

nor undertake to provide for an indiscriminate emigration. It is not to single men that they offer gratuitous locations; neither indeed, would any other assistance be requisite, if blessed with health and industry, than that which they freely offer to all, the benefit of the information they have acquired, where labour is in demand, and where judicious settlement can be made. But to men with families will the assistance of this Association be first given: active agriculturists and artisans coming within this description, and taking with them your recommendation, or the hardy yeoman with small means, will have the first claims on its bounty. Nor, my Lord and Gentlemen, have the Government been indifferent to this great object. I have no hesitation in affirming, that more aid and assistance was given by it last year to this hallowed cause, than in any previous year since Canada belonged to the British Crown. The Government cannot do all it wishes; a large portion of the public domain has passed from its hands, and to remedy that great defect is one great object with the association. But what Government can do, it will cheerfully do. The Government possesses not the means of supplying any funds by the sale of lands or otherwise, for the expense of conveying emigrants to Canada; and it is very anxious that it should be generally understood, that the most injurious consequences must arise both to the emigrants themselves, and to the province, from casting on the shores of Canada persons wholly destitute of the means either of transporting themselves to places where work can be provided for them, or of maintaining themselves as settlers. On the other hand, Government is equally anxious that the advantages which attend the emigration of the poorer classes, provided they can be supplied with sufficient means to reach those parts of the Province where their labour is in demand, or where they are able to support themselves as settlers during the first few months of their residence in the colony, and more especially the great opening which is afforded to persons acquainted with agricultural pursuits, having small means of acquiring property and bettering their conditions—these advantages they wish should be known. The Government would afford every facility and give all the assistance in its power to emigration conducted on such principles. Both the Government and the Association will take effectual means by which

information can be obtained with regard to the places where labour is in demand and can be at once procured; and this information will await the arrival of emigrants at Quebec. Arrangements will be also made to secure to the emigrant transport to such places at as cheap a rate as possible. Small grants of land also, coupled with conditions for its occupation and clearance, will be provided in cases where the emigrant commands sufficient means to support himself until it can be rendered productive; and the Governor General purposes recommending to the Legislature such public works as will give ready employment and good wages to labourers. From the confidence reposed in Lord Sydenham, the desire to promote those plans which he considers essential to the welfare of the country, I feel no doubt of a ready concurrence in the Legislature; and I think, my Lord, our object should now be directed to obtain from the great proprietors in the United Kingdom the numbers they wish to send, the extent to which they can contribute; to see that the passage of emigrants shall be rendered more secure, and less exposed to hardship and suffering from the neglect or ignorance of the parties employed than heretofore. I am rejoiced that the emigration commissioners have carefully examined the Passengers Act, with a view to its revision, and they will be glad to obtain your views and suggestions as to any amelioration that can be effected with regard to emigrants. I trust the committee will thoroughly investigate this matter, as many emigrants who went to Canada last year were defrauded and deceived by agents as to the period when ships sailed, and were so imposed upon by some captains, for provisions on their long voyage, after they had sailed, that they were, in many instances, bereft of means that would have established them comfortably in the province. I could expatiate on many other topics connected with this interesting subject; but other occasions will arise. I trust, my lord and gentlemen, that success may crown our exertions—that the suffering masses here may be alleviated by our efforts—the settlement of British North America effected by our means—and the majesty and dignity of the British empire in the western hemisphere firmly and invincibly established—(loud cheers).

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT.

Reasons submitted in favour of allowing a Transit of Merchandise through Canada to Michigan, without payment of Duties; with Observations as to the importance of the River St. Lawrence for extending the Trade of the Canadas and British Commerce generally.—
By JAMES BUCHANAN, Esq., His Majesty's Consul at New York. Toronto, 1836.

A pamphlet with the above title was published in 1836, by the British Consul, in connexion with another, to be noticed hereafter, on the construction of railroads in Canada. The

country was then rife with various projects of public improvement, all feasible and promising, but not to be rashly undertaken, still less to be undertaken simultaneously. If the Province