

EMIGRATION
PRACTICALLY CONSIDERED;
WITH
DETAILED DIRECTIONS
TO
EMIGRANTS
PROCEEDING TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA,
PARTICULARLY TO THE CANADAS;
IN A LETTER TO
THE RIGHT HON. R. WILMOT HORTON, M. P.
BY A. C. BUCHANAN, ESQ.

L O N D O N :
HENRY COLBURN, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.
1828.

P R E F A C E.

In submitting the following pages to the Public, the Writer has simply to observe, that the principles which he has advanced, are the result of an anxious investigation founded on a practical knowledge of the leading points connected with the important subject of Emigration, and which he trusts may prove instrumental in removing

the *mistaken* prejudices and calculation of expense which exist on this great national question.

In discharging this duty to his country, he can with confidence recommend a perusal of his Letter to all persons who feel any interest in the future happiness and welfare of that class of suffering individuals, whose situation in life may likely point them out as fit objects for Emigration.

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EMIGRATION

PRACTICALLY CONSIDERED.

IN A LETTER TO THE

RIGHT HON. R. WILMOT HORTON, M.P.

&c. &c. &c.

London, 1st March, 1828

SIR,

IT may perhaps appear presumptuous in me to offer any suggestions to your consideration, for facilitating the removal of a redundant population to our Colonies, after the very able and laborious Report submitted to the House of Commons last session by the Emigration Committee; during whose sitting I had the satisfaction of offering my constant and humble assistance. I avail myself of the opportunity to express my obligation for the very honourable and kind manner in which

that Committee recommend my name to the notice of Parliament and his Majesty's Government, assuring you that throughout the whole transaction nothing guided my conduct but the most anxious solicitude for the common welfare of our valuable Colonies and the Mother Country ; with the hope that my humble efforts might hereafter assist in strengthening the ties of affection, and the bond of union, between our Gracious Monarch's possessions in North America, and the Parent State. And I would here also solicit permission to indulge my feelings, in acknowledging the great kindness and attention I received from you in all my communications with the Colonial Department, on Emigration, and other subjects ; and in adding my humble testimony to your indefatigable zeal and anxious wish to open some door to relieve the distress of the unoccupied labourer ; and I never witnessed such unceasing anxiety to arrive at some good conclusion than that manifested by you and the other honourable Members of the Committee throughout the arduous enquiry. That Committee was composed of individuals of the highest rank for talent in the country, and though differing in opinion on many other state questions, yet a universal feeling seemed to exist amongst its members as to the advantage that would accrue to the nation from a well-regu-

lated system of Emigration.* Great indeed has been the interest which this important question has excited throughout the country, more particularly in Ireland; and many a poor struggling family has been gladdened with the hope that some assistance might be afforded to enable them to emigrate to our fertile American Colonies, where they could not only spend the residue of their days in peace, but, after their sufferings

* List of the Select Committee on Emigration.

Right Hon. R. W. Horton,	Leslie Foster, Esq.
Chairman.	Lord John Russell.
Sir James Graham.	Bingham Baring, Esq.
Lord Castlereagh.	Sir Thomas Dyke Acland.
John Smith, Esq.	Right Hon. Robert Peel.
Stuart Wortley, Esq.	R. Hart Davis, Esq.
Lord Ashley.	Lord F. L. Gower.
John Maxwell, Esq.	Right Hon. Maurice Fitz-
Hon. E. G. Stanley.	gerald.
Hon. Keith Douglas.	Leader Maberley, Esq.
Col. Wood.	A. Baring, Esq.
Lord Brecknock.	Lord Binning (Earl of Mel-
Frankland Lewis, Esq.	ross.)
Sir Henry Parnell.	Lord Valletort.
Charles Brownlow, Esq.	Hon. P. Cust.
Thomas Spring Rice, Esq.	Lord Sandon.
Lord Morpeth.	Charles Wood, Esq.
J. E. Denison, Esq.	R. Phillips, Esq.
Lord Oxmantown.	Sir Hugh Innis.
Archibald Campbell, Esq.	Walter Burrell, Esq.
H. Labouchere, Esq.	Hon. Jas. Abercrombie.

and privations, behold some certain prospect for the maintenance and comfort of their numerous offspring.

I shall not attempt to go into that wide field of argument to which the question of population, and the means of its subsistence, or on the other hand, that of Emigration, might lead; nor is it my intention, in this letter, to present all the minute details of an Emigration establishment:—my principal aim being to draw towards this subject more profound meditations, and the knowledge of all those who are practically and locally acquainted with it. Nevertheless, I shall not deny myself the assistance that may be derived from a careful developement of the simple principles upon which Emigration should be founded; and I may glance at the importance in which Emigration and Colonization were held in former ages, by the most enlightened nations.

It is *universally admitted*, from the rapid strides that mendicity seems to be making *even* in the metropolis, that there are many labouring poor now existing in the United Kingdom on a very precarious and scanty support; surely, if the removal of a portion of them to our fertile American and other Colonies can be effected without any *ultimate* outlay of the public money, the consideration is well worthy our most serious attention,

and no doubt will find advocacy in the liberal and enlightened policy of His Majesty's Government.

In modern times, colonies have been looked at principally in their relation to the trade and revenue of the parent state. The views of the ancients seem to have been more enlarged. In all the enlightened states of antiquity, colonies were considered as useful in *disburdening* the parent state of its surplus population, providing for citizens who otherwise might disturb its tranquillity, and establishing new nations, united to the parent state by the sympathies of common origin.

In commercial and manufacturing states, from the inequality of fortunes, and the fluctuations in trade and in population, to which such states are liable, colonies would seem to have been peculiarly necessary. Accordingly, we find that in Carthage Emigration was systematically carried on by the state; and it is to this cause that a great writer* of antiquity attributes the duration of that republic notwithstanding the vicious constitution of its government.

From the earliest period of Roman history, Colonization was considered as a subject of high state policy; and,—remarkable as that people *were* for their great wisdom,—in no branch of their administration was that wisdom more apparent than in this.

* Aristotle.

They did not, like the Carthaginians, consider colonies merely as means for disposing of a surplus population, but they made this surplus population an instrument for the territorial aggrandizement of the state. To no one cause is the Roman greatness, probably, more to be attributed, than to the system of Colonization pursued by them. A work containing the details of that system is still a desideratum in Political Economy, and would throw much light upon the history of civilization.

As a striking illustration of these remarks, I would here refer you to an extract from an "Essay on the Advantages to be derived from new Colonies, by Citizen Talleyrand, read at the National Institute of France, the 15th Messidor, in the year 5."

"After the crises of revolutions, there are men worn out and grown old under the impression of misfortune, whose minds must in some sort be made young again. There are some, who, no longer wishing to love their country, must be made sensible that fortunately it is impossible to hate it.

"Without doubt, time and good laws will produce happy changes; but there is need also of establishments contrived with wisdom;—for the power of laws is limited, and time destroys alike both what is good and what is bad.

"When I was in America, I was struck by ob-

serving that, after a revolution very unlike indeed to our own, there remained such slight traces of ancient animosities, so little agitation, so little inquietude:—in short, that none of those symptoms were there to be found which every instant threaten the tranquillity of States newly bursting into freedom. I did not fail soon to discover one of the chief causes of it. Without doubt this revolution, like others, has left in the minds of men dispositions to excite, or to receive, new troubles; but this need of agitation has been able to satisfy itself differently in a vast and new country,—where adventurous projects allure the mind; where immense tracts of uncultivated lands give men a facility of going to employ a fresh activity, far from the scene of their first dissensions, of placing their hopes in fresh speculations, of throwing themselves at once into the midst of a crowd of new schemes; in short, of amusing themselves by change of place, and thus of extinguishing within their bosoms the revolutionary passions.

“Happily, the soil which we inhabit does not present the same resources; but new Colonies, chosen and established with discernment, may offer us them; and this motive for occupying ourselves about such, adds great force to those which already solicit the attention of the public, on the subject of this kind of establishment.

“ The different causes which gave rise to the colonies, in whose origin history has instructed us, were not of more urgent influence; the greater part of them were much less pure. Thus, ambition and the ardour of conquest carried the first colonies of the Phœnicians, and of the Egyptians, into Greece; violence that of the Tyrians to Carthage; the misfortunes of war that of the fugitive Trojans to Italy; commerce and the love of riches, those of the Carthaginians to the Isles of the Mediterranean, and upon the coasts of Spain and Africa; necessity those of the Athenians into Asia Minor, the people becoming too numerous for their limited and barren territory; prudence that of the Lacedemonians to Tarentum, who by this means delivered themselves from some turbulent citizens; and urgent policy the numerous colonies of the Romans, who showed themselves doubly skilful in giving up to their colonists a portion of the conquered countries, both because they appeased the people, who incessantly demanded a new division, and because they thus formed, of the discontented themselves, a sure guard in the countries which they had subdued. The ardour for plunder, and the fury of war, (much more than excess of population,) sent the colonies, or rather the irruptions, of the people of the North, into the Roman Empire; and a roman-

tic piety, greedy of conquest, those of the Europeans into Asia.

“ After the discovery of America, we saw the folly, the injustice, and the avaricious spirit of individuals, who, thirsting after gold, threw themselves upon the first countries to which their barks conveyed them. The more greedy they were, the more they separated themselves from others: they wished not to cultivate, but to lay waste. Those indeed were not true colonists. Some time afterwards, religious dissensions gave birth to more regular establishments: thus, the Puritans took refuge in the north of America; the English Catholics in Maryland; the Quakers in Pennsylvania; whence Smith concludes it was not the wisdom, but rather the vices of the European Governments, that peopled the New World.

“ Other great emigrations are likewise owing to a gloomy policy, or to a policy falsely denominated religious. Thus, Spain rejected the Moors from her bosom; France, the Protestants; almost all Governments the Jews: and everywhere the error which had dictated such deplorable counsels was recognized too late. They had discontented subjects, and they made enemies of them: *these might have served* their country, but were forced to injure it.

“ This long experience ought not to be lost to us.

The art of putting men into their proper places is, perhaps, the first in the science of Government ; but that of finding the proper place for the discontented is assuredly the most difficult ; and the presenting to their imagination distant objects, perspective views, on which their thoughts and their desires may fix themselves, is, I think, one of the solutions of this difficulty.

“ In the developement of the motives which determined the establishment of a great number of the ancient colonies, we easily remark, that at the very time they were indispensable, they were voluntary ; that they were presented by the Governments as an allurement, not as a punishment. We observe this idea especially to predominate in them ; viz. *that bodies politic ought to reserve to themselves the means of placing to advantage, at a distance from their immediate seat, that superabundance of citizens who, from time to time, threaten their tranquillity.* Further, this necessity was founded in a vicious origin ; it was either an original Agrarian law, giving rise to threatening claims, which it became necessary to calm ; or too exclusive a constitution, which, being made for one class, caused a dread of too great an increase of population in the others.

“ It is by making ourselves masters of what was

most pure in the views of the ancients, and by guarding against the application which has been made of them by the majority of modern nations, that it will be proper, in my opinion, to occupy ourselves in the first days of peace with this kind of establishment, which, when well-conceived, and well-executed, may be the source of the most precious advantages after so many agitations.

“ And how many Frenchmen ought to embrace this idea with joy ! How many of them are there for whom, were it but for a few moments, a new sky has become an absolute necessity ! Those who, bereft of their nearest connexions, have lost by the stroke of the assassin all which rendered their native soil dear to them ; those for whom it has become unfruitful ; those who find in it nothing but regret, and those who find in it nothing but remorse ; the men who cannot resolve upon fixing their hope in that place where they have experienced their misfortunes ; and that multitude of former politicians, those inflexible characters whom no reverse can bend, those ardent imaginations whom no reasoning can influence, those fascinated spirits whom no events can disenchant ; and those who always find themselves too constrained in their own country ; and the greedy and adventurous speculators ; and the men

who are born to have their names attached to discoveries, to the founding of cities, and to the formation of civilized societies ; he for whom France, as now constituted, is still too agitated, and he for whom it is too calm ;—those, in short, who cannot put up with equals, and those likewise, who cannot brook any state of dependence.

“ And let us not suppose, that so many different and opposite elements would not unite. Have we not seen of late years, since there have been political opinions in France, men of all parties embark together, and go to run the same risks upon the uninhabited banks of the Scioto ? Are we ignorant of the empire which is exercised over the most irritable minds by time, by space, by a new country, by habits to be begun, by obstacles to be overcome in common, by the desire of injuring giving place to the necessity of mutually assisting each other, by suffering, which softens the soul, by hope, which comforts it, by the pleasure of discoursing of a country which one has quitted, and even by that of complaining of it ?

“ No, it is not so easy as we think it, to hate forever. This feeling often requires but a specious pretence for its extinction ; it never resists so many causes conspiring to destroy it.

“ Let us then hold it for certain, that these discordances of opinion, as well as those of character,

form no obstacle to new colonies, and would all be lost in a community of interests, if we knew how to take advantage of the errors and prejudices which have hitherto opposed the numerous attempts of this kind. I have need to buoy myself up against the dread of witnessing the renewal of disastrous attempts. I think we shall feel the necessity of establishing them in places productive of what we stand in need of, and wanting what we possess ; for this is the first principle of union betwixt a Mother Country and her Colonies. We shall occupy ourselves, without doubt, in the formation of vast establishments, in order that men and their schemes may there be at their ease ; and they should be varied too, in order that every one may find there the situation and the labour that suits him. *We should especially take care not to allow a multitude of men to embark inconsiderately at once, before we have provided for the indispensable necessities of a first establishment.*

“ Hitherto Governments have formed to themselves a political rule not to send, for the foundation of their colonies, any but individuals without industry, *without capital*, and without morals. A principle the most opposite possible to this must be adopted ; *for vice, ignorance, and misery*, can found nothing,—they are calculated only to destroy.

“ Colonies have often been made use of as a means of punishment, and those which might serve for this purpose have been imprudently confounded with those whose commercial relations ought to be the source of riches to the Mother Country. We must carefully separate these two kinds of establishments; let them have nothing common in their origin, as they have nothing similar in their destination; for the impression which results from a polluted origin, has effects which many generations are scarcely sufficient to efface.

“ But what will be the bonds of connexion between the new colonies and France? History offers striking results to decide this question. The Greek colonies were independent; they prospered in the highest degree. Those of Rome were always governed; their progress was scarcely any thing, and their names are hardly known to us. The solution rests upon the same point to this day, in spite of the difference of time and interests. I am aware that it is difficult to convince Governments, which know not how to quit their accustomed plans, that they will derive the benefit of their advances and protection, without having recourse to coercive laws; but it is certain, that the interests of the two countries, well understood, is the true bond which should unite them; and this bond is very strong, when there is also a com-

mon origin ; it is even preserved when the force of arms has deranged the connexion. This may be easily perceived in Louisiana, which remains French, although it has been under the dominion of the Spaniards for more than thirty years ; and in Canada, although in the power of the English for the same length of time : the colonists of these two countries were Frenchmen, they are so still, and an obvious bias inclines them always towards us. It is then from a previous knowledge of reciprocal interests, strengthened by the powerful tie of a common origin, that the establishment ought to be formed, and on the strength of this interest is it that we must reckon for the advantages to be drawn therefrom. At a great distance every other relation becomes in time illusory, or it is more expensive than productive. Hence there should be no domination, no monopoly ; always the force which protects, never that which oppresses ; justice, kind offices, these are the true calculations for states, as well as for individuals ; these are the sources of reciprocal prosperity. In short, experience and reason unite in rejection of those pusillanimous doctrines which suppose a *loss* wherever there has been made a *gain*. The true principles of commerce are the opposite of these prejudices ; they promise to all people mutual advantages, and they invite them to enrich themselves altogether

by the exchange of their productions, by liberal and amicable communications, and by the useful arts of peace.

“ I have barely pointed out some positions ; there are others which I could also enumerate ; but here especially to announce too much of what one means to do, is the way not to do it all. Besides, it belongs to the men who have travelled the most, and to the best purpose ; to those who have carried into their researches an enlightened and unwearied love of their country ; it is to our Bougainville, who had the glory to discover what it has been still glorious for the illustrious navigators of England to trace after him ; it is to Fleurieu, who has so perfectly observed all that he has seen, and so well elucidated by his learned criticism the observations of others : it belongs to such men to tell the Government, when they are interrogated by it, what are the places where a new country, a salubrious climate, a fruitful soil, and the relations pointed out by nature, invite our industry, and promise us rich advantages,—for that day at least when we shall have the good sense to carry there our knowledge and our labour only.

“ From all that has been here advanced, it follows, that every consideration urges us to occupy ourselves with new colonies : the example of the most wise people, who have made them one of the greatest means of their tranquillity ; the ne-

cessity of preparing for the replacing of our present colonies, in order that we may not be found behindhand with events ; the convenience of placing the cultivation of our colonial products nearer to their true cultivators ; the necessity of forming with the colonies the most natural relations, more easy, no doubt, in new than in old establishments ; the advantage of not allowing ourselves to be outdone by a rival nation, for whom every one of our oversights, every instance of our delay in this respect, is a conquest ; the opinion of enlightened men, who have bestowed their attention and their researches upon this object : in short, the pleasure of being able to attach to these enterprises so many restless men who have need of projects, so many unfortunate men who have need of hope."

William Penn, in his "*Benefit of Plantations or Colonies*," after adverting to the various æras of Emigration recorded in history, says:—"I deny the vulgar opinion against plantations, that they weaken England ; they have manifestly enriched, and so strengthened her, which I briefly evidence thus : *those that go into a foreign plantation, their industry there is worth more than if they stayed at home.* Again : they are not lost to England, since England furnishes them with much clothes, household stuff, tools, and the like necessaries, and that in greater quantities than here their condition could have needed, or they could have

bought, being there well to pass that were but low here, if not poor, and now masters of families too, when here they had none, and could hardly keep themselves; and very often it happens that some of them, after their industry and success have made them wealthy, return and empty their riches into England, one in this capacity being able to buy out twenty of what he was when he went out."

It is only within the last few years that emigration has been considered in Great Britain as a national measure. On a subject of so much importance, however, it is most desirable that every possible light should be thrown; in fact, emigration may be illustrated by the image of a large family with moderate means. Let them remain at home together, and their strength and importance is very confined; but disperse them over a wide field, and see how their strength and capability of assisting each other is augmented. I know numerous instances of struggling families sending some of their sons abroad, who, had they remained at home, would have produced little more than sufficient to add to the common stock the amount of their own support; but in a few years, in our fertile American Colonies, not only establish themselves, but impart assistance and comfort to others.

As various opinions have been submitted as to the sum necessary to establish a pauper family in the Canadas, I feel myself warranted in stating that, under the presumption of repayment, full justice may be done both to the Country and the Emigrant, by limiting the disbursement much within that hitherto assumed; and I had the honour of giving it as my opinion before the Emigration Committee, that 60*l.* would be a satisfactory outlay for the removal of a family consisting of a man, his wife, and three children, from the United Kingdom to *British North America*, providing them with necessary *implements*, log-house, and *fifteen months provisions*. It is necessary to observe, that this refers to a convenient situation; but from more careful investigation, as I do not think the expense of superintendence, surveying the land, &c. should be charged the Emigrant,* as he will have to purchase his farm,—and further, as he must be provided with items formerly included,—and by the removal of expensive clauses in the Passenger Acts,—I am satisfied that about 45*l.* will be sufficient.†

* It is to be observed, that I am not warranted in this suggestion by the report of the Committee;—I give it as my own opinion.

† Vide pages 29 and 78.

We must particularly bear in mind the description of people to whom this operation should be extended, viz.—Poor destitute labourers, whose habits of living at home border on misery in the extreme; and as it is intended that the Emigrant shall, when able, make a return of the sum expended, the most rigid economy in the operation is imperiously required.

I do not admit the policy of taking a half-starved Irish pauper from his miserable hovel, and in the space of a few months, not only making him the proprietor of one hundred acres of land, but surrounding him with domestic comforts he never before witnessed. It is almost too much for persons in a more improved state of society to endure, and Pat and his wife Bridget will be amazed, and think that we must have some *pull* in it. I would let them feel and work their way, and their ultimate success will be more certain. Let the Emigrant have enough to eat, with a log-hut for shelter, his axe in his hand, and his fuel at his elbow; but let his food be of the most economical kind, such as oatmeal, potatoes, fish, Indian meal, and a little flesh-meat. The Irish peasantry do not know how to use flour with economy; and I attribute, in a great degree, the prevalence of the fever and ague among the late Government Emigrants, to their being confined to

flour and salt-pork, of aliments to which they were unaccustomed.

