

tion upon earth; while, on the other hand, the sources of our greatness, so far as they depend upon that with independent states, have clearly reached their limit, and are now all tending towards decay. It is by implanting our seed, therefore, in distant regions, and following our own mission for the colonization and peopling of the desert regions of the earth, that we can alone hope to avert the stationary or declining condition which, from the operation of causes far beyond the reach of human calculation, has now, so far as our intercourse with foreign nations is concerned, come to act upon the British Empire. And if we could conceive that the government and people of this country (for both must co-operate in so highly an undertaking) were duly impressed with the grandeur of this duty, and were guided by adequate wisdom in carrying it into execution; if, discarding all selfish considerations on local interests, they regarded the British Islands only as the metropolis of this vast transmarine dominion, and pursued in good faith the just and equal policy which the interests of such an Empire imperatively require; if the industry of all parts, however remote, were protected by the admission of its produce at the same duty into the British harbours that the British is admitted into theirs; if British justice swayed alike the decisions of the courts of law on the Atlantic or the Pacific as within the precincts of Westminster Hall, and the British Navy, maintained adequate strength, and upheld by patriotic vigour, lay between to cement, and defend the whole parts of this mighty dominion; no doubt can be entertained that the greatness of the British Empire, wonderful as it already is, is but in its infancy, and that the ocean would become to us what the Mediterranean was to the Romans,—a highway emanating from the centre of a boundless dominion, and the means of keeping firmly united its most distant provinces."

Mr. Alison, gives another Table that shows the value of British manufactures, which the respective populations of several of the European States, together with those of the United States of America, and of the British Colonies, consume annually per head, and then observes:—

"It may truly be said that this table speaks as to the real interests and manufacturing establishments of Great Britain; and that if the nation were not struck with judicious blindness, they would at once perceive where it is that the steady and rising market for British manufactures is to be found, and where, on the other hand, all our efforts to promote a successful traffic may be regarded as fruitless and unavailing. For fifteen years past our whole commercial policy has been directed to the object of gaining a mere ready vent for our manufactures into the continental states of Europe. We have concluded no less than twelve reciprocity treaties with the principal journals; and, in order to propitiate their good will, we have sacrificed by our treaties all our commercial advantages at least in our intercourse with these states. And what has been the result? Why, that our commerce with them is a perfect trifle when compared with that which we maintain with our own Colonies, whom we have maltreated and neglected for their sakes; and that, while the old states take off a few pence per head of their population, our own Colonies take off as many pounds. In this instance we have truly verified the old adage, that we have been penny wise and pound foolish, even in regard to our existing interests at the moment. But when, in addition to this, it is recollected that these Colonies are part of ourselves—distant provinces of our own empire, whose blood is our blood, whose strength is our strength; that they are increasing in number, with a rapidity unparalleled in the annals of the world; and that however fast they may augment, they are by their situation and circumstances chained for centuries to agricultural and pastoral enjoyments, and consequently our export trade with them must increase in the same proportion as their numbers; while, on the other hand, the states of continental Europe are increasing far less rapidly in numbers—are actuated for the most part by commercial jealousy, and may any moment become our enemies,—it may safely be affirmed, that the neg-

lect of the colonial provinces to propitiate foreign powers, is of all human absurdities the most absurd."

"Let us, therefore, no longer strain after the impracticable effort to disarm the commercial jealousy of the European States; but, boldly looking our situation in the face, direct our main efforts to the strengthening, conciliating, and increasing of our colonial empire. There is to be found the bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh. There are to be found the true descendants of the Anglo-Saxon race; then the people, who, already imbued with our tastes, our habits, our artificial wants, must be chained for centuries to agricultural or pastoral employments, and can only obtain from the mother country the immense amount of manufactured produce which their growing wealth and numbers must require. So strongly marked out do these principles appear,—so clearly is the future path traced out for England, not less by her duty than her interests, that there is no one circumstance in her present condition, not even those which are most justly considered as pregnant with danger and alarm, that may not be converted into the source of blessings, if a decided and manly course is taken by the nation and its government, in regard to its colonial interests. Indeed, so clearly does this appear, that one is almost tempted to believe that the manifold political and social evils of our present condition are the scourges intended by providence to bring us back, by necessity, and a sense of our own interests, to those great national duties from which we have so long and so unaccountably survived.

