

pediment once removed, nothing would oppose its immediate execution. The removal of the paupers to the port appointed for embarkation would necessarily be, as already observed, without the range of an estimate, and must be governed by local circumstances, occasioning a small addition to the expense. There would be this advantage in the measure, (if the doctrine of those be right, of which there can be no doubt, who contend that the administration of relief to the able-bodied poor was never contemplated by the statute of Elizabeth,) that it would be a justification of those who direct the application of the Parochial Rates, for withholding from individuals rejecting this boon, all assistance that is *not absolutely necessary for preserving their existence*. It has long been universally admitted that this presumed claim of the able-bodied pauper upon parish relief, has been, and is the principal obstacle to the restoration of the Poor Laws to their original standard, inasmuch as the granting such relief has been the greatest aberration from their true character and spirit.

It will at once be evident, that the machinery of this proposed measure would be equally applicable to Ireland and Scotland, provided that *any local funds could be satisfactorily pledged to Government for the payment of the*