

danger to the emigrant ships employed. They must all have regretted to have seen the large number of lives lost in emigration, and that greater facilities should be provided there could be no question. Mr. Howe would show the advantages of the port of Halifax, which was one of the finest harbours in the world, and the facilities which Southampton possessed for emigrants departing to that place. If the hon. gentleman's plan should be realised, they would be able to reach Halifax in ten days. He would at once call upon the Hon. Mr. Howe to address the meeting.

Mr. HOWE.—Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—You may imagine the various and conflicting feelings by which I am embarrassed, in rising to address this intelligent and prosperous community, and through them the twenty-eight millions of people who inhabit these British islands—the centre of modern civilization—the honored home of my fathers. Be assured that I deeply feel the responsibility which your kindness, and my public position, have tempted me to assume. The memory of those great orators, with whose highest flights of eloquence, from childhood, you have been familiar—whose voices, like distant thunder, still linger in the ears of the present generation, weighs upon me no less, than the immediate presence of those polished and skilful speakers that you are daily accustomed to hear. Would, for your sakes, that I could as easily invoke the spirit of the dead, as I do, in all sincerity and humility, crave the indulgence of the living. The magnitude of the interests which I desire to present to your notice, involving, as I believe they do, to some extent, the relief of these islands from the burthen of poverty and crime, the integrity of this empire, and the permanence of the connexion between the North American Provinces and England, oppresses the mind even more than the intellectual character of my audience. I wish those interests were less imposing—that the danger of neglecting them was less imminent, or that my ability to deal with them was proportioned to the magnitude of the theme.

When I last visited Southampton, I little thought that I should ever return to it again, and certainly never dreamed that I should