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# TRANSPLANTATION

THE TRUE SYSTEM OF

# EMIGRATION.

BY

FREDERICK YOUNG.

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“ It is necessary, and very interesting to observe, that Colonisation has a tendency to increase employment for capital and labour at home.—When a Hampshire peasant emigrates to Australia, he very likely enables an operative to live in Lancashire and Yorkshire. Besides making food in the Colony for himself, he makes some more to send home for the manufacturer, who, in his turn, makes clothes or implements for the Colonist.”

EDWARD GIBBON WAKEFIELD.”

“ There need be no hesitation in affirming that Colonisation in the present state of the World, is the very best affair of business in which the capital of an old and wealthy country can possibly engage.

JOHN STUART MILL.”

## TRANSPLANTATION.

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FOR a country so great as England is in power and influence among other nations, the area of land within her own boundary is small. This land, too, has already been absorbed by a limited number of proprietors. Whether or not, as many people think, any reforms in the political and social system are possible, by which the accumulation and retention of land in such few hands could be prevented, it is not my intention to discuss. On this point one thing is certain, that whether such changes in the laws of property can, or cannot be made—and whether, if they could, they would be for the benefit of the nation at large, at all events they will not be effected at present. Whatever the result of any attempts at such alteration, it must, if ever, be the work of years and years to accomplish.

Meanwhile we are surrounded by tremendous social difficulties. Population is increasing rapidly, as indeed it ought to do in every prosperous country. Unhappily pauperism, too, is increasing quite as rapidly. Crime, the sure attendant upon wholesale poverty, advances upon us with giant strides. It even seriously threatens to overthrow the boasted standard of advanced civilisation, viz., absolute security of person and property.

A state of chronic misery appears to be the life portion of large classes of the community. They drag on a wretched existence of struggling alternation between the insufficient earnings of occasional employment, and a degrading dependence on the pittance of the Poor-house. Is this a necessary condition for such multitudes of the wage paid class of the people of England? Is it an inevitable decree of Providence that they should be reduced to a state of such destitution, as to be a torment to themselves, as well as a burden to their fellow men? Must we conclude that it is impossible for them, instead of this life of moral and physical degradation, to become the possessors of happy homes, which they may have the power of obtaining by constant, steady, and honest employment?

I have said that England has comparatively a small area of land within her own boundary; but she has, also, vast tracts of splendid land, still waste, and unoccupied, in almost every part of the world. What, then, has this magnificent territory been given to her for, but to people it? God has said, "be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." Can we for one moment doubt that this Divine Command has an especial application to England in the present day?

Taught by the fact, that the British nation possesses millions of acres of waste land in her Colonies, is it not abundantly clear to us, that it is our great mission to send out our people to cultivate them, so that in our hands the Earth may be replenished, and "yield her increase."

It is the strange and unaccountable neglect of our opportunities for Colonising, which I firmly believe is one of the most pregnant sources of the various social evils, by which at home we are surrounded.

In the few words, which I am about to address to my

Countrymen on the subject of Emigration to the British Colonies, I desire to appeal to their common sense to take this matter into their most earnest consideration. Let them view it calmly, and dispassionately, but comprehensively. Let them draw their conclusions on its great issues without prejudice; and in a spirit of humanity, and sympathy with suffering and destitution. I may also confidently appeal to self-interest in its favour. While the greatness and glory of our country would be increased by a thoroughly comprehensive, and properly regulated system of National Emigration, it would eventually result in a great saving to the tax-payers themselves. It would relieve them from the cost of maintaining a constantly increasing number of paupers at home, and a reduction of their rates would follow.

Lord Overstone is a great authority with all capitalists. In a recent debate in the House of Lords on the subject of Emigration, his lordship said that the "labour fund is our national capital, and that we must not part with any of it." So that, in fact, there is to be a sort of reservoir of surplus labour always kept at hand in the country, to be ready for the fluctuating needs of the capitalist, whenever he requires it. In other words, this means that certain immense numbers of artizans and labourers, out of work, as now, are either to be maintained at the country's expense, as paupers, or at their own, in idleness, misery, and want, waiting until there is a renewed demand for their services to compete with, and press down the wages of others, who are employed. Against this hard, this inhuman doctrine, I most earnestly protest. It may seem correct, according to the harsh and cold ideas of so called political economists, but it is not the principle to find favour with human frames of flesh and blood, compelled to experience the consequences of their cruel conclusions.

But these theorists treat the entire labour question just as if there was only a certain definite quantity of it—no more—no less, at all times to be found in the country. That it will never be increased nor diminished. They talk, further, of the danger of promoting Emigration, for fear of our sending away “*our best artizans.*”

Even if this was true, it would but be encouraging a system, which would at least be in accordance with the common dictates of humanity. It is only suggested, that those who cannot find employment at home, and who desire to go voluntarily, should be helped to emigrate. It would therefore benefit the poor artizans themselves.

