

ment, the occupiers of the houses to a fine, and masters should also be liable to a fine for neglecting this or any other regulation. In case of a female being sent out by her employer, it should be stated on the pass, the day of the month, and hour of her departure, with the place to which she was sent, and the hour at which she should return; and no female should be allowed to be sent out or to remain out after dusk except in cases of emergency, as sickness or the like, to be stated on the pass. Obstinate neglect of this or any other regulation should be followed by the removal of the apprentices. Publicans and others should be heavily fined, and the former should lose their licences for giving, or selling, any kind of beer or spirits to a convict without it being so ordered on the pass, and the pass should be a printed document with the Government stamp upon it.

Women should not be allowed to possess a ticket-of-leave, but might be allowed the privilege of hiring themselves upon wages when eligible, a certain portion of their earnings being paid into the Government for the purpose of providing them with a place of shelter when out of employment, upon the same principle as the probation women of the present day; but kept under stricter discipline than that exercised over those in the Brickfields. Conditional pardons might be granted sparingly, especially to women.

The nature of the labour required in the Colonies is so very different from that performed at home that few are able to make themselves really useful until they become inured to the change, and this is a forcible reason why a system of apprenticeship will succeed better than any other, because it secures to those who are willing to learn an opportunity to do so, and obliges those who are idle and careless to devote a certain period to the acquirement of useful knowledge.

A man may have been a labourer or servant to an English farmer, where he has learned to reap, mow, plough, and drive a team of horses, &c.; but it does not follow that he is capable of guiding a plough, with a team of bullocks, round stumps of trees and stones, that he can ride a horse after a herd of wild cattle over an uncultivated and thickly-wooded country, or even tend a flock of sheep in the bush or forest without losing one-half of them. Again, he may have been a butler, footman, groom, &c. in the establishment of an English gentleman, but this will not qualify him for the house of a settler without further experience, where, in all probability, he will be required to act in all these capacities at once, adding, perhaps, those of cook, housemaid and gardener. They not only *cannot*, but if they can help it they *will not* submit to these novel regulations, and the only prospect of being able to teach them is through the medium of some system which binds them to servitude for a certain period.

I believe that much good would result from the appointment of an Inspector-General, whose duty it should be to visit, in person, every convict establishment and station, not at stated periods, but a certain number of times in each year, and to report to the Colonial Secretary at home, through the Lieutenant-Governor, the state of those places, the effect of the discipline pursued, of the kind of punishment adopted to repress crime, and to suggest alterations where these did not appear