In discussing the subject of Emigration, there are some persons who seem to think that the labouring pauper may be employed to equal advantage at home, in draining bogs, or other public works that might be undertaken, and with no greater outlay of capital than is proposed by the Report of the Emigration Committee. But let any person who is at all capable of judging, reflect for a moment on the difference to the paupers themselves. So long as public works are going on, and money is expended at home, the labourer employed will find work and food ; but at the expiration of seven years will you find him and his wretched family raised in the scale of civilization and comfort ? No, on the contrary, he would, in all probability, be found just as he was before, inhabiting the same miserable hovel, and with his physical strength naturally impaired by seven years' hard toil merely for a scanty support. But visit the pauper Emigrant (and family) removed to our North American Colonies, with the assistance of the proposed loan, in his new abode after seven years, and how will you find *him* ? He will not only have made considerable advances towards repaying the outlay on his settlement, but you will find him the proprietor of one

hundred or eighty acres of good land ; twenty or twenty-five acres of which will be cleared and under culture, with a good log-house, barn, cows, oxen, &c., and the certain prospect of independence in view for his family. Is not this a cheering prospect for the poor half-starved labourer? No person, unless he has lived in the Colonies, can imagine the change that generally takes place, even as to the industrious habits of those who were indolent at home.

We cannot draw any inference or calculation from the Emigration Plans of 1823 and 1825; a very great portion of the expenses of which was incurred in the transport, and other disbursements, over which the superintendent had no control.

The transport of a family from Cork to Quebec cost, in 1825, under the Transport Board, about 38*l.* though it could have been accomplished better for the health of the Emigrant for nearly one-third that amount ; but although it was an experiment to the Peasantry of the South of Ireland to emigrate to the North American Colonies, and although a smaller outlay might have done, yet the difficulty was greater than would now be felt, inasmuch as the people have tasted the sweets of Emigration ; besides, from the increased facilities in the Colonies by population and opening of roads, a vast outlay would be avoided. In 1825, I went out myself

from Londonderry to Quebec, in a ship of seven hundred and five tons register, with five hundred Emigrants; and the total expense of each family, of five persons, up to their arrival at Quebec, was under 14*l.*; since which time, the rate of passage has considerably fallen, from the depression of shipping, and the repeal of the late Passenger Act: still I am decidedly of opinion, that legislative protection, to a certain extent, is imperiously required, as the many melancholy evidences of recent privations, suffered by voluntary Emigrants, sufficiently corroborate.

When I arrived at Quebec, my advice to the Emigrants was such as I have invariably given—to proceed to the interior, and not loiter at the port of landing; and as they all seemed anxious to follow my opinion, I engaged a passage for them in the “Lady Sherbrook” steam-boat, at about a dollar per head, young and old. In the same boat, about three hundred Government Emigrants were also going up: the appearance of each of the two parties was striking.—The Government Emigrants were generally better clad, but not so strong and healthy-looking as the Free Emigrants, who had been fed upon food to which they were less accustomed.

I will here mention, that the passengers who accompanied me were very healthy on the voyage;

only one adult died (of old age) and a few infants, although we had the small-pox on board; and I attribute their healthy state entirely to *the diet*, which was chiefly potatoes, stir-about made of oatmeal, sowings or flummery made from the siftings of oatmeal, butter, eggs, and for some few a little bacon.

In about fifteen or sixteen voyages to North America, which I have taken, with about 6000 Emigrants, I do not think that in the whole number more than six adults died, and in every case within my observation they landed in better condition than when they went on board, and their food was invariably such as I have already stated.

In addition to the Emigrants I have accompanied on my frequent voyages to North America, I have been interested in the removal from Ireland of from 12,000 to 15,000 more,—many of whom, after paying their passage, were not possessed of a dollar; and I cannot bring to my recollection a single instance in which they have not prospered to a great degree, as is fully confirmed by the extent of the remittances made annually by the Emigrants to Ireland, which amount, I should think, to the considerable sum of from 60,000*l.* to 70,000*l.* and which would be greatly increased if the Emigrants enjoyed more facility in making their remittances; as you

will frequently see, in the streets of Quebec and other ports, poor fellows who have proceeded a distance of 4 or 500 miles to find a captain of a ship, or some other person, to make the bearer of their gatherings to their relations in the United Kingdom, to assist them in coming out to join them. In fact, I have myself been the medium of conveying many thousands of pounds from North America, remitted by Emigrants;* and my brother, His Majesty's Consul at New York, sends home considerable sums annually, for persons in various parts of Canada and the United States.

My brother sent from that city to Upper Canada, upwards of 3000 British subjects, who possessed some trifling means of their own, and had them settled in the township of Cavan. Their prosperity, I am happy to say, is well known in the Province, and at this time that township has a larger surplus produce to send to market, than many others of the older townships; and their gratitude and unshaken loyalty to their King and Mother Country is enthusiastic, and is observable in all their actions. Their prosperity you will find fully corroborated by the following evidence of Dr. S^rahan, Archdeacon of Upper Canada, given before the Emigration Committee.—“ Vide Report

* Vide Emigration Report of 1826. Question, 1873, 1874.

of 1826, Page 167, Question 1731 to 1735," viz.—

Q.—“ Do you know of the case of Emigrants who were removed from New York, and settled in the Cavan District? A.—They came by the way of New York; they were sent up by the British Consul, who has sent up a great number of his countrymen, who have settled in the township of Cavan. They began their settlement, I think, in 1817 and 1818, and are all doing well; they have a great deal of surplus produce in that township.

Q.—“ Do you know the state in which they came?—A. Yes; they came in the usual way of Emigrants: they applied to Government, and got lots of 100 acres in Cavan, paying a small fee of about 5*l.* or 6*l.*

Q.—“ What was their condition in point of fact?—A. I happened to be building a house when they came; a great number of them were employed in the brick-yard; they had no other money, that I could see, but what they earned. When the American Canal was making, those were the people who chiefly went to the canal to work during the summer, and came back with their earnings, till they got a yoke of oxen. Whenever an Emigrant is able to purchase a yoke of oxen, he will not work out again; he considers his fortune made, and employs himself more advantageously on his farm.

Q.—“ You were understood to state, that there was more surplus produced there, than in any other township?—A. No, I meant to say, there was more than in many of the older townships.”

The total expense incurred in the removal of these persons from New York to Upper Canada, was about 30*s. per head*; and I am not aware that they received any farther assistance, beyond a grant of land, subject to the usual fee there established, of about 8*l.*, which is nearly equivalent to the sum that I propose to charge the Emigrants with hereafter for land.

As frequent allusions have been made in the Public Journals, pourtraying, in melancholy terms, the privations suffered by Emigrants who arrived at Halifax and New Brunswick last summer, and who unadvisedly went thither, I cannot avoid expressing my regret that the practical suggestions relative to the late Passenger's Act had not the desired effect. At the same time, in justice to yourself, who have taken such a deep interest in the cause of Emigration, I ought to state that its total repeal met your decided opposition. Had the Act which you had prepared in substitution of the late Act in question, passed, it would have given every reasonable facility to the Emigrants, at the same time extending to them a salutary and indispensable legislative protection. It is to be hoped that

the late melancholy lesson will open the eyes of persons intending to emigrate, and that they will not rush headlong by thousands to countries that, in their present limited state of agriculture and demand for labour, only afford a comparatively small field for employment compared to the great and exhaustless outlets in the Canadas,—or until some regulated system is undertaken by Government, and nurseries formed to receive them. I beg leave to refer to the following Letters in the Appendix, for my opinion of the lately repealed Passenger's Act; viz., my Letter of the 9th of March, 1824, addressed to the Chamber of Commerce, Dublin, and written at the request of one of its leading Members; also my correspondence with M. S. Hill, Esq. Collector of Londonderry, together with queries submitted by him to the principal merchants of that city.*

It is to be hoped that in the present Session of Parliament a Passenger's Act may be passed, limiting the number to be taken on board ship, with other salutary, simple, and practical clauses. Roomy vessels may carry, with safety, to any part of North America, not south of Cape Henry, (which is in latitude 36 N.) at the rate of two adults to every three tons register, or averaging, young and old, one person to each ton, and to

* Petition of the Chamber of Commerce, Dublin, to the House of Lords, &c.

Southern countries one adult to two tons ; and at the current freight now to North America, and which may be considered as a fair data, as even, should the home freight advance, it will not operate much on ships going out in ballast. A family, consisting of a man, his wife, and three children, will require five tons of the ship, at 18s. per ton, which is,

	£ 4 10 0
Water-cask,	0 18 0
Birthing, &c.	0 15 0
Fuel,	0 4 0
	<hr/>
	£ 6 7 0
	<hr/>

Or say five tons, at 26s. per ton, total expense is

6 10 0

Provisions for fifty days for a family of an Irish or Scotch Emigrant, of man, wife, and three children : three pounds daily of bread and oatmeal, at 2d. per pound,

	0 0 6
Twelve pounds of potatoes,	0 0 3
Butter or molasses,	0 0 2
Three herrings,	0 0 2½

Per day

0 1 1½

Fifty days

2 16 3

Carried forward

9 6 3

Brought forward,	9	6	3
English Emigrant, 3 <i>d.</i> per day more,	0	12	6
	<hr/>		
English Emigrant,	9	18	9
	<hr/>		

Average equal to 1*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* a-head,
 young and old, including cost of
 transport, provisions, &c. from the
 United Kingdom to Canada.

I do not think that Government can attach much importance to their calculation in the victualling of Pauper Emigrants on the voyage *out*, as the most indigent will have little difficulty by contribution to make up enough of oatmeal, potatoes, and butter, to serve him throughout the voyage. I have also stated in my letter in the Emigration Report,* that, with previous arrangement and mercantile competition, no difficulty will be experienced to obtain shipping to convey any number to our North American Colonies, and to insure that uniformity of operation that is necessary ; the whole arrangement, from the removal of the Pauper Emigrant from the port of embarkation in the United Kingdom, until settled on his land, must lie under the management and fostering care of his Ma-

* Vide Appendix, pages 106, 7.

jesty's Government, acting in co-operation with the Colonies, as you will find more fully elucidated by the following Extract from the Emigration Report :—

“ Your Committee beg to refer the House to a paper given in by Mr. Buchanan, in page 455 of the Evidence, which shows that the ordinary tonnage in the trade between the Mother Country and the Colonies, furnishes, as far as stowage is involved, the means of emigration to the extent of 400,000 persons per annum. Your Committee cannot omit to call the particular attention of the House to this circumstance, as furnishing an extraordinary means of carrying any symptom of extended Emigration into effect ; and a collateral advantage arising from this circumstance is the increased cheapness of the returned freight in timber, supposing the shipowner to have part of his profit realized by the payment of the passage of the Emigrants, as contrasted with the necessity of effecting, as hitherto, his voyage out in ballast.”

I have already stated, in my letter* to the Committee, in general terms, the places to which I would recommend Emigrants to be located ; and on these and other points his Majesty's Govern-

* Vide Appendix, page 118.

ment are, no doubt, in possession of satisfactory information.

It is not my intention to offer any observations on the obvious advantages that the Mother Country and her manufactures must experience by the extension of an industrious and loyal population in our American Colonies; and, in a political point of view, the augmenting our barrier in that quarter needs no comment, as on all those points his Majesty's Government will perceive the expediency. I wish to confine myself, in my present remarks, to what I consider I have some practical knowledge of, without going into any theoretical discussion.

*“ The House will not fail to observe, that if Emigration could be carried on as a national system, the Colonies would increase rapidly in wealth, and have the means furnished them of taking upon themselves the various expenses, military as well as civil, now incurred for them by the Mother Country: and this without any addition to their burdens, but, on the contrary, accompanied with an increase of wealth more than proportionate to the expense which they would have to take upon themselves.

“With a rapidly increasing and thriving popula-

* Extract from Emigration Report.

tion, and under a liberal system of colonial policy the North American Colonies cannot fail to attain, at a comparatively early period, the means of relieving the Mother Country from the annual expense incurred in their maintenance; whilst by the general establishment of our Colonial relations upon the principle of reciprocity of benefits arising from commercial intercourse and the operation of common interests, the question will be solved, of the advantages which a parent state is capable of deriving from a well-organized colonial system. The population being thereby materially increased in our Colonies, a perpetually increasing demand would exist for the manufactures of the Mother Country; and this not in the slightest degree arising from the relation between Colonies and a Mother Country, but on the mutual interests of the two countries; as it would be more to the interest of the British Colonies to purchase manufactures from the Mother Country, than to become manufacturers themselves. On the other hand, it would be more to the interest of the Mother Country to employ her capital in the fabrication of manufactures so wanted, than to employ it in the cultivation of her own waste lands of inferior fertility."

I am convinced we possess the means, in an ample degree, not only of doing much good, and

alleviating much distress at home, (the rapid increase of which, in this country, cannot be disguised,) but of augmenting the strength of our truly loyal Colonies to such a degree, that, instead of their wanting assistance from the Parent State in any future war with their Republican neighbours, which God avert! they will be enabled to extend their vigorous and youthful arm to the assistance of their parental benefactors. I can confidently affirm, that in no part of His Majesty's dominions can there be found a more truly loyal population, nor one more devoted to a lasting union with the Mother Country, or more disposed to share in all its burthens and anxieties, for upholding the glory of the British Crown and Constitution, than the inhabitants of our valuable North American Provinces; and I feel a pleasure in being enabled more particularly to record the zealous attachment of the inhabitants of Lower Canada, among whom I have lived:—a more frugal, hardy, brave, and polite people, are not to be found anywhere; and now that the mutual interests of both countries are so well understood, I do not apprehend the most distant chance of their ever feeling the least desire to coalesce with their American neighbours. We must not suffer ourselves to be led away, in viewing the unhappy differences

that at present exist between the Executive Government of Lower Canada and the Provincial Parliament, as founded on any feeling of alienation from the Mother Country ; the subject of controversy is local, and, I have no doubt, will soon exhaust itself. Its continuance must be extremely unpleasant to the head of the Government of our North American Colonies, and it is the more to be regretted, as there is no man who feels a greater anxiety for the prosperity of the country, or the good of the people, or who is more beloved for public or private virtues. These unhappy differences should be terminated, but the just rights of the Crown must not be compromised.

Should His Majesty's Government decide on a systematic plan of Emigration, no doubt their views will extend to the Cape of Good Hope and New South Wales, where a considerable number of labourers would find immediate employment ; but as I am not practically acquainted with those parts, I must omit offering any remarks respecting them.

In speaking of our American Colonies and the United States, I am guided by twenty years' knowledge of both ; and I doubt if there be any person in the United Kingdom who has had more direct intercourse with Emigrants from Ireland to North America than myself.

There is scarcely a portion of the American Continent, north of the River Orinoko, together with the West India Islands, both British and Foreign, with which I am not familiarly acquainted.

Emigration to our American Colonies, as well as to the United States, is now very extensive. I compute, that since the Independence of the United States of America, not less than one million and a-half of persons have emigrated from the United Kingdom to the North American Continent:—of which 250,000 have gone from England, 250,000 from Scotland, and one million, at least, from Ireland—five-sixths being from the Province of Ulster, a circumstance chiefly attributable to the comparative degree of comfort the peasants of the North of Ireland enjoy over the other, not so fortunate, portion of that kingdom.

Since 1815,—the year in which Emigration began to find its way towards our own provinces,—the total number of Emigrants from the United Kingdom has been 350,000, of which 300,000 went from Ireland. From the port of Londonderry alone, which is the chief outlet from the counties of Tyrone, Fermanagh, Donegal, and Derry, 38,000 went, say 30,000 to the British Colonies, 8,000 to the United States, and 17 in-

dividuals to the Cape of Good Hope.* Last year, the total Emigration from the United Kingdom amounted to 40,000,† of which 23,000 went to the British Provinces of North America; and out of that number 16,862 arrived at the port of Quebec.

New York and Philadelphia have for nearly half a century been the principal ports of the United States to which Emigrants from the United Kingdom have generally proceeded.

The great trade and rapid increase of those cities have caused a corresponding demand for labour, and their facility of communication with all other parts of the Union, have tended much to attract the new settlers. Last summer, vast numbers of Emigrants who arrived at New York from Halifax and St. John's, New Brunswick, found that their prospects were not so good, on their arrival in the United States, as their *'golden dreams'* had pictured, and they importuned His Majesty's Consul at New

* The Custom House returns may vary from this statement, from the irregularity in which they were rendered during the frequent suspension of the Passenger's Act; but it is hoped, that in future correct returns of Emigrants may be kept, which will prove very useful in watching the progress of Emigration.

† This includes near 3500 to Brazil from Ireland, and about 13,000 to the United States from the United Kingdom generally.

York, to grant them some assistance to proceed to our Colonies again ; but this he was not authorized to do. At that period, about 800 Emigrants were sent from New York by my nephew, who is Agent in that city for the Canada Land Company, to settle on their lands in Upper Canada ; and such was the disappointment experienced by many Emigrants who arrived at New York last summer, that many of them have since returned to Liverpool and Belfast.

Any person giving the subject a moment's consideration must admit, that if we had arrangements made to furnish correct information in various parts of the Colonies and United Kingdom, that free Emigration, to the extent of 40,000, (or 50,000, with prospect of rapid increase) would find its way annually to our American Colonies, without any expense to the country, and at the same time enhancing the value of the Crown Lands, by the introduction of such population, and also by opening a new field for the manufactures of the Mother Country.

To Ireland the United States is more indebted for a large share of its population than to any other country. Emigration thither has been very great, ever since the Revolution, particularly from the province of Ulster ; and many of the natives of the Sister Island rank high among the citizens of

the great Western Republic for wealth and talent, and still feel an affectionate sympathy towards the country of their birth. In all the principal towns, and at all public works, the operative labourers are Irish. When travelling through the western part of the State of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, &c., I may venture to say that you will find nearly one half the population Irish, or their descendants. In Pittsburgh you will almost fancy yourself in the province of Ulster; and Baltimore owes its rapid rise to the sons of Hibernia. These circumstances have hitherto drawn, and will continue to draw, a considerable portion of Emigrants to the United States. I am, however, happy to say, that the tide of Emigration has begun to flow in another channel; and if the measure is followed up by salutary arrangements, under the fostering care of Government, at no distant period our valuable North American Provinces will be found what the Western States are now,—abounding with an industrious population, and augmenting the physical resources of this great empire, as the latter now do those of the Union.

As far as my observations have gone, I must say, most decidedly, that a labouring farmer may settle himself, with more advantage to his family, in the Canadas, than the United States. The state of society is not so profligate, nor their ha-

bits so extravagant ; added to which, their superior markets for the outlet of their produce by a participation of the Home Trade and that of the West Indies, with the total exemption from all taxation, and, I may say, all duties,—give to the Colonial farmer the whole produce of his labour.

The Poor-rates in England will be sufficient to relieve the parishes of their labouring paupers. A man and his wife, and three children, can be removed from Great Britain to Canada, and there maintained, *if necessary*, for fifteen months, and furnished with farming implements, &c. for a sum not exceeding 50*l.*, whereas the maintaining the same family at home would cost the parish an actual outlay, in one year, as stated in evidence before the Emigration Committee, 1827, by W. Burrell, Esq. M. P. for Sussex, (p. 138,) 25*l.* 8*s.* Some few parishes have already tried the experiment of sending their paupers to the United States. The expense of the passage costs about 20*l.* each family, and they also received, on embarking, from 8*l.* to 10*l.* in money. Last summer, captains of ships that took out these paupers encountered much difficulty and expense ; and the American authorities are determined to set their faces against the introduction of such Emigrants. I have no doubt,

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that if a well-regulated system were adopted, the parishes would most willingly incur even a greater expense, from the satisfaction they would feel in the superintendence of Government.

The Poor Law system may also be made available for the *voluntary* removal of females who may have strayed from the paths of virtue, and are now maintained in the different asylums throughout the kingdom at a considerable expense, to Van Dieman's Land and New South Wales, where they would be employed in virtuous pursuits, and, from the excess of male population there, soon become the heads of families.

