters in the first house we come to, and are accommodated with the best it affords. When we ask if there is any thing to pay, they tell us, ‘ We must do to others, as they have done to us.’ ”

Lexington, (Kentucky,) Nov.4th, 1813.

Dear Friends and Countrymen,

I received your's of the 6th of July, and what follows will, I hope, be a satisfactory answer to all your queries. The general price of land here, at it's first settlement. Is from two to three dollars. Land sold by Congress is two dollars, to be paid in five years.—The manner of clearing is to cut down all the timber below a foot thick, and to notch the heavy timber all round : thus the growth is stopped, and, the land being every year laboured, the roots gradually die, and are torn out ; so that, in a few years, the whole field is cleared. Unless what is used in fencing and building, and fuel, and such purposes, all the wood is burnt upon the ground. In the most of places, wood is no more thought of than heath and rushes are with you.—Two men, who are ordinarily expert at hewing wood, can easily, in two months, clear as much land as will produce food sufficient for the support of a family of six or eight for a whole year. It is usual for those who bring families to settle, to rent a house and a piece of clear land for a year or so, till they have time to look about them, make a convenient purchase, and get a house of their own raised. The first houses which are built upon a plantation, are usually raised in little more than a week or two. They are, indeed, not very elegant ; but they do very well for a year or so, till the family has time to build a better. The people are every where exceedingly kind and obliging to new comers, and render them all the comfort and assistance in their power : they have all once known, in their own case, what it is to be strangers. There are at no times any thing like a market for produce, such as that in the old country, but there is always some little market, sometimes better, and sometimes worse. The situation of society, however, is such, that very little cash is needed. Every family who has the least industry, may, after the second or third year, easily raise within itself almost every thing that is necessary. Salt and iron, and the taxes of government (which are by no means heavy), are almost the only things for which men need to give money. Men's persons and properties are here as safe as in any part of the world ; while liberty, civil and religious, is fully enjoyed ; law and justice are strictly and impartially executed. Snakes, and such like, are here no more dangerous than in Carnwath muir. In all my wanderings, I have not seen above half a dozen snakes, nor met with many more who have been bit by them. When any are bit by them, they have always a simple and efficacious cure at hand. Indians, where they are to be seen, are equally harmless. Unless it is along some of the large rivers, where the people are, at certain seasons, liable to the fever and ague, the country is every where healthy? the people in general live as long, and are subject to as few diseases as they are in Scotland. The weather, in the summer, is considerably hotter than it is at home ; but neither I, nor my partner, have found it the least disagreeable. We have only worn our clothes a little lighter, and have kept in the house, or the shade, a few hours, while it was hottest. To be out in the evenings and mornings is most delightful.—A brewer or a smith along with you will be a valuable acquisition ; each of these branches can be carried on with considerable profit. I could fill sheets in praise of the country, but there is nothing like fact. I am acquainted with hundreds who came here within these 20 years, with nothing more than a sound constitution and an industrious disposition, who have raised large families, and are now living in ease and affluence. I would recommend unto you to come and settle upon EAGLE CREEK, ADAMS COUNTY, STATE OF OHIO, about 100 miles nearer you than Lexington. In that quarter there is plenty of good vacant land. The length of the journey there is, from Philadelphia or Baltimore to Pittsburgh 300 miles, then about as much by water down the river Ohio. In preparing for such a long more, dispose of every thing you have, except your body and bed-clothes. The latter end of July, or the begin-

ning; of August, is the best time for you to set sail. If the war continue, take an American bottom. It makes very little matter whether you sail for Baltimore or Philadelphia. If you cannot find a convenient passage for one of these, Newcastle or Wilmington, or some other place on the Delaware river, is the next best shift. In packing up your clothes, it will be much to your advantage to have them put into as light trunks, or chests, as possible, and to pack them very hard.

—————There are waggons continually passing from these parts to Pittsburg ; make the best bargain you can with one or more of these waggons to carry your women and children, and the men of you may travel on foot. Set off in company with one of these carriers' waggons.—You will usually travel about twenty miles a-day. When you pass market-towns, purchase a little provision for yourselves and horses. When you have advanced about 60 or 100 miles, the road will grow rougher, which will likely render it necessary to purchase one or two more horses.—By this time you will have fallen in with other families in the same situation with yourselves. You will find the people every where very freely disposed to ask every thing, and tell you every thing. The sooner you get into their manner, it will be the more advantage to you ; but be always on your guard against knaves. You will find a great many difficulties and inconveniences, but with a good spirit, and an indulgent Heaven, everything becomes easy. Your expences will depend a great deal on little incidents, which human eye cannot foresee.

—————I don't think it will suit men in your situation, to lay out any of your money in speculation upon trading articles ; but you may consult with the merchants in Greenock. You must like-wise observe to have the money you bring into America changed into dollars or gold coin. Take care and secure your liquors well, else the sailors will use it as common stock.—If any of you are skilled in music, a fiddle, or some such instrument, to raise the spirits, will be a valuable piece of furniture. Keep as much above deck as possible.—I commend you all to the care of the God of Abraham, who went out not knowing whither ; and remain, dear brethren,

ROBERT HAMILTON BISHOP.

[1] To these preventives and remedies, the Editor cannot omit to press on the attention of his readers, the vast importance of a prompt obedience to the calls of nature in this particular, whether at sea or on shore. A periodical habit, in this respect, is most desirable ; and may, like most other habits, be acquired by a little care. For want of this, numerous individuals suffer all their lives, and ultimately fall the victims of diseases, which their constitutions would otherwise Have resisted or cast off.

The emigrants guide to the United States of America ; including the substance of the Journal of Thomas Hulme (1818)

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