

the shape of emigrants, than has ever yet left her shores. The population of these realms could spare them with advantage. In view of the extreme difficulty, sometimes almost the impracticability, of all who seek to obtain a livelihood in their own native country by their honest labour and talents, being able to accomplish it, can it be detrimental to that country for them to seek another in alliance with it, where they might build up communities which would materially assist those who remain at home. When, in our densely-peopled isle, crowds of aspirants are continually seeking employment, a great part of whom, through an overstocked labour-market, are disappointed in their views of realising a maintenance; while men in many of the ranks of society are treading close on the heels of others in their struggles to obtain a competency—in which struggle not a few sink in the attempt to realise it—can there exist a doubt that the fertile soils and serene climates of many of the latitudes of New Holland or New Zealand, duly selected, and the scheme for colonising them properly appointed, would not convey relief and high benefit to the aggregate population of the Mother Country?

Did they not extensively colonise in the early periods of the world? We are told by the ancient historians Strabo, Dionysius and Halicarisensis, that in the earliest ages of Greece, about sixty years before the Trojan war, the Egyptians and Phœnicians made excursions to the neighbouring maritime countries; and that the isles of Elisha (Greece), before inhabited by Pelasgians, then became a mixed people, made up of three races. This was about the period, also, of the celebrated Argonautic expedition, of which we read such marvellous exploits in Apollonius Rhodius. Supposing some of these exploits to be the fictions of the poet who records them, yet that Jason sailed west of the Pillars of Hercules on that occasion there seems to be no reasonable doubt, for, judging from a very remarkable passage in the second book of Diodorus Siculus, the Palasgii were acquainted with either Great Britain or Ireland, which acquaintance (as no other opportunity of discovering them had previously occurred) must have been then made.

If, three thousand years back, in the early ages of the world, these islands were discovered by the enterprise and the rude and infant efforts of our maritime ancestors, shall not Britain, with the command of the ocean, and enriched through the genius and intrepid courage of her nautical adventurers, with a boundless extent of rich territories—shall not Britain turn her prodigious advantages to the highest account?—shall she not colonise and carry civilisation into barbarous lands which are subject to her power, thereby fulfilling the high behest of Heaven and enriching herself with the accumulated wealth and stores of other climes?

“The natural diversity of men’s talents,” says an ingenious historian of the last century, when speaking of commerce and its origin, and the accidental variety of their situations, “will naturally direct them to different kinds of industry, and furnish them with various sorts of provisions. One is more inclined and qualified for the active pursuits and occasionally the severe exertions of hunting; another for the watchful and patient exercise of fishing; one feels a kind of society and enjoyment in a flock of sheep or herd of cattle; and the mechanical genius of another fits him for constructing the various instruments of art. Their respective situations, too, will influence individuals. The adjacent hills or forests present temptations to the