

22,658*l.*, giving an average of little short of 200*l.* to each family. Now, it is to be remembered that this report presents the least favourable view of Canadian emigration, because no account has been taken of the property of those who have regularly paid their instalments to the company; and it may therefore be inferred that if such be the condition of those who are in arrear, much more satisfactory must be the state of those settlers who have been able regularly to discharge their liabilities to the company. In reply to an inquiry addressed by me to the secretary of the Canada Company, with respect to the number of labourers who would find employment on the company's lands during the present year, the secretary writes to the following effect:—

I feel some difficulty in stating the precise number of emigrants who might probably find employment in the company's lands, in the Huron tract, or in other parts of the province, this season. I feel confident that many thousands might readily find such employment. The opinion I have heard from Upper Canada is, that nothing is so much required to promote the prosperity of that country as an abundant supply of labour.

He adds, —

The current wages in the company's lands vary from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* per day, and frequently board and lodging in addition.

The most recent instance of emigration to Upper Canada of which we have an official account, fully confirms these statements. Colonel Wyndham sent out, from the county of Clare, during the last summer, 181 emigrants. They were placed under the superintendence of Lieutenant Rubridge, — a gentleman of much experience in Canadian colonisation, — who accompanied them as far as Cobourg, in Upper Canada. They had not been there more than three days when the whole party were engaged, — the men at 2*l.* 10*s.* per month, with board and lodging, the women at 1*l.* The official account states, that there were applications, in that district alone, for four times the number actually carried out. I have, now, only to detain the House with one more quotation respecting the demand for labour in British America. It is from Sir John Harvey's address to the Legislature of New Brunswick, upon opening the last session in that province. Speaking in reference to some proposals which had been made to the Government by a land company, he says, —

The high price of labour, owing to the insufficiency of its labouring population, which prevails throughout the province, is confessedly cramping the enterprise and exertions, and otherwise operating most injuriously upon its com-

mercial and agricultural interests; and this consideration would, alone, appear to me to offer sufficient inducement for entertaining a proposition which I understand to go to the extent of insuring a regular and adequate supply of that valuable class of our fellow-subjects to whom encouragement and assistance is proposed to be given, to enable them, whensoever inclined, to settle upon lands of good quality.

Having now shown that the labouring population of the United Kingdom are frequently exposed to extreme privations, from inability to procure employment, and that the prosperity of many of our colonies is, at the same time, much retarded by the want of an adequate supply of labour, for which they are able to offer a much more satisfactory remuneration than the labourer can obtain in this country, — I am entitled to assume that my case is established; for it appears to me an irresistible inference, that, under such circumstances, it is the duty of the State to come to the aid of the necessities of both the mother country and of the colonies, by supplying the deficiency in the labour market of the one by removing the excess which prevails in the other, and thus converting the involuntary idler into an active and prosperous colonist. Fortunately, we have no longer to contend with those prejudices against emigration which formerly prevailed, — prejudices not a little aggravated by the system of transportation which is soon about to cease. I cannot allude to this subject without offering the humble meed of my thanks to the Honourable Baronet the Member for Leeds, and to the Archbishop of Dublin, for the exertions which they have made to remove from our rising colonies in Australia the contamination which has been inflicted upon them by the system of transportation, and which has tended to deter from settlement in them all who value the morality of the social circle by which they are surrounded. The best proof I can give of the disposition which prevails amongst the population of the United Kingdom to emigrate is, to remind the House that, in one year (1832), above 100,000 persons emigrated from the United Kingdom; and, during the last fourteen years, not less than 790,398 persons have left this country in quest of a new home; of whom 348,117 have gone to the United States. Without mingling with the remark a single particle of jealousy towards the United States, I may observe, that the greater portion of this large band of emigrants would have directed their steps to our own colonies rather than to the United States, if due measures had been taken to direct to them the stream of British colonisation.

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