

16 PAPER:—EMIGRATION OF PAUPER CHILDREN TO CANADA.

It is of course possible that Miss Rye may have devoted the profits upon the emigration of "pauper" children to assist the emigration of street children, just as I intimated that Miss Macpherson did with repayments of passage money.

To one item in the preceding statement I desire to call your attention. I give Miss Rye credit for 1 *l.* as cost of maintenance at the Home *upon every child taken out*. Now, as a very considerable number of these children never set foot in the Home at all, no fewer than 192 going no further than "New Brunswick," Nova Scotia," or "Halifax," the allowance will amply cover what in poor-law accounts is known as "establishment charges." I observe, Sir, that Miss Rye's suggestion now is that English boards of guardians should entrust to her 1,000 girls per annum for the next 10 years, paying not 8 *l.* but 12 *l.* per head.

Miss Rye, in her letter to you, lays stress upon the assertion that she has "lost sight of" only 28 children "*of the age of 15 and under*." Even that is bad enough, considering that of children taken out in the last six months of 1873, 12, all of tender age, were already "lost sight of" within the following year. But the fact to which Miss Rye omits to call your attention is far more important than is that to which she refers. How many children lost sight of are *above the age of 15 and under 18*? It is at that age, as Miss Rye states, that children are subject to "freedom fever" become "restless," "discontented," and "disaffected." The number of that age who are "lost sight of," Miss Rye does not think it necessary to state. It appears, however, to be no fewer than 100!

Bearing in mind that so large a proportion of these emigrant children are "lost sight of," "reported or returned to the Home for extreme obstinacy and violent temper," are mothers of illegitimate children, some of them seduced by their masters or their master's sons, and that others are for one cause or other unfit for service, it may be reasonably asked whether, instead of adding to the number, some efficient means might not be even now adopted for the protection of those who have been already sent out.

It does not appear to me, Sir, to be necessary to say more in confirmation of the statements and opinions that I submitted to you in my Report of 1874. It is possible that some few applications to sanction emigration may yet be made to you under the influence of representations which are reported in public journals as having been made to boards of guardians, and which are certainly very little creditable to the candour of the person who is reported to have made them, or to the good sense of some at least of those who support them. Writing to you, Sir, it is hardly necessary to notice misrepresentations of such a character as that I was compelled to resign my office as Inspector of your Board in consequence of official disapproval of my Report, or that you, notwithstanding that Report, are satisfied with the system of emigration to which it refers. I cannot believe that any board of guardians in the kingdom, when informed of the conditions and results of Miss Rye's present system of emigration, would ask you to sanction the emigration of another child under it. In conclusion, Sir, I have only to assure you, that in making the inquiry that you entrusted to me, I spared no pains to fulfil your instructions, to carefully ascertain the facts connected with this system of emigration, and to submit them to you fairly, and in sufficient detail, to enable you to judge of its merits.

I have, &c.
(signed) Andrew Doyle.

The Right Honourable G. Sclater-Booth, M.P.,
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