

House of Lords on this subject, by a brief analysis of the testimony of Mr. Godley, the chief promoter of a system of Colonisation, set forth in a memorial to the Prime Minister some months ago; and shall present also the views of Earl Grey himself upon the same question, as exhibited in his Lordship's correspondence with the Colony, printed in the "Further Papers relative to Emigration to the British Provinces in North America," presented, by command, in June last. Hereafter, we shall submit some suggestions towards a practical scheme of "Railway Colonisation."

69. John Robert Godley, Esq., is the son of a landed proprietor in the counties of Leitrim and Meath. He resided for five months in America, in 1842, and has devoted much attention to the subject of systematic Colonisation.

70. Mr. Godley's memorial to Lord John Russell was very numerous and influentially subscribed by the landlords and nobility of Ireland. The suggestions it embodied were—that emigration is absolutely necessary as an auxiliary to any measures that may be adopted to relieve the Irish population, either by reproductive works in Ireland, or otherwise; and that the disordered relations of landlord and tenant in that unhappy country cannot be permanently corrected, unless in connection with such a large emigration as shall pave the way to the consolidation of farms, and reduction of excessive competition in the labour market; that a little emigration is, in truth, a dangerous thing, at least completely inoperative, except as respects the comfort of the emigrant himself; that public works in Ireland, of themselves, only tend ultimately to reproduce and enhance the evil they temporarily remedy. It was suggested, therefore, that a company should be encouraged to undertake a scheme of Colonisation, by large bonuses—£5 per head for every emigrant family settled in the land, and £1 per head for passage money.

71. The principles propounded also embraced what we might call a sort of Roman Catholic patriarchalism. Each body of emigrants to be accompanied, and spiritually governed, by a priest (with an endowment by the State, to be repaid by an Irish income-tax)—a leader who should, in fact, act the part of a Hibernian Moses, and guide the detachment towards the promised land.

72. Irish emigration to America, Mr. Godley wisely holds to be a necessary alternative of Irish migration to England, the great moral and physical evil of which can hardly be exaggerated.

73. The United States at present are more attractive to emigrants, in consequence of their superior advantages as respects the means of intercommunication by railways or otherwise, and by command of capital, and the possession of towns and cities, securing the appliances of civilised life. In British America, even the most promising settlements exhibit a rude and barbarous prosperity.

74. The formation of the Rideau Canal had been useful, in first of all affording employment, and, secondly, in opening up land for settlement; the first thing to be done was to encourage other works of the kind, and, in a word, that, towards any system which should embrace social organisation, every settlement should possess the five pre-requisites of roads, bridges, mills, schools, and churches.