The cost of removing a female adult, in a satisfactory way, from London to Van Dieman's Land, would not exceed 20*l.*; whereas, from a statement I lately saw in one of the London public journals, the cost of maintaining a female for one year in the London Penitentiary, is little short of 30*l.* History furnishes us with similar experiments in colonization in former periods, wherein their success is fully established. In speaking of the situation of Canada in the year 1669, Smith's History of that country, (in page 55, vol. I.) informs us as follows, viz.

“As the disproportion between the number of the men and women was very great, the Govern-

ment of France sent out several hundred women to the country. The character of these females is stated* as by no means of the fairest, *though by their subsequent conduct they lived without reproach*. On their arrival in the colony, an advertisement was published to let the people of the country know that a large number of women had arrived, and that such as had the means of supporting a wife should have their choice. The collection consisted of tall, short, fair, brown, fat, and lean. The notification had been made but a few days, when so great was the demand, that in less than fifteen days the whole of the females were disposed of. As soon as the marriage ceremony had taken place, the Governor-general distributed oxen, cows, hogs, fowls, salted-beef, and some money, to the married people."

In Ireland, and partly in Scotland, the Poor Law system is not in operation ; therefore the removal of actual *paupers* must be undertaken at the expense of the landowner, whose property may be benefited, or from some other contribution not now recognized for pauper purposes, such as county-rates or assessments. But I am disposed to think, that the flow of Emigrants from Ireland and Scotland will be so great, that when once a

* Baron Le Howton, vol. i. page 11.

well-regulated system is established,* little more will be required than the machinery, with some *partial assistance*; and when located in new districts, more extended relief.

Emigrants proceeding to the Colonies under the fostering guidance of Government will possess many advantages; and there is little doubt but country storekeepers and dealers will be found to assist the settlers with moderate credit.

Considerable relief might be extended to many pensioners, who would be happy to avail themselves of emigrating to British North America. It is not going too far to say, that in a year or two 5000 out-pensioners, heads of families, making equal to 25,000 persons, would avail themselves of mortgaging their pay for one, two, or three years, for such advances as might be thought necessary: this class of persons generally would be found valuable settlers, and, from their former

* Mr. Robinson, chief superintendent of Emigration to Upper Canada, in his Evidence before the Committee of 1827, (Report, p. 355.) states, in reply to the following question (3665)—Suppose the Government for five or six years more to afford facilities for eight or ten thousand persons to locate themselves in the American Colonies, would not that give a facility to a voluntary Emigration to the same extent?—*A.* More than double the extent. I am convinced, that for every 1000 persons you locate, you would get 2000 voluntary Emigrants to join them.

military habits, make excellent materials for the Provincial Militia.

On reference to the extract in the Appendix, (from p. 477 to p. 509, of the Emigration Report itself,) it will be found, that out of 627 petitions addressed to the Colonial Department, the majority were from pensioners wishing assistance to emigrate, and nearly all of them with large families.

The country will find equal relief in the removal of that class of small cotters or farmers that burden Ireland and prove such a clog to improvement, and whose situation generally, from their having large families, can, even with the greatest exertions, procure them little more than a scanty means of subsistence ; but by the sale of the few unexpired years of the lease of their FREEHOLD farm of *one or two acres*, they would be enabled to scrape up enough to pay their way across the Atlantic. By assisting this class with a partial loan in the Colonies, there is a more certain chance of repayment ; and their habits not being so vitiated, nor their spirits broken, their abstraction would make room for the actual pauper-labourer coming into the market. It is indispensable, if we expect any good to result to the country from extensive Emigration, that a systematic plan should be laid down, under the control of Government, (with provincial agents in various parts of the

United Kingdom, and a head superintendent in each province,) by which Emigration may be directed with Colonial settling agents, as may from time to time be deemed necessary, and a general emigrant and land officer in Quebec. This plan would be attended with very trifling expense, as I am prepared to show, compared with the great national benefit which it must ultimately produce ; and I may here notice the recommendation of my practical suggestions, by the late Emigration Committee, as follows :*

BOARD OF EMIGRATION.

“ With respect to the information of a Board of Emigration in London having agents in Ireland, Great Britain, and the Colonies, acting under its directions, your Committee are prepared, under any circumstances, to express their entire conviction of the expediency of forming such a Board, although its duties may be limited or extended, according to the decision that may ultimately be taken on the subject of Emigration.

“ Upon this subject, your Committee would refer the House, and His Majesty’s Government, to a Letter inserted after question 4277 in the Evidence, and addressed by Mr. Buchanan to the Chairman of the Committee : this Letter furnishes

* Vide Appendix, pages 101 to 104.

much valuable information, as well as important practical suggestions.

“ Your Committee are decidedly of opinion, that it would be impossible to accomplish that uniformity of operation which would be so necessary in a system of Emigration on an extended scale, unless by the establishment of agents, duly qualified, and whose duty it would be to act under the orders of the Emigration Board, and the local Governments.”

I do not consider that assistance to the extent hitherto proposed is required in our American Colonies, unless we were to select extreme districts, and attempt to colonize new countries, where no facilities or advantages could be expected from the proximity of markets or old settlements; but, as I contend, we have already abundant favourable situations to absorb such Emigration as may go on for many years. It is to such parts, with the assistance necessary to a labouring Emigrant to enable him to take root, that I would beg to direct your attention.

Great inconvenience is felt by Emigrants arriving in the Colonies, for want of facilities in either obtaining grants of land, or in its purchase, and of necessary information to guide them in selecting the proper place for settling. You will find, that in all the principal towns in the Western States of America, land offices, and other neces-

sary guidances, are to be met with, the want of which in our Colonies is the inevitable cause of numerous valuable Emigrants straggling from them, who would otherwise, *from feeling*, wish to live under the British Government.

I am glad the people of Canada are roused to the importance that would be obtained by some systematic arrangements to enable Emigrants to settle in the country,* as will appear from the following resolutions entered into at a Public Meeting held at Quebec, on the 5th November, 1827.

Mr. Valliers de St. Real in the chair.

The following resolutions were moved by Mr. Blanchet, and unanimously passed.

“ That in all countries, but more especially those newly settled, the increase of agricultural population is the only real and solid basis for the augmentation of wealth and power ; and consequently whatever tends to encourage a loyal and industrious population to extend the settlements into the forests which surround us, must eventually increase our political security, and thereby afford additional motives for the increase of industry and improvement ; while on the other hand, all such circumstances as have the effect of delaying, retarding, or obstructing such new settle-

* At present there is no arrangement whatever for the locating of Emigrants in Lower Canada, the want of which is universally admitted.

ments, are in the most eminent degree injurious to the vital interests of the province, and subversive of the beneficent intentions of the Sovereign we have the happiness to be governed by.

“ That exploring the unsettled parts of the country, opening roads, erecting bridges, and establishing villages, in such places as are most favourably situated for agricultural purposes, either on the waste lands now held by individuals, or in such other portions of the Province as his Majesty’s Government might see fit to open for settlement, would, if undertaken at the public expense, by affording labour on the spot to the poor, but industrious settlers, be the most efficacious means of extending and increasing the agricultural population; while the capital so beneficially employed would eventually, and at no distant period, be wholly repaid by the increased revenues which the augmentation of population thereby obtained must necessarily occasion, and even, perhaps, more directly by the settlers themselves, if the establishment of small quit-rents should be deemed advisable by Government.

“ That the establishment of societies in the several districts of this province, for the purpose of aiding and promoting the beneficial views of his Majesty’s Government, in exploring the waste

lands, selecting proper situations, and obtaining grants for new settlers, promoting and assisting their exertions in obtaining the means of opening new roads, clearing their farms, and obtaining labour near their locations, as a means of subsistence while their lands are unproductive, would, in the opinion of this meeting, be highly advantageous to the general interest of the country, by affording the means of rapidly increasing and extending the native population, and by retaining in the province many valuable settlers among the mass of Emigration that daily passes by the lower districts, from a deficiency in means to enable them to settle therein.

“ That a Committee be appointed for the purpose of inquiring into the expediency, practability, and means of establishing a society in the district of Quebec, for promoting the settlement of the waste lands, and that Messrs Blanchet, Stuart, Villieres, Henderson, Laqueux, Laforce, and Nielson, do form the said Committee, with authority to add any number of new members they may see fit, and that said Committee shall report to a future meeting.”

I trust that His Majesty's Government will not lose a moment in giving the subject its serious consideration ; and there is no doubt that the Colonial legislatures will cheerfully co-operate

in such laudable arrangements as the Imperial Parliament may decide upon. It is to be hoped that the future distribution of the Colonial Crown Lands may augment the mutual interest of the Mother Country and her Colonies, and I trust ere long to see *an impartial and vigorous Board of Escheats in operation*, so that the conditions on which all large grants of land have been made, and on which no improvements have taken place, may be rigidly enforced. If His Majesty's Government once decides upon a systematic sale of land, in unison with regulated Emigration, in a few years a considerable fund would accrue adequate to all the exigences that may arise for the location of pauper Emigrants, and leaving a surplus for the general service of the state.

The proceeds of public lands in the States of Ohio, Illinois, and other Western parts of the United States, are very considerable, and form important items in the revenue of that country. As I have already stated that the appropriation and sale of Crown Lands will be the most productive by being joined with a regulated system of Emigration, it will be advisable for the Colonial Land Commissioners in each province to which Emigration may be directed, to get surveyed, in convenient situations, and as contiguous as possible to old settlements, tracts of 500,000 acres as nur-

series in 100 or 80 acre lots ; lots of 200 to 500 acres should be interspersed among the settlements for a more respectable class of Emigrants. This arrangement will be found more necessary in Lower Canada, as in the Upper Province Emigration has taken complete root, and the successful experiment, under the superintendence of Mr. Robinson, in 1823 and 1825, (the result of which is so creditable to him who suggested it,) has had the effect of opening the eyes of the peasantry of the South of Ireland, (from whence the people were selected) to the advantages of Emigration, and the operations of the Canada Land Company. This, together with the fact, that any great extent of unoccupied land, in the possession of the Crown, could not be found in one situation without going to very remote districts, renders it less necessary to direct our attention at present to the Upper Province.

Indeed, at no period could His Majesty's Government have a better opportunity to commence a systematic plan of Emigration, by the introduction of a number of settlers into the provinces, than the present, when so many public works are going on in every part, and labour is in such universal demand in the Canadas. The Rideau Canal, uniting the Ottawa River with Lake Ontario at Kingston, affords employment for several thousand persons. The Welland Canal from Bur-

lington Bay, head of Lake Ontario, to Lake Erie, also gives vast employment; and the numerous improvements of the Canada Land Company have given considerable impulse to enterprise in the Upper Province, and tended much to enhance the value of property. The progress already manifest in the new town of Guelph, laid out last summer by Mr. Galt, the superintendent to the Canada Land Company, affords strong evidence of its ultimate prosperity and importance, and will thereby continue to give vast employment to mechanics and labourers. In and about Montreal, various public works are in operation, and the fortress of Quebec employs many labourers; in short, in the Canadas in general, the mechanic and labourer is much wanted.

Great advantages might accrue to the provinces by the opening of a military road from Halifax to Quebec, and also by the cutting a canal from Cumberland Basin, at the head of the Bay of Fundy, to Bay Verte, in the Gulph of St. Lawrence,—a distance of from eighteen to twenty miles, through a level country,—provided it were accompanied by the introduction of a body of Emigrants, to occupy the very thinly-peopled districts through which it is to pass;—and the expense of said public road should also establish the Emigrants.

The incalculable advantages that must follow

the extension of steam-navigation from the lower ports in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to Quebec, thereby affording a quick and reciprocal intercourse, must be so obvious, that it is unnecessary to enter into any particulars to elucidate the same. A passage from Halifax to Quebec may be performed, during seven months in the year (say from the middle of April to the end of November), in five or six days, including necessary stoppages at Prince Edward's Island, Miramichi, Gaspe, &c. &c. The advantages also of steam-navigation in these parts would be much enhanced, from the procuring, on moderate terms, a supply of coal from the inexhaustible mines in the Island of Cape Breton, in passing through the Gut of Canso. In the present state of agriculture* in New Brunswick, farming is not so much carried on, or so profitably attended to, as in the Canadas; and hitherto the inhabitants have been chiefly occupied in lumbering, which engenders any thing but a sound, healthy, and frugal state of society. The timber-trade (I am decidedly of opinion) "generally, as far as it concerns the provinces, would be much more advantageously substituted by agriculture." And in the event of a national system

* I do not consider the security for repayment so good in New Brunswick, in its present state of agriculture, as in the Canadas; besides, the temptation to lumbering enhances the risk of improvement on the Emigrant's farm.

of Emigration being adopted on the basis of repayment, the prosecution of lumbering compared to agriculture, would by no means afford so "good a guarantee."*

In confirmation of these remarks, I would beg to refer you to extracts from the "Annual Report of A. Wedderburne, Esq. Secretary to the St. John's (New Brunswick) Agricultural and Emigrant Society," dated 5th October, 1827.

"The general activity now displaying itself in the various departments of 'Agricultural Economy,' throughout the province, affords the most satisfactory evidence that a spirit of improvement is spreading amongst our husbandmen, and that they have now become sensible, through choice or necessity, that their true and most durable interests are identified with the cultivation of the land whereon they live; whilst the effects arising from it yield an additional testimony of the wisdom of that policy which declares the welfare and prosperity of a country to be founded upon its own internal resources, developed through the labour of its inhabitants, and the culture of its soil.

"I am happy to state, that the districts located under the superintendence of the Society continue to advance prosperously, through the labours of

* Vide my Letters in Appendix, page 126.

a contented and industrious peasantry; and as those persons who formerly drew lands, but neglected them, now find, that to retain possession, something must be done upon them, they are repairing to their lots as permanent settlers; and it is to be expected that, ere long, the whole line of road from the Hammond River to Hopewell will be inhabited, and which, when completed, will prove highly advantageous to St. John county, as well as to all the Eastern country in that direction. Of the Eastern range of this district, the following is a brief account. It contains 299 souls, having 3 horses, 82 cows, 3 bulls, 29 young cattle, 16 sheep, 52 pigs, 23 houses, 12 barns, 245 acres of land cleared, (of which 54 are in grain, 41 in potatoes, and 143 in pasture.)

“The Western range contains 103 souls, 2 horses, 29 cows, 2 bulls, 20 oxen, 17 young cattle, 21 sheep, 38 pigs, 23 houses, 21 barns, 2 mills, 355 acres of land cleared, (170 grain and potatoes, 185 pasture.) The Central division consists of 106 souls, or 30 families, having now 18 houses, and 30 to 40 acres of land cleared.* To this

* These Emigrants have been nearly five years in the province, and had little or nothing to begin with—the total value of their gross property, in October 1827, was computed at 3500l. or about 35l. a family.

part of the settlement I beg to call your attention, it having been formed under peculiar circumstances.

“ It will be remembered, that early in the season, some vessels arrived here, the Emigrants on board of which were in a very destitute condition, suffering alike from disease and poverty, and arriving in such numbers, until the city was overflowed with misery, to which the usual relief was of little avail ; a number of those unfortunate people being desirous and able to go into the woods, His Excellency, the Lieutenant-governor, with his characteristic humanity, directed that location might be made of those arriving in this state.

“ With this indulgence, therefore, of His Excellency, aided by the most liberal donation from His Majesty’s revenue, thirty families, consisting of 106 souls, were put on board a vessel for Shepody, furnished with provisions, hoes, and axes, with an agent to direct their operations, and distribute the allowance of provisions to each. The relief thus extended, it is satisfactory to say, has been productive of the desired consequence ; the dispirited and disappointed man, finding a resting-place, where his labours were to yield him and his family a future home, has, with contentment, industriously commenced his work, and proved a useful settler. Some of those sent up found la-

bour in Shepody, and others proving of very bad character, their supplies of provisions were stopped, and they have, I understand, left the province. Eleven families in all have left the settlement.

“The condition of the Emigrants arriving during the present season, has been of a very destitute character; and it is much to be feared, that the unrestrained manner in which they are now taken on board ship, *without any salutary regulation* being made for their comfort or cleanliness, materially increases the misery we so frequently witness here. It was the desire of your reporter to lay before the Society a plan for the employment of such characters on their arrival here, or during convalescence from sickness; but the detail of such a suggestion embraces so many important points, that he has forborne offering it until more fully considered and matured, in doing which he is now sedulously engaged.

“A donation of seeds was made during the season to the *Negro** Settlement at Loch Lomond, but it is to be regretted that they continue to make the worst return for the kindness extended towards them. During my last visit to this spot I found only thirty-four residents out of one hun-

* These are, I understand, part of the negroes captured during the late American war.

dred and twelve, to whom lots were to be leased; forty-four were non-residents, and the remainder dead and missing."

For the introduction of the growth of staple commodities in demand in the Mother Country, such as hemp and flax, many parts of the provinces are well adapted, particularly Lower Canada; and its preparation for market would profitably employ the youth of both sexes during the long winter:—it would form a valuable item of export in exchange for our manufactures, thereby diverting attention from the introduction of local manufactures.—The making potash, too, so much in demand in the United Kingdom, might be greatly extended.* Lumbering, to the extent of making *pipe and puncheon staves, boards and deals, for the West India and Home Market, and saw-logs for supplying the Colonial Mills, is advantageous to the farmer, and should be fostered by the Government, for this he can manage with his own family*; but the squaring of logs of timber, hauling and rafting it, requires a number of persons who are obliged to live in *Shanty's*,† in which a great portion of their time is taken up in drinking and

* Vide Governor Murray's Report on the State of the Province of Quebec in 1762, Appendix, p. 143.

† A Shanty is a temporary hut and grog-shop in the Forest, made of logs or the branches of trees formed like a tent covered with bark or grass, and is the head-

other excesses, productive of habits very unfitting a frugal farmer.

Emigration has of late taken considerable root in New Brunswick, chiefly on the St. John's river; but the proximity of St. John's and Halifax to the United States, and the facilities Emigrants find, aided by the numerous gypsum* craft that navigate the Bay of Fundy, make the expense of removal trifling. If, on the contrary, a

quarters of a gang of Lumberers, perhaps from twenty to thirty, and their only bed is a bear-skin and a pair of blankets; their food is salt pork, peas, and flour, and a liberal quantity of rum. The principal or head of these lumbering parties is a sort of itinerant Yankee.

* Gypsum craft are schooners or sloops, of from sixty to one hundred tons burthen, built very strong for taking the ground, and are chiefly employed for carrying plaister of Paris, or gypsum, from the inexhaustible mines of Nova Scotia, to Passamaquoddy and East Port, the nearest American ports, and which are the great rendezvous for coasters, from every part of the United States. They carry away great quantities for agricultural purposes, particularly to the States of New York and Jersey, it being indispensable to the farmer for manuring his land. Hence arise those facilities for emigrants getting to the States.

The principal gypsum mines are situated near Windsor, about forty-five miles N.W. of Halifax, at the head of the Basin of Minis, Bay of Fundy. Windsor is about ninety miles from St. John, New Brunswick, and one hundred and thirty from Passamaquoddy. The tide rises in Windsor River.... feet; in Cumberland Basin, the N.E. head of the Bay of Fundy, 60 feet; and at St. John's, New Brunswick, 40 feet.

few nurseries of Emigrants, under the fostering protection of Government, are introduced into New Brunswick, no doubt agriculture will begin to flourish, and the disposition that now exists in those free Emigrants to straggle into the United States in search of employment will be removed.

When first I visited New Brunswick, in 1816, scarcely a native of Ireland was to be found in the province; and in the city of St. John's there was not, I believe, ten householders from that country,—and now they constitute nearly one half of its inhabitants. In fact, the increase of trade and the general improvement of that province must be admitted to have arisen from the numerous settlers that emigrated thither, who must have added much to the wealth of the province, by precluding the Americans going in: the latter were formerly employed in the lumber trade, and generally returned to their own country and spent their earnings, thereby draining the province of much of its specie.

