

fully satisfied myself that multitudes of Irishmen have found prosperity in the United States, in British America, and in the Australian colonies, who never would have attained comfort or independence if they had remained at home. Nor do I perceive any grounds for believing that such may not also be the lot of future emigrants. It is manifest, however, that there are certain limits to the number of colonists who can be received in each country. It frequently happens that great suffering is experienced by emigrants in consequence of their being unable to reach those districts in which their labour is required. If 30,000 labouring families crowd into a country in which only 20,000 can be received without inconvenience, much misery must necessarily ensue; whereas if only 15,000 families had emigrated to such country, all might have been most advantageously provided with the means of subsistence.

“Colonisation may be assisted by the State, either by merely providing a passage for the emigrant to the place in which his labour is required, or by *locating* him upon land in the colony to which he is conveyed. The former mode of emigration is attended with comparatively little expense. About £5 per head is the amount usually estimated as requisite for the conveyance of an adult from Ireland to Upper Canada. Even if the whole of this expense were to be defrayed by the counties of Ireland, it would, if considered as a mere pecuniary speculation, involve less cost than the maintainance of the same person in idleness or upon useless works at home. But a limit to this description of emigration would soon be reached. It is very doubtful whether 50,000 families could be received in America in a single year without much social derangement. On the other hand, the second mode of colonisation is so expensive that it could not be carried on upon an extensive scale without the creation of a large amount of debt. An experiment of this kind was made some years ago. A large party of settlers from Ireland were conveyed to Canada and located upon Crown lands under very favorable circumstances. The expense of their location amounted to about £22 per head. Now, if a capital calculated at the rate of £22 per head were about to be invested by the State for the Irish people, there are few amongst us who would not prefer, that such capital should be expended in providing employment at home rather than in the Colonies. The relief afforded by the removal of 100,000 persons from Ireland, at an expense exceeding £2,000,000, would be scarcely preceptible—but the judicious expenditure of so large a sum in Ireland might open channels of employment which would permanently absorb a much larger number of the labouring population.”