Are we oppressed with a numerous and redundant population. Are we apprehensive that a mass of human beings, already consisting of nearly thirty millions, and multiplying at the rate of a thousand souls a day, will ere long be unable to find subsistence within the narrow space of these islands? Let us turn to the Colonies, and there we shall find boundless regions, capable of maintaining ten times our present population in contentment and affluence, and which requires only the surplus arms and manacles of the parent state, to be converted into gigantic empires, which, before a century has elapsed, may overshadow the greatness ever of European renown. Are we justly fearful that the increasing manufacturing skill and growing commercial jealousy of the continental states may gradually shut us out from the European market, and that our millions of manufacturers may find their sources of foreign subsistence fail at a time when all home employments are filled up? Let us turn to the Colonies, and there we shall see empires of gigantic strength rapidly rising to maturity, in which manufacturing establishments cannot, for centuries, take root, and in which the taste for British manufactures, and the habits of British comfort, are indelibly implanted on the British race? Are we overburdened with the weight of our poor-rates and the multitude of our paupers, and trembling under the effect of the sub-rooted discontent produced in the attempt to withdraw public support from the maintenance of the adult and healthy labourer? Let us find the means of transporting these healthy workmen to our colonial settlements, and we will confer as great a blessing upon them, as we will give a relief to the parent state.

"Are the means to transport these numerous and indigent classes to these distant regions wanting, and has individual emigration hitherto been liable to the reproach, that it removes the better class of our citizens who could do for themselves, and leaves the poorest who incur the land? The British Navy lies between, and means exist of transporting, at hardly any expense to the parent state, all that can ever be required of our working population from that part of the empire which they overburden, to that to which they will prove a blessing. It is astonishing the attention of Government has not, ere this, been turned to this subject. And why may not part at least of the British Navy be constantly employed in transporting emigrants of all classes to our colonial possessions? Why should three hundred vessels of different sizes, that are now in commission in the British Navy, be employed, only in useless parades, when hundreds of thousands on the British shores are pining for the means of transport across the seas, and millions of acres on the other side of the ocean, turning with verdant fertility,

await only their robust hands to be converted into a terrestrial paradise? Why should the British Navy not be employed like the Roman legions, in time of peace, in works of public utility; and why should their efforts not construct causeways across the deep, which would bind together the immense circuit of the British Colonial Dominions, as strongly as the highways constructed by the legions cemented the fabric of this mighty empire?

"The Roman legions conquered only by the sword. Fire and bloodshed attended their steps, it was said by our own ancestors on the hills of Caledonia, that they gave peace only by establishing a solitude. The British colonists now set out with the olive-branch, not the sword in hand; with the cross, not the Eagle on their banners—they bring not war and devastation, but peace and civilization around their steps, and the track of their chariot-wheels is followed, not by the sighs of a captive, but the blessing of a renovated world."

"Come bright improvement in the car of Time, And rule the spacious world from clime to clime; Thy handmaid, Art, shall every wild explore, Trace every wave and culture every shore; On *Eric's banks*, where panther's steal along, And the dread Indian chaunts a dismal song; Where human fiends on midnight errands walk; And bathed in brains the murderous tomahawk. There shall the flocks on thymy pastures stray, And shepherds dance at summer's opening day; Each wandering genius of the lonely glen Shall start to win—the glittering haunts of men; And silence mark, on woodland heights around, The village curfew as it tolls profound."

A very long extract has been given from the work of this very able writer, in order to show the views that are entertained of emigration to the British Colonies. No doubt can exist that there is abundant opportunity for their employment here, and in other colonies, provided capital can be safely invested in Agriculture, but not otherwise. Public works carried on extensively will give temporary employment to emigrants, but there must be something more than this to ensure their successful settlement in this country, and, also, to ensure to the mother-country profitable customers in her own children for the purchase of her manufactures, and supplying the parent state with what she may require of Canadian produce. It is perfectly possible to secure immense benefits, both to the mother-country, and to this colony, by adopting judicious measures of encouragement and protection to Canadian Agriculture, which cannot prosper under existing circumstances, without some change. Those who would encourage emigration, if they desire to see emigrants useful and prosperous here, will have to adopt measures that will secure that result, and if it can be secured independent of Agriculture, we shall not object to the means that may be employed to accomplish it.

We are gratified at the interest a number of Post-Masters have already taken, to procure Subscribers for *THE BRITISH AMERICAN CULTIVATOR*. We shall continue to send a copy to all such, without regard to the number of Subscribers they procure.—If they should fail at first to make up the number specified in *Our Terms*, entitling them to a copy, probably they may do so before the expiration of the year. We flatter ourselves that the Post-Masters throughout British America, will exert their influence in our favour, as soon as our Publication becomes generally known.