Conclusions.

While the settlements have not prospered to the extent that was expected, and was quite possible, had the settlers availed themselves of the opportunities afforded to them, they ought both to be, and, so far as the Board is concerned, re, self-supporting, although much hampered by the obligations that have been incurred. If the settlers at Killarney could find some means of disposing of their indebtedness other than that to the Board they should be in as good a position, to say the least, as any other farmers in the country; but it cannot be said that the expenditure of any further Imperial funds on the settlement would be justified.

In considering the position of the settlements, the general agricultural depression must however be remembered.

The details of the scheme, arranged before the constitution of the Board, have been found to be fairly satisfactory, but are believed to be capable of amendment, both in the interests of the crofters and of the Board; and the experience that has been obtained will prove to be most valuable in connexion with any further experiments of the kind.

All of which we humbly submit to Your Majesty's gracious consideration.

(Signed) GEORGE OTTO TREVELYAN. HORACE PLUNKETT. CHARLES TUPPER. JAMES KING. COLIN SCOTT-MONCRIEFF. JOHN ROSS OF BLADENSBURG. JAMES BELL. THOMAS SKINNER.

J. G. COLMER, Secretary. April 1895.