But are we not constantly adding to the number of our “*best artizans*” with each new generation of the population; and are not these ever pressing closely on the heels of the former one? Specious as it at first appears, this objection to the Emigration of the Unemployed for fear of our losing what are called “*our best artizans*” is as groundless as it is pretentiously and ignorantly put forward.

Now, let us notice for a moment such facts as these :—

“1868—Births in England and Wales 800,000, deaths 500,000, increase 300,000. Average annual emigration 50,000. Increase to population 250,000, equal to that of an ordinary English county, and requiring 50,000 acres of good wheat land, well cultivated, to supply these new mouths with bread.—*Times, March 29th, 1869.*”

Again, let us observe, one of the natural consequences of persisting in our present narrow and selfish system of keeping a reserve of surplus labour always among us, which produces such results as the following :—

*Number of Paupers (exclusive of Vagrants) in Receipt of Relief in the several Unions and Parishes under Boards of Guardians in England and Wales, on the 1st of January in each year.*

1st Jan. in each Year.	Number of Unions and Parishes.	Adult Able-bodied.			All other Paupers. [exclusive of Vagrants.]			Total.		
		In-door.	Out door	Total.	In-door	Out-door	Total.	In-door.	Out-door	Total.
1860	646	18,882	117,879	136,761	100,144	614,115	714,259	119,026	731,994	851,020
1861	646	23,402	127,124	150,526	107,559	632,338	739,897	130,961	759,462	890,423
1862	649	26,578	141,068	167,646	116,613	661,907	778,520	143,191	802,975	946,166
1863	653	26,501	226,998	253,499	119,696	769,429	889,125	146,197	996,427	1,142,624
1864	655	23,663	163,087	186,750	114,144	708,395	822,539	137,807	871,482	1,009,289
1865	655	23,400	146,736	170,136	114,719	686,578	801,297	138,119	833,314	971,433
1866	655	22,290	127,030	149,320	115,696	655,328	771,024	137,986	782,358	920,344
1867	655	23,399	134,909	158,308	121,230	679,286	800,516	144,629	814,195	958,824
1868	655	28,646	156,984	185,630	130,077	719,116	849,193	158,723	876,100	1,034,823
1869	655	29,826	153,336	183,162	133,245	723,142	856,387	163,071	876,478	1,039,549

Thus we are each year steadily increasing in the amount of our pauper population. On the 1st of January last we reached the startling total of 1,039,549. But these fearful figures do not by any means exhibit a true picture of the extent of suffering which is being endured by our wage paid population. Behind this vast army of actual paupers there is probably at least an equal number, who, although they have not yet swelled its ranks, are fast verging towards it, and who are enduring in silence and despair an amount of misery, privation and want, which makes the philanthropist shudder. Now I say, such facts as these, coupled with the fluctuations, which will inevitably occur in the trade of a great commercial country, lead irresistibly to the conclusion, that England does require a periodical and systematic depletion of a portion of

her population. And do not her vast colonies, studding, as it were, the whole earth's surface, point out the exact opportunities she possesses of putting into practice that depletion in a wise, sound, and judicious way?

Emigration is said to be "an idea which can only be carried out on a large scale, to be mutually beneficial to all concerned; and it also requires the greatest wisdom, discretion, and sound judgment in its mode and manner of application." This is most true. It is this reason, therefore, why I, and those who think with me, advocate its being taken up by the "State," in order that those sound principles, which are necessary to prevent a good work becoming a great evil, may be adopted by the Government, acting as the agents for, and the representatives of, the will of the Nation.

I now come to the real difficulty which besets the whole question. This is the suggestion of any plan by which, if adopted by the Country, it ought to be carried out. If, however, the principle of a thing be correct, the fact of there being any difficulties in the way, provided they are not insuperable, cannot be any substantial reason against its adoption. They are, of course, sure to give the opportunity to unreasonable and unscrupulous opponents to unite for the purpose of endeavouring to defeat any, and every scheme which may be proposed. But they must be grappled with,—and overcome. That I am an ardent advocate for a thoroughly national system of Emigration, in preference to all schemes of a more private, and hence limited character, is simply because I consider, that by the Nation alone it can be effectually and successfully conducted. I am far from wishing to underrate the benevolent efforts of those individuals who charitably aid in this good work. No doubt they do some, even much good, to all who are the recipients of their bounty. But, after all,

their efforts are limited, isolated, and spasmodic. They are but as "a drop in the ocean," as compared with the great, and comprehensive system which the Nation requires, in order effectually to relieve it from its constantly increasing pauperism, and to turn Emigration to profitable account, both to the Mother Country and to the Colonies.\*

In his admirable essay on "State Emigration," Mr. Jenkins says, "Emigration ought not to be regarded as a scheme for a philanthropist, it should be the policy of statesmen, not as a work of charity, but as the business of Government."

