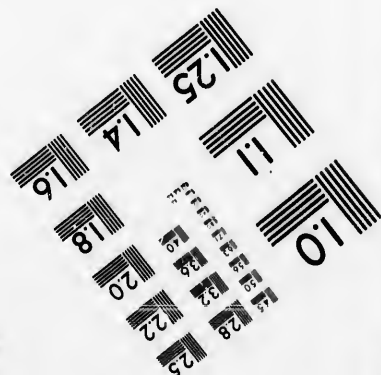
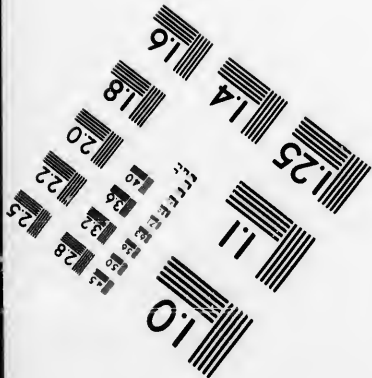
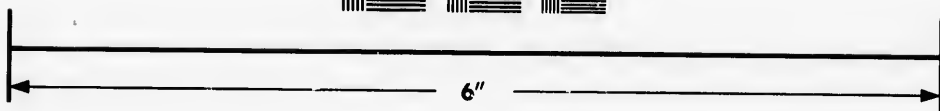
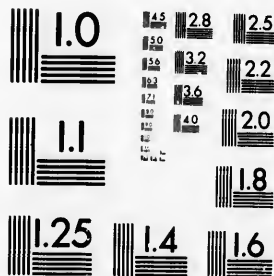


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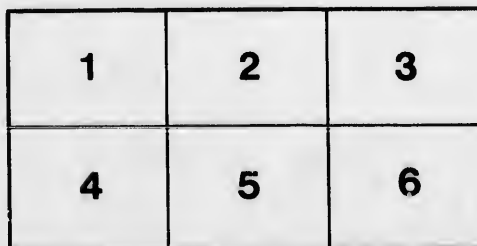
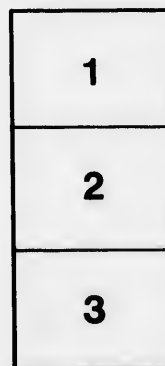
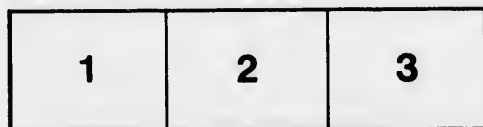
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1843

BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR EMIGRA-
TION AND COLONIZATION.

A LETTER

TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD STANLEY,

HER MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE COLONIES,

*Explanatory of the Charges made against the Executive Officers of the British-
American Association,*

FROM

SIR R. BROUN, EQ. AUR.,

ONE OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

26, Suffolk-street, Pall-mall, London,
19th May, 1843.

MY LORD,

From the report given in the public papers of what took place in the House of Commons on the 24th ultimo, it appears that the Lord Mayor asked your Lordship, as Colonial Minister, what were the duties of the Land and Emigration Board, for which he saw, by estimates on the table, a sum of 7500*l.* was to be appropriated;—after which, referring to the case of certain emigrants said to have been deceived by the British-American Association, that had lately come under his judicial cognizance, he thought that the Board would have done well to have acted more energetically than they appeared to have acted in the matter; and therefore he wished to know from your Lordship what were the powers of the Land and Emigration Board? for what purpose it was constituted? and for the performance of what services by it the nation was paying this not inconsiderable annual item?

It does not appear from the report that your Lordship gave any reply to these questions. But you availed yourself of the incidental allusion to the unfortunate British-American Association, to pronounce it a bubble from its commencement, and the case of the emigrants one of the most flagrant nature, and of the grossest hardship and oppression, that had ever come under your notice.

The explanation given by your Lordship of the interference of the Emigration Board in the matter,—although allowed by you to be “beyond the strict limit of their duty,” and notwithstanding their interference was grounded on information derived from an individual who refused to come forward for examination by that Board, on the plea that, “from the information he had to give, he might subject himself to PENAL CONSEQUENCES,”—appears to have been as satisfactory to the House as it was to your Lordship.

The only Member who spoke, except in explanation, was Mr. Vernon Smith, who expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the very clear explanation given by

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your Lordship, and offered a suggestion by which he considered "poor persons in the provinces, who are extremely ignorant as to matters relating to emigration, may in future avoid being misled by the specious statements of interested companies, who hold out golden expectations never destined to be realized." Upon this, the Chancellor of the Exchequer observed that it might be perhaps useful for the country to know that the Emigration Commissioners in London would, on application, afford every sort of information as to the circumstances and comparative advantages of different colonies.

When the Right Honourable Member for Northampton talked of specious statements and golden expectations, he appears not to have been aware that the Canada Company, in a late Report, have published statistical data establishing these facts, viz.—that about twelve years ago two bands of emigrants went out to Canada, the one consisting of 640 persons, who possessed collectively the sum of 28,402*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*—the other of 724 persons, who possessed 34,517*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; that upon this capital, in all 62,920*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, they have already realized 547,777*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, being on the average upwards of 70 per cent. per annum; that of the said persons, 647 (being nearly one-half of the whole number) carried out with them no capital whatever, and yet by their industry alone they have made 212,015*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*; that, of the number, 202 carried with them less than 20*l.* each, and that their united gains reached, at the time the statement was compiled, 74,860*l.* 3*s.*; and that these results had been obtained under the desultory system of colonization hitherto pursued, and notwithstanding the drawbacks occasioned by the late troubles in Canada. Further, Mr. Vernon Smith is perhaps not aware that since 1834 (as is established by information furnished by the Bank of Upper Canada at Toronto, the Bank of British North America at Toronto, the Commercial Bank of the Midland District at Kingston, and the Gore Bank at Hamilton) no less than 2455 settlers have been able to send home money to their friends amounting to the large sum of 20,473*l.*, through these four banks alone, in sums of less than 8*l.* 10*s.* each upon the average; proving that this numerous body of settlers have not only been enabled to support themselves and their families in Canada, but that they have been so satisfied of the advantage it will be to their friends to join them (for which purpose these remittances have been made), that they have succeeded in sending over this considerable sum for their assistance.

Again, whilst Mr. Vernon Smith compassionates the extreme ignorance which prevails in the provinces as to emigration, and recommends the circulation of information on the subject, he is perhaps not aware that, notwithstanding the intelligence which abounds on the Stock Exchange, since 1818 (and within the limit, too, of eight years) upwards of FIFTY-FIVE MILLIONS sterling of British capital have been sunk in foreign loans,* of which about one half pays no dividends whatsoever, and the other would be annihilated, both as regards principal and interest, by a European war; that this, however, is but a small portion of the losses caused by foreign speculations; that in the United States banks, of repudiating celebrity, there were about five millions of British capital, and several more millions of British property have been lost and wasted in the "State Debts" of the "Union," and in their railroads, canals, &c.; and that, if but a tithe of the millions that have been expended since the Peace in supporting pauperism at home, and squandered in administering to cupidity abroad, had been directed upon our colonies, wealth more than doubled, a commercial marine quadrupled, and native industry stimulated to a tenfold activity, would have been the results.

These are facts, my Lord, worth dissemination at a moment when, on the one hand, we have an overwhelming unemployed destitute population to provide for,

* This information is taken from the *Standard* newspaper of the 11th of November. Mr. Montgomery Martin, at a late meeting of the Colonial Society, stated that "121,000,000*l.* of British capital is invested in foreign countries, and, of that sum, 100,000,000*l.* pays no interest whatsoever."

and, on the other, it is known that there is floating in the City some seven or eight millions of money which its owners know not how or where to invest, and for which they are glad to receive so much as 2l. per cent. I will venture therefore to say that, if a portion of the 7500l. paid to the Land and Emigration Commissioners was laid out in giving publicity to these and similar facts, the good which would arise to the community from such a circumstance would be twice blessed.

