

The next object of this Address, is to request that steps may be taken to circulate the requisite information among the lower classes at home, and especially in Ireland; in order that it may be generally understood:—

- I. Under what circumstances they may be warrantably encouraged to emigrate.
- II. Under what circumstances they ought to be deterred from the attempt.
- III. What knowledge ought to be possessed, what rules are to be followed, and what plans avoided by those who do emigrate.

The Society therefore beg leave to state their opinion, that persons with families, possessing a sufficient sum to support them for one year after their arrival in this country—or single men, with a provision something less, who are able-bodied, and either expert in agriculture or masters of any of the *common mechanical trades*—provided they are of steady, correct, industrious habits, and of enterprising characters, may fairly be encouraged to transfer their homes to this country, and to expect a better fortune than is likely to await them by any opening presented in their own. In many cases, it would be highly useful, if the funds of the Society could be made capable of rendering some degree of assistance to persons of this description.

But with respect to persons differently situated, and of a different stamp—persons who abandon their homes in a vague expectation of relief from *change*, because they are not thriving where they are; and who land upon these shores in a destitute condition, and without energy to struggle with difficulties, the Society can promise them only disappointment and increased misery: and the case is daily to be witnessed, of those who have been lured hither by false and interested representations, but whose wish and prayer, upon their very arrival, is to obtain the means of returning. The Society have actually, in some instances, been obliged to employ their funds in sending back deluded and helpless beings who had avowed themselves from all the dependence which they could count upon for support in this world. It appears also, from the public papers, that considerable numbers of those who have emigrated to the United States are straining their exhausted means to return. It is very important to impress the conviction, that there are three articles of expence absolutely necessary to the preservation of life itself in this climate, of which a much inferior provision will answer the purposes of existence in others; the articles namely of clothing, fuel, and a compact lodging; to which it must be added, that there are various sources of employment for the Poor, connected with husbandry and navigation, which are wholly suspended during a Canadian winter.

The cases, however, of those who arrive in this country in a forlorn and distressed condition, are infinitely multiplied by the want of information under which the parties act. The season at which the vessel sails, and the port to which she is bound, as its situation respects their ulterior progress, are two points of considerable moment. It ought to be their endeavour to have before them, as much as possible, upon their arrival, the open portion of the year. *And it is a very common circumstance, that emigrants are brought *here*, whose destination is in some part of the United States, or of the British Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, where they have particular inducements to go; to gain which points from Quebec, is perhaps a matter of much greater difficulty and expence, than to go direct to them from Great Britain or Ireland. Several women, with families, coming lately to join their husbands at the points above-mentioned, have been led to suppose, that their object would be as readily attained by taking a passage to Quebec, which they have reached without the means of proceeding farther.

It is essential, therefore, that persons emigrating to America should be furnished with some degree of geographical information. And if they hesitate under what government to place themselves in this quarter of the globe, it may be very honestly recommended to them, to forbear from changing masters. Of those who have recently made their election in the United States, it is a fact personally known to members of the Society, that large numbers have found their advantage in resuming their allegiance, and have made application to the British Consul at New York, for aid to effect a removal into Upper Canada; practically disproving an opinion, which has a pretty general influence, as to the superior inducements of Foreign America.

With respect to that frequent separation of families which has been adverted to—the husband, or the father, coming alone to try the country, and sending afterwards for his household, or perhaps returning to fetch them out, the Society can by no means recommend this experiment, unless the parties are so situated that a considerable *present* sacrifice will not eventually distress them. Not only is much time lost, perhaps at a season which renders it highly valuable—not only is the difficulty and expence attending a removal across the seas, inevitably increased by this practice; but it constantly happens, that the family upon their arrival at Quebec, are utterly at a loss to trace the person whom they have come to seek; and there are some instances within the knowledge of the Society, where the hope of doing so seems almost gone.

It might be productive of incalculable benefit to the cause of Emigration, if certain Associations were formed in different places at home, composed of intelligent and benevolent individuals, who would open a correspondence with the Society here, and furnish information to the parties upon the spot. The materials for such associations exist abundantly in Great Britain and Ireland; and the Quebec Emigrants' Society entertain a confident hope, that neither the distance at which they act, nor the inferiority of their own pretensions, will cause their appeal to be disregarded, or deprive them of that encouragement and assistance, which they anxiously solicit. They trust that they are engaged in a good work, and in the prosecution of their endeavours they look to the co-operation of good men, and the blessing of God above.

Mr. Thomas Wilson, of Great Winchester Street, London, has been requested to communicate with His Majesty's Government, upon the subject, & to receive communications from individuals at home. — The Lord Bishop will receive those addressed to Ladies.

*They ought not, upon any account, to sail later than the 1st of June.