The most formidable difficulty to the encouragement of any great scheme of Emigration, in the eyes of the British taxpayer, is the cardinal one of expense. Has this heavily burdened personage ever reflected on the enormous amount he is already paying, year after year, merely to continue and to perpetuate pauperism? Does he reflect that only one year's cost of the maintenance of a pauper is sufficient to transplant him to the Colonies. That this sum would probably transform him from being an idler and a drone, into a worker and a producer for the rest of his days?

Verily, "we strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel." Last year we contrived, and without any very serious amount of grumbling, to pay no less than £8,775,000 sterling for the Abyssinian war. In round numbers we spent about nine millions to free a few English captives from the hands of a barbarous prince. Not one penny of that sum do we ever expect to be returned to us. Our only recompense is the gratitude of some ten or twenty prisoners, and the conviction that we have vindicated our national honour.

\* I hope it will by no means be considered that I would for one moment desire to advocate any system by which our Colonies would be "flooded" with what are called our Paupers. I am only endeavouring to show that thousands of our surplus Population, who, if they could be now sent away, would make good Colonists, will become Paupers if we retain them here much longer. Our actual Paupers, of the real Pauper type, I consider we must continue to keep at home.

Oh ! what would not £9,000,000 spent in Emigration effect for tens of thousands of our poor suffering Countrymen and Countrywomen, who are enduring the captivity of a life of helpless, hopeless misery, and degradation here, and transplanting them to the new life and happy freedom of a real home in the Colonies ? The money would be well and cheaply used, if it were spent for such a purpose. It would redound to England's honour and power as much as many Abyssinian Expeditions. But, whereas, in the first case the money has been all actually spent, it by no means follows that this is necessary in the case of funds devoted to Emigration. In spite of Lord Granville's recent assertion that "any project for carrying it "on by means of loans to intending Emigrants, will disappoint "the expectations of those who set it on foot," I still maintain, that by judicious arrangements made between the authorities in this Country and the Colonies, almost every penny thus advanced would eventually be repaid with good interest, into the Imperial Exchequer.

The intending Emigrant need never touch a farthing of the loan, which is to be advanced for his benefit. It would be given to him in "kind," not in "specie." The land which is presented to him would be chargeable with the entire sum required, by way of mortgage. This land would become his own as soon as he had cleared off this charge upon it, according to certain stipulated conditions. A wise policy would dictate that these should be made as easy to him as possible. The more labour he bestows upon the land, the better would the security become, and the more anxious would the energetic settler be to clear off the charges upon it, so as to make it absolutely his own.\*

\* It is, of course, entirely within the scope of this scheme, that it may be more desirable not, at first, to put the Emigrant on the Land itself as a proprietor, but to let him gain experience by working for a limited time for wages, before he attempts to acquire Land of his own. This is a matter of detail, and merely requires the

Thus I meet the great question of cost involved in a thoroughly National system of Emigration.

If Government would propose, and Parliament would grant £10,000,000, if necessary, to be devoted to this purpose, I submit to the Public either of the following alternatives:— spend it all, as was done in the case of the Abyssinian War, and it will be cheap to you, for you will save it eventually in your poor rates; it will repay itself to you tenfold in your increased trade, and the material prosperity of your Countrymen abroad. Or else, advance it, as is here suggested, by way of loan, not actually to, but on account of, intending Emigrants under proper arrangements, and it will return you every farthing, principal and interest, in ten years, with all the other advantages already mentioned besides.

I have boldly proposed a very large sum for Emigration, I have done so, because, to be successful, it can only be conducted on a large and imperial scale. This must necessarily involve very considerable cost.

Emigration does not merely mean the bridging over the space which divides England from her Colonies. It is not simply a question of providing safe and proper ships, well found in everything necessary for the comfort of the Emigrants on the voyage, to carry them across the ocean. This is by no means the only part, although of course an indispensable one, of a well organised scheme. It means also the securing to them the necessaries of life until they have had time properly to establish themselves in their new home. This is an essential and integral ingredient of a wise and sound system of Emigration.

The President of the Poor Law Board, Mr. Goschen, not

adoption of such arrangements as would make it part of a complete, and carefully organised, system of Emigration, and need not in any way interfere with the great principle to be followed, which is, to take the "People" from where they are redundant, at home, and plant them on the Land, where they are wanted, in the Colonies.

long ago, inquired of a deputation from the "National Emigration Aid Society," whether there was really any considerable desire on the part of the people to emigrate. In spite of the evident doubt, implied in putting the question, the answer to the Right Hon. Gentleman was, *that there certainly is*. But how can they go without means? If, too, the whole question was really understood by the Public, there would be ten times more desire manifested to emigrate than there is. The true cause for any apparent hesitation on the part of the poor to do so, simply arises from their dread of being deceived, and their ignorance of its real benefits to them. Hitherto they have been asked to "take a leap in the dark." At most, they are, perhaps provided with passages to a new and unknown land. On their arrival they are put on shore to shift for themselves, feeling strange and friendless, with no hand to help, advise, and care for them. Is it therefore surprising, that multitudes who would make excellent Colonists, fear to encounter such difficulties on their first introduction to a new country?

