

for any particular spot in those who remain. Nor is this direct encouragement, which it is allowed must be pretty strong, to be confined merely to one spot; for to serve the object of drawing off the population in the Highlands, the same inducements must be offered in every village. Of the first settlements, which were formed from different districts of the Highlands in different parts of America, 'the information sent home from each,' we are informed, 'as to the circumstances of the country in which it was situated, did not spread far. The nature of a mountainous country, and the difficulty of mutual intercourse, tended to confine any information to the valley in which it was first received\*.' Thus, then, we see the extensive nature of that encouragement which will be necessary for carrying through Lord Selkirk's views, for we cannot suppose that the intercourse will increase in proportion as the depopulating effects of the sheep-farming sys-

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\* P. 165.