

ADVANTAGES OF EMIGRATION. — Statement No. 33. — Paddy Curry, Limerick. — New South Wales, January 6, 1816. — I left my native home in 1823, arrived in this country in 1825. I was assigned to Messrs. James and William Macarthur, and was five years before I got my liberty, then I married; and when the youngsters gathered about me, Mr. Macarthur gave me to cultivate 30 acres of land. He never charged me any rent; he made a sort of a memorandum, but he never took a shilling from me. I take a load to Sydney now and then—shear for him—job now and again; well, when I was getting on well, my wife takes sick, and really the Macarthurs behaved like Christians to me. Mrs. Macarthur used to come in her carriage to her, and eased her mind by telling her that it was nothing the children should want, and it's a true-worded woman she proved. Well, my wife died of her fifth child, and after three years I married again, and then Mr. Macarthur gave me a second farm, and so I hold two, and it's not a better farm he has on his estate. I get 30 bushels of wheat to the acre—the weight is from 60 to 64 lbs. the bushel. I get about 50 bushels of Indian corn to the acre—have had 60. I have now in my barn 400 bushels of wheat—plenty of corn—have above about 60 head of cattle, 3 horses, 2 mares, 2 drays, a cart, 1 plough, a new house, 36 feet by 16; several out-buildings as you see—poultry in abundance. We consume one chest and a half of tea in the year, 4 lbs. of sugar a day—no stint; I kill four bullocks in the year at the very least, mostly five, besides pigs. I keep two men, pay them £18 a year, and their board, lodging, and tobacco. In the harvest time I pay 5s. a day. I have reared a large family in comfort, want for nothing. Now, what I have say of the Macarthurs is this—there is no gentleman at home or abroad that could behave better: for twenty years I can speak of them as masters and landlords—there cannot be better found; their words are to be taken—you need not touch paper with them: they seem to like me to get on; they ride through my farm, and are always willing to accommodate me with a bullock or grain. For the two farms I pay 15s. an acre, on a 21 years' lease; it's five years getting to the 15s., at which it keeps. I had to clear it; but it is a cheap farm, because the land is good—it is, you see, upon the banks of the river. They are Protestant gentlemen, but they are kind to their Catholic servants and tenants. Indeed, when they had a good lot of government men, they kept a clerk that they allowed to read prayers for us; indeed, I could not describe to you the goodness of these gentlemen." —

*Douglas Jerrold's Paper.*