With these few preliminary observations, I shall now, my Lord, proceed to give you, in as succinct language as possible, a clear outline of the rise, history, and fall of the BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION,—premissing that I shall make no statement except such as is the truth, as can be substantiated by documentary and other evidence.

During the last six years I have devoted no inconsiderable portion of my time and attention to the advancement of a question which is of paramount importance to Scotland, viz. the restoration in British America of the territorial rights and privileges of the BARONETS OF SCOTLAND AND NOVA SCOTIA, and the revival of the express objects for which the Crown erected that influential hereditary Order, viz. the colonization of Nova Scotia as anciently bounded.* With this view, proceedings were adopted at a General Meeting of Baronets held in Edinburgh on the 21st of October, 1836, and they were continued down till the 22nd of April, 1842, on which day the Consulting Council of the British-American Association assembled as an organized body, the Duke of Argyll, as President of the Association, filling the chair.

Upon this occasion, after reading the minutes of a meeting of Baronets and others, held on the 22nd of February previous, it was reported that the proceedings on that day had been printed and circulated, and that replies had been received from a very considerable number of Baronets, who cordially concurred in the opinion expressed in the first resolution then carried, viz. "That the British-American Association for Emigration and Colonization was well adapted to relieve Scotland of her surplus population—to strengthen British interests in North America—and to effect the combined objects of establishing the rights, and making available the properties in British America, of such Baronets as should join it." Letters were produced from upwards of fifty members of the Scottish Baronetage consenting to join the Consulting Council, it being distinctly understood that by doing so they should incur no pecuniary liabilities whatever. A sketch of the ancient province of Nova Scotia was laid before the meeting, exhibiting the position of the lands (16,000 acres each) granted to the Baronets; the constitution of the Association, or regulations for its management, as matured at a series of meetings, commencing on the 9th of January, 1841, and continued from time to time till the 14th of April, 1842, was laid upon the table, and its provisions explained; a Report from the Executive Commissioners was read, setting forth, among other things, that arrangements had been entered into for the purchase of several extensive Seignories in Canada East, and for a large tract of land in Prince Edward's Island; the prospectus of the Association, and one of the Prince Edward's Island Fisheries Branch (in which these lands were distinctly set forth), were revised preparatory to their being issued to the public; Sir Allan Macnab, speaker of the late Legislative Assembly in Upper Canada, and Dr. Rolph, Government Emigration Agent for British America, severally attested the value of the lands contracted for, and the great results which were certain to attend the operations of the Association; and a resolution was unanimously passed, "That the objects of the Association should be immediately proceeded with, the Meeting

* The Baronetage of Scotland and Nova Scotia comprises about 160 members, including 1 Duke, 6 Marquesses, 19 Earls, 2 Viscounts, 9 Lords, and about 100 Barons. A concise statement of the rights and privileges of the Order may be had of Messrs. Cunningham and Mortimer, Publishers, No. 1, Adelaide-street, Charing-cross.

regarding the question of Emigration and Colonization as one of paramount importance to the colonies in British North America, as well as to the people of the United Kingdom."

The consideration of the other matters in the paper of business having been adjourned till the Friday following, April 29th, on that day the Consulting Council again assembled, the Marquess of Downshire, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the chair; when the minutes of the previous Council were read and confirmed; several documents were produced relative to pauperism in Scotland; a Report from the Executive Commissioners was read, setting forth various considerations upon which the Association expected to obtain public support, viz. the necessity which exists for providing an immediate outlet for the alarming destitution which prevails in the kingdom—the policy of strengthening British influence in our northern Transatlantic dominions by an infusion into them of a sound British population upon a national scale—and the benefits which would arise from a well-conducted system of emigration under the auspices of so influential a body as the Consulting Council, comprehending, as it did, not only many great landed proprietors, but also a large number of noble persons whose family honours had been bestowed for the express purpose of advancing the plantation of North America; Sir Allan Macnab, Mr. Ogden (then Her Majesty's Attorney-General for Canada East), and other gentlemen, expressed their opinions in favour of the Association and its objects; and on the motion of Sir James Cockburn, it was unanimously resolved, that the Report should be adopted, that a deputation should proceed to Scotland in furtherance of the objects of the Association, that the Lord Provosts of Edinburgh and Glasgow should be requested to preside at public meetings on the subject, that copies of the prospectus should be sent to such Peers and Baronets of Scotland as had not then joined, requesting them to allow their names to be added to the Vice-Presidents or Consulting Council, and that the proceedings of the Council should be communicated to the absent Peers and Baronets of Scotland and Nova Scotiâ.

On the 8th of June the Consulting Council again met,—the President, his Grace the Duke of Argyll, in the chair. The business of the meeting commenced by reading the minutes of the previous Council, which were found correctly entered and signed. The minutes of influential meetings held in Edinburgh and Glasgow on the 24th and 27th of May (having the signatures of the Lord Provosts of those cities) were produced; a Report from the executive Commissioners was read embodying the unanimous resolutions of the said meetings (to the effect "that destitution in Scotland, which has been gradually increasing from the period of the Peace, had reached an appalling character and extent, and could not be effectually remedied by any measure short of emigration upon a national scale;" that "the resources of our British-American provinces, if drawn out by an extensive infusion into them of capital and population, would afford an immediate and effectual remedy for the distress prevalent in the United Kingdom from redundant labour;" and that "the British-American Association, which had been formed for these combined objects, was entitled to the support of all persons in the kingdom desirous of advancing the moral and social welfare of the labouring classes"); setting forth that the whole of the arrangements which necessarily precede the announcement of a great public undertaking had been matured; stating that the Commissioners had negotiated for the acquirement of four Seignories in Canada East and other adjoining properties, containing upwards of 200,000 acres of land; that that inexhaustible source of wealth, the fisheries of the American seas, had engaged the anxious attention of the Board, who, with a view to the establishment of a fishery at Holland Bay in Prince Edward's Island, had agreed for the purchase of the surrounding lands; and that various other extensive properties in Canada East, a tract of country bordering upon New Brunswick, and several estates in Prince Edward's Island, had been selected for future consideration.

The Report also set forth, that the pecuniary arrangements connected with the contracts for land had been entered into with a due regard to the nature of

the property and the interests of the Association. It embraced a financial plan, by which the Board proposed to obtain the funds necessary to meet the first instalments falling due on the purchases, to cover office and other expenses, and it contained the following special clause, viz., "The Commissioners have the satisfaction to report, that they expect to send out a body of emigrants to Prince Edward's Island before the close of the present season, and to carry out their operations upon an extensive scale in the spring and summer of the ensuing year."

The Council having deliberated upon the Report; it was, after amending the clause relative to raising the capital required for the purposes above mentioned, on the motion of Sir James Cockburn, unanimously resolved, "That the Report now presented be adopted and acted upon; and that a subscription be immediately opened for shares in the capital stock." On a motion, seconded by the Hon^{ble}. Mr. Peters, her Majesty's Solicitor-General for Prince Edward's Island, it was also resolved that the best thanks of the Association should be conveyed to the Lord Provosts of Edinburgh and Glasgow, for their polite attention in presiding over the meetings held in these cities, and to the Provost of Paisley: and to Dr. Alison, Sir William Drysdale, the Hon. Sir John Campbell, Bart., the Very Reverend Principal MacFarlane, the Rev. Dr. Aiton, Isaac Buchanan, Esq., Member of the Legislative Assembly in Canada, the Hon. Sir William Dunbar, Bart., Mr. Sheriff Alison, the Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod, the Hon. Sir John Cunningham Fairlie, Bart., William Murray, Esq., the Hon. Sir William Alex. Maxwell, Bart., William Houstoun, Esq., of Johnstone Castle, the Rev. Dr. Burns, and the Rev. Mr. Baird, who respectively moved and seconded the resolutions then carried; and to John Bowie, Esq., W. S., for his kind and valuable assistance. Likewise it was proposed by the Duke, from the Chair, and unanimously resolved,—"That the thanks of the Council should be given to the Deputation who proceeded to Scotland, viz. Sir Allan N. Macnab, Sir Richard Broun, Dr. Rolph, and W. Andrews, Esq., for the highly efficient and satisfactory manner in which they have discharged their mission."

