

assumed, these islands will ever pre-eminently retain. Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania, still enlarge their cities, and grow in wealth and population, though all the rich lands of the republic invite their people to emigrate, and there is no ocean to cross. The natural laws which protect them would operate more powerfully here, where the attractions are so much greater.

But it is time, my Lord, that I should anticipate the questions that will naturally arise. Assuming the policy to be sound, what will it cost to carry it out?

Let us first see what the present system, or rather the public establishments, without a system, cost now :—

Poor Rates—England	£6,180,765
Scotland	544,334
Ireland	1,216,679
Constabulary—England	579,327
Ireland	562,506
Convicts at home and abroad	
Emigration, 1849 (exclusive of cabin passengers), paid from Private or Parochial Funds	1,500,000
Paid by Government	228,300
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	£11,189,911

The cost of prisons, or that proportion of them which might be saved if the criminal calendar were less, might fairly be added to the amount. The prison at York cost £1,200 per head, for each criminal ;—a sum large enough, the inspector observes, “to build for each prisoner a separate mansion, stable, and coach-house.” A large proportion of the cost of trials might also be added ; and, as twelve jurymen must have been summoned to try most of the 43,671 persons convicted in 1848, the waste of valuable time would form no inconsiderable item.

The loss of property stolen by those whom poverty first made criminal, no economist can estimate ; and no human skill can calculate the value of lives and property destroyed in agrarian outrages, when wretchedness has deepened to despair.