I well recollect the apathy of many of the old inhabitants on the first influx of poor Irish; nor did I escape their reproaches, as they supposed that many were induced to emigrate thither, through my influence and recommendation. I certainly feel gratified in reflecting that I have frequently given my advice to persons intending to emigrate

from Ireland, to bend their course to *our own Colonies* instead of the United States, formerly the chief outlet from the United Kingdom; and I am happy to state that my exertions, aided by those of other branches of my family, have not been unsuccessful. Indeed I do not consider it presumptuous in me to state, that I was the first who introduced any number of settlers from Ireland into our North American provinces; and farther, that the fact of the removal of upwards of 3000 British subjects from New York to Upper Canada in 1816 and 1817, by my brother, His Majesty's Consul, produced a more decided effect in turning the stream of Emigration to the Canadas (particularly from Ireland) than any subsequent measure; and I am sure there are many in the Colonies who would confirm this remark.

On a close intimacy with the Canadas, I found them better adapted for the labouring farmer than any other part of British North America, and I have of late years given my advice in their favour. There is no part of North America possessing a healthier climate, or soil yielding more products suitable to the culture and habits of the Irish and Scotch peasants, than His Majesty's province of Lower Canada.*

* Peter Robinson, Esq. says in his evidence before the Emigration Committee of 1827, Rep. p. 354, Q. 3682.—Will

In the Canadas farming is carried on with greater success than in the United States, and the farming peasantry in the latter country are not by any means so comfortably situated in any respect as those of the Canadas, particularly the lower province.

On the entire line of the St. Lawrence, Nicolet, Ottawa, and St. Francis, rivers, &c. &c. ; Le Bay, Upper and Lower Yamaska, Berthier, Chamblay, Richelieu, &c. and in every other direction about Montreal,—and even in many of the new townships,—the inhabitants live comfortably, exhibiting in their dwellings symptoms of great neatness and prosperity. Strangers going up the noble river St. Lawrence are struck with the beauty and neatness of the villages on its banks, which have the appearance of one complete street, from one hundred and twenty miles below Quebec, until you reach Montreal, 180 miles above.

I would now beg to give, under three heads, the following, viz.—

1st. Where shall the emigrants be taken from ?

2d. To what places shall they be located ?

you describe generally what districts you would now recommend for the location of any emigrations that might be undertaken by Government from this country?—I think that Lower Canada now presents the best situation—say above Montreal, on the Ottawa river, and below Quebec; the expense would be less, the emigrant would be nearer a market, and the climate is good.

3d. Shall any, and what, aid be granted out of the public funds of the parent state ?

First. As it is universally admitted that emigration is more applicable to the Irish than any other natives of the United Kingdom, it becomes indispensably necessary to turn their attention to the Colonies, in order to prevent their pouring into England and Scotland in such frightful numbers (which is the case at present) as, if not obviated, must ere long reduce the labouring classes of Great Britain to one common mass of misery.

* “ No person above the age of fifty years should be accepted as a Government emigrant, except under very especial circumstances ; each head of a family should be in a sound state of health,† of good character, desirous of emigrating, and in want of that effective demand for his labour by which he can obtain the means of independent subsistence. Above all, he should be a person, in consequence of whose removal no diminution of production would take place, although by such removal the expense of his maintenance would be

* Extract from Emigration Report, page 83.

† In common justice to the Colonies, it would not be reasonable to expect, that the Mother Country should pour in upon them the whole pauper population of the United Kingdom without making some arrangements for their future support ;—indeed, the Colonies, in self-defence, would be justified in making such local arrangements as would prevent it.

saved to the community. The class of people that I would propose to emigrate from Ireland,—are destitute labourers, ejected tenants, and poor cottagers, who are now found a clog to the consolidating of farms and improvement of estates, and whose better condition at home can never be contemplated. Unmarried females, to a certain extent, for domestic stations, are now in universal request in the Colonies from the excess of male population, who, no doubt, would soon become the heads of families, and enjoy that state of comfort which their prospects at home would very rarely afford them; and whose abstraction would form a check to improvident marriages, and which would be in itself a salutary check to the increase of a miserable population. At present there is no outlet for this class of poor females.—2ndly. From England, parish paupers and their families; (and, to a limited extent, females from the asylums, to the colonies of Van Dieman's Land and New South Wales, as already stated.)—3dly. From Scotland, poor Highlanders and other struggling labourers with large families.

Secondly.—The first is the branch of country extending from the head of the bay of Fundy, from the boundary of Nova Scotia on towards Miramichi, and up that river towards the St. John's or Madawaska in New Brunswick, compris-

ing altogether about 2,000,000 of acres; and this I would put under one settling agency.—2ndly. The district of Chaleur towards Metis, including Gaspe, about one million of acres: one agency.—3dly. The tract of country lying in the rear of the Seigniories, or south side of the St. Lawrence, from Metis towards the River Chanderie, opposite Quebec, according to the British boundary line about five millions of acres,—of which one-half is in dispute: one agency.—4thly. The Saguenay country, including that about Lake St. John, and from thence towards the St. Maurice River, in rear of the Seigniories, on the north side of the River St. Lawrence, ten million of acres: one agency.—5thly. The country from the River St. Maurice, including the north side of the Ottawa River and parts adjacent, three millions of acres: one agency.—6th. Upper Canada; one agent: and perhaps a seventh agency for Nova Scotia, including the Island of Cape Breton, in which about five hundred thousand acres may be found.

The first of these tracts embraces a continuance of situations adapted for Emigrants.

The great road proposed to run from Nova Scotia to Quebec would pass right through it: it abounds with numerous navigable streams, and its soil is generally considered good for agriculture, although hitherto it has not been improved,

in consequence of the attention of the settlers having been turned to lumbering, &c. From the thin state of our population, and want of settlements in that country, I fear it would be found necessary, in order to insure success, to assist the pauper settler with provisions for the first fourteen or sixteen months.

2ndly. The country about Chaleur and Gaspé has of late years grown much into notice, and is rapidly increasing in population. I would say, that a moderate number of Emigrants might establish themselves in these districts with less assistance.

3rdly. The country between the Seigniories, on the south side the St. Laurence and the boundaries of the United States, contains much good land fit for cultivation, and its proximity to old settlements, and easy access to Quebec market, render it unnecessary to expend farther assistance than that proposed for Gaspé. It is requisite to bear in mind the unsettled state of the boundary line of this part of Canada with the State of Maine, which at present creates such a lively interest in the public mind. In fact, the neglect hitherto paid in settling the southern frontier, has laid the foundation for endless squabbles with American squatters, who have forced themselves into possession.

I hope, however, that steps may ere long be taken to locate this fine country.

The following resolutions, passed at a public meeting held at Quebec on the 5th November, 1827, will show the feeling that exists on the foregoing subjects.

Mr. Vallieres de St. Real in the Chair.

The resolutions were moved by Mr. Blanchet, and unanimously adopted:

“ That, from the information before this Meeting, as well as from that laid before the General Meetings lately held in the Counties of Hertford, Devon, and Cornwallis, it appears, that in violation of the peace happily subsisting between Great Britain and the United States of America, and of the negotiations now pending for the amicable adjustment of the boundary between Lower Canada and the State of Maine, that State, or persons assuming authority in its behalf, have unequivocally intimated designs of forcibly possessing themselves of a large tract of fertile and valuable territory, heretofore considered as a part of the Provinces of Lower Canada and New Brunswick, comprehending what may be designated as the Great Valley of the River St. John, to the extent of nearly fifteen hundred leagues in superficies, in the vicinity, and almost on the very margin of the River St. Lawrence below this city.

“That, from the information laid before this Meeting, it is represented that, in prosecution of the design alluded to in the last resolution of severing from his Majesty’s dominions the Great Valley of the River St. John, in many parts whereof settlements, still existing and increasing, were made by Canadians, long previous to the existence of the United States as an independent power; surveys have been made, and townships or other subdivisions apportioned off, under the authority of a foreign state, whose subjects or citizens have commercial settlements thereon, which are silently, but progressively and rapidly proceeding towards the entire occupation of a part of the territory in question; attempts have been made to interrupt the intercourse between Canada and New Brunswick, on the River St. John; and threats used by foreigners to disturb his Majesty’s subjects, or expel them from their possessions held under the Crown, and protected by the laws of Great Britain.

“That measures be forthwith adopted to investigate the truth of the allegations detailed in the foregoing Resolutions, in order that, if after careful and dispassionate inquiry, such designs, attempts, and threats, or either of them, shall be found really to exist, means may be resorted to, the most efficacious in resisting, to the uttermost,

such encroachments as are equally and most dangerously aimed against the security of His Majesty's dominions on this Continent, and as destructive of the future welfare and prosperity, as subversive of the political existence of His Majesty's Province of Lower Canada, as a portion of the British Empire. That it appears to this Meeting, that in order to avert so great a calamity as the occupation of the territory in question, by foreigners, must be productive of, to the British Provinces generally, and to this Province in particular, an humble petition be prepared, and laid at the foot of the Throne, supplicating our most gracious Sovereign, that His Majesty may be pleased to take such measures as in his wisdom may appear expedient, to secure the undisputed enjoyment of the territory in question to His Majesty's most loyal subjects; and that petitions should also be presented to the Provincial Legislature, at their approaching Session, praying that they may be pleased to take the case into consideration, and adopt such measures thereon as the circumstances shall require.

“ That, to carry the resolves of this Meeting into effect, a Committee of seven persons be appointed, of whom any three shall form a quorum, with power to correspond with the other Committees already formed, or that may hereafter be formed in other parts of the Province for the pur-

poses for which this Committee has been appointed, and, jointly with the said Committees, to take such steps as may be mutually agreed upon as most conducive to the fulfilment of the trust reposed in them; and that Messrs. Blanchet, Stuart, Vallieres, Henderson, Laguex, Laforce, and Neilson, do form the said Committee."

As there is no part in this district wherein settlers would be located farther from the River St. Lawrence than from thirty to forty miles; and as there are good roads leading thereto, the greater part of the way, through the old settled seigniories,—the expense of transport would be very little; the usual hire of a man and his horse and cart, in the country parts of Lower Canada, is from four to five shillings per day.

4thly. — These tracts comprise a vast extent of land capable of cultivation, in a country better watered than any on the face of the globe. Protected as this country is by a range of mountains to the north-eastward, the climate is milder than at Quebec: melons grow there in the open air.

This country seems to be a most important one, in a military point of view. The River Saguenay is navigable for a ship of the line of the largest size, for twenty-seven leagues. Its precipitous capes render it of easy defence against any maritime force, however powerful. The fleet upon the

Halifax station affords it a complete defence. The great valley of Lake St. John could not be attacked by land: an enemy could not march over the mountains by which it is on every side surrounded. The port of Tadoussac, at the mouth of the Saguenay, is open a fortnight or three weeks earlier than that of Quebec, and closes as much later. The dangers of the navigation of the River St. Lawrence are avoided: it commands as much as Quebec the sortie of the great lakes, and is in more immediate connexion with the Gulf, its fisheries, and the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. In the rear it commands the whole of the Hudson's Bay territory; and such are the astonishing facilities of internal water communication afforded by the streams emptying themselves into Lake St. John, that there is no portion of Lower or Upper Canada, to the successful defence or attack of which, the possession of that lake might not be conducive.

From Lake St. John, a water communication with portages may be had through Lake Mistassinis and Rupert's River with James Bay. A like one may be had with the St. Lawrence through the Batiscar River, and another through the River St. Maurice, or the Black River.*

* The preceding district being in a state of wilderness, the Emigrant will require assistance to carry him through

The fifth tract of country, stretching from the River St. Maurice and Lake Mastinongi towards the Ottawa River, is particularly well adapted for settlement ; and from its contiguity to that river and the city of Montreal, emigrants located there will possess many advantages, and will not require any great extent of assistance.

6thly. The only vacant tracts of land for settlement in Upper Canada, in the possession of the Crown, are detached, and of small extent, without going into very remote situations not yet explored, except in the vicinity of the Ottawa and Redae rivers, which are, in every respect, admirably adapted for locating Emigrants, as a demand for labour of every description is so very considerable, that no great extent of assistance would be required.

In Nova Scotia, also, very little land capable of cultivation is now in the possession of the Crown, but what is in small detached lots. In the Island of Cape Breton, 400,000 or 500,000

twelve or fourteen months. As the ship navigation extends as high up the Saguenay as the Chicontimy River, (the source of which rises near that of the St. Maurice,) and as bateaux and small craft can proceed nearly to Lake St. John's, which lake is in every part navigable for large schooners, the expense of removing settlers thither would be very little.

acres are to be found fit for immediate and convenient settlement.

In the third place :—The subject of the application of the public funds to the purposes of Emigration, and the mode of effecting settlements practically and cheaply, is attended with some difficulty; but upon this, no doubt, many erroneous calculations have been formed.

The foundation of a successful regulation of this matter must be laid in rational economy. Not a farthing should be expended on the Emigrant that can be spared. Whatever unnecessary indulgence is conferred upon the pauper, diminishes the fund of charity or policy by so much, and leaves his brother pauper in hopeless distress in the United Kingdom, who might otherwise have been relieved; but as it is intended that the sum to be advanced to the Emigrants in the Colonies shall be repaid by them within a certain period, and their capability of doing so being undoubted,* I think the country cannot hesitate

* Vide Evidence of Eleven Colonial Witnesses, examined before the Committee of 1827, (See Report, Appendix, p. 521), confirming the capability of repayment, viz.

J. Sewell, Esq. Chief Justice.

P. Robinson, Esq. Superintendent.

A. C. Buchanan, Esq.

J. Howe, Esq.

Charles Hayes, Esq.

Captain Weatherly.

E

Captain

to guarantee the loan that may be required, having the land, with its consequent improvements, as security.

Two millions of acres will be required to settle twenty thousand families, allowing each family one hundred acres:—averaging at 2s. 6d.* per acre, would be 250,000*l.* thereby showing what a large sum might in a few years be created by a well-regulated system of emigration, acting in conjunction with the sale of Crown lands; and which would more than repay any probable expense the nation might be called upon to guarantee. I therefore assume that, under a system so regulated, emigration to our Colonies may stand thus:—

Free Emigrants	40,000
English parish paupers	5,000
Insolvent cottiers and tenants, from Irish estates	10,000
	<hr/>
Carried forward	55,000

Captain Marshall.
Rev. Dr. Strahan.
W. B. Felton, Esq.

Mr. R. Mount.
B. P. Baynes, Esq.

* In the United States, the Government land is put up at auction at 1½ dollar per acre, or 5s. 7¼d. sterling; and the Canada Land Company, I understand, charge (the lowest rate) 5s. and upwards.

Brought forward	55,000
Distressed manufacturers, from other charitable funds	2,000
Pauper tenants from Scotch estates, &c.	2,000
Out-pensioners, by mortgaging their pensions for five years	5,000
Poor unmarried women, of good character, from Ireland, &c.	1,000
Females from various asylums to Van Dieman's Land, &c.	300
Indented labourers to Cape of Good Hope and New South Wales	2,000
<hr/>	
Total. . .	67,300
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Which, with an annual increase of 10 per cent. would in five years exceed 100,000 persons per year, exclusive of other outlets to the United States, &c. and which I calculate at 10,000 persons annually.

Under any circumstances, the removal of 100,000 persons annually to our Colonies would be as many as could *ever* be prudently absorbed, and the abstraction of which could not fail to give considerable relief to the United Kingdom.

I propose to settle a pauper family for 45*l*.

For paupers approved of by Government, the sum of 20*l*. (together with a spade, a camp-kettle, two

pair of blankets, and a sickle-blade,) to be given to the agent at the port of embarkation; 10l.* of which is proposed to cover the expense of transport from the United Kingdom; the remaining 10l. to be expended after the arrival in the Colonies, under the direction of the Superintendent. The 20l, together with the articles already stated, to be given to the pauper as a free gift, and which would preclude him from obtaining a parish settlement hereafter.

In addition, I propose that Government should advance as a loan to each of such pauper Emigrants as may require it, a sum not exceeding 25l.; for the repayment of which, together with the purchase of the land, within certain periods, it will withhold as security the final delivery of the patent.

The Pauper Emigrant to have ten years' credit for the purchase of his farm, free of interest, and the loan of 25l. to be redeemed within ten years by instalments, commencing the fifth year with interest, the balance remaining after the fifth year to be liable to an interest of 5 per cent. and the cost of the land to bear interest, free for ten years, and if any part thereof be redeemed within the ten years, an abatement shall be made, not exceeding 5 per cent. upon the amount so paid.

* Vide Estimate, page 29.

To Free Emigrants, with satisfactory vouchers, the same loan of 25*l.* to be given on similar conditions as to Paupers, on their taking up a lot and building a log-house.

The sum that might be expedient to be advanced for the removal of indented labourers to the Cape of Good Hope and Van Dieman's Land, I shall not, at present, make any observation on, as I am not practically acquainted with those countries.

The only assistance that would be required for the removal of poor females, would be simply their passage out,—say 2*l.*, and 1*l.* to be advanced to each on her arrival in North America; as there is not the least doubt, that, previous information as to their expected arrival being circulated through the country, applicants would be found to engage them.

The following items may illustrate the disbursement of 45*l.* upon the *Pauper* Emigrant :

	£.	s.	d.
Received from Parish or Landlord			
in money, in addition to a spade,			
a camp-kettle, two pair of blankets,			
and a sickle	20	0	0
Expended in transport	10	0	0
	<hr/>		
Carried forward	£10	0	0
	<hr/>		

Brought forward	10	0	0
Government Loan	25	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£35	0	0
	<hr/>		

Expended thus:—	£.	s.	d.
For Log-House	4	0	0
Colonial Carriage	2	0	0
2 Axes (American)	0	12	0
2 Hoes	0	4	0
1 Auger and Iron-wedge	0	3	0
1 Iron Pot	0	5	0
Frying Pan	0	3	11
Seed, Grain, and Potatoes	1	10	0
Proportion of Whip-Saws, and Grind-			
stones	0	5	0
Medicines	0	10	0

Provisions:—

4½ lb. Flower and Oatmeal, with	
Potatoes in lieu occasionally . 7d.	
¼ lb. Molasses	1½
1 lb. Pork	4
2 Herrings, or other Fish	2

Per day	1	2½	
For 420 days	25	7	1
	<hr/>		
	*£35	0	0

* The items stated in the estimate are considered the

The sum which a male prisoner, in the State of New York, at Auburn, and who is employed in hard labour, costs for provision is six cents per day—about $3\frac{1}{4}d.$, for which they get substantial food.

The following scale may answer as a guide in forming the outline of the annual expenses that may be necessary for conducting a regulated system of Emigration, the whole to be made the superintendence and responsibility of an executive department of the state, for the settling 100,000 persons in the British North American and other Colonies, which, it is presumed, may be the extent of an annual emigration, when a regulated system is established; although I assume, as illustration, a loan of 500,000*l.* to settle 100,000 persons, I do not apprehend, but that the following sums, under the system here recommended, (to be raised by loan within five years,) would be found ample to facilitate, and actually settle half a million of persons, viz.:—For 1828, 50,000*l.*; for 1829, 350,000*l.*; 1830, 250,000*l.*; 1831, 200,000*l.*; 1832, 150,000*l.* and after the fifth year, should emigration go on at the rate of (pauper and free) 100,000 persons annually, I am disposed to think that from the

extent of what may be required, and it is presumed that some of them would be dispensed with—the Emigrant to be merely charged in account what he might actually receive.

increased demand for labour, and the numerous nurseries that would be formed, no farther loan of any great extent would be required, as the presumption is, that funds would then begin to come in from the proceeds of the operation. The loans to be raised by issuing bills, like Exchequer Bills, under the direction of the Board in London, in such sums as would from time to time be required, but not to exceed the total annual sum sanctioned by Parliament; and I would recommend all disbursements in the Colonies, on account of Emigration, to be drawn for by Bills of Exchange on the Board in London, at sixty days sight, which would afford sufficient time to make a favourable negotiation of the Emigration Scrip to meet them.

Many of the Emigrants, it is presumed, will not require the extent of loan which I propose—say 25*l.*;—while perhaps in extraordinary cases it may be necessary to authorise the settling agents, under the sanction of the Colonial superintendent, to grant some additional assistance, to form a separate and contingent account, and to be charged to the land account, until repaid by the Emigrant.

DEBTOR SIDE OF THE FOREGOING STATEMENT.