The proceedings of this Council, like those of the preceding meetings, were immediately printed, and widely circulated. The following week Mr. Andrews and myself waited on Sir James Cockburn, when the heading of the subscription list was settled: after which we called on the Duke of Argyll, who put down his name for some shares, and also subscribed for his son, the Marquess of Lorn. Subsequently Sir James Cockburn subscribed; as also did Sir W. Ogilvie, Dr. Rolph, myself, and various others.

The Duke of Argyll left town shortly after an interview I had with him on the 13th of June, and from this period till the 3rd of August, when Sir Allan Macnab left town for Canada, the attention of the Board, which met daily, was directed to various important matters of business. The constitution of the Association was again considered, and carefully revised. Means were adopted for meeting all the current expenses of management until such time as a call could be made on the shareholders. The heads of a bill for incorporating the Association by the Canadian Legislature were discussed and settled with Sir Allan Macnab, as also was an official Letter of Instructions, which subsequently has been published. An offer of the Gaspé estates, upon conditions deemed highly beneficial (the vendor having agreed to take 50,000*l.* of the purchase-money in shares), was entertained. And a proposal made by Mr. Haldou in July, to form a small band of emigrants, to consist only of selected mechanics, each skilled in his trade, to proceed under his charge, and in his employ, to Prince Edward's Island, for the purpose of constructing such works and residences as should be required for the accommodation of a large colony in the spring and summer of the ensuing year, occupied, from time to time, the attention of the Board.

During the month of July, a Farewell Dinner was given by the Board to Sir Allan Macnab, on the occasion of his returning to Canada to commence his duties as Chief Commissioner of the Association in North America. The chair was

filled by his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Lennox. Amongst the numerous company present were five ex-Governors of Canada, several of the City Members, Mr. Walter, M.P., and other eminent individuals. The proceedings of the evening were very fully reported in all the papers of the day following; and copies of the *Emigration Gazette*, which contained a special report, were sent to the Duke of Argyll, to the Vice-Presidents, and every Member of the Consulting Council. Having had the honour to fill the croupier's chair, on the health of the President, the Duke of Argyll, and prosperity to the Association, having been proposed, it devolved upon me, in his absence, to return thanks. This I did by adverting to the satisfaction which the formation of the Association had given throughout Scotland, to the extent and urgency of the distress which it was created to remedy, and to the expediency of making the new world the field of a mighty national operation for the effectual and permanent amelioration of the old. Little foreseeing, at this moment, the sudden destruction which was so shortly to overtake the Association, I concluded my observations as follows:—

“Hitherto the plantation of our North-American dependencies has never engaged the due attention of a nation of which they form part and parcel as integral portions. Emigration has been left to take its own unaided and unguided course, whilst Colonization exists but as a name, without having any systematic reality. I hope, however, under the special superintendence of the influential Peers, Baronets, and Gentlemen forming the Consulting Council of this Association, that those two highly national objects will henceforth be carried out on enlightened principles—with practical utility to the mother country and the colony—and high remunerative advantage to those who shall invest capital in its stock. I am, nevertheless, fully aware, that in the progress of our operations there are both dangers to be apprehended, and difficulties to be overcome. Still I entertain no fears for the result. Confiding upon the integrity of our proceedings, the purity of our views, and the utility of our public aims, I feel assured that the Association will be sustained in its practical workings by the good, and patriotic, both of the mother country and the colony. The policy of a Government true to the interests of the British Crown cannot but appreciate and aid exertions which will immensely tend to consolidate British influence in Northern America. The Colonial Legislatures must facilitate objects which will give a mighty impulse to their social aggrandisement, and render their connection with the parent state secure and indissoluble. The clergy of the United Kingdom, as a body, will cooperate in measures essential, not only for parochial relief, but for the continuance of all that most immediately concerns the moral, spiritual, and physical welfare of the people committed to their charge. Vast multitudes in England, Scotland, and Ireland, ready to perish, will second our efforts, and avail themselves of the advantages now first brought within their reach. Whilst, throughout our boundless Transatlantic domains, a brotherhood, sprung from the loins of the fairest and bravest European monarchies, are ready to aid us with outstretched arms. Thus supported, the British-American Association cannot fail to accomplish the great objects which it has been called into existence to subserve; and I therefore confidently trust, through future years, that under its auspices the germ of population in British America will rapidly expand itself into a mighty and illustrious monarchical nation. With this hope and belief my colleagues and myself will go forward, hand in hand, to extend the foundations of a growing community—to obliterate the jarring recollections of the past—and to accelerate whatever shall best promote the glory and the power of that bulwark of religion, liberty, and peace—the **BRITISH THRONE.**”

Up till this time the Board of Commissioners had never been fully organized; and on the 23rd of July, a few days previous to Sir Allan Macnab's departure, I took occasion to press upon my colleagues (what I had frequently done before,) my strong desire that immediate steps should be taken to elect a Chairman and Deputy Chairman, and to add some commercial men to our number. This I did, not only because I felt uneasy under the responsible duties devolving upon the Board, having myself no practical acquaintance with mercantile affairs, but

also because I was morally sure that no satisfactory progress in selling shares would be made until our direction was strengthened by a few influential City names. My own office was that of Chairman, not of the Board of Management, but of the Executive Committee of that Board—an appointment which entailed no other obligations than to superintend the daily routine of office business, and to carry into effect such instructions as the Board, by resolutions duly passed and minuted, should give. Upon this point Sir James Cockburn can bear testimony to my anxiety, for I have a letter of his now before me, bearing date so far back as the 28th of April, declining the Chairmanship of the Board, which was then urged upon his acceptance, but stating that he certainly viewed the Association as founded for a great national work, and that he should be glad to give it every aid within his humble reach. The Board having taken this matter into consideration, it was deemed advisable (and that chiefly upon the advice of Sir Allan Macnab) to suspend any active proceedings for this end until such time as our Chief Commissioner for Canada should have reported to us as to the disposition of the Colonial Legislature towards the Association, and the progress made by him in placing 10,000 paid-up shares in land in Canada, which stock had been placed at his disposal by a vote of the previous Council on the 8th of June.

On the 4th of August, the day after Sir Allan sailed, a minute was made of the terms upon which the arrangement with Mr. Haldon was to be perfected; the principal details having previously been settled, and the Board being satisfied, after instituting inquiries, that his habits of business and general knowledge rendered him a fit and proper person for the enterprise he had proposed. At a meeting on the 12th, Dr. Rolph present, arrangements were ordered to be made for the passage of the emigrants who went out by the *Lady Wood* to the estates of the Association in Prince Edward's Island; and between the 4th and the 19th of August, on which latter day Dr. Rolph left Liverpool for Canada, the attention of the Board was occupied with details connected with Mr. Haldon's proposal.

Six days later, on the morning of the 25th of August, I left London for Scotland; but before doing so (and in virtue of one of the articles for the regulation of the Association) I arranged that my place should be supplied by a gentleman who had qualified to join the Committee of the Prince Edward's Island Branch. This I did that during my absence there might be present, daily, the requisite quorum of three members of the Board. Further, I took a promise from Mr. Andrews, the immediate managing officer and professional adviser of the Association, that he should acquaint me daily as to the progress of business; I left him also impressed with my desire that no step incurring any responsibility should be taken without previous consultation with Sir James Cockburn or Mr. Fletcher Wilson; and he fully knew the strong difficulties which I entertained in regard to the propriety of closing the arrangement with Mr. Haldon.

