

may emigrate to Canada, with the certainty of receiving here free grants of land, either from private proprietors or the public. Private proprietors can of course do as they please, but it is very improbable that they will make many free grants of land. We cannot undertake to speak for the Assembly, but it is equally improbable that they will dispose of the public property in this way, except as before stated in some rare cases. They may render land easier of attainment, by lowering the price in some degree, and facilitating the acquisition of a title; but they are not likely to proclaim a general scramble for the public lands. It is not either for the emigrant's advantage that he should be hurried on land too soon. It is far better that he should work as a labourer until he shall have become acquainted with the country and its habits. We should advise even the emigrant who has a little money to do this; because though he may be delayed three or four years before he settles on land, he will have gained a rich fund of experience, which will far more than compensate him for the delay.—It must not be supposed that every thing is done here by intuition, or that there are not peculiarities in the climate and mode of management which nothing but experience can teach. Emigrant labourers must come hither with the expectation of continuing labourers until they shall have earned sufficient to settle on land with advantage. This period will be longer or shorter according to the individual's advantages, and his improvement of them; but he has always this prospect before him, that whereas at home he must continue a labourer to the end of his life, he may here in a comparatively short period raise himself into a farmer and landholder. This certain prospect is quite sufficient to induce emigration, without holding out any extravagant hopes that can never be realized. Canada is not a Paradise, but a land in which the sober and industrious man is sure of gaining a competent reward for his labour.

Another question on this subject is, what degree of assistance, if any, must be given to emigrants on their passage up the country.—This also will have to be decided by the Legislature, as the Re-union Act provides only £700 per annum for an Emigrant Agent. We think it will be necessary to retain assistant Agents in the principal places along the route, and grant aid in helping those forward who may require such assistance. To do this would re-

quire great circumspection, as the agents are liable to be imposed upon, and the public bounty is in danger of being perverted. Yet we do not see how, if no aid be granted, emigrants are to be kept from accumulating in the lower parts of the province, and thereby becoming a heavy burden on the inhabitants of those places, while the upper parts of the country would be suffering from want of a full supply of labour. Assuming that all possible precautions are taken against the plan being abused, we think it would be far more advantageous to the Province to expend a small sum annually in this way, than to leave emigration to every passing impulse, chance, or caprice. The regular distribution of labour throughout the country will assuredly compensate for the small outlay necessary for that purpose.

We have now briefly stated the principal points that should be kept in view in a system of emigration. We have not felt at liberty to assume any extensive outlay for that purpose, as that is specially the province of the Legislature; yet we have stated that a moderate outlay is necessary, or at least desirable. We have not, either, adverted to the part which the Home Government may be expected to take in the matter, as they have not yet declared it.—We have confined our views to such things as are within the country's power to accomplish without any great expense, or very much trouble; and if we have not held out such flattering hopes and prospects to emigrants as some others have done, it is because we would not subject them to a cruel disappointment. We prefer stating the country's advantages rather under than above the truth, because although they are great, they are but seldom obtained by the slothful, the intemperate, the profuse, the faint-hearted, or the man who is wedded to his old notions, whither applicable here or not.—To the labouring classes, who must perforce conform to circumstances, emigration to Canada will be a happy escape from the misery they endure at home, because here a man can live by his labour, but there he often cannot. There, he cannot hope to mend his condition; but here, he is sure of improving it greatly, and may justly hope to rise above a mere labourer, provided he brings suitable qualities to the task.—To such a man, the change is therefore highly desirable. And Emigrants with means at their disposal will find here a much wider field for their exertions, and a thousand times better