

woman, or child, not being the outpourings of a gaol, has always been received with a welcome by the Governments and people of British North America and the United States, and once landed on their shores emigrants have generally been treated with great kindness, and forwarded to their future homes at a mere nominal cost. The greatest facilities exist for their transport from all the great Atlantic seaports to the West. They are carried by railway from Portland or Quebec to the State of Minnesota, a distance of 1,200 miles, for about £2 per head. In fact, the only real difficulty is that of providing the cost across the Atlantic, and in ships properly equipped for such a purpose; and this latter question—as Mr. Knapp, a member of the New York Board of Emigration, in a speech at the Social Science Congress in New York the other day, very properly observed—*is one which should be settled by negotiating treaties with foreign nations*; at the same time I would observe that as the United States have admittedly derived such enormous advantages from immigration, they ought to abolish the tax of two and a half dollars per head which is imposed on all immigrants, and maintain the Emigration Office from the national exchequer.

In the adoption of any plan of emigration from this country, it is exceedingly important that it should not have the appearance of a “pauper emigration,” or a temporary expedient; it should be one of the permanent settled institutions of the country, and for that purpose I propose the formation of a British and North American Emigration Company, to be established and carried on on commercial principles—in fact, uniting the support of the British and North American Governments, Philanthropic, Emigration and other kindred association, and the railway and land companies of America, and providing a machinery by which the emigrant can be comfortably conveyed to and settled in his new home at the very minimum of cost. The business of the company would be the purchase and sailing of steamers especially adapted for