During my short absence in Scotland I received letters from Mr. Andrews, acquainting me that he had had an interview with Mr. Fletcher Wilson; that he had completed arrangements for the charter of a brig, named the *Barbadoes*, to convey Mr. Haldon and his band of workmen to Prince Edward's Island, and for the purchase of the necessary stores, in a manner highly satisfactory, and on terms which could not but be agreeable to me; that "debentures were to be taken for both the freight and stores;" that "the arrangements for the *Barbadoes* were fortuitous, and would have the effect, without any advance of money, of establishing the character of the Association as an actual working company;" that "his intimacy with Mr. Duncan Campbell had led to our obtaining credit for the freight and stores to the extent of 2000*l.* upon the debentures of the Association, for the payment of which no day was fixed;" and that "I might rest assured no effort of his should be wanting to protect the Association;" but that "at the same time I must bear in mind that we must run some risks, and that in the present instance our chance of loss was reduced to a minimum, and we had the advantage of not being called upon to pay the deficiency, if there

should be any, until our stock was placed, and then only in shares." These representations and assurances led me to believe that many of the apprehensions which I had entertained upon this subject were ill founded: Anticipating that a large body of emigrants would be sent out by the Association in the spring and summer of this year, it certainly did appear to me desirable that preparations should be made for their reception. I however again urged caution in the matter; I repeated my desire that he should see Sir James Cockburn or Mr. Fletcher Wilson, and further renewed my desire that the Board might be increased.

In reply, I was informed by Mr. Andrews that "he did not like to allow a post to leave without writing to me;" that "he would not fail to see Mr. Fletcher Wilson, and also Sir James Cockburn;" that "there was no doubt as to strengthening the Board of Commissioners, not only by the addition of their names, but by the adhesion of other individuals through the Gaspé branch, in which he took a deep interest, and in the management of which the parties, with the concurrence of Messrs. Willis, Bower, and Willis, had offered to make him Chairman of the Board of that department;" that "I might depend upon his devoted attention;" that (in reply to a query put by me as to the certainty of the *Barbadoes* being ready at the time agreed upon, viz. the 10th of September) "the shipowner was liable to an action if the vessel should not be ready at the time specified;" that "Mr. Duncan Campbell was a highly respectable man, and as a proof of his respectability, and the anxiety he has taken to advance his (Mr. A.'s) personal interests, he had, at his request, purchased the whole of the stores for the island, which exceeded 1800*l.*, upon his own credit and responsibility, and had agreed to take, at a small allowance, debentures for the whole;" that "thus, although he had paid him (Mr. Campbell) 1000*l.* on account, he should, when the stores were supplied, have to pay him a further sum of 1150*l.* to cover his advances;" that "thus we had become an actual working company, without advancing one guinea;" and that "he had hoped the arrangements which he had made would have had my unqualified approbation, as resulting altogether from his (Mr. A.'s) personal influence, and that I would have relied upon his judgment and discretion as to the ship and the emigrants;" and that "she comes out of dock on the 6th instant, (viz. of September,) and proceeds on her voyage in a few days afterwards."

The letter from which the above extracts are taken was dated the 2nd of September; and by a following post I was further informed by Mr. Andrews, relative to the *Barbadoes*, that "he did not apprehend that the arrangements—the whole of which were protective of the Association—would be questioned by me, or by any member of the Board;" and that "he had prevailed upon Mr. Duncan Campbell, the owner of the *Barbadoes*, to qualify as a member of the Board."

Such was my understanding upon these matters on the 15th of September, when I again returned to London, and received the personal assurances of Mr. Andrews that everything was proceeding satisfactorily. Regarding Mr. Campbell, I was told that he had been introduced by Mr. Haldon himself, as a merchant of old standing in the City, who could put 15,000*l.* into the concern should it be wanted; that Messrs. Bourdillon and Son, of Austinfriars, had been named by him, and referred to, as his referees; that Sir Thomas Turton and Mr. Williams were his colleagues in a large mining company; and that, as he had for some time been withdrawing from more active mercantile pursuits, he was desirous of joining in the direction of an Association, founded under the auspices of the Duke of Argyll, for objects which he deemed of the highest importance to the country.

Believing these representations, and feeling daily the weight of responsibilities which I never contemplated, by my connexion with the Association, I was only too well pleased to find that a person of Mr. Campbell's large experience in business had assented to join the Direction. Nor was the fact of his having offered to furnish a vessel, and supply the stores wanted, taking debentures in payment, cal-

culated to lead me to suppose that Mr. Campbell had any improper objects in view. Nor, indeed, until the examinations at the Mansion-house in April last, did I become awakened to his real character.

Shortly after my return from Scotland I was introduced to Mr. Campbell; and I then was told that the *Barbadoes* was on the point of being cleared, and that she would sail on or before the 20th of the month, at latest. Afterwards I visited the vessel, and was gratified to find that in every respect she was well adapted for the object for which she had been chartered. The greater portion of the stores had been shipped, and I was given to understand that there was nothing to prevent her sailing, except the getting on board of some heavy machinery, viz. a steam-boiler and saw-mill.

Six days later than the period when the *Barbadoes* should have sailed, and when I began to feel uneasy and dissatisfied on the subject, Mr. Andrews came to me with two cheques of Mr. Campbell's for 250*l.* on his bankers, Messrs. Stone and Co., and told me that Mr. Campbell, having been disappointed of a payment of a heavy sum of money (1500*l.*), which he would certainly receive in a day or two, would be obliged by my exchanging cheques with him for a week. As I understood that this money was wanted to clear the vessel, so great was my confidence in Mr. Campbell's integrity, as also my desire to expedite the departure of the emigrants, that I at once complied with his request. Mr. Campbell's cheques are now lying dishonoured in my banker's hands. That Mr. Andrews lent himself to obtain of me this sum, knowing Mr. Campbell's real insufficiency, is what I cannot credit; and it is only a matter of strict justice, under all the obloquy that has been heaped upon Mr. Andrews, that I should express my belief that he has been sinned against rather than sinning in this whole affair.

A day or two after this advance to Mr. Campbell of 250*l.*, on the faith of his representations as to the expected payment of the 1500*l.*, he received a further loan, to the extent of 300*l.*, from the funds of the Association, and subsequently he procured my acceptance for a 600*l.* bill, the proceeds of which were to be paid into the bankers of the Company, to cover the sums that had been lent. Whether Mr. Campbell got any money upon this bill I cannot say; but if so, no portion of it was applied to the purpose for which it was issued, nor has any except 20*l.* of the 550*l.* been repaid. Finally, Mr. Campbell having represented to the Board that he could make no use of the debentures he had received in payment of the stores shipped, it was, on his entreaty, agreed that promissory notes should be given to him in exchange, payable at the end of two years from October, 1842; he undertaking that any money raised upon them should be paid into the bankers of the Association, when cheques should be issued to him for the settlement of the accounts of the several parties who had supplied the goods. The notes were given to him; but if Mr. Campbell received any money for them, it never was paid into our bankers.

Looking back, now, on these several circumstances, the public may, perhaps, justly consider the course adopted reprehensible. But it was not until long after the dates of these several transactions that Mr. Campbell's utter insufficiency to carry out his engagements was distinctly ascertained. Further, the goods were on board the *Barbadoes* for which these notes were given, and they were paid to Mr. Campbell at his own instance, he signing the same as one of the Members of the Board. It became also a choice of evils, whether the Association should perish, or whether I should protect the interests of the shareholders, by becoming a party to an arrangement which I was professionally advised was altogether legal and correct. At that moment, too, the Board did not entertain the slightest apprehension in regard to the Association being carried out with the greatest possible success. We could certainly have broken the charter-party instead of issuing these promissory notes; but that could only have been done by subjecting the emigrants to inconveniencies which would have raised an outcry, and laying the Board open to an action for heavy damages by Mr. Haldon,—circumstances which would have destroyed the Association: and that was an alternative, considering

the extensive liabilities incurred, which we considered it our duty at any sacrifice to avoid.

The *Barbadoes* left the London Docks on the 17th of October, and on the 19th I went down to Gravesend to witness her departure. This was precisely one month later than the day on which she ought to have sailed according to her charter—and during the interval I had exhausted every personal effort to get her to sea. Though the season was late, the weather was dry and fine, with a strong easterly wind, which prevailed for several successive weeks. After making a round of the vessel, the emigrants were assembled in the cabin, when the nature of the soil and climate whither they were bound was explained to them, and it was ascertained that they were unanimously desirous to proceed on their voyage, being satisfied with the arrangements made for them in every respect. They had good reason to be so, for the ship was an excellent sea-boat—was abundantly supplied with all that was requisite for their subsistence, had the voyage been twice the number of miles—and every preparation had been made for their comfortable reception and location whither they were bound.

