

tioned possessions is : aggregate of £35,000,000 per annum ; and the value of the property, public and private, moveable and immoveable, in lands, houses, roads, forts, canals, ships, trading stock, and horses, oxen, sheep, &c., is £450,000,000 ! all confided to the responsibility of a single individual who has no permanency of office, and no local knowledge of the vast interests committed to his care.

“ 8. Some of the colonies have an exceedingly democratic form of government, namely, a controlling Representative Assembly, with a £10 franchise constituency—others have a Legislative Council, appointed by the secretary of state, and consisting chiefly of the principal government officers, and some have no ruling authority but the fiat of the governor. Under all these different systems there is no fixed principle—internal discord and party feeling follow in the wake of the politics of the secretary of state at home, and all the evils of sectarianism (lay and clerical) are in full force, to the utter ruin of social concord, and the great detriment of the commerce, peace, and prosperity of each settlement.

“ Governors and public functionaries are not chosen in reference to their personal qualifications, but chiefly with regard to their political bias, their family connections and parliamentary influence ; and the unfortunate consequences of such an exercise of power are felt at the extremities, and re-act on the very heart of the empire, as exemplified at this moment in the state of Canada, and which will be the case with every other colony as soon as its inhabitants feel their strength, and become sensible of the cause of their suffering.

“ As a remedy of these evils, it is suggested to form an administrative board in Downing-street for the management of colonial affairs, with a secretary of state as at present, but aided by a council of retired governors, judges, and civilians, who possess a local and general knowledge of our maritime possessions ; the number of the council not to exceed