

stances, impart to her. It is, therefore, deeply incumbent on those who sway her destinies, to see especially that her latent energies are called into action, and our distant Colonies sufficiently supplied to promote the grandeur and wealth of the nation that possesses them. We have, indeed, on various occasions, been earnest to show that such should be the paramount object of England, or of those who rule in her councils. If we have not always succeeded according to our wishes in showing this, the failure must be attributed to our want of skill in pleading the cause, not assuredly to a want of truth in the argument. For if England (thanks to her Dampier and her Cook, and her other great nautical discoverers, who succeeded in planting her flag in the distant and waste places of the globe—in countries before unimagined by the civilised world) may, with some truth, assert that the chart of her Colonies is a chart of the world in outline, we ought to turn them to the best account, since mankind, perhaps, has never before seen an example of so vast and extensive a power accumulated in the shape of Colonial dependencies. It has been said that when, through the headstrong policy of Great Britain, her fine American Colonies were irrecoverably lost, an opportunity of redeeming, in some measure, that loss was opened up to her by the discoveries of the illustrious Cook, who, about the period coeval with that event, planted the British flag on the shores of New Holland. Had, indeed, a genius of commanding and expansive views at that time presided over her Colonial department, this hiatus in the Colonial empire of Great Britain might have been much more speedily filled up than has been the case, or is likely now to be, under existing circumstances.

Our first expedition to this fifth continent was commenced in 1788, under very favourable auspices; and the able and judicious management of Governor Arthur Phillip. Had he been worthily succeeded, the still infant settlement would have thriven rapidly, and, it is probable, have attained to far higher eminence than has ever yet crowned them. Nursed up with attention, cherished with skill and judgment, made the chosen spot of capital and industry, to which free settlers of intelligence and active habits were invited from all parts—under these auspices Australia might, by this time, have proved a far more valuable adjunct of the Mother Country than it has yet done. But, until recently, made the reservoir of crime, swamped with annual importations of felons, whose demoralising influences the existing laws were utterly powerless to resist, the miracle is, not that it has not done more for England, but that society there has attained to its present prosperous state. Let us hope better things concerning our first settlement in this noble territory, from the energy and enlightened views of subsequent legislators.

Mr. Malthus, in his well-known treatise "on Population," delivers himself to the following effect on the subject of emigration to the Colonies:—

"It is clear," says he (b. iii., c. 4) "that with any view of making room for an unrestricted increase of population, emigration is perfectly inadequate; but as a partial and temporary expedient, and with a view to the more general cultivation of