

artificers and other labourers. The half-sick begging Emigrants would rather depend on the sympathy of the public and charitable institutions than be prevailed upon to accept easy work at twenty-pence or two shillings per day; and it very frequently occurred throughout the summer, that many indolent Emigrants, possessed of means on their arrival sufficient for their conveyance to the Upper province, would loiter their valuable time in idleness, and after spending all their money, claim to be forwarded by the Emigrants Charitable Society, out of the tax fund, the right of which is admitted on the recommendation of the lodging house or tavern keeper where the Emigrants may have boarded, or of the master of the ship in which they arrived. Ship captains and brokers in the United Kingdom, as an inducement to obtain higher rates for passage, and the amount of the Emigrant duty for which the ship is liable, tell the credulous Emigrants that by their advancing the amount, they and their families will be sent *free* from Quebec to Upper Canada by the Emigrant Society. In offering these remarks to your Lordship, I disclaim even the shadow of imputation as to want of assiduity or anxiety on the part of the gentlemen who took an active part in the affairs of that institution to do their utmost for the public good; but I wish to point out to your Lordship the bad consequences that have already resulted, and will inevitably be increased, by thus checking the industry of that portion of the Emigrant population already but too prone to seek any means of support rather than work (see pages 19, 20); besides, it stamps them with a stigma of degradation in the scale of pauperism, the influence of which on their moral conduct and exertions must be obvious.

Among the vast number of persons that arrive at Quebec in so short a period, it cannot be expected otherwise, in the nature of things, but cases of distress and individual suffering will be met with seriously demanding the warmest sympathy of the public, (and I can readily bear testimony to the great extent of that truly christian feeling among the inhabitants of Quebec and Montreal); yet I cannot admit that the number of persons destitute on arrival, or who had not means sufficient for their conveyance into the country, bore any comparison whatever to the amount reported to have been forwarded as *paupers* by the Emigrant Society. During the principal panic of the cholera in June, it was found impossible to inquire into the state of applicants, and all were indiscriminately forwarded as paupers. From the preceding facts, your Lordship will perceive how easy it is to make out a *case of apparent pauperism*, and an outcry against the mother country for sending out her destitute beggars. If the system I have now the honour to submit to your Lordship be permitted to go on, I am compelled by every sense of public duty to state my humble opinion, that the prosperity of voluntary Emigration to the Canadas will experience such serious difficulties that may ere long destroy the best intentions of His Majesty's Government.

If the few amendments to the present system, which I have in this Report taken the liberty to bring under your Lordship's notice, be adopted, and that Emigration and the measures connected with it are left to the management of the authorities who are responsible for directing this branch of the public service, all that unfounded clamour against Emigration that has been so industriously got up by designing and instructed characters would fall to the ground, and there cannot be a doubt that an Emigrant population to any conceivable extent would find profitable settlement in these fine colonies, thereby greatly contributing to the general prosperity of the Empire.

Your Lordship will find, on referring generally to the Appendix, and the many extracts from the Weekly Reports, intimately connected with the subject which I have in the Report taken the liberty to solicit your Excellency's consideration, and from which extracts your Lordship will easily perceive that there is no cause for alarm in overstocking the market for labour in these provinces by the introduction of any number of British Emigrants, nor does it appear, notwithstanding the melancholy visitation of Providence with which the poor Emigrants were overtaken on their arrival here last summer, that petty crime or offences against the peace of the community has experienced any augmentation.

With reference to the widows and orphans of Emigrants who died of cholera, your Lordship is already aware of the very liberal subscription made for them by the citizens of Quebec.

A considerable portion of these widows and children were sent back to the United Kingdom, the policy of which, or advantages to the individuals (in some cases), might be questioned. At York, Upper Canada, the plan of apprenticing the children out to farmers and tradesmen has been adopted with considerable success.

From every information I obtained during my late tour, and the universal satisfaction and prosperity that was every where apparent, justifies the expectation of a very extensive Emigration from the mother country during the ensuing summer.

The tide of Emigration has set in so successful to the Upper province, and the universal feelings of the inhabitants so congenial in considering the wants of the settlers, that we may anticipate, for some years, an extensive flow of British population in that direction.

Numbers will also continue to find profitable employment and settlement in this province, and which would be materially increased if a good communication was opened with the *Eastern townships*, where a wider field would be had for any extent of industrious Emigrant population.

The measure of Emigration from the mother country to this fine province has taken a deep root in the minds of all classes in the United Kingdom, and there is no reason to doubt that unlimited benefit may be experienced by a judicious encouragement and protection to those who may avail themselves of it.

Attempts have and continue to be made by designing characters to embarrass the cause of Emigration,