To amount of loan to 20,000 emigrant families, at 25 <i>l.</i> per family	500,000
To interest on ditto, for five years, at 4 per cent. Compound	108,327
To expenses of superintendence in the Colonies,* Board in London, land offices, agents in the United Kingdom, &c. and other contingencies connected with the Emigration of 20,000 families, being the sum total that may be required under any circumstances, to carry on a systematic Emigration, and, as the services of the officers will be required until the whole sum advanced the settlers is repaid, two years outlay may be assumed as a fair data, assuming likewise that Emigration is to continue for ten years at 10,000 <i>l.</i> per annum	20,000
	<hr/>
Carried forward	£628,327

* Although I embrace here generally the full outline of agency, and of every expense at home and abroad, yet I think a system might be adopted, whereby the Colonial Government would undertake the expenses of the neces-

Brought forward	£628,327
To interest on ditto for two years . .	1632
To expenses of surveying land, drafts, plans, &c. and extra contingencies of the Surveyor-General's department, opening roads, and other disburse- ments	8000
Ten years interest on ditto	3860
To stationary, &c. for the several de- partments connected herewith . .	1500
Two years interest on ditto	122
	<hr/>
	£643,441
	<hr/>

Creditor.

By the proceeds of two millions of acres to be sold to the 20,000 Emigrant heads of families, at 2s. 6d. per acre .	250,000
By amount received from Emigrants, in repayment of the loan of 500,000 <i>l</i> . deducting for defaulters, incidentals, attending collection, and other draw- backs, at 2 <i>l</i> . per family, 40,000 <i>l</i> . . .	460,000
By premiums on bills drawn on Eng-	

Carried forward £710,000

sary arrangements in each Colony, by giving some equi-
valent in land, and of course allowing them to appoint their
own officers.

Brought forward £710,000	
land from the Colonies, for the sums advanced the Emigrants (500,000 <i>l.</i>) at an average premium of 6 per cent. after deducting incidental expenses connected with the negotiation of said bills	30,000
Gain of exchange on payment of su- perintendants, agents, surveyors' ex- penses, &c. on 29,500 <i>l.</i> 6 per cent. .	1770
	<hr/>
	£741,770

Debtor	£643,441
Creditor	741,770

Creditor balance £98,329

The balance on this calculation will no doubt be found amply competent to cover any possible defalcation or contingency to which the State may be liable. At the same time it must be admitted, that the advantage to be derived to the Emigrants and the Country, would be such as would justify a rational outlay of the National Funds; although with proper management, I am firmly of opinion that a system of Emigration highly advantageous may be pursued not only without any ultimate

outlay, but, producing, as I have stated, a surplus for the general disbursement of the Empire.*

The following practical hints may prove useful to Emigrants proceeding to North America.

Persons intending to emigrate to North America, who have no friends there before them, should consider well the place to which they ought to proceed.

The rate of passage, exclusive of provisions, to the United States, is from 5*l.* to 6*l.* per adult, and to any of our Colonies from 2*l.* to 3*l.*; a child under seven years old pays one third, and over seven and under fourteen one half. A voyage to New York from the United Kingdom, in the months of April, May, June, and October, (in which the shortest passages are generally made) is performed in from thirty to thirty-five days. To Quebec, in the month of April or May, from thirty to forty-five days. Halifax and St. John's, New Brunswick, from twenty-five to thirty-five days.

* The accounts of each year's emigration to our North American colonies should be made up to the 1st of December, and the whole transmitted to the Board in London, so as to arrive not later than the 10th February, when abstracts detailing progress of settlements, number of persons located, extent of assistance rendered, &c. should be made out and laid before Parliament, not later than the 10th March, to enable them to decide on the outlay for the ensuing year.

Persons proceeding to any part of the state of Pennsylvania, not immediately, or Lake Erie, should embark for Philadelphia; if to the back part of Virginia, or any part of Maryland, or Kentucky, take shipping for Baltimore; if for Jersey or State of New York, embark for New York, from whence, in fact, you will find facilities to every part of the Continent. If you are destined to any part of the Canadas, (unless the district of Gaspé) take shipping for Quebec. If for the district of Gaspé or Chaleur, go direct, if you can meet with a conveyance; if not, Miramichi, or Prince Edward's Island, will be the most convenient ports to embark for. Steam-boats ply daily from Quebec to and from Montreal, which will be found the best route to any part of Upper Canada, and the Western States bordering on the Lakes or River St. Lawrence. If you have friends before you, and you are going to New Brunswick, take shipping for St. John's, St. Andrew's, or Miramichi, as your advices may direct.

If you have no fixed place in view, or friends before you, if labour and farming be your object, and you have a family, bend your course to the *Canadas*; for there you will find the widest field for your exertions, and the greatest demand for labour.

In almost every part of the middle States of America, you are subject to fever and ague, as

also in some parts of Upper Canada. Lower Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia are exempt in this respect.

I would particularly recommend the months of April and May for going out, as you may then expect a favourable passage : on no account go in July or August, as, from the prevalence of south-west winds, you will have a tedious passage. Make your bargain for your passage with the *owner* of the ship, or some well known respectable broker, or ship master ; avoid, by all means, those crimps that are generally found about the docks and quays, near where ships are taking in passengers. Be sure that the ship is going to the port you contract for, as much deception has been practised in this respect. It is important to select a well known captain, and a fast sailing ship, even at a higher rate.

When you arrive at the port you sail for, proceed immediately in the prosecution of your objects, and do not loiter about, or suffer yourself to be advised by designing people, who too often give their opinion unsolicited. If you want advice, and there is no *official person at the port you may land at*, go to some respectable person or Chief Magistrate, and be guided by his advice.

Let your baggage be put up in as small a compass as possible : get a strong deal chest of convenient size ; let it be the shape of a sailor's box,

broader at bottom than top, so that it will be more steady on board ship; good strong linen or sack-bags will be found very useful. Pack your oatmeal, or flour, in a strong barrel, or flax seed cask, (which you can purchase cheap in the spring of the year). I would advise, in addition to the usual wood hoops, two iron ones on each cask, with a strong lid and good hinge, and a padlock, &c. Baskets or sacks are better adapted for potatoes than casks.

The following supply will be sufficient for a family of five persons for a voyage to North America, viz.—48 stone of potatoes* (if in season, say not after 1st June); $2\frac{1}{2}$ cwt of oatmeal† or flour; $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt biscuits; 20lbs butter in a keg; 1 gallon of molasses; 20lbs bacon; 50lbs fish, (herrings) in a small keg; 1 gallon of spirits; a little vinegar.—When you contract with the captain for your passage, do not forget to insure a sufficient supply of good water. An adult will require five pints per day—children in proportion.

The foregoing will be found a sufficient supply for an emigrant family of five persons, for sixty or seventy days, and will cost about 5*l*, in Ire-

* If potatoes are out of season for keeping, increase the quantity of oatmeal.

† If the Emigrant has any oatmeal to spare, it will sell for more than prime cost.

land or Scotland ;—in England 6*l.* or 7*l.* ; if the Emigrant has the means, let him purchase besides 1*lb* of tea, and 14*lb* sugar, for his wife.

The preceding statement contains the principal articles of food required, which may be varied as the taste and circumstances of the Emigrant may best suit. In parting with your household furniture &c. reserve a pot, a tea-kettle, frying-pan, feather-bed, (the Irish peasantry generally possess a feather-bed), as much coarse linen as you can, and strong woollen stockings,—all these will be found very useful on board ship, and at your settlement, and are not difficult to carry. Take your spade and reaping-hook with you, and as many mechanical tools as you can, such as augurs, planes, hammers, chisels, &c.—thread, pins, needles, and a strong pair of shoes for winter.—In summer, in Canada, very little clothing is required, for six months—only a coarse shirt and linen trowsers ; and you will get cheap moccassins (Indian shoes) ; you will also get cheap straw hats in the Canadas, which are better for summer than wool hats, and in winter you will require a fur or Scotch woollen cap. Take a little purgative medicine with you, and if you have young children a little suitable medicine for them. Keep yourselves clean on board ship, eat such food as you have been generally accustomed to, (but in moderation) keep no dirty clothes about your berths, or *filth of any kind*. Keep on

deck, and air your bedding daily when the weather will permit; get up at five o'clock, and retire at eight; take a mug of salt water occasionally in the morning. By attending to these observations, I will insure your landing in good health and better-looking than when you embarked.

From the great disparity of male over female population in the Canadas, I would advise every young farmer, or labourer going out, (who can pay for the passage of two,) to take an active young wife with him.

In Lower Canada, and New Brunswick, winter begins about the end of November, and the snow is seldom clear from the ground till the beginning of April. In Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward's Island, from their insulated situation the winters are milder than in New Brunswick or Lower Canada, and in Upper Canada they are pretty similar to the back part of the State of New York.

The risk of a bad harvest or hay time is rarely felt in Canada, and consequently farming is not attended with so much anxiety or labour, as in the United Kingdom. The winters are cold, but dry and bracing. I have seen men in the woods, in winter, felling trees with their coats off, and otherwise light clothed. The summers are extremely hot, particularly in July and August.

The new settler must consult the seasons in all his undertakings, and leave nothing to chance, or

to be done another day. The farmers of Lower Canada are worthy of remark in these respects.

In conclusion, *I beseech you*, if you have any party feeling at home, if you wish to promote your own prosperity, or that of your family,—*wash your hands clean of it, ere you embark.* Such characters are looked upon with suspicion in the Colonies; and you could not possibly take with you a worse recommendation.

Prices of living, house-rent, labour, &c. in the principal towns of Canada, with the expense of travelling on the great leading routes.—In Quebec and Montreal, excellent board and lodging in the principal hotels and boarding-houses, 20s. to 30s. per week.—Second-rate ditto from 15s. to 20s. per week.—Board and lodging for a mechanic or labourer, 7s. to 9s. 6d. per week, for which he will get tea or coffee, with meat for breakfast, a good dinner, and supper at night.

Rate of wages, without food generally, in the Canadas.—Ship-carpenters, joiners, &c. from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day.—Bricklayers or stonemasons from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day.—Labourers 2s. 6d. to 4s. per day.—Labourers in the country, 40s. per month, and fed.—All handicraft tradesmen from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per day.—House-servants, men, from 26s. to 36s. per month, with food.—Females 20s. to 30s. per month, with food.

House-rent, in Quebec or Montreal. A first-rate

private dwelling-house from 100*l.* to 150*l.* per year, unfurnished.—Shops, according to situation, from 30*l.* to 100*l.*—Tradesmen's dwellings from 20*l.* to 30*l.*—Inferior class 10*l.* to 15*l.*—A farm of 100 acres, with 20 or 30 acres clear, and a tolerable dwelling, and office-houses, may be purchased in the Canadas for from 150*l.* to 300*l.*, according to the situation.

Passage from Quebec to Montreal, 180 miles, by steam-boats, one of which leaves each place daily, commencing the end of April, and ending the latter end of November. Cabin, including board. &c. which is very luxurious and abundant, from 20*s.* to 30*s.* Steerage, without board, from 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* Nearly a similar rate may be considered an average data, in proportion to distance, in travelling by steam, in all the great lakes and rivers in North America. Time, in going from Quebec to Montreal, 30 hours. Ditto, in returning, 24 hours. From Montreal to York, Upper Canada, 2 to 3 days. If by Durham boats,* which are cheapest for Emigrants, the total expense

* A Durham boat is long and narrow, and nearly flat in the bottom, with a shifting keel to lift up in shallow water. They generally carry equal to 300 or 400 barrels of flour, and by them is conveyed all the produce from Lake Ontario, &c.; the time descending from Kingston to Montreal is from two to three days, and in returniug from eight to fourteen.

to York, including provisions for family, about 3*l.* 15*s.* To Prescot or Ogdensburgh, including food, about 2*l.* From York to Niagara, or Buffalow, one day. From Buffalow, or Niagara, there are numerous conveyances, either by steam-boats or sailing-vessels, to the Talbot Settlement and every where about Lake Erie, and cheap conveyances to the States of Ohio, back parts of Pennsylvania, Illinois, Mitchigan, Mississippi, Territory, Kentucky, Tennessee, and the adjacent country. Steam-boats and coaches ply daily from Montreal towards New York; also to Upper Canada, and up the Ottawa; and, in fact, during the summer months conveyances in every direction from Montreal are to be found daily; and when winter sets in, travelling is good and expeditious by sledging, or caryoling upon the snow or ice, which generally commences about Christmas, and continues till the end of March.

Route for an Emigrant's family, wishing to proceed from New York to settle in Upper Canada.—From New York to Albany the expense will be, for 160 miles, 4*s.* 6*d.* per head.—Albany to Rochester, 13*s.* 6*d.*—Rochester to Youngstown, in Upper Canada, 4*s.* 6*d.*—Children under twelve years, half price. Infants, gratis. Baggage, when exceeding a moderate quantity, from New York to Upper Canada, 4*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

Distances.—New York to Albany by the Hudson River, 160 miles.—Albany to Utica by the Canal, 109 miles.—Utica to Rochester by the Canal, 160 miles.—Rochester to Niagara River, in Upper Canada, by steam-boat, 80 miles.—Total distance from New York to Niagara, 509 miles.

Price of Provisions at Montreal and Quebec.—Beef (winter), $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb.—Ditto (summer), $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $4d.$ per lb.—Mutton (winter), $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb.—Ditto (summer), $5d.$ to $6d.$ per lb.—Veal (summer), $6d.$ to $7d.$ per lb.—Ditto (winter), $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3d.$ —Butter, $6d.$ to $9d.$ per lb.—Flour, $20s.$ to $26s.$ per 196 lb.—Hams, $5d.$ to $7d.$ per lb.—Cheese, $3d.$ to $6d.$ per lb.

The rates in the country parts are much lower than the above.

Wheat in the Canadas, according to distance from port of export, $3s.$ to $5s.$ per bushel.—Oats, $1s. 4d.$ to $2s.$ per bushel.—Potatoes, $1s.$ to $2s.$ per bushel.—A good Goose or Turkey, $1s.$ to $1s. 6d.$ —A pair of barn-door Fowls, $10d.$ to $1s. 2d.$

Vegetables in every part remarkably good and cheap; and also fish in great abundance. Apples, melons, grapes, and other fruit of all sorts found in England, &c. in great profusion.

Liverpool and Newcastle coals at Quebec or Montreal, from $30s.$ to $35s.$ per chaldron, but wood is chiefly burnt.

Jamaica Rum, 4s. to 5s. per gallon.—Cognac Brandy, 6s. to 6s. 6d. do.—Whiskey, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. do.—Sugar, 6d. to 7d. per lb.—Hyson Tea, 3s. 6d. to 5s. do.—Congou black, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. do.—Bohea, 2s.—Madeira Wine, 24s. to 40s. per doz.—Port, 20s. to 24s. do.—Claret, 20s. to 30s. do.—Champagne, 40s. to 60s. do.

Porter and Ale are manufactured in every part of Canada ; and in Montreal in particular, very extensive breweries are in full work, and produce Porter not inferior to that of London.

FISHERIES.

Frequent allusion was made, before the late Emigration Committee, to the advantage that might be derived from further encouragement in the prosecution of the valuable Fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Gulf of St. Lawrence ; and it has been frequently remarked, that an increase of population in the maritime districts of those countries would materially tend to great national benefit. Now, Emigrants from the South of Ireland, (particularly from the counties of Cork, Waterford, and Kerry,) are well adapted, from their native habits, for that purpose.

At present, the Americans are enabled, from a combination of causes, not only to compete with, but actually to outstrip, us in fishing on the coast of

our own territory; and it cannot be denied, that our liberality was extended too far in our commercial treaties with the United States and France upon these points. I do not see upon what grounds any foreign power should be permitted to fish in any of our close waters; and in a geographical point of view, as far as our territorial jurisdiction extends, I am disposed to think we are entitled to exclusive sovereignty in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Straits of Bellisle, as much as in the Irish Channel, between the Isle of Man and the Irish or English coast; in fact, we should consider Cape Ray on the Newfoundland coast, and Cape North in Breton Island, the natural outlets of the River St. Lawrence on the south, and the Bellisle Straits on the north. All the American fishermen frequent these waters, and freely use the Islands of Magdellan, and the Esquimaux and Labrador shores, as well as numerous bays in the west and north-west of Newfoundland, to the manifest injury of the British fishermen; and this will, I fear, be the case until we introduce additional population into Cape Breton, the coast of New Brunswick, and Lower Canada bordering on the Gulf;—by which means a similar method (to that pursued by the Americans inhabiting the State of Main and Massachussetts, which are the principal residence of their fishermen) might be adopted, but with

much greater advantage to us. At present, the bulk of the persons engaged in the North American fisheries are migratory from the South of Ireland and West of England—whole cargoes of fishermen going out every spring from Waterford, Pool, and other places. This must militate against the profit of the adventurer, in addition to the expense of freight, and many other contingencies, independent of engendering restless and dissolute habits. On the contrary, the following superior and economical system is pursued by the fishermen of the United States.

Six or ten farmers join and build a sloop or schooner in the winter, of from 50 to 100 tons burthen, which they get ready for sea by the 1st of May; and, after tilling and cropping their farms, and each person supplying his quota of provision, raised by themselves, and appointing the most experienced amongst them as their captain, they set sail for the banks of Newfoundland, Gulf of St. Lawrence, or Labrador Coast. They generally make up a full cargo of fish in about six weeks, and perform the voyage altogether in three months; and on their return find the harvest ripe, and all things ready to recommence their agricultural pursuits. Thus, in fact, do these hardy, frugal, and industrious Americans, not only reap

a profitable crop on shore, but carry on an equally lucrative traffic in fish from the ocean.

It is well known, that to the Eastern States the American Government looks for hardy seamen to man their navy, in the event of future war; and the want of such a class of persons would be materially felt in the districts of our Colonies, in the event of an appeal to arms, to preserve the territory under the dominion of the British Crown.

The importance of the grant of the Islands of St. Peter's and Maquillan, on the south of Newfoundland, and near the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence has (it appears to me) not been duly considered. The French make them a depot for their manufactures, which are thus easily introduced into our Colonies, to the manifest injury of British interests.

The fine harbours of Louisburgh, in Cape Breton Island, Gaspe, and Bay Chaleur, present unrivalled situations for carrying on fisheries upon those coasts; and also, between Anticosto and the Labrador shore, the fine harbour of Mingin, and the Bay of Seven Islands, lie easy of access, and possess great facilities for forming fishing settlements; and asylums would be thereby afforded to the unfortunate mariners, who are by necessity compelled to take shelter in those perilous seas (particularly,

on the approach of winter). The following extract will show the lively interest taken by the people of the Colonies in this important branch of our national resources.

From the *Nova Scotian* of the 5th Dec. 1827.

The Fisheries.—“ An intelligent correspondent at Pictou, who has been engaged during the last summer in the trade of the Magdalene Islands, solicits us to direct the attention of our readers to the disadvantages sustained by these Colonies, from the permission granted to the Americans, of fishing on our shores. The effects of this intrusion, he arranges under several distinct heads; and we proceed this week, to communicate and illustrate his remarks.

“ 1. It is obvious, he suggests, that this concession on our parts affords to the Americans an extensive field of industry, to which they can prefer no claim, founded either in national right, or sanctioned by the law of nations. It has been asserted, that they employ in this trade upwards of 2000 vessels, and 20,000 men; but although we regard it as an exaggerated estimate, there can be no doubt that the number of vessels which sail annually from the States to the Labrador and Newfoundland Fisheries, largely exceeds 1000. A long experience has ascertained that this species of employment rears the hardiest and most enter-

prising sailors ; and thus, by a false indulgence on our part, while the naval resources of America are multiplied, she is reared into a more dangerous, because a more powerful and energetic rival. No European power, since the battle of Trafalgar, has exhibited the capability of competing with England in her naval pre-eminence. America unquestionably has. We do not believe, from the nature of her localities and population, that she ever will be able to attain the dominion of the seas ; but our statesmen ought to see, as clearly as the noon-day sun, the inexpediency of gifting to her subjects a branch of industry which necessarily tends to increase her maritime strength, and will render her friendship an object of more anxious solicitude, in any future struggle among the nations of the Old World. In a political point of view, every argument, both of national safety and national honour, urge upon the Cabinet of England the propriety of recalling this indulgence, provided it can be accomplished without violating the faith and integrity of treaties.

