

Emigrants Manual 1832

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Manual of Emigrants to America

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Erroneous impressions and romantic expectations of Europeans respecting America—and a declaration of the general purpose of this volume.

Erroneous impressions on this subject are of two opposite classes, and many of them resting in the remotest extremes. And they have been produced, very naturally, by ungenerous misrepresentations on the one hand, and by too high and extravagant praise on the other.

Of those who have been guilty of misrepresentation, there are at least two principal classes : *First*, those who have gone to America with visionary schemes and extravagant expectations, and, perhaps, with no commendable views, and who, of course, have been disappointed, and returned to discharge themselves of their ill-natured spleen, by traducing the country and the people, their state of society, and all their institutions. Not being, perhaps, sufficiently accredited by their letters, or wanting in personal recommendations, or having a taste only for low company and low things, they have necessarily been excluded from the higher conditions and nobler sympathies of society, and qualified themselves to describe only the worst features of the worst things. For the misrepresentations of this class, there is some show of apology : they were as naturally incapable, as they were morally indisposed to do better. Such writers of travels in America, or in whatever form they have addressed themselves to the public, are easily recognised. I will not name them.

Of the second class of traducers, are those travellers, for whom the apology cannot be pleaded,—that they were so unqualified for correct observation ;—who have been well accredited both by their connexions in life and by their manners—who have received all the advantages and comforts of American hospitality, and who, notwithstanding, and for various reasons, have had sufficient interest to violate the laws of gratitude, and become the abusers of those, who had shown them all convenient kindness. Neither will I name these. They are already sufficiently conspicuous.

Again : The natural propensity of the human mind to extravagant statements has too frequently been indulged, on the other hand, by the too high colourings and unwarranted praise of things found in America, by emigrants from Europe, who have happened to be pleased and to do well, and who have wished to present sufficient motives to induce their family connexions and friends to follow them. Especially has this been the case, where the recollections of the unequal state of society in Europe, and of the disadvantages they had suffered on that account, have awakened their strongest feelings, and kindled their love of liberty and equality into a passion. All their recollections of what they have left behind are associated, perhaps, with pain ; while all that they now enjoy, by comparison, gives new being to their affections, and unwonted power to their imaginations. It is as impossible for them to write to their friends on this side of the Atlantic without extravagant praise, as for the ill-natured or purchased libeller to write without detraction and extravagant censure. Neither the one nor the other are to be trusted. The truth lies between them.

If there is not sufficient motive for emigration from Europe to America by a knowledge of the exact truth, then it is unquestionably better, that those who are meditating this change under romantic expectation, should be undeceived before they are disappointed in having gone too far to retrace their steps. On the other hand, it is due to those who, under the inducements of fair representation, would naturally decide to go to America—it is due to truth—it is due to America herself, and to her States, that the misrepresentations of the interested, or of the ungenerous and malicious, should be corrected, and that America should be exhibited in her own naked and undisguised forms, in all that she is—for all that is worthy, as for all that is unworthy—for all that is inviting, as for all that is uninviting. For some (for *many*, probably) there are sufficient inducements, well founded, to emigrate to America. For others, there is little, or no inducement. The motives depend upon the various considerations of station, rank, amount of wealth ; the kind of business, trade, or profession which any one is pursuing, and his comparative prospects of success in either country ; his family connexions, difficulties of removal, &c. &c. His religion also, his partialities for one form of government rather than another, and a regard to the comparative and general state of society, will all naturally come into the reckoning. And he ought to have such *data* before him—he is fairly entitled to such information, if it can be had—as may enable him to settle all and each of these questions, and every other appertaining to his interest on this subject, not only to his present full conviction and satisfaction, but, if possible, so that he may never have occasion to repent of his decision, whichever way it be.

These data and this information, in all their variety, and as suited to the most natural inquiries of all classes, trades, and professions, who are meditating emigration to America, it is the conscientious purpose of the author to give in the following pages ; and which he will endeavour to do, according to the best of his ability, and the means of knowledge, of which he has had opportunity to be possessed, and by the additional helps which may come within his reach. And it may, perhaps, be proper for the author here to say, as a reason why he ought to be in some degree qualified to speak upon this subject :—that besides having access to the great variety of published records and documents, which have fallen from the English and American press, in relation to these inquiries, he has personally visited both the Canadas, and travelled over most of the United States and territories, within a few years past, and has consequently enjoyed opportunities of making himself minutely acquainted with the physical character of the different portions of North America, of the relative advantages of one part over another, of the manners and customs of the people, and the state of society in different regions ; of the public improvements actually executed, or in progress, or projected ; and of such other facts as are important to be noticed for the information of emigrants. He has travelled extensively in the great Valley of the Mississippi, which is now so much the object of attention, and which is so rapidly peopling, not only by emigrants from Europe, if they have the resolution to accommodate themselves to the new circumstances, which may reasonably be expected in such a change. There is encouragement and necessity for all the common and useful arts of life. It is a country in which any honest man may prosper, and be useful and happy.