Had the Board succumbed to the strange difficulties in which the Association was suddenly involved after my arrival from Scotland, I should have considered myself entitled to the reprobation of every honourable man in the kingdom. The Association had been formed after years of anxious labour—its institution had been cordially approved of on both sides of the Atlantic—its presidency had been accepted by a Noble Duke, endeared to Scotland by a long line of illustrious ancestors, who had ever been foremost in every good work which concerned the welfare and prosperity of that kingdom—and its Consulting Council enrolled men high in station, powerful in influence, great in intellect, wise in experience, and unimpeachable in honour, who had joined it as a means, created by national need, to promote the loftiest aims of commercial benevolence and patriotic exertion. I rejoice that, on the 19th of October, after a month of personal toil and mental uneasiness, I left the *Barbadoes* ready to heave anchor and depart. And I devolve the cause of her detention—the Mansion-house proceedings—the attacks of the press—the return of the vessel—the breaking up of the Association—the losses sustained—the miseries endured—and the dishonour inflicted—upon the heads of those who have occasioned them. Had the *Barbadoes* sailed with that or the following tide, the emigrants would now have been settled on the lands contracted for in Prince Edward's Island; and, like those who sailed a few weeks sooner by the *Lady Wood*, would have been, in every respect, happy and contented.

From some extraneous interference the *Barbadoes* did not sail on the 20th, as she ought to have done, nor on the 21st, nor 22nd. Upon the afternoon of this latter day, some intending emigrants who had broken their engagement with Mr. Haldon, who had never gone on board themselves, nor put their tools on board, and who had, therefore, no claim of any kind for demurrage, went to the Mansion-house and preferred a complaint, for the express purpose of extorting money from him. These men, instead of being reprehended, were encouraged by Sir John Pirie, and accordingly they succeeded in plundering Mr. Haldon to the extent of 37l. 12s. Further, the Lord Mayor availed himself of the opportunity to throw out some injurious observations relative to the Association; and he required Mr. Haldon again to appear before him on the 24th.

On the 24th, accordingly, Mr. Haldon did again attend at the Mansion-house, and, at the same time, Mr. Bcurdillon appeared for the Association; but, notwithstanding the explanations given, and the production of the Minute Book, showing the Duke of Argyll's signature as President, Sir John Pirie again indulged in observations injurious to the Association, and announced his intention of writing a letter to his Grace. This conduct was the more unjustifiable as upon the Consulting Council were the names of various persons well known to the Lord Mayor. Further, Sir John Pirie, having acted as treasurer to the fund (120,000l.) raised in 1837, by the personal exertions of Dr. Macleod, for the relief of his starving

countrymen in the Western Highlands, had, on that account, been specially solicited to join the Association, which, however, he declined, on account of his numerous official duties.

It is unnecessary, my Lord, for me to dwell minutely upon all the disastrous occurrences of the next few weeks. On the 25th Mr. Haldon paid to the men who had raised the unjust complaints against him 37*l.* 12*s.*, taking at the same time an acknowledgment to the effect that "they received the sums severally paid to them in the presence of Mr. Childs, agreeably to the recommendation of the Lord Mayor, and that they thereby further expressed, each for himself, his entire approval of Mr. Haldon's acts in all matters touching their engagements with him." The same day the Lord Mayor carried into effect his intention to write to the Duke of Argyll, although the men had been satisfied, and although not one emigrant on board the *Barbadoes* had ever made the slightest complaint of any kind. A letter from the Lord Mayor, setting forth that "the circumstances connected with the agreement of these people appeared to him to look *very suspicious*," and asking the Duke whether it was "the fact that his Grace considered himself liable for the pecuniary transactions of the parties in London who had the management?" naturally alarmed his Grace. Without inquiry, the noble President wrote a reply of an incautious character, which the Lord Mayor made public—and the Press opened upon the Association, and all connected with it, a series of the most violent attacks.

I may here incidentally notice, that the "Letter of Official Instructions to Sir Allan Macnab" (the heads of which were settled by the Board before Sir Allan and Dr. Rolph left London) was published in the *Emigration Gazette* of the 17th of September, and was also printed for circulation in a pamphlet form. Copies of this document, which not only develops the leading principles which governed the proceedings of the Board, but also sets forth that some Emigrants had already gone out to Prince Edward's Island, were sent both to the Duke and Sir James Cockburn. They were supplied also weekly with copies of the *Emigration Gazette*, which contained advertisements relative to a vessel having been chartered to proceed with settlers to that island; and they otherwise had constant notices of the progress of the Association.

On Monday the 31st of October a special meeting of the Consulting Council was held, the Marquess of Downshire, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the chair. The Report from the Board on that occasion stated, that measures for incorporating the Association by an act of the Colonial Legislature had been adopted, and that a bill, the draft of which had been drawn and settled in this country, had been transmitted to Kingston for legislative consideration; that the Commissioners had likewise caused notices to be given of an intention to apply in the next ensuing session of the Imperial Parliament for leave to bring in a bill and obtain an act for the incorporation of the Association in this country, the Commissioners only waiting the arrival of despatches from Sir Allan Macnab for their guidance in opening an official communication with the Colonial Office and the Board of Trade upon the powers to be solicited. The Report further comprised a brief description of the properties for which contracts had been entered into; detailed the precise nature of the agreement made with Mr. Haldon; and concluded by a solemn declaration, that not one farthing had been received from any of the emigrants of Mr. Haldon, by whom alone they were engaged; that the arrangement with him had been punctually observed by the Commissioners; and that every care and attention had been paid to the men, an unusual liberal supply of provisions for their support, and also clothes, having been put on board.

At this meeting, which was very numerously attended, various gentlemen of high respectability, present, expressed their opinions in reference to the conduct of Sir John Pirie and the attacks of the public press. Mr. Andrews, adverting to the attacks, the focus of which was the Mansion-house, said, that "the Board had a moral conviction that there was an organized opposition at work, though we were without the proofs." Mr. Leslie bore witness to the fact of the cargo of the *Bar-*

badoes "being worth 3000*l.* when it went out of the port of London, his own firm having supplied provisions to the extent of 1000*l.*" Mr. Duncan Bruce stated, that "he intended to take an interest in the Association to the amount of 50,000*l.*, and that his confidence was not at all shaken by what had lately taken place." Sir James Hay, who had resided twelve years in Canada, Mr. Sherriff, of Fitzroy Harbour, Ottawa, Captain Kerr, and others, stated, in answer to the complaints raised about the coldness of the climate of Prince Edward's Island, that they had never suffered so much from severity of weather in North America as they had done in England. I myself reported a conversation with the Government Inspector of Emigrants, Lieutenant Lean, who had declared to me that "he had never seen a ship better fitted out in all respects than the *Barbadoes* was;" and the Noble Chairman, after saying that he was extremely sorry for the attacks made, observed that "he considered the Association might sit down quite satisfied with the opinion of such a naval officer as Lieutenant Lean;" and that, "when he saw that everything had been done in as much a business manner as possible, he felt sure that it would bring confidence to the public mind."

I here desire to express my deep gratitude to the Marquess of Downshire, who did not refuse to come down and preside at this meeting, at a moment when the public press was heaping every abuse on the British-American Association. His Lordship's conduct upon this occasion was such as became one of the representatives of that noble family who received, from James I. and Charles I., higher honours, and more extensive rights, than ever were conferred upon any other subjects of the British Crown, to reward their exertions to colonize Nova Scotia. Had his example swayed his Grace the President of the Association, the Mansion-house plot and the calumnies circulated would alike have proved ineffective; but the proceedings of this Council were immediately stultified, and the credit of the Association destroyed, by the public announcement of the Duke's withdrawal from office.

