

Zealand Company. All the Demesne Lands of the Crown in the whole of the Middle and of Stewart's Island, and in the southern part of the Northern Island of New Zealand, are absolutely vested in the New Zealand Company, with power to administer in the manner stated in the Act all the rights of Her Majesty in reference to the said Demesne Lands, in such wise as shall seem to it best fitted to promote the efficient Colonisation of New Zealand. It becomes, in consequence, the duty of your Directors to lay before you and the public, the object with which they undertake this great trust, and the advantages which by means of it are offered to all ranks of society.

"The aim of this Company is not confined to mere emigration, but is directed, as you have long been aware, to Colonisation, in its ancient and systematic form. Its object is, to transplant English society with its various gradations in due proportions, carrying out our laws, customs, associations, habits, manners, feelings—everything of England, in short, but the soil. We desire so now to cast the foundations of the Colony, that in a few generations New Zealand shall offer to the world a counter-part of our country, in all the most cherished peculiarities of our own social system and national character, as well as in wealth and power.

"Such is our aim in consenting to undertake this trust. The New Zealand Islands seem to afford the only field on the globe where it is any longer possible to attempt an enterprise of this interesting and comprehensive character. And in them many circumstances unite in a remarkable manner to promise success, provided the proper means are prudently and energetically combined.

"So much is now generally known regarding the salubrity of the climate of New Zealand (superior to all others in respect of its freedom from drought, from excessive heat in summer, from cold in winter, and from too much wet in any season)—regarding the great fertility of its soil in many extensive districts—its adaptation to agricultural and pastoral purposes—the mineral productions, comprising coal, iron, sulphur, copper, and several other useful kinds—the timber—the excellence and number of the ports—the and advantageous position of the islands, which assures to them ultimately

the naval and commercial command of the Pacific—that it is unnecessary at present to do more than to allude to these points; but connected with them, the moderate extent of the islands is an element of great consequence. For a limitation of the area in any field for Colonising operations, where neither slaves nor convicts can be employed, is indispensably requisite for the retention of Colonial society in the onward path of civilisation, and the prevention of the dispersion and isolation of families, so fatal to Colonial prosperity.

"Such is the country which is now opened to the enterprise and sagacity of the merchants, agriculturists, and gentlemen of England, and to the industry of its labourers and artisans, and on which her Majesty has graciously been pleased to confer rights and institutions which offer the benefits of local and municipal self-government. But while the assemblage of circumstances thus combining to promise that life in New Zealand shall be agreeable and property valuable, displays itself in colours so attractive, care must be taken that the attention is not diverted from the great certainty that social happiness and the growth of wealth in a new Colony are results which may be entirely missed, unless the methods which shall be employed respectively to achieve them embrace those elements which experience of the moral and material acquirements of mankind demonstrates to be essential to their attainment. No procedure—no organisation—will prove of any avail unless animated by such principles.

Thus religion and education are essential to the existence and growth of social happiness. And although the extent to which the Colonists shall enjoy the benefits of these blessings will ultimately depend on themselves, yet the Company will endeavour to initiate the provisions for them in every one of the settlements that shall be formed.

"In like manner the growth of wealth (and with it all the fruits of civilisation) depends entirely upon such a combination between the capitalist and the labourer, that each shall be reciprocally dependent on the other. Capitalists without labourers would find their capital paralysed; and labourers without capitalists, or independent of them, would uniformly pass off into semi-babbarous cottiers, with