The particular Classes of Persons to whom the United States hold out the strongest inducements for Emigration—And the best methods of executing the purpose.

It may be deemed quite unnecessary to say, that America holds out more encouragements to the farmer, or agriculturist, to the cultivator of the earth, than to any other class. It presents wide and yet untenanted regions of the richest, most productive soils. I say, soils—because they are of great variety, and adapted to every species of agricultural and pastoral pursuits. And, for these purposes, it is a country equally inviting to the poor and to the rich. To the poor—because, if he can have a little money at the end of his journey, he can enter immediately upon the possession and culture of a territory, greater or smaller, according to his means, which he may call his own—of which he is the lord. Or, if he has no money, with

industry he may soon earn it, and appropriate his gains to the object he has in view. It is not good, however, for those who are entirely destitute, to emigrate to America, simply because they are destitute. Nor is it kind to send them out, unprovided with suitable advice and protection. Their courage is liable to fail them, when they find themselves in a strange land, labouring under all the disadvantages of poverty—and the chances are, that they will not better their condition. They do not know how to manage—and are accustomed either to associate with the miserable dregs of large towns, or to sell their services on the public works, where the society is little better ; and all their wages are ordinarily squandered in vice. There is no object towards which the bounty of an European Government, which is willing to part with its superabundant poor, could better be appropriated, than seeing them well established in the country to which they are advised to emigrate. And they ought to consider themselves morally bound to do it. It is cruel—it is inhuman—it is a crying sin—first, to make their subjects poor, by a bad political economy, and then to throw them off from their hands into a worse condition, and perhaps to perish by their own improvidence. For, if they are incapable of taking care of themselves, it is not to be expected that America, or any other part of the world, will tax themselves to support the poor of a foreign nation.

And I cannot forbear in this place to observe and to suggest, that here is open one of the noblest fields for the display of the kindness of rich and wealthy emigrants from Europe to America—and an opportunity, which may be made to turn to their own profitable account, as well as to the advantage of those who are the objects of their benevolence. Let every wealthy emigrant, or an association of such men, collect the honest and industrious poor about them—let them set up a standard and beat for recruits on kind and generous terms ;—and, when they have found enough for a little colony, let them take these families and these individuals under their protection and guidance, and pass over the Atlantic, and penetrate into some of the vacant Territories of the West, and there plant themselves, with their grateful and happy *proteges* around them. And if, in this way, they do not realize some of the pleasures of doing good, at the same time that they are promoting their own interests, it will only be because they have no benevolence. They may not only enlarge their own estates, but they may secure the wealth and independence of the poor. If associations of this sort were sufficiently large in the outset—(and it is evident they might be formed to any extent) all the elements of a good and substantial community, with the means of intellectual and moral culture, and not excepting the refinements and luxuries of the best conditions of society, might be transferred at once from the heart of an European State, into the wilderness of North America. Such an association might, and by all means ought to take along with them the ministry and ordinances of Christianity ; for no community can flourish without them.

This plan has been executed to a considerable extent by emigrants from the Eastern portions of the United States to the West. And in this way the otherwise formidable disadvantages of the new settlements have been greatly relieved. In this way *society itself*, in its forms of complete organization, *migrates*. And it is evident, that there is no impracticability in this. And certainly it is wisest and best. Religion, literature, refinement, and all the best things of a well organized community, and all the means of sustaining them—an enlightened public opinion in constant and active operation, by the habitual interchange of the accustomed sympathies of the association—all travel on together, and take up their abode in the wilderness, without ever being obliged to feel, that it is a wilderness. After this manner the first Colonies of America were founded. So William Penn laid the foundation of the Colony and city of Philadelphia. And what a spectacle do those Colonies and those Cities now exhibit to the world ! And there is yet room for ever so many Colonies, and for ever so many Cities, in the vast regions of the West of North America—and with this advantage, that a wise and salutary Government is already established in thorough operation, where all the securities of property, of personal liberty, and the rights of conscience are fully and effectually guaranteed. Colonies of this description have not now to wait for generations, as formerly, under a dark cloud of dubious prospects—but they may instantly rise into importance, turn their energies

to immediate account, and in a very short period display both a physical and a moral grandeur to the world around them. For an illustration of this truth—look at the present condition and prospects of the City of Cincinnati, on the Ohio, and of many other Cities, and towns, and rising settlements, which lie scattered over the bosom of the Valley of the Mississippi.