At this Council several of the emigrants attended, having come up from *Gravesend* purposely to bear personal witness to their comfort on board the *Barbadoes*, and to express their gratitude for all the arrangements which had been made for their comfort. They heard the opinions of the gentlemen above referred to as to the climate, and they were made acquainted with the contents of a letter received from the Land and Emigration Board, expressing their apprehensions about the vessel sailing at so late a period. The men, however, were perfectly content to depart; the captain entertained no fears about making out the voyage in safety; and accordingly the vessel sailed with a fair wind on the following day.

At this Council a letter was reported from Mr. Woodman, jun., the agent of the Association, dated Cascumpec, 10th of October (only *twenty-one days* previous), stating that he was erecting houses about two miles from the point, and in situations where they would be always useful; and that he hoped to have eleven new houses finished, and four or five old ones thoroughly repaired, before the arrival of the emigrants. He also acquainted the Board, that all the supplies which the emigrants could require during the winter months, had been procured.

I must here call your Lordship's particular attention to the fact that the emigrants shipped (with the exception of Mr. Taylor and his family) were the engaged work-people of Mr. Haldon, and that no money was paid by them for their passage. The Board therefore had no power to prevent these emigrants fulfilling their contract with Mr. Haldon, if they felt so disposed. Further, the ship had left the London Docks on the 17th of October; the bills of lading being assigned to Mr. Woodman, jun., the agent of the Association in Prince Edward's Island. Your Lordship will therefore see that myself and colleagues had no alternative in the case. We took care that the vessel, according to the charter-party, was sufficiently provisioned, and that the necessary preparations for the emigrants were made in the island. But they embarked upon the responsibility of Mr. Haldon their employer, at the risk of Mr. Campbell the shipowner; and the vessel is liable to Mr. Woodman, the consignee, for the safe delivery of the passengers and stores at Holland, or

Cascumpec, Bay. Notwithstanding the great clamour raised about the enormity of sending out a multitude of persons, the whole party consisted of 20 men, 12 women, and 16 children; and it is to be observed that they were going to the estates of the Association; to homes prepared—to provisions found—and to employment awaiting them. There is therefore no parallel to be drawn between the case of these twenty mechanics and that of the 1500 destitute persons in Belfast whom Dr. Rolph appears to have taken credit, with Alderman Gibbs, for advising in July last not to emigrate until this spring.

On the 21st of November Dr. Rolph arrived from Canada, and on the 7th of the month following another meeting of the Consulting Council was held, the Hon. Sir Joshua Meredyth, Bart., presiding. The Report from the Board on that occasion embraced despatches of a highly gratifying character from Sir Allan Macnab, stating that the objects of the Association were highly appreciated in Canada, that it was certain to meet with general support in that colony, and that the legal recognition of the Legislative Assembly would be obtained at no distant period. It set forth that letters had also been received from Prince Edward's Island from Mr. Woodman, jun., and the Hon. Mr. Peters, the Solicitor-General of the island; that these communicated the safe arrival of the emigrants sent out by the *Lady Wood*; reiterated the information that every comfort and accommodation had been provided for the party then proceeding to the island in the *Barbadoes*; and gave assurances to the Board that the Governor of the colony approved highly of the objects of the Association; and that a colonial charter would immediately be granted for the security and protection of its operations in that island, with some valuable and important exclusive privileges. In conclusion, the Commissioners, insisting upon the integrity of their actions, and that the charges and attacks made upon them were unwarranted, invited the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry to investigate their conduct and the whole course of their public administration.

A "Committee of Inquiry" was accordingly named—and it commenced its sittings on the 9th, by passing a resolution, at the suggestion of the Board, inviting the attendance of Sir John Pirie, Mr. Walter, M.P., and other gentlemen. After sitting for a fortnight, a public meeting of the Consulting Council was held at the London Tavern on the 23rd of December, the Hon. Sir W. Ogilvie, Bart., in the chair, when a Report was read from the said Committee, showing, that, having examined the whole books, documents, papers, and accounts of the Association, and also the executive officers, they found that no names had been placed upon the prospectus without their due authority for so doing; that the Rules and Regulations forming the Constitution of the Association had been matured with great judgment; that the whole of the charges founded on the proceedings at the Mansion-house were unfounded in truth; that the various properties acquired had been selected with the most judicious care, being unquestionably such as to afford every possible prospect of certain and abundant annual returns upon the capital to be invested; that none of the principal officers had received any remuneration for their services; that the financial plan to complete the various purchases, and for carrying out the general operations of the Association, had been judiciously matured, and merited the careful attention of parties seeking eligible channels for the investment of surplus capital,—the sound and enlightened principles which governed the whole system of the Association's operations offering the very strongest assurances of highly remunerative returns; that no money having been yet received from the public on the shares subscribed, the Executive Commissioners appeared to the Committee to be entitled to the best thanks of the Association and the unlimited confidence of the public,—the arrangements made by them, in their official capacity, having been in every respect influenced by a spirit of the purest disinterestedness, and feelings of strict integrity, probity, and honour; and that, on a view of the whole matter, the Committee recommended that steps should be adopted towards procuring a charter—that the Board should be increased—an enlarged prospectus issued—and a subscription for shares opened.

On the evening of the day following, viz. Saturday the 24th of December, Captain Light, the supercargo of the *Barbadoes*, called at the office, and reported that the vessel, from stress of weather, had been driven back from 42 west longitude (about 1300 miles), into the Cove of Cork; and on the 26th he attended at the Mansion-house, and, having been sworn, made an affidavit before the Lord Mayor, in which he declared upon his oath, that, but for the delay occasioned by the Mansion-house proceedings, the *Barbadoes* would have reached her destination; other ships that sailed for the same quarter TEN DAYS previous having made their voyage in safety.

The "Committee of Inquiry" had laid before them, during their sittings, a carefully prepared estimate, showing the returns likely to arise by the settlement of the several properties acquired. Those returns, in the gross, were taken to be 443,594*l.*, which, after deducting the cost price of the lands, left for profit 261,594*l.* This sum, however, does not include any amount in the shape of profit from the coal-fields on the Gaspé estates, extending to upwards of 3000 acres of coal of the best quality; neither does it include the profit from the sale of the timber on the estates; in regard to which, on the Gaspé property alone, it was proved before the Committee that the yearly returns, after paying all costs, would amount to between 20,000*l.* and 30,000*l.*

I shall refer your Lordship to the Prospectus (as extended according to the recommendation of the Committee, but which never was issued to the public) annexed to this Letter for further information relative to the acreage and description of the properties, and shall only add that they have all been acquired under agreements which are legally binding, both upon the buyers and sellers. It formed a fundamental article in the "Regulations for the Management of the Association," as matured at meetings commencing on the 29th January, 1841, and continued until the 17th of May following (and which document has the signatures of Sir W. Ogilvie, Dr. Rolph, Mr. Andrews, and myself), that the first operations of the Association should be the purchase, colonization, and settlement of the lands comprised in the seignories of d'Aillebout and de Ramsay. And with the knowledge and concurrence of all those individuals, these said properties, as also those subsequently contracted for, were purchased. It is true that the vendor of the Gaspé property is the only party from whom lands have been taken who has received a payment to account; but as that gentleman is to take 50,000*l.* of the purchase-money of the Gaspé estate in the shares of the Company, it cannot be said, either with justice or truth, that we have no lands. Further, Mr. Woodman, jun., the highly respectable agent of the Association in Prince Edward's Island, prior to the payment of the first instalment of the purchase-money of the Holland Bay or Cascumpec estate, was put in possession, under an agreement by which the Board were entitled to locate 1000 acres, and to send out 100 families.

