

transference of the burden to Canada, Australia, or any of the colonies, would be turning into a support to you that which is now a burden. Speaking of emigration, if it be admitted that emigration is desirable—and I think the people themselves have solved that question for us, because emigration is one of the recognised institutions of this land, and will take place whether you like it or not—there are certain conditions which I think we may look to for successful emigration, and for the choice of a country to which the people may go. There are three conditions. One is accessibility; and another is fitness of climate and soil; and the last is fitness of its associations—the social conditions which exist. With reference to accessibility I need not, in a commercial town like Greenock, say one word. You know that, as far as Canada is concerned, there are ships going to and from that colony almost every day. They carry out hundreds and thousands of people in the course of a year—carry them to Montreal, and deliver them on the shores of Canada. The question of accessibility, therefore, may be answered in favour of Canada. But there is that of fitness of climate and soil; and I wish to say a few words upon it, because, though they are scarcely required here, still the question is very often asked, and by people whom I should have expected to be better informed, “Is the climate of Canada such as we can exist in?” I think the answer is found in the feelings of the people who live there. I would not exchange a day of our midwinter for a day of your Scotch winter. It could not be supposed that we would be such fools as to stay in Canada if it was not a country we liked, and if the climate was not suitable for us. We would not stay there, and keep our children there, and try to get our friends there, if that was not the case. It is impossible that we could be so unwise as that. There is one fact which I happened to learn in Edinburgh when I was there last week. I am connected with the Standard Life Office, being one of their local directors, and I asked them, “What do your tables of mortality show of Canada as compared with this country?” The gentleman I was addressing said, “I can answer your question,