The Germans and other nations of the European Continent seem to understand the advantages of emigrating in *groups*, or small Colonies by association, better than the English, or the Americans themselves. And they are now annually pouring these associated masses into the Mississippi Valley. I happened in the summer of 1830 to pass, in company with one of these Colonies of Germans, across Lake Erie in a steam-boat. The principal, or Chief, was a well-educated gentleman, of large estate, himself and family evidently accustomed to all the refinements of the best society in Germany. He had himself gone before, made his purchase of land in the State of Ohio, returned to Germany, disposed of his estates there, and was now on his way, with his family, and some scores of the native and hardy German peasantry, under his protection and guidance—himself the patriarch of the interesting and happy group, all looking to him, as their chief and father. Such an association did not leave their home—they carried it with them. There was no breaking up of families—no separation of parents and children. And, notwithstanding their long voyage across the Atlantic and up to this place, they seemed as happy on board of the steamer on the waters of the Lake, as if they had been sitting by their own fire-sides in Germany. And I have no doubt, that they are happy still in their new abode, surrounded with cheering circumstances created by their own hands, and looking forward to the most cheering prospects. And this is doubtless one of the happiest modes of emigration. Let others of the rich and wealthy, if they wish to do good, go and do likewise. They may make the poor independent and happy, and themselves richer and wealthier still. While the older communities of Europe seem to have arrived at their *ne plus ultra* of advancement, until some unknown and yet dubious changes in their forms are effected—*there*, in the Mississippi Valley, these enterprising emigrants may identify and ally themselves and their posterity with a rising and rapidly extending community, which seems destined, in human view, to a career of unexampled prosperity and importance.

Akin to agricultural enterprise, although of minor and comparatively trivial importance in America, it may be proper here to mention, that persons accustomed and skilled in *horticulture*, may find abundant encouragement in the neighbourhood of large Cities and Commercial Towns of the United States. In the interior of the country horticulture is more a matter of taste, than of profit, in its highest perfection—and of course is not so much an object, except as people become independent and wealthy. European gardeners are ordinarily better than Americans—and in the vicinity of large towns may always find employment. But this is reckoned *small* business in America, and would rarely satisfy the aspirations of a mind, coveting the importance of a personal independence.

All the various arts of manufacture, which are too numerous to specify, are annually and daily coming into greater importance in the United States. And it is scarcely possible to mention any species of those arts, for which there is not a very ample and generous encouragement—both for those, who wish to be employed in the use of their own hands, and for those who have capital and skill to set up and superintend such establishments. European manufacturers are always preferred in America, if they are honest and skilful, and they may expect a generous patronage. The greater perfection of these arts in Europe, as a general fact, give European emigrants, who are skilled in them, an advantage. With emigrants of this description. New England, or the Eastern States, claim the first attention—and the middle and Western States also are constantly presenting additional encouragements. The necessary and best information on these topics will be found upon the premises—that is, after the emigrants have arrived in the United States, if they can afford to look round, and visit different places—which is always desirable, in order to make the most advantageous selection.

Mechanics, of every description, and all persons skilled in the useful arts, have a reasonable share of encouragement in the cities, towns, and over the wide country of the United States. The *Fine Arts* are to a considerable extent appreciated, although they do not receive so much patronage in America, as in Europe. It is a sufficient apology—that the people there have not so much time and wealth to devote to them. The country is too young, and the growth of society too immature, to have developed the highest attainments in those arts, which have never flourished but in the oldest communities. America, however, presents one of the finest openings, in the history of man, for the exercise of these talents, and for the formation of this character.

Those who have capital to invest in trade and commerce, and who wish to devote themselves to these objects, in any of their branches, have the wide country, with all its towns and cities before them. But they should also be apprised, that all the centres of active commerce, and all places of profitable trade, are always crowded with competitors. And success in such business in every market must of course depend upon certain adventitious advantages, which no writer on this part of the economy of human life, can either prescribe, or predict, or secure to those, who choose to engage in it. It is a sort of lottery, always having more blanks than prizes. And there are few large commercial towns in the world, where the Courts of Bankruptcy do not record more names, than do the funded securities of those who have acquired independent wealth by trade.

Those, if there be any, who might wish to retire to the United States to live upon the income of their inherited, or acquired estates, may have a great choice in the numerous banking and other monied institutions of the country, for the safe and profitable investment of their funds. There is probably no other country where the investment of funds is equally safe, or more productive, than in the United States. The proof of this lies in the fact, that the enlightened capitalists of Europe are always eager to embrace opportunities for the investment of money in the American funds. On this subject there can reasonably be no embarrassment, and no hesitation, for want of safe investment. And those, who have money, can of course choose their residence, in town or country, and enjoy all the advantages of society, and every luxury of life, that can be found in Europe.

