

trade relations, would acquiesce, and for the sake of which they would be content to resign for ever their powers of commercial legislation. As to the other question, we believe that the High Commissioner is about as likely to succeed in diverting the migration of birds, and inducing the feathered wanderers to confine themselves to countries under the British flag, as he is to succeed in inducing the English, still more the Irish, peasant to abstain, on political grounds, from going to the country where he thinks he can earn most bread. The question will also arise, how the emigration is to be distributed among Colonies which have hitherto been carrying on a competition, and in the case of New Zealand, cut-throat competition with each other. But it is needless to discuss projects which have never assumed a definite form. Let the plan be framed, and we shall see whether it is likely to work. In the meantime, can anything be imagined more absurd than a scheme for promoting and subsidizing emigration from England to Canada, while Canada is losing her own people by tens of thousands? The emigration policy wanted, so far as we are concerned, is one which will keep Canadians at home.

Among the Australians with whom Sir A. Galt confers, no doubt, is Sir Julius Vogel, lately Prime Minister of New Zealand, now High Commissioner (we believe that is his title) for the Colony, and the paragon of highflying Imperialism of all kinds. But the brilliant reputation of Sir Julius is at this moment obscured by a passing cloud. From New Zealand comes a cry of distress. Sir Julius has piled up a public debt amounting, according to a correspondent of the *London Times*, to \$150,000,000, for a population, according to the last census (1879), of 414,412 whites, including Chinese, half-castes and persons on ship-board*; while in the last budget the deficit was nearly \$5,000,000. Of course, while the money was being spent, there were fine times, and Sir Julius Vogel was a heaven-born statesman; he is now regarded as "too sanguine

*See *Stateman's Year Book*, p. 739.