Let us take the case of transplanting a *tree* or *shrub* from the forest to the garden. Are we content merely to arrange for its safe conveyance from the one to the other? Do we not also carefully protect it, and attend to it, sheltering and guarding it equally from sun, and wind, and cold, until it has firmly taken root in its new soil? Exactly so ought we to care for, and attend to, the wants of a new settler in a Colony, guiding, teaching, and helping him, until he also has taken root there. *Emigration* in a word is *Transplantation!*

The illustration I have given of the *Forest Tree* suggests also that probably many a wild denizen in the home wilderness may become cultivated and civilised by transplantation to the Colonies, under the benign influences of opportunities for the free and healthy development of energies, which are cramped, and crushed, and crippled here.

To carry out a scheme so broad and complete in its details, requires a staff of thoroughly qualified Colonial, as well as home agencies. Hence large funds are necessary to develop and maintain it.

Let us look at what European emigration has done, and is doing for the United States of America.\* Their Government at least is fully alive to its importance, and is doing all it can to encourage and promote it to their own vast waste lands. It is one of the most important points in connection with this subject, that we ought to use every exertion to turn the valuable stream of our emigrating population from flowing into a foreign country. Instead of allowing it to drift away from us, owing to our carelessness, indifference, and neglect, it is the duty of a paternal Government, by judicious care and reasonable encouragement, to direct it towards our own Colonies.†

I have now sketched the outline of a great work. I have pointed out the idea of the principle to be followed. By a Government in earnest, and a Nation persuaded of the necessity of undertaking it, the details can be completed.

England ought to be an active Colonising Country—Why is she not? The State should take this grand task in hand—Why does it hang back? The noble secretary for the Colonies—Lord Granville—in a recent letter, addressed to his Grace the

\* EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES.—“The United States Bureau of Statistics reports that in 13 years, ending with 1868, over two millions and a half of Europeans emigrated to that country, the greater number coming from the British Isles, as is still the case. Great as is the German influx, it is surpassed by that of the English-speaking population, which in this year, up to the month of June, exceeded 54,000 heads, while the German only reached 47,000.”—*Times*, July 12th, 1869.

† I assume that there must be perfect harmony of action between the Home and the Colonial Governments. Both the Mother Country and the Colonies must be prompted by the broadest, and most liberal and enlightened, principles, in a matter so vitally affecting their highest interests. They must work earnestly together for the promotion of the one grand object, which, properly carried out, will be for their mutual incalculable benefit and advantage.

Duke of Manchester, as President of the National Emigration Aid Society, says "that he is fully alive to the advantages of "well considered, and well conducted Emigration." This is indeed a most important admission on the part of the Government. I ask no more than that his Lordship "may "take the whole subject of Emigration to the British Colonies "into his immediate consideration, in order that some well "considered scheme may be devised by her Majesty's Govern- "ment, in co-operation with the Colonial Governments, without "delay."

But notwithstanding all their favourable expressions, we know fully well that the Government will not stir one step of themselves in the matter. It requires to be strongly supported by public opinion, and then they will take it up in earnest, and it will be done.

What is wanted is, to organise a permanent system of National Emigration. It must be conducted with Government resources, on Government responsibility, and under Government control. It is great enough to demand a special department of the Executive, and a responsible Minister of the Crown for its management.\*

Such a system only, will fulfil the conditions of being one of a wise, sound, and thoroughly comprehensive character. When once they are made fully alive to its vital importance to themselves, no other will satisfy the just wants and wishes of the people. It will prove an inestimable blessing to thousands of our suffering fellow-countrymen, whose wretchedness is deepening into despair. It will redound to the present

\* This suggestion is made in order that equal *dignity* may be given to the proposed Department, as it would be equal in *importance* to the other highest offices of the STATE. Any apparent advantages resulting from the appointment, instead, of a permanent Commissioner entirely unconnected with English Party Politics, would be more than balanced by the greater dignity attaching to an office which would be held by a Cabinet Minister, who must in the long run, though changing with Party, really reflect the wishes of the Nation.

advantage, and future welfare of England. It will relieve her of an immense amount of her distressed and unemployed population, which is fast verging towards, though as yet not actually engulfed in pauperism. It will help to rescue them from a life of misery, to become happy and independent in the various Colonies of the British Empire.



Houses of the Oireachtas