Of the *learned professions*—of law, medicine, and theology. I could not honestly say, all things considered, that there are strong motives to emigration from Great Britain to America, for either of these classes. Emigration from the continent of Europe to America, for the practice of these professions, is of course ordinarily out of the question, on account of a different native tongue. The common law of the United States is indeed substantially the same as the common law of the British Empire. And the codes of Statutes are also as similar as local circumstances, and the discrepancy in the nature of the institutions of the Government, would allow. The *genius* of American and a English law is *one*. But, after all, he who has got into the practice of law in England, with the prospect of rising through the grades of his profession, I should imagine, would find slender motives, except in extraordinary circumstances, for a transfer of his professional relations and practice to the United States. This profession there is already crowded and overrun by native aspirants.

But those gentlemen need no information from me.

The *medical profession* in popular language, in America, comprehends *surgery*—the *entire* art of treating the animal economy of man for its health and preservation, under all the accidents to which it is liable. The profession itself of course recognises the same distinctions, that exist in England, and these distinctions are ordinarily maintained in the cities and larger towns. But, for country and general practice in the United States, medicine and surgery are both united, for the reason, that there is not ordinarily practice enough to sustain them separ-

ately. I mention this merely to show the qualifications, that would be necessary for the use of this profession in the United States. And if it is expected of me to give an opinion, whether there are encouragements for the emigration of physicians and surgeons from England to America, I do not honestly think, they are very inviting. If they are not very skilful, there are enough of such already ; or, if they *are* skilful, they will still meet in every part of the country a host of competitors. The United States, especially all the large towns and principal villages, swarm with *lawyers* and *doctors*. Still, however, a man of professional excellence and of character, may find a place, and a share of patronage.

And as for the *ministers of religion*, it is not so necessary, that they should be able to demonstrate an apostolical descent, through a legitimate *Episcopal* line, as that they should possess, and evince to the public, a truly apostolic *spirit*—if they would prosper in the United States of America. And having obtained public favour, by the proof of their Christian virtues and ministerial qualifications, they must be contented with a moderate competency and the kind affections of the people, whom they serve. For the people of the United States, although respectful and affectionate towards a pure and worthy ministry—as much so probably as any Christian community, have yet by some means inherited from their fathers such a jealous watchfulness over their spiritual guides—have from some quarter received such a deep rooted conviction, that money is the *bane* of a Christian ministry ;—that so far as themselves are concerned, they take good care that their ministers shall never become rich. And to their credit it must also be said, as equally true, that so long and so far as the ministers of religion are pure and faithful, neither they, nor their families, are ever allowed to suffer the inconveniences of want. The people are always willing that their ministers should live even better than themselves, taking the middle ranks of life as a standard. But they do not like to see them living in splendour.

It is matter of fact, as might be presumed, that the rapid increase of population in the United States has created the urgent necessity of a corresponding increase of the ministers of religion. And as worldly motives do not operate to crowd this profession, as those of law and medicine, the present and prospective wants of the people, as to the offices of the Christian ministry, throughout the country, more especially for the great Valley of the West, have been and still are a subject of deep solicitude among those, who know (as every body ought to know and feel) that the adequate maintenance of Christian ordinances, and consequently of a Christian morality, is the only security for private and public virtue, and for the permanency of such a government as that of the United States. The Mississippi Valley is seen to be rapidly filling up with a population, which to a great extent is unprovided with any stated ministrations of the Gospel. And as far as there is any present apparent dubiousness, as to the future fate of that growing community, it arises from this alarming circumstance. I cannot, however, honestly think, that the ministers of religion, educated in Great Britain, and with all the habits and feelings which must be the result of their former relations in society and modes of life, are well fitted to enter upon such a peculiar and self-denying field of labour, as the Valley of the Mississippi. Not that I would detract from their virtue. But, if they have families, those families must be provided for. And it must be evident, that none, but the young and enterprising, and those who are little or not at all encumbered with families, can enter upon such a field most advantageously and most efficiently. That ground, apparently, can be cultivated only by native ministers of the United States, who know how to appreciate such circumstances, and who can more easily accommodate themselves to the necessities of such a condition. And the attention of the Christian world in America is now particularly directed towards this object.

