

Another item of expenditure requires the consideration of this Meeting, namely, the sum distributed among distressed Emigrants. When calls were made upon the Treasurer in behalf of these unhappy strangers, there seemed to be a difference of opinion as to the propriety of diverting any part of the funds of this Society to their relief. The distress however was so pressing that a majority of Directors consented that some aid might in the mean time be allowed, and accordingly it has been administered as sparingly as possible, as will appear from the detailed account.

Although the Treasurer never had any doubt in his own mind of the propriety of relieving strangers from the funds of this Society, who had been driven by the pressure of the times from the Mother Country to settle in this Province; yet, as such a doubt was entertained by Members entitled to the greatest consideration and respect, and as his office was entirely ministerial, he sought for other sources to meet this new exigency.

On communicating with the Trustees in Lower Canada, on this subject, to whom £3000 had been transmitted by the subscribers to the funds of the Loyal and Patriotic Society in London, to be distributed, if necessary, in that Province, it was found that this sum still remained unexpended. The Trustees declined giving any portion of it for the relief of Emigrants, conceiving it would be to alter its first destination, but they had not the same difficulty in respect to the interest accruing, and have therefore placed at the disposal of the Treasurer, for the use of distressed Strangers from the Mother Country, the whole of this interest, amounting to £353 16s. 7d.

It is for the consideration of this Meeting, whether they will be guided by the same distinction in disposing of the