

the ignorance about the Colonies. The want of interest in them which is supposed to exist, is, I am sure, more apparent than real. The Colonies are all distant from England. We are all occupied by things which more immediately come under our notice; and though colonists naturally look on this country, as I know they do, as home, and turn their attention with great interest to the things which take place here from day to day, still they can hardly be surprised that, with the variety of Colonies possessed by this country, they are not so particularly individualised by those living in England. I may also be allowed, I think, to say, that the organs which convey by each mail the intelligence of this country to the Colonies, express and give their information in a manner more attractive than is very often found in some of the Colonial journals. At the same time I am sure that there is a deep interest felt in England as regards the Colonies, and I am sure there ought to be. There is nothing more important to this country than to find a new field for our surplus population as it largely increases, and who, whilst languishing here for want of employment, would be received with open arms by, and confer an inestimable benefit upon, those Colonies to which they might go. Now for emigrants there is nothing so important as that they should be able to obtain accurate information regarding the Colonies to which they are about to proceed. The Colony which may suit one class of emigrant may be totally unfit for another, and a man who would do well in Australia might find himself at a loss in Canada. There is no description of skilled artisan, of labourer, of capitalist, who cannot find employment for his skill, his labour, or his capital, in one or other of our Colonies, and that is the very thing which is required to complete the prosperity and the importance of those Colonies. I think, therefore, that one of the great objects to which this Society ought to turn its attention, is by every means in its power to obtain and to classify, in some simple form, this most desirable information. (Hear, hear.) As my noble friend by me has stated, all this will take time and the sinews of war; but having begun thus successfully, I hope that the members of the Society will proceed energetically, and at the same time give their aid liberally, to the successful carrying out of the objects of this institution. I have much pleasure, Ladies and Gentlemen, in seconding the vote of thanks to our President. (Cheers.)

*Sir Charles Nicholson.*—Ladies and Gentlemen, I have listened with much pleasure to the able and eloquent Address of our noble President, and I should have been much gratified to avail myself of the opportunity of seconding the vote of thanks, had I not been desirous that that task should be entrusted to more able hands than mine. I find that I was not wrong, because it has been so exceedingly well performed by the noble Marquis. You have heard, in the Address of our noble President, ably and clearly defined, the reasons justifying the formation