As a general truth, it may be said :—There is much room and great demand, in the United States, for the labours of a Christian ministry, of all the principal Protestant denominations. But if any of this profession in Great Britain meditate a removal to that country for *good livings*, it is no more than fair to inform them that *good livings* for ministers of the Gospel in

the United States, are rare endowments, and bestowed only upon men of superior talents. Or if they indulge this purpose *indefinitely* yet *practically*, for a better worldly maintenance, they should think *twice* before they have resolved to go. And one of the inquiries proper to be made is this, Whether the same reasons, which make their support slender and inadequate *here*, would not be likely to subject them to the same disadvantages *there*.

To all ministers of the Gospel, who think of emigrating to America, it may be said :— Take the Missionary staff and coat, and be content to work on earth for a reward in heaven.

The best way of getting to the United States, and to different parts of them—Some General Estimates of the Expenses, with Advice as to the species of Property it may be well to take along.

As to the species of property, which it may be well for emigrants to take into the United States, it may be observed, that all personal and family luggage, to an amount that may be supposed reasonable for each individual, will be admitted into the ports of the United States *free of duty*. Trunks, however, will be subject to the inspection of Custom House Officers, in order to ascertain whether there are any goods in them liable for duty by the regulations of the Commercial Tariff of the country. But this examination is not very particular, where there are no marks of suspicion of an attempt to evade the Tariff—and a generous amount of luggage will always be permitted to pass, in the possession of emigrants.

All *tools* and *implements* of labour and of art, which an emigrant may wish to take along with him, are admitted *free*. And this regulation is commonly allowed to include the private libraries of professional men. It will be a matter of economy to carry a good supply of wearing apparel, as all goods of this kind, cotton excepted, are cheaper in Europe than in America. Household furniture had better generally be disposed of before emigration, as it is not only subject to duty, but inconvenient and expensive for transportation—especially such articles as are cumbrous. If, however, the sacrifice of a sale is likely to be very great on articles deemed precious, the amount of duty upon them may be ascertained at any of the American Consular Offices, which are found in all the principal ports of Great Britain and Europe. If, moreover, emigrants may have reason for taking along with them any species of goods called merchandize, of whatever nature, they can easily ascertain the duty upon them, as exacted in the ports of the United States, at the offices above-named. As a general rule, unless emigrants are engaged in trade, the less of goods and the less of merchandize they take, the better. Let all their property, as far as possible, be in ready money—especially, if they are destined to the interior, or to the Mississippi Valley.

And money should be in the form of *bills of exchange*, rather than gold or silver—as specie is more liable to be lost. These bills may be purchased with *triplicates* at any of the principal ports of Great Britain and Ireland, and in the large commercial cities of Europe. And emigrants should contrive to transmit the separate copies of their bills of exchange, by different ships. Or better still—to leave one behind, to take one in their own packet, and send the third by another ship—so that if any accident happens to one, or even to two, the third can hardly be lost. Money conveyed across the ocean in this way is scarcely ever known to disappoint the rightful holder. For convenience, the bills should be drawn on the port, to which the emigrant is about to sail, and then he can realize his money as soon as he lands. As the bill is made payable to his order, nothing but forgery can cause it to be paid to another hand.

For any part of the United States ordinarily, the emigrant should embark for the city of New York. If he has resolved to settle in New England, he may go directly to Boston, if he chooses—if he can more conveniently find a ship going to that port. For the State of Pennsylvania, he might as well embark to Philadelphia. For any of the Southern States, to the most convenient Southern port. He may embark to New Orleans for any part of the Mississippi

Valley—but the voyage is longer—and if it be in the summer season, the climate, through which he will be obliged to pass, will be hazardous to health. He may cross the country from New York to any part of the Valley with the greatest ease and safety. Indeed, unless there are special reasons for going by the way of New Orleans, all emigrants to the Valley of the Mississippi, had better go by the way of New York. The city of New York is connected with every part of the country, by great facilities for the conveyance of passengers and goods.

From New York to the Valley, there are two principal routes :—one by the Erie Canal, through the State of New York, and across Lake Erie by steam-boats ; the other, by the way of Philadelphia, across the State of Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh, the whole line of which will soon be opened with an uninterrupted connexion of canal and railway. Or if any choose to go as far South, as Baltimore and the City of Washington, they may find a third route to the Valley—all of them nearly equal in expense, to those who wish to select the best and most rapid conveyances. The distance from New York to Cincinnati, which is in the heart of the Valley, is a little less than 900 miles, by the ordinary routes, and may be gone over easily in a week—the expence to each individual, with his luggage, and by the most speedy conveyances, being from seven to eight pounds. But for those, who have families, or who may wish to travel at the least expense, they may go by the way of the Erie and Ohio Canals, from New York to Cincinnati, at much less than half this expense for each individual. The cheap way, of course, takes a longer time by at least one week—ordinarily more. As a general rule for the expenses of travelling over the principal and most frequented thoroughfares in the United States, including the fare and the table, the best and most rapid conveyances by stage-coach will average probably about one pound per hundred miles. The best steam-packets, with the best accommodations and the best table, ten shillings per hundred miles ; the best canal packets, running 100 miles per day, fifteen shillings for this distance, including the table. For all the inland navigation by the rivers and canals, there are always cheap fares for *half*, and *one-third* of the best. This estimate of the expenses of travelling is supposed accurate enough for all the purposes of the emigrant—as he will not necessarily have occasion to travel over the ground to his place of destination but once—and by this he may calculate very nearly what funds he may need for such purpose. At every point of taking passage, in whatever conveyance, if there is much competition, he should make thorough inquiries, and guard himself against impositions.

