

direct taxation. So long, therefore, as this method of financing is continued, and there seems to be no prospect of its being speedily abandoned, every immigrant coming to our shores has a distinct money value as a contributor to the general revenue. Every imported article which he either wears or consumes helps to decrease the burdens of the community by the duty it pays, while he himself, if orderly and law-abiding, adds nothing to the expenses of Government. Surely then, if it is so clearly to the advantage of the Mother Country to get rid of her surplus population, of the Dominion of Canada to add to the number of its inhabitants, and of the separate Provinces to increase the proportion which their respective populations bear to that of the whole Dominion, it is nothing less than suicidal to remain apathetic on a question of such surpassing importance, when, by a little properly directed and combined effort, so much might easily be done. Indifference in this matter is little short of criminal, and it is sad to see so much of the time, the money and the intellect of both countries spent in wrangling over questions which are of infinitely less consequence in their relation to the public weal, while comparatively little is done towards supplementing the voluntary efforts of philanthropic societies and individuals in furnishing aid to intending emigrants.

One reason for the apathy respecting emigration, which is so apparent in England, is the misconception which prevails regarding the real cause of the pauperism which afflicts the country. Some attribute it far too exclusively to vice and improvidence among the working classes, potent auxiliary agents, no doubt, in bringing about the state of affairs complained of, but only auxiliary ones after all. Some, like the late Dr. Chalmers, attribute it to the operation of the poor laws, and there can be little doubt that these have a most mischievous effect, though all English political economists seem to think their repeal impracticable for the present. Very few, apparently, have been able to realise fully the importance of the law we have indicated above, and the part it plays in creating a pauper population and keeping its ranks recruited. Even those who fully appreciate the results of this law of population are too apt, as in the case of Mill, to resort to advice which cannot, and, under the circumstances, ought not to be followed, instead of directing public attention to the only true remedy, the encouragement of emigration. The ultimate and far-reaching consequences of placing any restraint on the increase of