The chief historical details between the date of the return of the ship *Barbadoes* (24th December) and the final break-up of the Association, on the 30th of March, may be compressed into a single sentence. During that time Dr. Rolph was deputed by the Board to wait upon his Grace at Inverary Castle, to lay before him the Report of the "Committee of Inquiry," to press his Grace's return to office, and to urge the necessity for his aiding the Executive Officers with some pecuniary advances, under the difficulties and loss of credit which the attacks of the press and his retirement had occasioned; Mr. Andrews resigned his appointment; various letters were written to the Duke and Sir James Cockburn, representing the heavy liabilities which the shareholders would incur by allowing the Association to fall in pieces; the agents of the Duke and his counsel were repeatedly seen; every mode of obtaining sufficient funds to re-virtual the *Barbadoes*, and enable her to proceed on her voyage, was exhausted; the prospectus of the Association was revised and extended; and several meetings were held at the house of the Association, which were attended by six or eight commercial gentlemen, disposed to join the Direction, at the last of which, held on the 10th of March, William Richardson, Esq., in the chair, the following re-

solution was unanimously adopted, viz. "That this meeting consider the Reports made, and the statements submitted, to be highly satisfactory, and such as to afford a well-founded guarantee for entertaining the opinion that the Association, upon its original principles, should be steadily carried out; there appearing to this meeting to be no valid reason for apprehending that the Association, under an extended and efficient management, can fail to be attended with the most eminent success, whether considered with reference to the interests of the shareholders, or the benefit of those classes who require to emigrate."

On Friday, the 17th of March, I attended a Board for the last time, at the office, when a resolution was passed, virtually suspending the functions of the acting Commissioners; and the morning following I removed my papers and effects, leaving for the accommodation of the Association the whole of my furniture, except a few articles required for my personal convenience. Prior to this time, my Lord, various writs had been taken out against me for liabilities incurred with a view to sustaining the Association, and protecting the interests of the shareholders; and early on Monday, the 20th of March, a distress was put into the office. Having ascertained, however, the day following, that the Duke of Argyll had arrived in town, I lost no time in writing to his Grace a letter which was delivered by Dr. Rolph, saying that every exertion had been used by us to comply with the suggestions which his Grace had made at the conferences held with Dr. Rolph, on the 6th and 7th of January, at Inverary Castle; that it was in his Grace's power, by his personal co-operation, to fill up the vacancies in the Direction with men of sufficient wealth and influence to carry out the Association; that Dr. Rolph and myself tendered our aid to his Grace, and the other shareholders, for that purpose; but that, should this overture on our part be declined, we had no other alternative left but to relinquish any further efforts to sustain the Association; and that, if it was allowed to go down, it must be upon his Grace's responsibility.

Even at this eleventh hour 500*l.* (the amount of his Grace's subscription for shares had it been paid) would have avoided those subsequent attacks at the Mansion-house, and saved one of the noblest institutions ever founded in the kingdom. His Grace, however,—acting, no doubt, under the advice of parties more influenced by private considerations than any sentiments of public virtue,—would not move in the matter; and, accordingly, on the 30th of March, the property left by me in Bridge-street was sold off, and the establishment utterly broken up.

I have now, my Lord, in as concise language as possible, put your Lordship in possession of all the leading facts connected with the rise, progress, and fall of the British-American Association; and I may here state, that, should occasion arise, I shall address a public letter to the Duke of Argyll, embodying an outline of my correspondence with his Grace and Sir James Cockburn, and giving any further explanations upon such points as, for the sake of brevity alone, I have not considered it necessary to notice. I may further add, that I have not for some time past had any communication with my former colleagues. I am therefore alone responsible for the contents of this letter.

There are, however, my Lord, one or two injurious allegations (amongst a multiplicity of others), put in circulation, which I feel myself bound to advert to. First, it is said that offices under the Board were bought and sold; but I give this the most unqualified contradiction—unless, indeed, the holding of stock as a guarantee for a faithful discharge of official duty shall be considered in that light. Last spring, Mr. Anderson, of Gortleck, Inverness-shire, a friend of Sir R. Barclay, who had agreed to join the Board, finding from Sir Robert that several assistants would be required to carry on the business of the Association, wrote to say that he should rejoice extremely were he so fortunate as to have an opportunity afforded him, in any capacity, of engaging himself in its service. As an appointment in the Secretary department was vacant, after

correspondence with Sir Robert Barclay, who recommended Mr. Anderson in the most unqualified manner, it was offered to him; but at the same time he was informed, as a guarantee for the proper discharge of the duties of the office, he would require to qualify for it by taking a certain amount of stock. This, in a letter dated the 2nd of April, 1842, Mr. Anderson considered "a most prudent arrangement, and he could not too much applaud it, that every officer should have a substantial interest in the success of the Association, other than the mere remuneration for his personal services." He desired to know further particulars, and when his services would be needed, adding, "After we arrange satisfactorily, the interests of the Association shall occupy my undivided attention. I cannot help again repeating, that it is highly proper that each officer should have a substantial permanent interest in the success of the Association."

After further correspondence it was agreed that Mr. Anderson should be appointed one of the Secretaries, upon the terms above referred to, and he came up to London accordingly, but failed to qualify. A gentleman of the name of Hope, who applied for a situation, was offered the same office on similar terms, which he declined.

Having mentioned Sir Robert Barclay's name, I consider it proper to state that he was invited to join the Board when I knew him only as a correspondent. He came to London shortly after the return of the deputation from Scotland, but without receiving any instructions to that effect. The above circumstance, connected with Mr. Anderson, speaks for itself; and Sir Robert had only been in connexion with the Association till the middle of July, when it was found necessary to make a certain communication to him, which led to his resignation. Shortly afterwards, a friend of Sir Robert's, who had qualified for the direction of the Prince Edward's Island Branch, had his shares cancelled—the Board being only too well pleased to get rid of both. These parties, I am told, with Mr. Anderson, have since done that they possibly could to misrepresent and injure the Association.

Shortly after the first meeting of the Consulting Council, in April, Mr. Alfred Thompson, who was connected with the late banking-house of Messrs. Wigney, and a gentleman of good family and connection, made application for an appointment, promising to effect various financial operations. On this express understanding (but which, at his own request, was not specified in the minute passed on the subject, although it was in a letter which accompanied it) he was for some time connected with the Association. Up till the month of July, the Board had no grounds for believing that Mr. Alfred Thompson was not a person of undoubted respectability of character, and in every way deserving confidence. It then, however, came to the knowledge of the Board that he was not a proper person to be connected with the Association; when, after due deliberation, a minute was passed, that he should not after its date be employed; although, under the apprehension that he might take some steps that would prove injurious to the Association, no intimation was given to him of the resolution. This, indeed, was the less necessary, as he had not fulfilled the terms upon which he had been appointed, and therefore no expense was incurred by his connection with the Association.

I have considered it necessary to set forth these facts, because, my Lord, this man has, I am told, been writing anonymous letters, and everywhere been speaking injuriously of the members of the Board.

There is one other transaction connected with the Association upon which I feel it proper to dwell. So far back as the month of June, there appeared in the *Emigration Gazette* one or two letters dated from Bridge-street, under the signature "*A Canadian*," making some grossly malicious attacks upon the Association. This circumstance led the Board to come into an arrangement with Mr. Maillard, the proprietor of the *Emigration Gazette*, by which that journal should

devote a portion of its columns to the service of the Association. From this time constant notices of the Association appeared in the paper, and a number of copies were taken weekly, which were sent regularly to the President, Vice-Presidents, members of the Council, and others. During my absence in Scotland, I received a letter from Mr. Andrews, dated the 30th of August, acquainting me that he had made an arrangement with Mr. Maillard to have the printing of the Association, he agreeing to take some stock. Since the breaking up of the Association this common arrangement in public companies has been declaimed against as one of crying enormity.

