

since that period, but more slowly than might have been expected from its great natural resources, and it has probably been retarded through the enterprise of the American States, and the active agency they have exerted in England, whereby capital and labour have been so largely attracted to their shores.

In the original settlements of the Federal States a striking contrast is observable from the creation of a landed proprietary in the South and the absence of such a body in the North.

The existence of slavery is an evil from which the New England States are free, and from which it has acquired a costly sacrifice to redeem the British West Indies. But though fortunes have been acquired from speculations in Land, the consideration arising from territorial possession has been less an object of ambition.

In the progressive settlements of a new and fertile country, although the application of capital and labour in clearing and cultivating the land forbids the prospect of any return beyond the subsistence of the labourer and his family for several years, yet the augmented value of land assures the ultimate compensation of the land holder, and if gentlemen possessing more or less capital should engage, with permanent views in such undertakings, they would introduce a superior class of settlers, who would bring to the Colonies the morals and industry, the arts and intelligence, which characterize the Yeomanry of England.

From such elements the best means would be acquired of establishing the principles of the Constitution in the Colonies, and by encouraging a constant influx of new settlers the connexion would be perpetuated.

In the instance to which I have alluded above an example has been afforded of the strength of these social and domestic ties which are cherished by the superior class of Emigrants, and which are known to prevail with many of those who have settled in the United States, but as in a few generations those ties are naturally weakened, the preservation of such a bond with the Parent Country must depend on a continued influx of new settlers.

This consideration is of much weight in countries, the institutions of which are unavoidably imperfect, and where the influence of an educated class by whom that social intercourse may be maintained so little obtains. There is in fact in these countries no class exercising an hereditary influence or able to afford the slightest support to the Government in any case.

If it be true as I am led to believe, that the happiest and most prosperous countries are those in which are the greatest number of gradations, it is a duty in the governing country to consider how far the state of society in her colonies may be assimilated to that in which her own prosperity has been founded, and to seek her own advantage in their elevation rather than her ascendancy in their degradation.

In regarding the Colonies as a refuge for the indigent classes it is manifest that so arduous a mode of life requires that their previous habits and experience should in some degree have prepared them to encounter its trials.

Model Colonies at home might thus be made a means of training for emigration to the settlements abroad; and if the habits of self dependence should thus be acquired, and skill in the rude arts in which the American settlers excel, their difficulties would be abridged and their success more effectually assured. The settlements in communities would thus also be encouraged, whereby the advantages of social intercourse and co-operation would be acquired, and the means of instruction to the young.

In affording encouragement to capitalists to acquire lands, I am disposed to consider that the settlement of the Emigrant peasantry in villages is likely to be the most effectual means of promoting their own welfare and the advantage of the country. The social benefits thus acquired supercede the ignorant desire to extend their acquisition beyond their means, and the possession of fifty acres in such a settlement will be found more valuable than an insulated grant of far greater extent in the wilderness.

Such settlements will rear a class of labourers prepared to seek employment on adjacent lands, and as population advances new settlements will form in the same model.

The village settlements of the Eastern world had their origin in this principle, of which there are traces in the early history of England, and combined with the settlement of a proprietary body, they furnished the elements of that mixed constitution, the advantages of which are by none more fully appreciated than by the educated classes in the neighbouring republic.

That the acquisition of land by capitalists with a view to hereditary possession would be compatible with such a system of village settlement there is every reason to conclude; and the views of such a class would be directed to those liberal pursuits connected with the Government and the improvement of the country which would ensure their own ascendancy.

In the settlements which have been formed during the winter it has been found that their success has depended in the lead being taken by intelligent and public spirited gentlemen.

If such agency has been required in the settlement of persons who have experience of the country, it is still more necessary in

the case of Emigrants; and in the progress of measures by which I hope the current of Emigration may be diverted from the United States to the British Provinces, it will be desirable to encourage such an association of the parties as will afford them the advantage of similar superintendence.

Without private capital their employment upon public works can alone enable them to subsist until their lands can be rendered productive; but the acquirement of the intermediate lands by capitalists interested in the growth and prosperity of such settlements, would furnish some resource in the improvements which they might be led to undertake, of which the opening of communications are the most important. Municipal Institutions, by which communities are enabled to act with energy and spirit, and by which a Corporate credit may be applied to their social improvement, are amongst the most effectual means of accelerating the progress of new countries, in which the formation of a proprietary body is required to give stability to its institutions.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

Extract of a Despatch from Lord Stanley to Sir William Colebrooke, dated

Downing Street, 31st May, 1842.

SIR,—I have received your Despatch No. 20, of the 26th February, submitting your views as to the best mode of promoting the Colonization of New Brunswick.

I am not at present disposed to question the correctness of your opinion that the supply of labour is not the only object to be looked for in Colonization, but that a due admixture of persons possessed of capital must be necessary. In fact, the want of capital to support the labour which has been introduced, and to increase its productiveness, is at this moment practically felt in many of our Colonial Possessions, and in none more than in the North American Provinces.

A further point to which you direct my attention "is the settlement of the Emigrant Peasantry in Villages," in the neighbourhood of Lands which have been acquired by "Capitalists interested in the growth and prosperity of such Settlements." There can be no doubt that it would be desirable that labour and capital should be combined, that land proprietors should find in the neighbourhood of their estates an agricultural population capable and willing to cultivate them, and that the working classes should be collected together in small communities for their mutual support and comfort, instead of being dispersed and isolated; but there are no means by which the Government could directly effect or contribute to this result. If capital should flow naturally, that is by the operation of self-interest, into the Colony, the combination of it with labour would doubtless follow; for the facilities of Immigration into New Brunswick are very great; but any attempt at forcing the result by the Government, would involve the public into expense, and probably end in failure.

A third question which is submitted for my consideration, is the expediency of establishing Model Colonies at home, as a means of training the indigent classes for immigration, and preparing them to encounter the trials of Colonial life.

Fully agreeing with you, that the establishment in New Brunswick of a class of landholders possessed of capital applicable to the cultivation of the land and to the employment of labour, would conduce to the rapid growth and to the solid prosperity of the Colony, I yet think that the object is one not likely to be effected by the direct interference of Her Majesty's Government. All which it appears to me that the Government can do towards promoting the Colonization of New Brunswick is by placing a moderate price upon the Public Lands, and rendering their acquisition easy by circulating also correct information concerning the Colony, so that parties may judge of the means which it affords for the profitable employment of capital; and as regards the lower orders, by regulating their conveyance to the Colony without the undue enhancement of its costs. The rest must be left to the inducements which the natural resources and advantages of the Colony may present, in short to the operation of private interests.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

STANLEY.

(No. 35.)

Extract of a Despatch from Lieutenant Governor Sir W. M. G. Colebrooke to Lord Stanley, dated

Fredericton, N. B., 30th April, 1842.

MY LORD,—Having in my Despatch No. 20, dated 26th February, communicated to Your Lordship some suggestions for the future settlement in the Colonies of Emigrants from the United Kingdom, I recur to the subject at this time from a desire only to obviate misconceptions in regard to the partial application of these views within the Province.

Previous to the appointment of that Board, the Land and Emigration Commissioners, I had frequent occasion to regret the ill effects upon the Colonies of the manner in which Emigration had been promoted from the United Kingdom, and without advertent to the injurious consequences arising from the system of Colonizing with Criminals, I may observe that the practice of regarding the