

Mountains, over which but a few savages at present roam. It is of the greatest importance, for political, as well as many other reasons, that a means of uninterrupted communication should be established forthwith across the continent; and this can only be done by the formation of a line of posts or settlements, of sufficient size, and sufficiently well placed, to be self-supporting and capable of self-defence. It is advisable, undoubtedly, that the larger number of these settlements should be inhabited chiefly by white men; but supposing the white posts to be fifty miles apart, there would be ample space for intermediate stations between each to be exclusively native. At once the Red men would find ample employment in pursuits suited to their tastes and habits. They would breed and tend the horses required for the traffic on the road; they would act as postillions and drivers; they would take charge of ferries across rivers, carry mail-bags, &c. Cattle would be in demand, and they would keep them. They would cultivate the ground, and keep pigs and poultry, &c., for they would find a ready market for all farm produce; indeed, the advantages of the various trades and callings produced by civilisation would be brought so clearly before their eyes, that they would be eager to learn them. Indeed, what has hitherto ever been wanting in all the experiments for ameliorating the condition of the Indian, a *real and powerful incentive to exertion*, would exist. Before any settlements are formed, we strongly urge the necessity and justice of purchasing the lands from the natives, who can show a fair claim to them; but we as strongly urge the importance of not paying the money over to them in any form, but devoting it to the purchase of food and clothing, cattle, sheep, seed, agricultural instruments, &c.; to the erection of dwellings and school-houses, and finally churches; to the payment of school-masters and trade instructors. If chiefs can be found willing to settle down at once, we would endeavour to instruct them, and to place them in a position to obtain the respect of their people. We would leave it to the missionary societies who have long been labouring in that deeply-interesting field, to send out religious instructors to occupy the stations as they are formed, when they would have the right to claim the support of the government.

The very first step therefore to be taken, after the territory is erected into a Crown Colony, is to send out proper persons to point out to the native chiefs the advantages of the proposed plan, and to arrange for the fair purchase of the territory. We believe that a small sum would alone