“ 2. When, however, we turn to the commercial effects of this concession, the folly of it is shadowed in bolder relief. It is a recognised principle in political economy, that supply and demand have a close and immediate reaction upon each other. If this be correct, and we think none will

have the hardihood to dispute it, it is obvious, that the enlarged and vigorous prosecution of the Fisheries upon our shores, is altogether dependent upon an increased and active demand for their products abroad. Our fisheries themselves appear to be inexhaustible:—although upwards of two centuries have elapsed since the French first commenced to fish upon the shores of Nova-Scotia, Labrador, and Newfoundland, and millions of quintals have been derived from them, yet it is the general belief that they are still as prolific as in the earlier times; and that they seem to resemble the widow's cruise, which multiplied in its contents by every new abstraction. It is clear, therefore, that we could still prosecute them to an extent far out-running the present; and, in fact, that our exertions are now limited by the smallness of the foreign demand. We complain of the right conceded to America, because it curtails that demand below what it would otherwise be. It wrests from us, in the first place, the supply of the United States themselves; no fish, with the exception of a few barrels of pickled salmon or mackarel, are ever exported to America, although it is in the recollection of our mercantile men, when dry fish, in large quantities, were annually and regularly shipped from Nova Scotia to Boston, to New York, or to the South. To Moose Island also, as was

lately stated by the editor of the ‘St. John’s Courier,’ American vessels were once in the habit of resorting for the purpose of purchasing fish, but no such practice is now continued ; and both of these changes are assigned as the legitimate consequences of the liberal terms of the last treaty. Nor are the effects of this false generosity on the part of British negotiations confined to the demand of America alone ; her fishermen do not only fully meet the domestic demand, but carry home a large surplus besides ; and these being exported to the Catholic Countries of Europe, to the foreign islands in the West Indies, and to the rising republics in South America, enter into competition with the products of our fishing industry, curtail the demand, deteriorate the price, reduce the rate of the merchant’s profit, and retard our career in the pursuit of national wealth.”

I would here particularly draw your attention to extracts from Governor Murray’s Report to the Secretary of State, in 1762, on the actual state of the Province of Quebec, which bears so strongly on the importance to be derived from the Fisheries. —Vide Appendix, page 142.

As I understand the attention of the Colonial Government has lately been directed to the building of light-houses, and as it has been recommended that they may be erected at several points

in the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, it may not be digressing too much, if I offer a few remarks connected therewith, having paid great attention to the subject, from frequent excursions in those parts. Upon an average calculation, not fewer than 1,500 sail of square-rigged vessels, exclusive of thousands of fishing-craft, frequent those seas annually.

The Island of St. Paul's has been spoken of for the erection of a light-house. Now, I would beg to remark, that no possible danger exists on any part of this Island, and that ships may lay their side against any point of its shore.

I would suggest that the Bird Islands would be a more desirable situation, and a better guide for the strange mariner, to enable him to steer a correct course to the River St. Lawrence, which he could do on one line as high up as Cape Chat on the south, or Cape Demon on the north shore.

Secondly, on the south-west of Antercosta a revolving light would be of great importance, as it would also form an asylum for the shipwrecked mariners that are often thrown upon its desolate coast.

On Cape Demon, and on the Island of Bic, light-houses might be placed with advantage. The latter situation would be found particularly useful, as many ships, for want of a mark or guide

when lying-to off this island in a gale of wind, or waiting for a pilot, are drifted by a north-east current on the Maneeoging shoals, when they at the moment think they are in mid-channel. A large bell to be tolled, with a cannon to be fired in thick weather, would be of first-rate importance at all the light-houses enumerated.

As I hope soon to see considerable shipping frequent the Great River Saquenay, and the harbour of Tadousac, the removing the present light-house from Green Island, and placing it upon Red Island, might be worth consideration: it would then not only answer as a guide up or down the St. Lawrence, but also to ships bound to and from the Saquenay.

These, with a floating light at the entrance of the Travers,* and another light-house at the Pillars, would render the navigation of the noble river St. Lawrence not only more expeditious by many days, but free from various accidents that now unhappily take place. The gainers by the great traffic passing up and down would not complain of the expense; besides, a considerable share of the burden should, in point of justice, be borne by the public, as the advantage and security to his Majesty's ships and transports would be very much increased.

* Shoals—a dangerous part of the river.

Reference to a map or chart of those seas will show the situations referred to: and as the number of emigrants that pass up the River St. Lawrence is very great, (amounting last year to 17,000 persons,) and no doubt will greatly increase, the affording every possible assistance for the guidance of the adventurous mariner deserves all the consideration that can be given to the subject.

Thus, Sir, I have endeavoured, in as short a space as possible, to lay before you such a practical view on the question of Emigration, as my long experience with settlers proceeding to North America has enabled me to take; and if it meets your approval, I shall consider myself truly fortunate.

My interest, and that of my family, are too strongly identified with a lasting union between the Mother Country and the Colonies, for me to offer any opinion that would not bear the test of the closest scrutiny; and however feeble my humble efforts may prove in throwing any additional light on the question of Emigration, I shall have the satisfaction to reflect hereafter, that I have not neglected to direct my utmost exertions in assisting to accomplish that very important object.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your devoted and obedient Servant,

A. C. BUCHANAN.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

From Emigration Report, 1827.

No. I.

LETTER TO THE RIGHT HON R. WILMOT HORTON.

23, Downing-street, May 23, 1827.

“ Sir,—Agreeably to your orders, I have endeavoured in as concise a form as I can to submit to the honourable the Committee an outline of arrangements that, in my humble opinion, will be necessary, or something of a similar tendency, for carrying into effect any extended system of not only free emigration, with advantage to the Mother Country and Colonies, but pauper emigration, at the least possible expense to the country ; and the political advantage that may be produced by such arrangements, as tending more to unite in a friendly bond of union the Colonies and parent State, must be so obvious, that any outline is unnecessary. In the first place, presuming that extended facilities and scale of emigration may be resolved on, it will be indispensable that a Board of Emigration, consisting of a secretary and two commissioners, or such other officers as may be considered necessary, be immediately formed in London, under the control of the Colonial Department, in which office, every thing connected with emigration, to whatever part of the world, should be conducted and re-

cords of same kept, and where all necessary information of our Colonies shall be obtained referring to emigration, and plans and diagrams of Crown lands, townships, and settlements recorded, and, in fact, where every thing connected with the business shall centre.

“ I farther propose that provincial agents, in different parts of the United Kingdom, be appointed under the Colonial Department, and in connexion with the Board in London; for England, three agents I should consider necessary, say London, Liverpool, and Bristol; in Scotland, two, say Edinburgh and Greenock, or Glasgow; in Ireland, four provincial agents, viz. Dublin, Cork, Galway, and Londonderry; and from which ports, public emigration generally to be conducted; but it should be the duty of the agents to give occasional attendance at any adjoining ports when necessary. The duties of those agents to be, to attend to the embarkation and selection of the emigrants; to keep up a connexion with the local country authorities, grand juries, magistrates, and parish officers; to receive proposals and applications for *free* or *public* emigration, the same to be transmitted monthly to the Board in London; and to keep a register of all persons within their district that emigrate, and to furnish tickets or certificates to such applicants as are approved of for emigration.

“ I also recommend that *without delay* (as, if it is expected that any good can be done next year, it will be absolutely necessary that arrangements should be forthwith made), *responsible* and proper persons be appointed in the Colonies as agents, and who will act under the *orders of the Colonial officers, the respective Governors of Colonies, and head superintendents, and Central Board in London.* I have heard it suggested, that Committees or Boards should be formed in the Colonies, but to this I am decidedly opposed, as it would be very difficult to form such associations *free from strong local prejudices*; and on which subject I perfectly agree with the opinion given last year

by Colonel Cockburn, in his evidence already before the Committee ; the persons employed to conduct the necessary operation should act *only* under the control of the Colonial Department and respective Governors. And for the greater facilities and due performance of the objects contemplated, the agents will be required at the following ports and places : at Quebec in particular, one with assistant ; at Montreal, one ; at Kingston, one assistant agent ; at Miramichiee, one agent, who will also be required to attend to the duties of Chaleur and Gaspee ; at Halifax and St. John's, New Brunswick, assistant agents : the principal duties of these agents will be to keep registers of arrivals of emigrants ; plans of townships, Crown lands, and new settlements ; a description of the soil, situation, and every information that can guide the emigrant on landing, in enabling him to make his election ; *to receive and register applications for labourers, mechanics, and servants ; to receive money from persons in the Colonies wishing to bring out their friends*, and to give necessary orders on the emigration agents at home for said purposes ; to assist in forwarding emigrants, whether *public or free*, to the lands ; and to keep up that *link* of communication generally with each other, as well as with the Mother Country, that at all times the most ample information may be obtained of the progress of settlements, demand for labour in particular districts and at public works, &c. : abstracts of same to be transmitted monthly to the respective agents at Quebec, and half-yearly to the Board in London, and printed copies thereof to be sent to such district agents in the United Kingdom.

“ Superintendents will be required for each province, as settlements may be formed, under *whose particular directions and responsibility* settlements of the emigrants shall take place, the appropriation of land and necessaries, and other local matters connected therewith, subject to the orders of the Colonial Department, and respective Governors, transmitting half-yearly to the Colonial Department,

through the Emigration Board, reports of the state of settlements, and such useful information as may be deemed necessary, with duplicates thereof to the respective Governors. If any extensive scale of emigration go on, it may be necessary to have the following Superintendents: say one for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; one for the districts situated on the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, including Miromichee River, Chaleur, and Gaspee; one for Lower Canada; one up the Ottawa River; and one for Upper Canada.

“ I would recommend that either the Superintendents or agents be authorised to receive such sums of money as persons in the Colonies may wish to deposit, for the purpose of bringing out or assisting their friends; and that such monies be deposited, if convenient, in the respective Colonial Saving Banks, for the advantage of such applicants.

“ There are a variety of matters requiring much consideration, and which can only be gone into when the actual details of the scheme are going into operation. I shall therefore proceed to offer my opinion on the description of persons that may probably avail themselves of these facilities, and the plan of carrying them out with the least possible expense to the public. I beg to refer you to my answers to your printed queries, for my opinion on the necessary articles to be furnished to emigrants, and rations of provisions, &c.

“ The description of persons that form the bulk of emigrants, we may class under three denominations: First, the small farmer (I allude to Ireland) who has a large family, and perhaps an unexpired lease of five or ten years for his farm to run; he disposes of his interest, by which he raises a little money, and added to his little stock of other useful articles perhaps a web or two of coarse linen, some yarn stockings, and thread of their own make, his *feather-bed* (as hardly a peasant farmer in Ireland but enjoys that comfort), and a supply of provisions of his own raising, off he goes to America. The second class I would call artisans of

different grades, and servants. And, Thirdly, actually labouring paupers.

“ For the first I would recommend nothing more than protection and correct advice ; facilities for their obtaining land in the Colonies, and in some cases assistance with passage out and support at the settlement. In all cases a fair value to be put on the land, and charged to the emigrant instead of *fees and other obstacles, that, hitherto*, prevented persons settling, particularly in Upper Canada, as the fees, &c. demanded in most cases exceeded the actual value of the land, or what you could purchase a similar quantity for.

“ To the second class, including mechanics and servants, I do not see that any thing more than a passage out need be given ; I mean to such as are successful candidates for that favour, as I do not think it is possible, in the present prospect of Canada, for many years to overstock the market with this class of people. If I were to draw a reference from late years, it has been the principal annoyance to every body having occasion to employ people in Canada, the difficulty in procuring the same ; and for myself and my brother, we have, in the prosecution of our business, been frequently put to the greatest inconvenience for want of labourers and mechanics.

“ The third class is by far the largest proportion that may be expected to avail itself of emigration, *and which comprises the actual pauper labourer. To this class the attention of the Emigration Board will no doubt be principally called : they will require not only assistance in emigrating, but to be followed up in the Colonies until they are in a comparative state to establish themselves.*

“ I would recommend every facility to young women from eighteen to thirty to emigrate, to an extent not exceeding thirty or forty at a time. From the constant demand for female servants, and surplus male population, they are sure to be absorbed immediately ; and I should say in most cases, persons in want of servants in the Colonies would wil-

lingly pay the amount of expense incurred in their passage out: and facilitating the emigration of unmarried women would put a considerable check to many improvident marriages at home, the consequence of which is a great increase of misery and population.

“ Presuming, therefore, that the machinery is formed *at home and abroad*, and that the quantity of land to be given each settler is decided on (on this point I would recommend lots to be laid out from one hundred to two hundred acres) I would not recommend a location ticket, in the first instance, for more than fifty acres, the larger ones to be reserved for a more respectable class of free settlers, whom it will be most advisable to encourage, as they will tend much to the general prosperity of the new settlements; besides, many persons will be wanted above the order of labouring settlers, to fill various fiscal situations, and as officers of peace and militia.

“ I would certainly recommend some inducement, in the way of bonus, in land of from ten to fifty acres, to be held out as a stimulus to hasten the settler to industry and a liquidation of his obligation to the public; besides, the settler, having the chance of a few acres attached to his own lot, will strive to direct the attention of his relations to him, who will thereby find a sort of nursery to receive them, and they will not require the assistance of Government for their location, for which purpose the reserved half of the lot would be applicable.

“ As to the transport of the emigrants, it will be necessary that about the 1st of January in each year, application be made through the provincial agents at the different ports in the United Kingdom for a return, as near as can be estimated, of the number of ships, with the tonnage, that are intended to go out the following spring to British America for timber; this return to be received by the Board in London, and they will then see the extent of shipping going out, on which dependence can be placed, and whether or

no it will be competent to transport from each district the probable number of emigrants likely to go, *without calling on shipping to go from port to port*. This being done, and a pretty correct idea formed, from the returns, of the probable extent of emigration for the season, *free as well as pauper*, arrangements can easily be gone into with the ship-owners at very moderate terms, for the conveyance, &c. of emigrants out; and the presumption is, that the second year a considerable saving would arise, inasmuch as the very same ship would be probably engaged, by which means she would avoid the expense of a second purchase of water casks, as the captain would bring them home each voyage.

“From the statements hitherto before the Committee, they can form a pretty just idea of the probable expense of removing a family, and providing them for twelve or fifteen months, and which is particularly stated in my answer to your second printed query. Shipping could now be got at Liverpool at the rate of sixteen shillings per ton for Quebec register, Government finding birthing, water, fuel, &c. which, on the average, would cost about eight shillings per ton.

“I am of opinion that when the business is fairly understood, there will rarely be any necessity for the Government finding *provisions on the voyage out to North America*; for although the emigrant may not be possessed of means to obtain them, yet he will find no difficulty, by *contribution among his neighbours and relations, in procuring it*; and a quantity of oatmeal could accompany each ship, as a *stand-by in case of accident*.

“From England it is presumed the parish will defray the expense of transport out, &c.; but from Ireland and Scotland I apprehend very much if *any thing worth while can be depended on*, and that Government will be obliged to find the passage out.

“In all cases, on arrival in the Colonies, the emigrant to have his choice, either to accept Government assistance

under the fixed conditions or not. A vast number of persons now in the Colonies would make great efforts to assist their relations and get them out, if they were only sure of a *free passage*; and I would beg to recommend all such persons in the Colonies as can obtain a recommendation for industry and *loyalty*, and that he or they *possessed reasonable prospects to assist their friends, if with them*, to produce same to any of the respective agents in the Colonies, or forward same by post, if at any distance from a station, and depositing at the rate of from two to five dollars per adult, according to the distance the relation might have to go, after landing in the country, for the purpose of assisting him on, and which he or they would get on landing:—such person so applying in the Colonies, might be furnished with a ticket or order on nearest agent in the United Kingdom, transmitting a duplicate thereof to the Emigration Board in London, and the person or persons so designated in such order or ticket should be entitled to a free passage out. Provided their situation at home would bring them within the denomination of persons as successful candidates for the favour, this operation alone would bring out thousands that would not cost the Government one penny for settlement in the country beyond the facilities that the machinery would entail.

“ I do not apprehend that it will be found necessary to go into any great extent of assistance in the Colonies to single men or women, or artizans, as the greater portion of them will soon be absorbed, to any reasonable number—I *should say thousands*.

“ Funds might be placed at the disposal of the resident agent at port of landing, to give partial assistance in peculiar cases, subject to control of the Governors of the respective Colonies, when same case be obtained in time.

“ *Wherever public works are going on*, emigrants *should be immediately directed after landing*, to whatever extent the demand will justify; and out of their wages a portion should

be withheld, to go towards liquidating the expense that may be incurred for their passage, and any other assistance. To such persons so employed on public works, land to be allotted at the usual terms, if in the vicinity, but no other assistance beyond the employment; and the settler in such cases to be obliged to build a house, and make other required improvements, before he obtained his deed.

“ Each emigrant on arrival in the Colonies, and provided with vouchers entitling him to Government assistance, shall present himself to the agent, and *declare his intention*, and if he wishes to embrace the assistance of Government for his location, not to exceed in amount 50*l.* sterling, and having complied with the several conditions, he will then get a location-order to the superintendent at such settlement as he may go to, when he will be disposed of in the usual way, and placed on his lot agreeably to the number and conditions of his contract.

“ The various arrangements connected with the rations and supply of implements, &c. can be minutely gone into in good time; but I would by all means make such early arrangements on those points as should enable a proper supply of every thing needful to be transported to the different depôts, when such can be done with the greatest facility and least expense, as every one acquainted with the Canadas must know that it is only at particular periods of the year that arrangements of this kind, particularly when much transport and land-carriage is necessary, *can be gone into, unless at a great sacrifice and waste of money.*

“ From Mr. Robinson, who is now in communication with the Colonial Department, practical and useful information can be, and no doubt has been obtained on many matters connected with this subject, which his experience is well calculated to render; and I am perfectly satisfied that many things, that now seem to be rather difficult, will vanish gradually as the subject becomes more known and is once set in operation.

" I beg to subjoin a sketch of plan in aid of any system of emigration, and a form of a way-card, showing the expense of transport of a family from New York to Upper Canada, sent me by my brother, his Majesty's Consul at New York, who, although he has it not in his power personally to offer his assistance in the very useful contemplated work, yet watches with anxious solicitude the progress of any measure that has for its object the improvement of our valuable Colonies, and the uniting them in an inseparable bond of union with the parent State.

" If, Sir, this hasty sketch should be considered by you as throwing any light on the subject of Emigration, I shall be glad of having made the contribution. And

" I have the honour to be, Sir,

" Your most obedient servant,

" A. C. BUCHANAN."

" To the Right Hon. R. Wilmot Horton, *

&c. &c. &c.

" P.S. The Committee are already in possession of my views as to such situations as I would direct Emigration to, and no subsequent information induces me to vary my opinion.

" A. C. B."

" Sketch of a Plan in aid of any system which may be adopted to encourage Emigration from the United Kingdom to his Majesty's Colonies in North America. By J. Buchanan, his Majesty's Consul at New York.

" Actual Settlers in his Majesty's North American Colonies, desirous of bringing out their friends from the United Kingdom, to pay four dollars to any of the agents in the provinces, to be forwarded to the agent of the port in the province at which the emigrant is to arrive, through

* Emigration Report, 1827.

a bank or other public institution ; which sum, so deposited, shall be paid over to the person for whom it was advanced, upon arrival at the port, as the means of aiding the party in proceeding to the place of destination.

“ The Certificate or King’s Ticket (the form of which is sent herewith,) upon being forwarded to His Majesty’s Secretary of State for the Colonial Department (if approved) is intended to be sent to the person or persons designated therein, who, upon embarkation, shall hand it over to the master or owner of any vessel proceeding to the port designated in the order, provided the Collector shall approve the vessel as fully supplied with fuel, water, &c. for the number of persons who are to proceed on the voyage, but in all cases leaving it optional with the emigrant to proceed with such vessel (if so approved by the Collector as well found) as he may select.

OBSERVATIONS.

“ There have been above seventy-five thousand settled in Upper Canada within the short space of fifteen years. It may be stated, that, one with another, they did not possess, on their arrival there, half a dollar a-head.

“ Those who advance one pound for bringing out a relation or neighbour, thereby prove their own industry and success ; while by such advance by residents in the Colonies, the aiding of persons intending to proceed to the United States will be so far guarded against, and all the clamour about starving for want of employment in the Colonies silenced.