For a passage across the Atlantic, the regular New York packets, which sail from London every two weeks, and from Liverpool every week, are always the best ships, and make the quickest and safest voyages. Those who can afford to take a berth in the cabin, will always find them furnished in the most splendid style, and the tables burdened with every delicacy and luxury. For all these accommodations, including the table and wines, they must pay thirty-five pounds. For a passage in the steerage of a New York packet, finding their own provisions, they must pay six pounds. There are numerous other ships, as is well known, constantly sailing to the port of New York—that emigrants may suit themselves, and make their own arrangements with the captain with whom they negotiate. And although an ordinary passage to New York, in the best sailing-packets, is thirty days, it would be prudent for those, who provide for themselves, to calculate for all the delays of contrary winds, which sometimes extend a passage to two months. Indeed, it would not be unwise to lay in provisions for even three months, as the overplus will not be lost. Let all emigrants be well advised by those, who have had experience, as to the kind and amount of stores, which may be necessary for their comfort in an ocean voyage.

General Advice.

It is proper, perhaps, for the Author, in closing this book, which is addressed to persons who meditate emigration from Europe to America, for their information and guidance, being himself an American, to drop a few hints of a moral character and bearing.

And, first, he would earnestly advise all persons, who think of going to America, to eject thoroughly from their minds and hearts all *romantic* expectations. The motives, which induce emigration to America, are various with different individuals—but in all, there are strong tendencies to the indulgence of extravagant hopes. Some, who have felt oppressed with the unequal conditions of European society, and who, perhaps, have been dissatisfied with the Government of their native country, go to the United States, under the impression, that what is called Republican liberty and equality will elevate them at once to rank and importance—or to a common level and fellowship with the best men in the community. And some, perhaps, imagine, that Republican liberty is—that every man may do as he pleases—in other words, that it is licentiousness. It is due to all such persons, and to American society, that they should be informed—that law is as necessary in the United States, as in any other country, and that it is emphatically the guardian of right ;—and that every citizen must be contented with that place in society, which his personal merits and qualifications naturally award to him. If a man is not willing to be an honest and sober member of community on these terms, and if he is not resolved to consecrate his energies to some useful and honourable pursuit, such as he is fit for, he can neither be welcomed in the United States, nor can he have any warrant, that his condition there will be comfortable to himself. All such characters may better conceal themselves in the dark retreats of a dense and crowded population of an European city. Let them by all means stay where their unlawful desires have been begotten. They will only throw themselves into the light of day, and the sooner meet with their deserved doom, by going to America.

Some expect, by going to America, to live without care and without labour—that riches will come pouring into their lap and be forced upon them, without any pains of their own. But the primitive infliction for human apostasy :—“ In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat thy bread”—is not so easily avoided. Until the garden of Eden, with all its innocence and virtue, can be recovered, exemption from this curse must not be expected. America is a good country—good enough to satisfy any reasonable expectations—but it is not a Paradise. American society has a good degree of simplicity and purity. But it wants no importation of worse materials. Patient industry is the source of all its prosperity, and virtue the crowning glory of the community. And he who is not willing to be sober and industrious must not expect to rise,—he is doomed to *sink* in the United States.

It has before been intimated in this volume, that proper testimonials of good character are of no small importance to those, who go to America with the expectation of being installed in the confidence and affections of the American public. Too many have emigrated from Europe *lame* in this particular, and the citizens of the United States have been taught by painful experience, that it is safest to repose confidence in those foreigners, who being worthy, have also been prudent enough to bring along with them satisfactory credentials of their respectability and worth in the communities, from which they have come.

Those, who do not respect the Christian religion, in its own proper garb, and in the legitimate administration of its ordinances, will be little welcome, and find little sympathy in the United States. Christianity there has found its own proper basis in the respect and affections of the respectable portion of the community—and the enemy of religion is deemed alike the enemy of the country, and will in vain assert his claims to respect and confidence, so long as such is known to be his character. And the Christian religion is every day acquiring a stronger hold on the mind of the American public ;—and he who does not like such an atmosphere may be warned before-hand to keep away. He will not be esteemed an acquisition to American society.

