

equivalent for it. The assertion that our present debt has been accumulated without something to shew for it, is so transparently false that it scarcely needs to be contradicted and will certainly not add to the character of its author for reliability.

DOMINION NOTES IN CIRCULATION.

STATEMENT of the Provincial Notes in circulation. Wednesday, the 5th day of August, 1883, and of the Specie held against them at Montreal, Toronto and Halifax, according to the Returns of the Commissioners under the Dominion Note Act, 31 Victoria, Cap. 40.

NOTES IN CIRCULATION.

Payable at Montreal.....	\$7,130,000
" " Toronto.....	1,270,821
" " Halifax.....	251,000
	<hr/> \$8,651,821

SPECIE HELD.

At Montreal.....	\$59,000
At Toronto.....	43,000
At Halifax.....	75,000
	<hr/> \$1,077,000

Debentures held by the Rec^d Gen. under the Provincial Note Act..... \$3,000,000

* Including \$233,000, marked St. John.

† This return is dated on the preceding Tuesday. The Nova Scotia dollar not being equal in value to that of the other Provinces, the Notes issued at Halifax are worth their face value in Nova Scotia only. They are stamped "Payable at Halifax," and are numbered in black ink. None but \$5 notes are yet in circulation.

‡ Estimate, the returns from the Commissioners not yet being received.

JOHN LANGTON,
Auditor.

Audit Office, August 25th, 1883.

COLONIZATION CIRCULAR.

The following is a condensation of a long article in a recent number of the *London Times*—

A circular just issued by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners is a mine of closely-packed statistics and general information. The facts and conditions of emigration to every colony, their land and other regulations, and the rates of wages which rule in each are there detailed; and the emigrant who has not yet made up his mind where to go to will find every means afforded him of doing so; unless, indeed, he is of a very belligerent turn, when he will be hopelessly bewildered between Canada, Vancouver's Island, the Cape, Australia, New Zealand, and a half-a-dozen countries, concerning each of which he will meet with the fullest and most minute particulars.

The emigration question is, year by year, becoming of increasing and paramount importance. Every Registrar-General's return tells us of an increase in our population, and all through society, from the beggar that is turned away from the door of the workhouse because it is full to the gentleman who educates his sons and can find nothing for them to do, the stress of the struggle for breathing-room and foothold extends and is felt. In anxiety to know what is to be done we turn over the pages of this book, and it very soon becomes evident that the inquiry, "how shall we provide for our surplus population?" is one by no means easy to answer. For it is merely a matter of ships and passage-money; there is no colony ready to receive human beings of any sort or size; they are all very cautious in bidding for immigrants; each of them is as anxious to get a good article as we are to part with a bad one; they will not take off our hands the waste material, the frayed edges, of humanity, the sweepings of the shop that so disorder and encumber us. What they want and all that they will have is capital and its adjuncts, thews and sinews. Poor gentlemen, poor ladies, clerks, shopmen, persons of no particular trade or calling and unaccustomed to manual labour they once and all shut their doors against; they want none of these impediments, these camp followers that hamper the effective strength of a country. What they are glad to have is skilled labour, such as we send to Canada from our dockyards the other day, strong and intelligent men, who if their fail can turn their hands to something else, and girls who can cook a little, milk a cow, make butter, and otherwise work with their hands, not governesses, needlewomen, and such like.

One very interesting page of the Circular contains the returns of emigration from the United

Kingdom during the last 54 years. In 1815 only 1,031 persons emigrated, while last year the return was 106,323. The increase during the interval has been by no means uniform, the annual totals rising and falling suddenly and strangely. Thus in 1842 128,344 persons emigrated, but the next year the number fell to less than one-half. The largest emigration in any one year is 339,374; this occurs in 1852, the date of the rush to the Australian gold-fields. The United States take the lion's share of our emigrants, Canada comes next, and then the Australian colonies, and all other places put together only absorb a comparatively insignificant number. Emigration to the Australian colonies has sadly fallen off of late years: since 1863 the decline has been great indeed—from 53,000 in that year to 12,000 in 1868. In Canada and the States the demand is maintained; America is ready to absorb thousands; but to Australia and New Zealand the channel is choked the great problem is how to clear it. There is nothing which will more determine the emigration of a man than the price he may expect to get for his wheat. In some colonies, all surveyed land is open to purchasers at fixed prices. Good land may be acquired in Canada at various prices, varying from a dollar to a shilling per acre; in British Columbia at a dollar, in Western Australia at ten shillings, in the rest of the continent at pound an acre. In Victoria the democracy has succeeded in inserting in the Land Act a clause under which land can be leased for seven years before purchase. New Zealand offers her freehold estate in four provinces at ten shillings an acre; in the remaining five at prices varying from shillings to two pounds. There is no doubt that, so far as lowness of price and excellence of soil is concerned, Canada bars competition. Where he shall go then becomes with the emigrant a question of the counterbalancing considerations of climate and market. If he is not afraid of half a year of snow and ice, he could not have a better field than Canada; if he will go so far, he may find the brightest of skies and the happiest of homes in Australia or New Zealand—we speak of the South Island—let him for a while avoid the North.