“ The following Scale is offered as ample to effect the removal of more persons than all the timber-ships that trade to the Colonies can accommodate. If no unmarried man under twenty should receive a ticket, the removal of a female would probably also be effected, and the fixing of the emigrant would then be more certain.

“ The following sums to be granted ;

For Adults	£4	0	0
Under fourteen years	3	10	0
Under ten years	2	10	0
Under six years	1	9	0

“ Ships well found, if freed from the unnecessary restrictions required, will insure ample accommodations ; it being only necessary to guard against want of water, to provide fuel and cooking accommodations, as all emigrants easily procure a sufficiency of food for their passage.”

No. II.

Estimates from Mr. Buchanan, delivered to the Committee
13th and 20th March, 1827.

ADDRESSED TO THE RIGHT HON. R. WILMOT HORTON.

Downing-street, 12th March, 1827.

Dear Sir—I have examined Mr. A. C. Buchanan’s estimate of the expense attending the conveyance and settlement of Emigrants, and I perfectly concur with him in opinion, that perfect justice can be done to them, as well as to the public, for a sum not exceeding 60*l.* per family.

I give this opinion without imputing any improvidence to the conductor of the former benevolent operations of this character, a great part of the excess of expense in the former over the latter estimate, being attributable to the enhanced rate of freight, and other circumstances, over which Mr. Robinson had but partial or no control.

Mr. Buchanan’s suggestions and observations on matters connected with this subject in general, coincide with the impressions and information I have received, and I think merit particular attention.

Very respectfully your’s,

W. B. FELTON.

To R. Wilmot Horton, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 1. Estimate, under the proposed amended Passenger Act, that the transport of two hundred adult emigrants, equal to three hundred and twenty persons, in a ship four hundred tons register, from the United Kingdom, until put on the location, not to exceed in distance fifty miles from St. Lawrence, and below Montreal.

£. s. d.

Transport hire, including water, fuel, and birthing, four hundred tons, at 26s. per ton . 520 0 0

Provisions for Irish emigrants.

	d.
4lbs. potatoes	1
1½lb. oatmeal	2
½lb. pork	2
Molasses	0¼
Herrings	0¼

6 per

day, for fifty days average passage, 25s. each.

Scotch emigrants, same expense, food a little varied.

English emigrants 6½d. or 7d. per day, in consequence of which, 10% is added to the estimate

for Irish and Scotch emigrants 260 0 0

Incidental for medicine 2 0 0

One pair blankets to each family, being sixty pair for the whole, computed to cost 18 0 0

Till arrived at Quebec 800 0 0

Three hundred and twenty persons, divided into families of five persons each, would make $66\frac{3}{4}$ families; so that the cost of a man, wife, and three children, until arrived at Quebec, will be about 12l.; expense of removing them fifty miles and victuals, 1l., say 13l.; but if taken to the Ottawa,

Kingston, or York, it would cost about from 3*l.* or 4*l.* additional, each family.

Transport expense of family until planted on their location, within fifty miles of St. Lawrence.

	£.	s.	d.
Passage of five persons, as above . . .	13	0	0
Log house	4	0	0
One additional pair of blankets . . .	0	7	6
Farming implements	1	0	0
Mechanical implements	1	0	0
Household and cooking furniture . . .	1	10	0
A cow at April following	2	5	0
Seed, wheat, oats, potatoes	2	5	0
Fifteen or sixteen months' provisions, taking into calculation milk from cow for six months .	28	0	0
Proportion of expense of superintendance to each family	3	0	0
Incidental for carriage, salt, &c.	1	10	0
	<hr/>		
	57	17	6
	<hr/>		

Equal to 11*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* per head, when located and finally planted.

N.B. In this calculation I take it for granted, that in the amount of any extended emigration the charter of ships will be thrown open to the different ports of the United Kingdom generally.

NOTE OF EDITOR, 1828.]—In referring the above estimate to that now assumed in pages 29 and 78, it will be seen that a cow is omitted; also the charge of superintendance, and a more economical ration recommended, with other articles that the paupers must be in possession of. Consequently, the difference between 57*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* and 45*l.* will be accounted for.

No. III

TO THE RIGHT HON. R. WILMOT HORTON.

23, Downing-street, March 11, 1827.

Sir—Agreeably to your directions on Saturday, I have now the honour herewith to submit to you an estimate of the probable expense of transporting five hundred and sixty-eight persons of similar ages to those taken out by Mr. Robinson in 1823, and locating them in Lower Canada, providing them with ample means finally to establish and plant themselves.

I take the present rate of freights outward for shipping ; but should freights in other respects advance, it will not affect the outward freight to North America, as so many vessels are going out in ballast, and the calculation as to provision is at the present price, which is not likely to vary much, or, at least, to that extent as would materially change my calculation. The particulars of the five hundred and sixty-eight persons, similar to the emigration o. 1823, are herewith marked No. III., and a recapitulation, No. II., of the expense actually incurred in locating the same number by Mr. Robinson ; and as the average of children in that emigration was not in the usual proportion, I also beg to submit a sketch, No. I., of the probable expense of transporting and locating a man and wife and three children, which “ is the proportion generally alluded to in your Observations.”

I did think of recommending each family a stove ; but as they would be so totally ignorant of such, and as they will find no inconvenience for want of fuel, I would propose an additional pair of blankets, with some light flannel and shoes, in preference. Besides, materials for making bricks are to be found in every part of Canada, and fire-places will be readily constructed.

May I beg farther permission to suggest, that even should the statements I have made be found difficult of carrying into effect for want of means, a very advantageous emigration might be carried on, of infinite benefit to Ireland and the Colonies, by giving partial assistance to families under judicious arrangement, and, in case of actual pauperism, more extended relief. In the view I have taken of this very important subject, having devoted a great deal of my time and attention to it, I find myself borne out by persons well capable of judging (among whom I might include the exalted nobleman at the head of the Government of Canada, from his long residence in the country, and his unwearied zeal for its true interest,) that the plan proposed in last year's Report is on rather too expensive a scale, and might be put in operation with every necessary advantage to the settler, for far less than the sum stated in that Report; and I presume that many respectable persons, competent for the situation, might be got, who would gladly co-operate in the undertaking, and look for their chief emolument by identifying themselves with the ultimate success of the emigrant.

The calculations I have the honour to send you will generally apply to emigrants locating either in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Gaspee, or either of the Canadas. In point of distance and position, Halifax is, on an average, five or ten days shorter than other ports; but that will be met by being obliged to give a higher freight for the emigrants thither, as the ship would be obliged to seek another port to procure her homeward cargo.

If the emigrants proceed to the upper province of Canada, the additional expense will be about as follows:—Man, wife, and three children, Quebec to Montreal 18s.; provisions, two days, 3s.; from Montreal to any where up the Ottawa, to the extent of one hundred and fifty miles, or to Kingston on Lake Ontario, I should suppose that 45s. a family would fully cover the expense, transport and pro-

visions';—in all, from Quebec, 3l. 6s. for a family of five persons; and this added to the total expense to Quebec, would bring the cost of each family to 66l. 13s. 9d., and each person to 13l. 6s. 9d. until finally planted on their land, and provided with sixteen months' provision and every thing necessary for their ultimate success. Every day the facilities of intercourse will be getting better in the colonies; the increase of population, new roads, canals, &c. all greatly contribute.

In 1817 my brother, the Consul, assisted by me, sent over three thousand poor destitute Irish to York in Upper Canada, by way of Albany and Oswego, for, I think, 22s. 6d. each: they were located in Cavan Township, and are in great prosperity. I merely mention this circumstance, that a contrast may be drawn with the expense of transport near the St. Lawrence.

It is indispensable that the emigrants should be ready to sail from the United Kingdom for North America by the 1st of April, and none leave after the 1st of June, as after that period long passages may be expected.

Not more than five hundred families should go at a time; then follow in succession every fortnight, sending the particulars of each cargo to the respective superintendants, *via* New York, that the necessary arrangements might be made on their arrival.

A great deal has been said as to the most suitable places for locating the emigrants; Upper Canada, as to season and universal fertility of soil, has many advantages; but to which I consider the proximity to market enjoyed by Lower Canada fully equivalent. A free emigration hitherto has taken considerable root in the upper province, and a very large annual increase of emigration thither may be expected, and for which reason, combined with other strong political causes, a very considerable portion of the settlers should be put in the lower province.

The forming settlements in the district of Gaspee, and head of Chaleur Bay, and to unite a link of communication

by the head of St. John's River towards Kamouraska, is of such obvious importance to the Colonies generally (and the soil admitted good,) that I shall not make any farther remark on it, and I know that Lord Dalhousie is of opinion, that making extensive settlements on the south side of the Saint Lawrence, opposite Quebec, would be attended with many important advantages, not only as regards the individual prosperity of the emigrant, which can hardly be doubted from the proximity to the Quebec market, but politically an increase of population and British feeling and principle in the lower province is absolutely necessary, and which the continued embarrassment in every improvement proposed by His Majesty's Government fully establishes.

It was, Sir, a favourite scheme of the late Sir G. Prevost, not to encourage settlement on the south side of the Saint Lawrence, or Eastern Townships, but that there should remain a barrier of wilderness against the Americans. For my part, I should be more disposed to depend on a grateful loyal population, and the introduction of fifty thousand good emigrants, in event of any future war with our ambitious Republican neighbours, than on their favourite *bush* to fight in.

In fact those very districts, except in a few instances, are filling with any thing but a desirable population,—such as American squatters, whom it will be found, if longer neglected, very difficult to dislodge. It is observed by some, that the locating of emigrants in those situations, would cause great difficulty, for want of roads; and this must remain so, so long as population is withheld. Bad as the roads are, *the Americans contrive to send their cattle and other provisions through those very townships, and on to the Quebec market.*

As to New Brunswick, I never understood that its soil was suited for the culture of wheat, and, hitherto, farming has not been much attended to, the chief employment being in the timber trade; and at present, I believe, New Bruns-

wick is obliged to procure the greater portion of its bread and flour from the States ; and, in the event of a large influx of inhabitants going in, it would drain the province of much of its specie, as they have nothing to barter with the Americans. One or two hundred families might make advantageous settlements in Nova Scotia, and which would annually increase. Those persons accustomed to fishing, such as the sea-coast inhabitants of County Cork, would find good employ in the fisheries. I do not think that any quantity of good land is now in the possession of the Crown in that province.

The same remark may generally apply to Prince Edward Island. The land is nearly all granted ; but, I presume, the proprietors would gladly relinquish a moiety to the Crown for the purpose of settlement.

It has been already stated, that the river Saqueney holds out good inducements for forming a settlement, and which I have a strong anxiety to see effected.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. C. BUCHANAN.

To R. Wilmot Horton, Esq.

&c. &c. &c.

No. IV.

Extract of a Letter addressed to the Right Honourable R.

W. Horton, by Mr. Buchanan, when it was intimated to him that he was to superintend the then intended Scotch Emigration of Spring 1827.

23, Downing-Street, 9th May, 1827.

Sir—In the event of twelve hundred families going out this year, it will require twelve ships carrying four hundred tons to convey them ; those can easily be had at moderate rates, without troubling the Transport Office. In fact, if

you want economy, these expensive establishments must be avoided; and as you are to look to the emigrant for the repayment of the outlay, we shall be considered more as *Trustees*, and expected to manage these affairs on the most economical plan possible. In the selection of the ships, it will be necessary to get fast-sailing vessels, and long and roomy between decks, for, the greater the space in length, the more births you can put up. I would suggest that the ships find birthing, which ought to be made strong; also, water and fuel. Government to find provisions, or not, as might be agreed on; at all events, the captain of the ship to act as purser, and for his trouble, I would propose to allow him a per centage on the quantity consumed,—the rations to be fixed prior to sailing, and strictly attended to.

I would also propose, that in each ship an additional supply of oatmeal, pork, herrings, &c., be put on board as stores for the settlement. So long as we can establish the emigrants any where below Montreal, and accessible without much land-carriage, the advantage of taking out a large supply of oatmeal and pork will be obvious.

The meal to be put in strong casks of 2 cwt. each: this, I presume, will cost in Ireland or Glasgow, about 12s. 6d. or 15s. per cwt.; and Irish Pork about 50s. or 55s. per barrel of 200 lbs. neat. This latter is at present an article of export to North America.

I understand that what I had formerly learnt to be the case, has been confirmed, namely, that Nova Scotia would not form so desirable a place for sending the emigrants to, as originally contemplated; and I much doubt, Sir, whether even Miramicha is capable of that facility to further the objects of forming a sound Agricultural settlement which you could wish. I have no doubt but a considerable quantity of good land is to be found up that river, and stretching towards the Ristigouche; but the great objection in my mind is, that the attention of the emigrant would be directed from that solid road to agricultural prosperity and

independence, by being too much drawn to timbering, and the timber trade, that is so extensively carried on in that quarter, that experience has shown, that where such exists *agriculture is always neglected*, and dissolute habits of extravagance intervene, ending in any thing but a sound comfortable state of society. Indeed, it is admitted generally, and in which I decidedly concur, that it would be unquestionably better for Canada in particular, as its soil is more fit for agriculture than New Brunswick, if timbering was altogether done away with, and the views of the people were directed to the only true source of wealth and happiness, Agriculture. Besides, by following timbering, I fear much if the *same security* for the repayment could be depended upon, inasmuch as their farms would be neglected, and the only improvement you would see after some years, would be a miserable log hut, and perhaps hardly any thing in the shape of cleansing the grounds for even a garden. Any body acquainted with New Brunswick, particularly St. John, or Miramicha, must admit this: at the same time, I do not say but, by care and strict attention, those propensities may be overcome, and a prosperous settlement formed on the Miramicha River.

I would propose that every head of a family has, or provide himself, before embarkation, with a spade and metal pot, or kettle; you must look to the Colonies for axes, as those made at home do not answer. To any of the places alluded to, potatoes could be easily conveyed before winter, not only for food, but as seed for the ensuing spring, from Nova Scotia; and it might be well to take out a quantity of *Polish seed oats*, and some Irish potatoe oats, for seeds, as very little wheat may be expected the first season. Potatoes, vegetable clover, and a little oats, are as much as will be accomplished in those situations for the first season.

From the well-known frugality of the Scotch, and from conversations I have had with the Deputies from Renfrew

and Glasgow, we may calculate on every co operation as to economy.

I would suggest that a few hundred old military tents, with some artificers' tools, saws, smith's bellows, ironmongery, &c., should accompany the emigrants,—all of which, no doubt, could be easily obtained from some of the depots of old stores, &c. ; and a supply of medicine necessary for forming a dispensary should be provided, and young doctors will be found who will gladly follow the settlement, and look to the individuals for their pay. One great blessing that will result to settlement in Lower Canada, *is the healthiness of the climate*, free from fever or ague.

There are numerous minor matters that will require mature attention ; and I shall conclude, satisfied that in any arrangement with those poor weavers, who are likely to be the first objects of our sympathy, when matters are fully explained to them, they will gladly and gratefully unite in furthering the subject to its completion with every possible economy.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your's sincerely,

(Signed)

A. C. BUCHANAN.

The Right Hon. R. Wilmot Horton.

&c. &c. &c.

PASSENGER ACTS.

No. V.

Queries submitted by M. S. Hill, Esq. to the merchants of Londonderry, respecting an improved alteration in the Passenger Act.

TO THE RIGHT HON. WILMOT HORTON.

23, Downing-street, March 20, 1827.

Sir,—I have the honour to present you with the accompanying letters received this day by me from M. S. Hill; Esq. Collector of the port of Londonderry, with queries submitted by him to the principal merchants of that city, with a view to an improved alteration in the present Passenger Act; and I beg to state, I fully concur in the observations made by Mr. Hill.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

A. C. BUCHANAN.

To the Right Hon. R. Wilmot Horton,
&c. &c. &c.

TO A. C. BUCHANAN, ESQ.

Derry, March 12, 1827.

My Dear Sir,—In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, I did not receive your letter of the 3d instant until this morning.

Anxious, however, to afford you any information in my power on a subject in respect to which I wish your exertions may succeed, every exertion on my part has been used. There is but one sentiment in Derry, as to the

necessity of amending the Passenger Act. I am satisfied, under existing circumstances, that every facility should be afforded to Emigration, with proper regard to the comfort and safety of those who avail themselves of it.

Very sincerely yours,

M. S. HILL.

To A. C. Buchanan, Esq.

Queries with a view to an improved alteration in the present Passenger Act.

Query 1st.—Would it be advisable to do away with legislative interference in that respect altogether, or to provide for the safety and comfort of passengers by regulations and restrictions properly modified and approved of?

Answer.—It would not be right to do away with legislative interference: it is absolutely necessary to provide for the comfort of passengers, and restrict the number.

Query 2d.—What additional number of passengers might be taken in proportion to tonnage; and should not the present regulation, with respect to children, still continue?

Answer.—A vessel can accommodate, with every convenience and comfort, two passengers to every three tons of her register. Children to continue under the present existing law; that is, two under fourteen years, or three under seven years of age, equal to one passenger.

Query 3d.—What regulation would it be wise to adopt in respect to provisions; and would it be sufficient to make the master responsible that each passenger shall take on board a sufficient quantity of wholesome victualling for three months, still holding the owners accountable under a penalty, to have that quantity on board in case of accidents?

Answer.—The description of people now emigrating, are not in circumstances to lay in provisions for the voyage to the extent that the present law requires, nor are they in

the habit of using such provisions : the master, owners, or consignee, should be bound, under a penalty, to see that a reasonable quantity of good wholesome victuals, of the best description that the passengers can procure or are in the habit of using, equal to three months consumption, be put on board ; and that the present law respecting water be complied with.

Query 4th.—Can a doctor be dispensed with ; and if so, how might his services be supplied ?

Answer.—A doctor is altogether unnecessary : in few cases can he render any service to passengers, being himself sick during the greater part of the voyage. The masters of passenger-ships better understand how to treat the passengers than the doctor, and are in the habit of administering medicine when necessary.

Query 5th.—Is not the present regulation, which requires the precise description of passengers to be forwarded for licence, and to be therein inserted before the vessel can clear out, an impediment to the trade ; and would not the number which the vessel can carry under the Act be sufficient to state, without particularizing adults, children under fourteen, and children under seven years of age ?

Answer.—Much inconvenience arises on the present mode of taking out a licence, having to forward the application for it at least six days prior to the clearing out of the vessel, when it is necessary to state the number of adults, the number under fourteen years of age, and the number under seven years of age : after the licence is granted, in many cases, a number of those who have engaged their passages retract, and such as offer in their stead will not correspond ; consequently, in such cases, the ship loses the privilege of taking her complement of passengers. An application for a licence, stating the number of adults, and allowing children, as rated in the Act, should be considered sufficient.

Query 6th.—Would it not be beneficial to trade if vessels

were allowed to take out the full number of passengers in proportion to tonnage, without reference to any cargo on board, provided it appears to the proper officers (agreeably to the measurement and rules prescribed by the existing law,) that there is height and space sufficient for their passengers, their provisions, and luggage?

Answer.—In cases where ships have cargo on board to serve as ballast, and not to inconvenience passengers, leaving them sufficient room for their luggage and provisions under deck, they should be allowed to carry the complement of passengers agreeably to their tonnage, the same as if ballasted with stone or sand.

TO A. C. BUCHANAN, ESQ.

Custom House, Londonderry,
12th March, 1827.

My Dear Sir,—I have been favoured with the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant ; and as I deem it my duty to render Mr. Horton any information that may be thought useful in the proposed amendment of the Passenger Act, I have stated my view of the case in the shape of question and answer, as given in the preceding columns, first having submitted the same to several of the principal merchants in this city, who perfectly accord with me in every particular.

I am not quite sure, however, that it would be prudent or advisable to allow three passengers to every two tons ; it might be better, I think, to let the Act remain as it is in that respect, because a similar indulgence to foreign vessels would be naturally sought for in the alteration of the scale, which would afford to them an advantage over our shipping, the latter being generally of much smaller dimensions, and consequently less able to accommodate the additional number of passengers, at the rate of three adults to two tons.

However, I have judged it right to state the opinion of the merchants here in that respect, although I think British vessels might carry children and crew exclusively. The practice adopted hitherto, as queried in No. 5., is a mere matter of regulation on the part of the Commissioners of Customs, and can be revised as pointed out in the answer, by order of the Treasury, without touching the Act. I shall always be happy to assure you that,

I remain,

Most sincerely, yours,

M. S. HILL.

Be pleased to acknowledge the receipt.