In a word—he, who loves liberty without licentiousness—who indulges reasonable and chastened expectations—who is as willing to be industrious, as he is to be rich—whose

virtue is equal to his desire of respectability—and who is resolved to maintain a good conscience in the sight of God, as well as of man—such a person, from whatever part of the world, would be welcomed in the United States,—and would be likely to prosper and be happy there. And so far as the Author is concerned, he can neither desire, nor recommend any others to go.

Taxes in the United States.

The General Government imposes no *direct* taxes. Its revenue from *imposts* on articles of commerce and trade, and from various other sources, has not only supported the Government, but during the present year will have liquidated entirely the national debt, contracted by the Revolutionary war, and the war of 1811—14. To what purposes the Government will appropriate the surplus Revenue, after the national debt is paid off, is not yet decided ; probably to internal improvements.

Neither are the *State* Governments very often obliged to impose direct taxes. The only taxes of this description, to which the citizens of the United States are subject, are for such municipal purposes, as the majority of the people composing the incorporations of counties, townships, villages, and cities, agree to impose upon themselves for their own public and domestic improvements—such as building roads, bridges, public edifices of various descriptions, &c. &c the sum of which is ordinarily very light and trivial. And in these improvements every one feels an interest and reaps an advantage, as much as in the improvements of his own estate. In many instances the Municipal authorities are possessed of funds, or are able to create them, by the use of public privileges, so as to exempt the citizens from all taxes whatever. Taxes, indeed, are never felt to be a burden by a reasonable man.

Advice to those, who wish to purchase Land, or Farms.

There are always improved plantations and farms in the market, in every State and in every settled part of the Union, from the changes which are constantly taking place in society by the deaths of proprietors, or by the motives which some find to remove from one place to another. And he who chooses to purchase an improved farm, or plantation, must of course pay for the fair value of the improvements, buildings, &c.—and also for the adventitious value of its vicinity to market, to large towns, and for other relative considerations, which vary so much in different places and circumstances, that it is impossible to specify the price, abstracted from such considerations.

If an emigrant wishes to settle in an older and well-organized community, and has money to purchase an improved farm, larger, or smaller ;—and if he has not decided in what particular State, or district of a State, he will take his position,—let him provide transient accommodations for his family, if he has one, and get upon a horse, and ride over the land, in its length and breadth, if he chooses, and survey the country to his satisfaction. Let him pass over different States and Territories, and the almost endless variety of choice, that will be presented, will abundantly reward him for all his pains and expense. If he spends three, or six months, or a year, and travels thousands of miles, he may be a gainer by it—especially, if he has a few hundred pounds to invest in such property. He had better not be too hasty, nor listen to the first casual adviser, that may happen to come in his way. The new establishment of a family, in a new country, for the future generations of one's posterity, is an important step ;—and in such a country as the United States, there is a wide field of choice, a thousand circumstances to be considered, and sufficient motives for an extensive and thorough inspection.

If an emigrant wishes to purchase wild, or unimproved lands, in the Western Country, he may find public offices established for the purpose, in all the States and Territories, where such lands are in the market. And as has been before remarked, it is generally best to pur-

chase of the General Government, whose *minimum* and uniform price for wild land is *one dollar and twenty cents*,—about *one crown* per acre. The public lands are surveyed at the expense of Government, and laid out into districts, called *townships*, of six miles square, containing 36 square miles. These townships are divided into sections of 640 acres—*quarter-sections* of 160 acres—and half-*quarter sections* of 80 acres—to accommodate those, who wish to purchase more or less. *Twenty pounds* will purchase 80 acres—and *one hundred and sixty pounds* will purchase 640 acres—and so on. There are 150 millions of acres of public lands in the Mississippi Valley already surveyed and laid out, and unsold—80 millions of which are in the market, and presenting the greatest variety of choice. Let the emigrant, who proposes to purchase wild land, if he can afford it, ride on horse back over the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and the Michigan Territory, and make an actual survey of the different districts—and thus select his place of habitation.

Or if he chooses to purchase a farm, partially improved, in the Western States, he may find them at all prices, from *ten shillings* per acre up to *five pounds* according to the relative situation and the value of the improvements, buildings, &c. And for such a choice, let him ride far, and make extensive observations, and thorough inquiry. There is nothing lost, and much may be gained, by taking time to *look* and *consider*.

