

" Between March, 1833, and April, 1835, there were *eight* secretaries and under-secretaries of state ; and subsequently two assistant under-secretaries; thus making ten changes within about two years. (In one year, from April, 1834, to April, 1835, there were three secretaries and three under-secretaries of state.) The names will sufficiently indicate the fluctuations of counsel that must have prevailed in the colonial office during this brief period.

" Secretaries of State.—Lord Stanley, Mr. T. Spring Rice, Earl of Aberdeen, and Lord Glenelg.

" Under-Secretaries of State.—Viscount Howick, Mr. Lefevre, Mr. Gladstone and Sir George Grey.

" Assistant Under-Secretaries of State.—Mr. Hay and Mr. Stephen.

" 2. Those who have the management of the vast and complicated affairs of the colonies have no local, and probably but very slight personal, knowledge of our transmarine possessions—the heads of the office are naturally much occupied with the patronage which extends from a governorship down to a custom-house officer—the clerks, on whom the business devolves, cannot be supposed to be desirous of extra trouble—and Parliament is too busily engaged with domestic matters to pay much attention to the wants, feelings, and interests of several millions of our distant subjects.

" 3. The territories under the management, control, and protecting care and patronage of the Secretary of State, are :

" In North America.—Canada, Upper and Lower, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton and Newfoundland; area 435,000 square miles, or 279,400,000 acres, with a population of one million and a half of white colonists. (Independent of the foregoing, Hudson Bay Territories extend over 370,000 square miles.)

" In South America.—Demerara, Essequibo, Berbice, Honduras, and the Falkland Isles; area 165,000 square miles—or 105,600,000 acres, with a population of 120,000.