Many pages of the Circular are taken up with descriptions and statistics of the goldfields of Australia and New Zealand, and tabulated returns of gold and other metals exported. From them we gather that up to the end of last year gold to the extent of 31,485,254 had been exported from New South Wales, and from Victoria the enormous amount of 133,071,263; the export of Queensland was about 1,000,000, and that of New Zealand (to the 30th of September, 1868) 16,404,673. These returns do not include gold sent out of the colonies privately, or used and manufactured for colonial purposes, so that allowing for this and for the amount produced since they were compiled, we may set down the total raised to the present time at 200,000,000. In Victoria 63,000 persons are employed in gold-mining. The average of yearly earnings per man in 1852 was £263 11s 6d; it is now £87 1s 7d. In New Zealand the gold mines which now extend to both islands have yielded very richly and have greatly benefited the colony by increasing the population. In the province of Otago 42 tons 210lb. were obtained in two years by 12,000 men. This gives a yearly average income to each man of about £118. It may be doubted, however, whether, taking into account the expense of living and the hardships endured, a miner is as well off earning this sum as he would be as a shepherd on a sheep station at £50 per annum. What gold will do for a country is shown by the fact that these mines increased in two years the imports of the province of Otago seventy-fold, the exports twenty-fold, and the customs' revenue tenfold. In addition to this, 11 busy thriving towns sprang up in the mining districts.

Coming to the table of revenue, expenditure, and population, we are struck with the fact that the gross expenditure of the North American colonies exceeds their revenue, while that of the Australian colonies is within it; and yet it is from Australia that we hear of depression and bad times, but not a note of discontent comes across the Atlantic. Again, the population of the colonies is over 2,300,000, that of Victoria is 676,000, or not much over more than a fifth, and yet its revenue stands at 2,631,000 to the Canadian 2,161,000. Such comparative statistics, of which the Circular supplies many instances, form excellent texts for political economists; it is to be regretted, however, that this

position of the Circular is frequently inaccurate and often much behindhand. The very small pains have been spared which would have sufficed to bring its figures down to the latest date; for instance, we are forced to compare old Canadian returns with those of Victoria for 1868, the former not being given beyond 1865.

The last 16 pages are devoted to reports and data of colonial meteorology. No colony in whatever zone will admit for a moment that it has a bad or even a disagreeable climate. Of Hong-kong it is said that observance of the ordinary rules of precaution would render it as healthy as most other places in the world; in Canada the excellence of the snow roads and the great facility afforded thereby in conveying produce to market and hauling out wood from the forest is enlarged upon. No doubt this is all true, but it is to be questioned if there is a climate in the world that has not some bad as well as good points. In Queensland it is a bushman's joke that a man who died there sent up from Hades for his blankets, because he found himself not warm enough.

But of all our colonies in the temperate zone, taken together, it may be said that they are the chosen and most favoured portion of the earth, and, looking at the map of the world, it is evident that our noble work of discovering and founding future kingdoms is now completed. There is no unclaimed or undiscovered Australia or New Zealand remaining, either for us or any other nation. The Anglo-Saxon race has secured for itself all the unoccupied countries which are suited to its habitation, and has now to utilize them, to replenish them from its source, to flow over them like a living Nile, to scatter them with a seed of many cities and much people. There are, it is true, land and islands remaining which may be turned to good account by capital and labour. Polynesia, there is little doubt, will one day become a southern India, whether to us or not depends on ourselves, and then there is Africa. But what we mean is that there is no soil left in which Englishmen can root as they do in Canada and Australia, nor do we require any more. We have done well and boldly in laying hands on continents and islands north, south, east, and west, but now we must show the world that we took them for no sake of mere possession, but because we had need of them. While we are suffering sorely from overcrowding, they suffer from lack of population. They, as it were, float unballasted and require trimming to the water line, we are happily not a sinking ship, but our docks are encumbered and our sailing impeded by our excessive freight. We must remember that if the burden is felt in time of peace and plenty it would, indeed, overwhelm us under the added stress of long war or famine, which may come—who can tell when?

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

THE HON MR. LANGEVIN'S ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS OF HIS DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1883.

To the Right Honorable Sir JOHN YOUNG, Baronet G. C. B., G. C. M. G., Governor General of Canada, &c.

MAY I PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honor to lay before Your Excellency the following report of the affairs of my Department, in conformity with the 41st section of the 31st Victoria chapter 42, which provides for its organization.

My department consists of four principal branches, namely: 1. The Secretary's, properly so termed; 2. The Registrar's office, 3. Indian affairs; 4. The Ordnance Lands. The three last have each a head who manages them, and the Secretary's office is under the immediate direction of the under Secretary of State, who has the general superintendence of the Department.

Having made this general division of the duties to be performed, I endeavored to assign to each branch only a sufficient number of officers to perform them in an adequate manner, and I am happy to say that by this means I have been able to effect a saving of a considerable amount in addition to that which was effected when the Act of Confederation was put in force. Accordingly, I was able to dispense altogether with the services of one clerk in the Branch for Indian affairs; of one clerk whose duty it was to attend to the regular and correct distribution of the