Many and most advantageous purchases of unimproved land, or of farms partially improved, may be made in the Western Counties of the State of New York. Indeed, every species of fixed property may always be found in the market, in almost any part of the United States, advantageous to him, who may have occasion to purchase.

The Value of Labour and General Expenses of Living in the United States.

There are no questions, more difficult to answer, than those which regard the price of labour and of living in a foreign country. A specific, market value set upon these commodities, in all their varieties of form and substance, as fixed by the money currency on the premises, can never convey to persons in another country the relative and real value of these things. As I have elsewhere remarked, except for persons, who have a certain and fixed income, the prices of labour and of the necessaries of life, whether they are nominally a little more or a little less, are not very material. Every thing depends upon the chances of *profit*, by labour, or by whatever business one undertakes. If a man disburses £5 a week for his food, lodging, clothing, and other needful comforts, and receives for his services £15, he can lay up £10. And this is the only comparison, by which the profits of an industrious application to any kind of business, in any country, can be fairly estimated. The great question is—whether a man has a reasonable prospect of adding to his worldly estate by industry and economy? And if he can do this, and do it satisfactorily to himself, it is no matter what it costs him to live—so long as the profits of his business are proportionably great.

As these inquiries, however, are always made, and as they are considered of some importance, I will endeavour to anticipate a few of such as have not before come under consideration. The *market prices*, which will be found in the additional information concerning the *Canadas*, at the close of this Appendix, may be considered as a sufficient guide in those items, for all general purposes of inquiry respecting the same things, in the Northern and Western States of the *Union*. There cannot be an exact agreement—neither is there a very wide difference. The market prices of labour and of the necessaries of life are constantly fluctuating to some extent, in the same places of every country, and they differ somewhat in different districts, according to their vicinity to, or remoteness from the great marts of trade and commerce.

Nearly all articles of clothing are more expensive in America than in England—as much generally, perhaps, as by *one fourth*. But take *all* the expenses of living, in equal circum-

stances, or for the purchase of equal conveniences and enjoyments, they are by very much less. Labour is of higher value in America—and the profits of almost every kind of business are more secure, and ordinarily by very much greater

The wages of common labourers in the United States range from £2 to £4 per month, according to the part of the country in which he is employed, and the kind of labour to which he is devoted—board and lodging being found by the employer ;—and a labourer may always lay up *three-fourths* of his wages, after clothing himself, and meeting incidental expenses. The wages of mechanics, according as they work in town or country, and according to the kind of their art, range from £3 to £10 per month ;—and they too, with good economy, may save an equal proportion, after defraying all their necessary expenses. There is no kind of labour, or service, commonly needed, which may not yield to him, who is employed, a saving of somewhat more than a moiety of his wages—often *four-fifths*, and sometimes more. And as to those, who go into speculations and trades, of which themselves are masters and superintendants, there is no calculating for them. They may become rich, if they are industrious and frugal ;—or poor, if they are heedless and prodigal.

The common conveniences, necessities, and comforts of life, of the same kind and to an equal amount, are generally purchased for much less money in America than in England—especially all such as are of domestic growth and manufacture. House-rent is generally much cheaper, other things being equal—as also all bread stuffs, and meat,—and all provisions for the table, except imported articles, some of which are more expensive, and some less, according to the duties imposed in either country.

Additional information concerning the Canadas.

It appears from official information, issued from the Colonial Office, London, as late as February of this year (1832), that the bounties, or premiums, heretofore held out to emigrants for Canada, are withdrawn ;—that the public lands in market are subject to competition, but selling from 4s. to 15s. per acre, according to their relative value ;—and that responsible government agents will be found in both the Canadas, to advise and assist emigrants on their arrival, in accomplishing their objects of settlement. Arrangements have also been made with Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smiths, Lombard Street, London, for the accommodation of emigrants to Canada, by giving them drafts on the Montreal bank, and thus saving them the risk of carrying their funds in specie. See the small pamphlet, published by Authority, *price twopence*, containing information on this subject. The price of passage for each individual from London to Quebec is £6 with provisions, and £3 without—children half-price. From Liverpool, Grenock, and the principal ports of Ireland, the price of passage is about one third less, and in some instances lower still. Those, who supply their own provisions for Quebec, should calculate on a voyage of at least fifty days—and more safe for seventy-five days. To prevent imposition, it is recommended to all emigrants to negotiate their passages with respectable houses in the principal ports. They should also be provided with money to pass through Lower to Upper Canada, which is about the same as the expense of the voyage on ship-board ; and also, if possible, with enough to purchase their land, and make a settlement. Lower Canada, ordinarily, will not be found a pleasant place for emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland, as the population is principally French. Let them by all means pass directly through to the Upper Province—if they have no special reasons for stopping short.

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