

for more than one, two, or even three years unvisited. It appears to me to be the duty of those who have removed these children from England to institute a strict inquiry into their present position, so as to ascertain all the facts that can be known about them. To do this it would only be necessary for Miss Macpherson to make some addition to her present staff. If the information is to be obtained not by correspondence but by visits, it would be necessary for Miss Rye to appoint visitors for the purpose. But in whatever way the information is to be obtained, I think it ought to be furnished to the Boards of Guardians who have allowed these children to be sent to Canada in the belief that they would be looked after until they were of an age to look after themselves.

Connected with this system of emigration charges have been publicly made and discussed in the Canadian press and elsewhere, grounded upon the assumption that Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson have a pecuniary interest in it. Both of these ladies were desirous that I should investigate this matter, upon which they are prepared to give the fullest information. Such an investigation, however, to be of the slightest value, would involve a much more minute examination of accounts than I was prepared to make, or indeed had the means of making. The emigration expenses of pauper children, and of children who are not paupers, are so mixed up that it would be very difficult to separate them. A satisfactory result could only be arrived at by a strict audit, in which vouchers for each item of expenditure should be produced. That I am prepared, with your permission, to undertake if these ladies desire it. It is alleged that at present the cost of conveying a pauper child from Liverpool to its destination in Ontario cannot exceed one third of the sum paid on that account by the Guardians. This no doubt would be the case if Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye avail themselves of the "assisted passage" given by the Government of the Dominion, as well as of the drawback of six dollars for each emigrant given by the Ontario Government.

With reference to the two items of expenditure,—cost of passage and cost of maintenance,—I applied for information to Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson, and also to the several Homes. To my application with reference to the assistance afforded by the Governments of the Dominion and the Province of Ontario I have received no reply from either Miss Rye or Miss Macpherson. From the Galt Home only was I able to ascertain the collective number of days for which the children are chargeable. In the absence of such information I can refer only to what I ascertained at Ottawa and Toronto, and to the balance sheets published by Miss Macpherson. I was informed that previous to the present season Miss Rye and Miss Macpherson obtained from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa warrants for assisted passages at 4*l.* 5*s.* and 4*l.* 15*s.* sterling for adults, and half of these sums for children under 8 years. But in the spring of this year, in consequence of certain representations made as to the care of children, the warrant in the case of Miss Macpherson's emigrants was reduced to 3*l.* 5*s.* sterling. Still later in the season, in consequence of further representations as to the particular care and education of children, the warrant was reduced to 2*l.* 5*s.* sterling in the case of children sent out under the auspices of the Archbishop of Westminster, and for those sent by the Children's Home, Bonner Road, Victoria Park, London. As it was understood that this principle might be invoked for other children similarly sent out, I presume Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye would receive the benefit of it. But even if the cost of the passage were not reduced to 2*l.* 5*s.*, but stood at 3*l.* 5*s.* for children on whose behalf a bonus of 1*l.* 4*s.* per head