To A. C. Buchanan, Esq.

No. VI.

To the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Chamber of Commerce of Dublin,

Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioners understand that a Bill is now before your Lordships to repeal an Act of the Sixth of His present Majesty, for regulating vessels carrying passengers to foreign parts.

That your Petitioners humbly submit, that, although a simplification of the existing laws relative to passage-vessels, by the removal of vexatious and unnecessary restrictions, is exceedingly desirable, yet they conceive that the unqualified repeal of all regulations is a measure strongly to be deprecated at the present juncture, when the extensive scale on which Emigration is proceeding would seem to render some reasonable provisions for the health and safety of the passengers peculiarly necessary.

That your Petitioners are apprehensive that, if all legislative restrictions be thus abolished, the unrestrained cupidity of the less respectable class of ship-owners, co-operating with the eagerness of the emigrants, would be productive of the most disastrous consequences to human life and health.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that the sanction of your Lordships will not be given to any Bill relating to passage-vessels, that does not provide for the safety of the passengers, by limiting their number according to the registered tonnage of the vessel, and by such other regulations as your Lordships shall deem necessary.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed) ROBERT ROE, Sec.

Dublin, 26th April, 1827.

Dublin Commercial Buildings,
28th April, 1827.

Sir,—On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce of this city, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th instant.

The annexed copy of their petition exhibits the opinion they entertain as to the expediency of repealing all legislative regulations relative to passage-vessels: the original is transmitted by this post to your address at the Colonial Office, and I am desired to solicit your obliging offices in placing it in such hands for presentation as you may judge most likely to give it effect.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) ROBERT ROE, Sec.

To A. C. Buchanan, Esq.

No. VII.

Extracts from Evidence on the State of Ireland taken before a Committee of the House of Commons, 23d February, 1825.

The following letters were delivered in and read.

“ TO THE COUNSEL OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
DUBLIN.

“ Londonderry, March 9, 1824.

“ Gentlemen,—By the late Passenger Act, it seems that either a very great mistake has been made, or that His Majesty’s Government intend to turn the Emigration from our own Colonies, and from being carried on in British ships, to that of American shipping, and to the United States ; for, although the Act refers to foreign vessels, yet the same responsibility will not be felt by the owner or captain, as our laws would not be regarded on the arrival of the ship at a port in the United States, should any violation of the law occur, nor would the American ship suffer herself to be examined or molested on the high seas ; and besides, by placing the emigration and expense on the same footing to the United States as to the British Colonies, the whole would be turned to the former. By the eighth section, the captain is bound to land the passengers, if alive, at the port contracted for, without any proviso in case of wreck or loss of ship ; in which case I would suggest, that the captain should not be obliged to go to a greater expense in forwarding the passengers, than to the amount of passage-money actually paid. By the eleventh section, the provisions specified will bring the cost of passage, in many instances, beyond the means of that description of emigrants who generally go, and will act in a great degree as a com-

plete prohibition ; besides, it is generally well known, that from Ireland, in particular, the passengers in all cases prefer laying in their own provisions, and that of a quality more agreeable to their tastes and means than that enumerated in the eleventh section of the Act. The general rate of passage from Londonderry to Quebec, for some years, has been from 40s. to 60s. for adults, they finding their own provision, the ship finding berthing, water, and fuel ; but under the present Act, no ship could carry them and comply with the unnecessary clauses for less than six to seven pounds sterling. The provisions generally taken by emigrants from Ireland, are potatoes, oatmeal and oat bread, bacon, eggs, butter and molasses ; the cost or value of which is about 30s. ; and would not be felt, as the emigrant generally possesses most of these articles, and has not to go to market for them.

“ I beg to remark, that in most cases the Emigrants lay in an excess of provisions ; but to guard against chance, it would be very easy to have a specification of what would be considered a proper supply ; and before any passenger be received on board, or the ship cleared out, let the provisions be inspected, and the emigrant make oath to the contents, he having the option to feed himself or not.

“ The clause respecting the surgeon and medicine-chest is quite superfluous, and if complied with, would occasion a very unnecessary expense. The passage to British America is so short and healthy, that little beyond cleanliness and purgatives are necessary. A surgeon might be carried where the number of passengers exceeded one hundred, although from personal experience I consider him unnecessary.

“ From Londonderry the Emigration has exceeded that from any port ; and I think—in fact, I am certain, that not one solitary instance has occurred where the emigrants were not satisfied and properly treated, as far as practicable in such cases ; and had the officers of his Majes-

ty's Customs attended to the provisions of the late repealed Acts, no abuse could have taken place like that which occurred in Dublin last year in the case of the brig William, and which no doubt gave rise to the present complicated Act so injurious to the British shipping interest, and which will take from them, and throw into the hands of the Americans, a considerable profit of their voyage, besides turning the Emigration from British America to the United States.

" I therefore beg to call your attention, and humbly presume to request you to represent to his Majesty's Government the hardships and imperfections of the present Act, to cause such early modifications to be made as will relieve the many poor families who may be preparing to emigrate, but who cannot accomplish the same under the present system. Should you wish it, I shall be most happy personally to attend, to answer any questions, and give any farther information that might be thought useful.

" I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

" Your most obedient servant,

" A. C. BUCHANAN."

" To the Right Honourable and Honourable the Lords of
His Majesty's Treasury.

" We, the undersigned merchants and ship-owners of the port of Dublin, engaged in trade to North America, beg leave to direct the attention of your Lordships to an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, for the regulation of passenger-vessels to the British Colonies; which Act, however suitable it may prove to the state of Great Britain, experience teaches us is totally unfit for the wants and manners of the Irish emigrants; and there is so much ambiguity in the different clauses, that we are compelled to request your Lordships will direct some practical person, acquainted with emigration from Ireland, to draft a bill for

the consideration of Parliament this Session, and thus remove the numerous complaints against the present Act:—

“ John Astle,	“ Isaac Todhunter,
John Martin and Son,	John Baker,
G. W. and T. H. Sneyd,	Richard Purdy,
W. Curry and Son,	Thomas Cleriston,
James Gray,	A. Journeaux,
George M'Bride,	Joseph Wilson, Son, and Co.”

Evidence of Mr. John Astle before the Committee,
8th March, 1825.

Is there any necessity for any Act of Parliament to regulate this trade?—There is a necessity for some regulation, or else I should think the cupidity of the brokers would lead them to crowd the ships too much with the unfortunate emigrants.

No. VIII.

Extracts from Governor Murray's General Report on the ancient Government and actual State of the Province of Quebec in 1762

The Tenure of Lands here is of two sorts.

The Fiefs or Seigneuries.—These lands are deemed noble: on the demise of the possessor, his eldest son inherits one half, and shares with the other children in the remainder: if any of these die without posterity, the brothers share the portion of the deceased, exclusive of their sisters. The purchaser of these fiefs enters into all the privileges and immunities of the same, but pays a fifth of the purchase-money to the Sovereign, who is Lord of the soil. By law, the Seigneur is restricted from selling any part of his land that is not cleared; and is likewise obliged (reserving a sufficiency for his own private domain) to con-

cede the remainder to such of the inhabitants as require the same, at an annual rent, not exceeding one sol, or one half-penny sterling, for each arpent in superficies. The Seigneurs had the right of *haute moyenne basse justice*, in their several fiefs; but this was attended with so many abuses and inconveniences, that the inferior jurisdictions were mostly disused.

The lands conceded by the Seigneur is the second sort of tenure, and these are called *terres en roture*. The property is entirely in the possessors, and the rent they pay can never be raised upon them; they can sell it as they please, but the purchaser is obliged to pay a twelfth of the purchase-money to the Seigneur. The children, of both sexes, share equally in the lands; but if, upon a division, the several parts are found unequal to the subsistence of a family, they are obliged to sell to one another. By law, no man can build upon a piece of land of less extent than one arpent, half in front, upon a depth of thirty or forty; this was done with a view to promote cultivation, and to oblige the inhabitants to spread; edicts have been published from time to time, to reunite such lands to the Crown as were not settled within a term of years prescribed; the last of these was published in 1732.

OBSERVATIONS.

The Canadians are very ignorant, and tenacious of their religion. Nothing can contribute so much to make them staunch subjects to his Majesty, as the new Government giving them every reason to imagine no alteration is to be attempted on that point.

Care was taken, under the former Government, to keep up a great part of the clergy French, especially the dignified part. To prevent the farther importation of these, it would be necessary to encourage the natives to engage in the profession, which cannot be so well done except the see is filled up; as, without a Bishop, there can be no ordination. No

difficulty will attend this, as it is unendowed ; though hereafter, means may be found out for making up this deficiency.

NATURE OF THE SOIL, AND ITS PRODUCE.

With very slight cultivation, all sorts of grain are here easily produced, and in great abundance: the inhabitants are inclinable enough to be lazy, and not much skilled in husbandry.

The great dependence they have hitherto had on the gun and fishing-rod made them neglect tillage, beyond the requisites of their own consumption, and the few purchases they needed ; the monopolies that were carried on here in every branch made them careless of acquiring beyond the present use ; and their being often sent on distant parties and detachments to serve the particular purposes of speedy and avaricious men, without the least view to public utility, were circumstances under which no country could thrive: as they will not be subject to such inconveniences under a British Government, they will of course apply more closely to the culture of their lands.

The mines already discovered, and the mineral and sulphurous waters in many parts of this country, leave no room to doubt nature has been bountiful to it in this respect ; and that farther discoveries and improvements are likely to be made with regard to these, whenever it becomes more populous. Notwithstanding the waste of war, which they have more severely felt from their pretended friends, than from their declared foes, the country will abound, in three or four years, with all kinds of provision, sufficient to answer not only their home consumption, *but even to export, if a market can be procured.*

OBSERVATIONS.

They grow both hemp and flax in some parts of the country, and many of the lands are well cultivated for

these productions: it will be right to turn the thought of the people towards the cultivation of these articles, so essential to Great Britain, and for which she annually pays great sums to foreigners. A few premiums properly disposed of, with some Germans and Russians skilled in raising and preparing the same, and encouraged for that purpose to become settlers here, may in a short time greatly improve this most useful branch of agriculture.

This will be one means of employing the women and children, during the long winters, in breaking and preparing the flax and hemp for exportation; will divert them from manufacturing coarse things for their own use, as it will enable them to purchase those of a better sort, manufactured in and exported from Great Britain.

POPULATION.

The present state of Population may be easily seen by the account of the number of people in this Government, taken about a twelvemonth ago. In 1759, the population of the whole province was counted at sixty thousand souls.*

There is great reason to believe this Colony has been upon the decrease in this respect, for near twenty years past. The wars which they have been almost constantly carrying on; the strictness with which marriages within certain degrees of consanguinity were forbidden, except by dispensation; the obliging strangers inclined to engage in that state, previously to prove their not being married before; and the prohibition of intermarriages between Pro-

* The population of Lower Canada in 1825 was computed at 430,679 souls, but which I consider underrated, as the ignorant peasants, or *habitants*, were really afraid to give a return of the actual number of their families, fearing that the measure was preparato to a head-tax. The population now (1828) is fully half a million.

testants and Roman Catholics, were so many bars to the propagation of the species. These difficulties are now in a good measure removed ; the men are an active, strong, and healthy race, the women extremely prolific, and in all human probability the next twenty years will produce a vast increase of people.

A most immense and extensive cod fishery can be established in the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, and may in time prove an inexhaustible source of wealth and power to Great Britain. Settlements may be formed in the neighbourhood of the best fishing places, to which the industrious and intelligent in that branch may be invited and encouraged to repair. A rich tract of country on the South side of the Gulf, will, in consequence, be settled and improved ; and a port, or ports established, furnished with every material requisite to repair ships that have suffered by stress of weather or the difficulties attending navigation in such narrow seas,—a point much wanted, which will lessen the risks, and considerably increase the profits of the commerce of this Colony.

It is further to be observed, that the fish caught upon the coast, and in the bays, far exceed the bank cod, and fetch an advanced price in foreign markets : the fishermen being on the spot will commence fishing the very instant the season permits, and will continue to the very last of it ; whereby, at least, two months will be gained to the trade, which are just now a heavy expense to it, without producing the least profit.

Next to the cod in importance is the whale fishery, which can be carried on to the greatest advantage in the River St. Lawrence with less risk and expense than in any other seas where these animals resort. Under this head, may be placed the seal and sea-cow fisheries, of which there is a prodigious abundance, and an immense quantity of oil and whalebone may be annually exported to Great Britain.

There are several small rivers on the coast of Labrador,

abounding with vast quantities of excellent salmon ; this, if followed with spirit and industry, might very soon become a considerable object to the British trade.

Raising hemp and flax, for which the lands are in many places extremely proper, must be an object of the most serious consideration ; and I must repeat here, how useful this must prove to the end of promoting agriculture, of employing the women and children during the tedious winter months, and of procuring in a short time a vast exportation of that useful commodity, for which the returns will be made in British manufactures.

As the country everywhere abounds with oak, ash, walnut, birch, beech, maple, and other hard woods, which by experience are known to yield the most salts, the article of potash, so much demanded in our manufactories, may be easily produced, and soon become an object of consequence. The essays for this purpose which have been made in our other Colonies, and have miscarried, ought not to discourage an attempt in this ; the high price of labour, the woods being in many parts remote from water-carriage, and the great encouragement for growing and exporting provisions to the West Indies, have been so many obstacles to the making potash in our Colonies ; whereas provisions here must be very cheap in a few years, the navigation being closed six months out of the twelve ; besides, the country being settled close to the river side, the conveyance of the commodity to the port where it is to be shipped will be both cheap and easy ; it will likewise be a means to employ the men all winter in the business of felling and drawing wood, which time they chiefly dedicate to idleness and smoking.

CHARACTER OF THE PEOPLE.

The Canadians may be reckoned under four different classes, 1. The gentry, they call nobility. 2. The Clergy.



3. The merchants or trading part. 4. The peasantry, or what are here styled habitants.

1. The Gentry. These are descended from military and civil officers who have settled in the country at different times, and were usually provided for in the Colony troops; these consisted formerly of twenty-eight, afterwards thirty, and had been lately augmented to thirty-three companies. They are in general poor, except such as have had commands in distant posts, where they usually made a fortune in three or four years; the Croix de St. Louis quite completed their happiness.

They were extremely vain, and had an utter contempt for the trading part of the Colony, though they made no scruple to engage in it, pretty deeply too, whenever a convenient opportunity served. They were great tyrants to their vassals, who seldom met with redress, let their grievances be ever so just. This class will not relish the British Government, from which they neither can expect the same employment, nor the same douceurs they enjoyed under the French.

2. The Clergy. Most of the dignified among them are French, the rest Canadians; the former no doubt will have great difficulty to reconcile themselves to us, but must drop off by degrees; few of the latter are very clever. However, if the ecclesiastical state was once composed entirely of natives, they would soon become easy and satisfied; their influence over the people was, and is still, very great; but though we have been so short a time in the country, a difference is to be perceived. The people do not submit so tamely to the yoke, and under sanction of the capitulation, they every day take an opportunity to dispute the tythes with their curés. These were moved from their respective parishes at the bishop's pleasure, who thereby always kept them in awe. It may not be perhaps improper to adopt the same method, in case His Majesty should think right, for the sake of

keeping them in proper subjection, to nominate them himself, or by those who act under his authority.

It is not improbable that the Jesuits, warned by their late disgraces in the dominions of those potentates who seemed to favour them most, and apprehending the same or worse treatment from those they style heretics, will choose to dispose of their estates and retire. As they may, possibly, find some difficulty to get purchasers, the Government might buy their lands at an easy rate, and dispose of the same to many good purposes.

3. The Traders of this Colony, under the French, were either dealers in gros or retailers; the former were mostly French, and the latter in general natives of this country; all of them are deeply concerned in the letters of exchange; many are already gone to solicit payment, and few of those who have any fund of consequence in France will remain.

4. The fourth order is that of the Peasantry. These are a strong, healthy race, plain in their dress, virtuous in their morals, and temperate in their living. They are, in general, extremely ignorant, for the former Government would never suffer a printing-press in the country; few can read or write, and all receive implicitly for truth the many errant falsehoods and atrocious lies industriously handed among them by those who are in power.

They took particular pains to persuade them the English were worse than brutes; and that, if they prevailed, the Canadians would be ruled with a rod of iron, and be exposed to every outrage. This, most certainly, did not a little contribute to make them obstinate in their defence; however, ever since the conquest, I can with the greatest truth assert, that the troops have lived with the inhabitants in a harmony unexampled even at home. I must here, in justice to those under my command in this Government, observe to your Lordships, that in the winter which immediately followed the reduction of this country, when,

from the calamities of war and a bad harvest, the inhabitants of these lower parts were exposed to all the horrors of famine, the officers of every rank, even the lowest, generously contributed towards alleviating the distresses of the unfortunate Canadians by a large subscription; the British merchants and traders readily and cheerfully assisted in this good work; even the poor soldiers threw in their mite, and all gave a day's provision or a day's pay in the month towards the fund; by this means a quantity of provisions were purchased and distributed with great care and assiduity to a number of poor families, who, without this charitable support, must have inevitably perished. Such an instance of uncommon generosity towards the conquered, did the highest honour to their conquerors, and convinced these poor deluded people how grossly they had been imposed upon. The daily instances of lenity, the impartial justice which has been administered, so far beyond what they had formerly experienced, have so altered their opinion with regard to us, I may safely venture to affirm, for this most useful order of the state, that they have not the least design to emigrate from their present habitations into any other of the French Colonies. Their greatest dread is lest they should meet with the fate of the Arcadians, and be torn from this their native country.

Convinced that this is not to be their case, and that the free exercise of their religion will be continued to them, if once Canada is irrevocably ceded by a peace, the people will soon become faithful and good subjects to his Majesty; and the country they inhabit will, in a short time, prove a rich and most useful Colony to Great Britain.

Before this report is closed, it will not be improper to observe to your Lordships how impossible it is to ascertain exactly what part of North America the French styled Canada, no chart or map whatsoever having fallen into our hands, or public records of any kind whatever, to show what they understood by it.

However, it is to be hoped the limits, on this side at least, will need no canvassing, nor admit of any dispute.

Should I be able to procure farther lights, either to those limits or the several other matters contained in this report, worthy of notice, you may be assured they shall be forthwith transmitted to your Lordships ; happy if my labours can in any way conduce to his Majesty's service, or the good of my country.

Quebec, June 5, 1762.

No. IX.

THE CANADA COMPANY.

This Company, incorporated by Act of Parliament and Royal Charter, have now at their disposal all the surveyed lands reserved for the Crown in Upper Canada, consisting,

1st, Of detached lots of 200 acres each, situated in all the settled parts of the province.

2d, Of Blocks varying from 1200 to 10,000 acres, also similarly situated in other townships.

3rd, Of a Tract of a million of acres, lying between Lake Erie and Lake Huron. In this Tract no lands are reserved for the Clergy ; and the Company, by their contract with His Majesty's Government, have upwards of 45,000*l.* to expend, on opening roads and making other public improvements within that particular Tract.

The great object of the Company being to lay open their lands to actual settlers, no encouragement is intended to be given to speculators, whilst the utmost liberality will be shown to sober and industrious men with families, and the lands will be sold to them on terms such as they cannot elsewhere obtain.

The scite of a Town, on an extensive scale, is marked out, on the banks of the grand River, or Ouse, in the

county of Halton, in the Gore district, and situations for several villages have also been selected.

In these places the Town Lots, of a quarter of an acre each, will, for the encouragement of early settlers, be sold at the low price of twenty dollars, and the one half of the money arising therefrom will be appropriated to the erection of a school, and residence for a school-master.

No person, however, will be admitted into any society of location, for a Town or Village, who cannot produce satisfactory testimonials of good character ; as no society can prosper where religion, morality and industry are not united.

Persons desirous of more particular information, are requested to apply by letter (post paid,) to John Galt, Esq., York, Upper Canada, or to the Agent here, who will afford every facility to families going forward from New York, and by whom an arrangement has been made for their conveyance, by the Erie Canal, at the very low rate of one cent per mile each.

JAMES CLARKE BUCHANAN,

AGENT.

New York, April 5, 1827.

THE END.

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