

or other adverse circumstance, shall ever bar the rights and privileges which they convey. Further, there exists, under the Great Seal, a royal warrant, empowering the Baronets to revive and go on with the work of colonizing their grants whensoever they shall think proper to do so.

“Under these circumstances steps are now being adopted to revive the rights and the objects of our Baronetage, who are collectively a far more numerous, wealthy, and powerful body than our Peerage; and this is further taking place at a juncture when we have 25,000,000 surplus deposits in our Scottish banking establishments,—250,000 destitute Scottish fellow-subjects,—and 11,000,000 acres of unlocated Scottish soil in New Brunswick alone.

“It is easy to see how these three elements of national wealth may be made instrumental to the solution of those difficulties which more emphatically constitute our Home Condition Question. But to bring the recovery of these patrimonial rights more immediately to our own door, there are in the county of Dumfries eleven noble families interested in them, viz.—the Baronets Murray of Cockpool (*Earl of Mansfield*), Stuart of Bute (*Earl of Dumfries and Marquis of Bute*), Dalzell of Glenæ (*Earl of Carnwath*), Douglas of Kelhead (*Marquis of Queensberry*), Jardine of Applegarth, Maxwell of Springkell, Grierson of Rockhall, Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, Laurie of Maxwellton, Broun of Colstoun, and Johnstone of Westerhall. The joint estates of these families in Nova Scotia amount to 176,000 acres, nearly as much as the whole cultivated surface of Dumfriesshire. Now, in the banks of our county town alone there is lying idle £1,000,000. deposits, for which the owners are glad to obtain two per cent. per annum, whilst there are facts to establish that capital vested in colonizing North America, on the average of twelve years, has produced 70 per cent. per annum. Assuming, then, that our district Baronets, and district capitalists, and district unemployed, should co-operate for the improvement of their respective interests, it is easy to understand how idleness and poverty would be banished from our three dales for centuries to come. And what the revival of the rights of our county Baronets would do for Dumfriesshire as a part, the revival of the rights of all the Baronets would do for Scotland as a whole; for there is not one county in which members of the order, surplus capital, and redundant population are not to be found.

“Scotland is indebted to our fellow-countyman, Sir Richard Broun, now the head of a Family which since 1116 has often done good service for the country, for raising and advancing the Nova Scotia Question to its present stage. After directing his attention for the last ten years to this great mode of amelioration, the Baronets have recently adopted a series of resolutions, pledging all the concurring members to the prosecution of such steps as are yet necessary to make their common rights in British America good and effectual. We shall conclude this notice by giving an extract of Sir Richard’s speech on submitting the said resolutions, which embodies the reasons why the Baronets (about 160 in all) should as one man come.