From these facts, my Lord, set forth in chronological order, relative to the rise, progress, and final break-up of the British-American Association, the following conclusions are instructed, viz:—

1. *Relative to the observations made by the Lord Mayor and others at the Mansion-house.*

It is not true that "no portion of the capital of the Association was paid up," because Sir W. Ogilvie, Mr. Andrews, and myself each paid 5*l.* upon the shares held by us, amounting to 750*l.* It is not true that "nobody was paid at all," because Mr. Campbell (the person who made that assertion) got in loan from myself 250*l.* on an exchange of cheques, and in loan from the Board 300*l.* to clear the *Barbadoes*, of which he has only repayed 20*l.* Mr. Duncan Bruce also received several hundred pounds as a payment to account of the purchase-money of the Gaspé property. It is not true that "the emigrants have been deceived," because the first band who went out to Prince Edward's Island, by the *Lady Wood*, are now settled on the estates purchased from Mr. Cunard, and are in every respect satisfied, and doing prosperously. It is not true that "the emigrants might have died of sheer starvation," because all the supplies necessary for them during the winter months had been provided. It is not true that "all the noblemen and gentlemen whose names appear in the prospectus were wholly unaware of the nature of these proceedings," because the *Emigration Gazette*, which contained an advertisement and various other notices upon the subject, was sent to them weekly. It is not true that the Association "has not an acre of land in Prince Edward's Island," because the Duke of Argyll, Sir James Cockburn, myself, and others, have legally contracted for 74,000 acres there, although it is true that no part of the purchase-money has yet been paid. It is not true that any one connected with the Association ever "dreamt of sending out a number of poor emigrants to an isolated spot with a month's provisions, to run the chances of climate, and the various contingencies to which persons, in a country unknown to them, must be subjected," because the property contains two villages, with a population of about 900 souls, houses being ready for their reception, and every preparation for their comfort and subsistence made. It is not true, as stated by Dr. Rolph, that "directly following the 8th of June there was a complete departure from the understood plan of operation which was then agreed upon," because the report then read distinctly set forth that "the Commissioners expected to send out a body of emigrants to Prince Edward's Island before the close of the present season," which report on Sir James Cockburn's motion was resolved "to be adopted, and acted upon." Neither is it true, because the chartering of the specific vessel was concluded during Dr. Rolph's absence and mine from town, that the plan of sending out a few pioneers to Prince Edward's Island "always met his decided reprobation," because the attention of the Executive Board, of which Dr. Rolph was one, was occupied almost daily from the 8th of June till the 19th of August (on which day he sailed), first with the arrangements connected with sending out the emigrants that went by the *Lady Wood*, and next with Mr. Haldon's proposal, all the main features of which had been discussed, settled, and reduced to writing, some weeks before. Neither is it true, as Dr. Rolph then urged, "that, had the Commissioners seen the admonitory letter of the Government, and disobeyed its injunctions, nothing could be said in extenuation of their conduct," because this can be said, not only in extenuation, but in justification of their conduct, that they had no power to prevent Mr. Haldon and his men sailing, if they thought proper to

do so, as they were going out under the auspices, but not upon the responsibility, of the Board. The Commissioners, also, not only saw the letter, but it was produced at the meeting of the Consulting Council, on the 31st of October, and its contents communicated to the emigrants present, who nevertheless preferred facing the dangers of the deep to running the risk of starving at home.

2. *Relative to the observations made by Messrs. Palmer and Nettleship, in their letters to the Lord Mayor.*

It is not true that their clients, the Duke of Argyll and Sir James Cockburn, were both ignorant of the intention to send out a body of emigrants to Prince Edward's Island in the autumn, although it is true that they did not know the individuals composing the number. It is not true that the only resolution (or any such resolution) came to on the 8th of June was, "that, as a preliminary and indispensable step, a sum of 50,000*l.* should be insured, as available for the purposes of emigration." It is not true that "at that meeting it was distinctly understood that, in the mean time, no engagements whatever should be entered into by the Association," for this reason, amongst others, that the financial plan by which the Commissioners proposed to raise 50,000*l.* (viz. by debentures), to pay the first instalment upon the several estates that months previously had been purchased and reported upon, was disapproved of, and a subscription for shares substituted for it, on Sir James Cockburn's own motion. It is not true that the Duke and Sir James were "kept in ignorance of everything that occurred, every transaction having been studiously concealed from them," because Mr. Andrews and myself, upon various occasions, after the 8th of June, waited on Sir James, whilst the Duke and himself were weekly supplied with the *Emigration Gazette*, containing intelligence as to the movements of the Association. It is not true "that any gross fraud has been committed" by any of the responsible officers of the Association. Neither is it true that "certain persons connected with the Association thought fit to print a statement, professing to be a Report of what took place at the meeting in June." The Report was a verbatim copy of the one read, amended in one clause, and adopted at the meeting; although the Duke's name, who filled the chair on the occasion, was attached to it from some inadvertence, instead of the Secretary's. It is not true that "the Report circulated is (as Messrs. Palmer and Nettleship say they have abundant means of proving) a false representation of what actually did take place at the meeting," because it is not a Report of the proceedings of the meeting in question, but THE REPORT FROM THE BOARD read to, amended at, and adopted by the meeting, as can be proved on oath, not only by those who previously drew it up, but by documentary evidence. Again, although the minutes of the 8th of June were not signed by the Duke (but by the Marquess of Downshire, who filled the chair of the following meeting of the Consulting Council), nevertheless his Grace did, on that day, sign the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council, on the 29th of April, which were then read, and found correctly entered. Further, it is not true "that all that the Duke consented to do was conditional," or that "his Grace was to be merely a subscriber of 500*l.* for the benefit of the poor emigrants, not a shareholder," or that "his Grace withdrew because the Association departed from the resolution which they had come to in his presence." Here is the resolution— "That the Report now presented be adopted, AND ACTED UPON; and that a subscription be immediately opened for shares in the capital stock." In what particular did the Board depart from the literal sense or implied spirit of that resolution? Or how, considering, "that, having immediate reference to the completion of the purchases already made, and the advances which might be rendered necessary to promote emigration to the properties of the Association, and their improvement and settlement," 10,000 shares in the capital stock were ordered to be issued, can it be contended by Messrs. Palmer and Nettleship that their Noble clients are not, as shareholders, liable for the acts of the Association, either as respects the claim of the emigrants or any other claim?

3. Relative to the observations made by your Lordship in your place in Parliament.

It is not true, if "the case of the emigrants is one of the most flagrant nature, and of the grossest hardship and oppression, that has ever come under your Lordship's notice," that that hardship and oppression are justly chargeable to the British-American Association; because the Board did everything that lay within their power to ensure the comfort and welfare of the emigrants during their passage out, and after their arrival at their destination. It is not true "that for that hardship and oppression no blame whatever is attributable to the Land and Emigration Board;" because it is allowed by your Lordship that "the Board carried their interference in the case to the utmost limit—nay, you believe, even beyond the strict limit of their duty;" and that, too, "upon information derived from an individual who refused to come forward for examination by that Board, on the ground that he might subject himself to *penal consequences!*" If it be correct, as your Lordship states, "that the Land and Emigration Board were not long in satisfying themselves that a *false and deluding system* was in operation," it is not true that they arrived at such a conclusion upon any facts or circumstances connected with the Association warranting the same. If it be just, as your Lordship stated, that the Commissioners instituted inquiries, and ascertained that "the ship was well found—that she was perfectly sea-worthy—that the necessary provisions were on board—that they were of good quality—that, *in fact, the provisions of the Passengers' Act had been strictly complied with*—and that the emigrants were going out with **THEIR OWN GOOD WILL,**" it is not true that the Land and Emigration Board had no means of verifying the representation that the Association had 74,000 acres of land in Prince Edward's Island, because, had they applied at the office of the Association, they could have had authentic information on the point, and seen the legal covenants which have been executed upon the subject. It is not true that "in February the Association was in a state of pecuniary difficulty; indeed, in a condition of absolute insolvency;" because the shareholders comprise men of large fortune, and have assets double, if not treble, the amount of their debts. But it was true that Mr. Campbell, the owner of the *Barbadoes*, was so embarrassed as to be wholly unable to re-victual the *Barbadoes* and send her on her voyage. Further, if the mortgagee, Mr. Soames, has since "absolutely seized the vessel," and brought her back to the port of London, and turned out the emigrants, he will be held responsible for doing so by the agent of the Association, Mr. Woodman, jun., to whom the cargo was consigned, and who is now, I understand, on his way from Prince Edward's Island to institute proceedings for that end. Finally, although, upon the case being such as was represented to you, your Lordship had "no hesitation in saying that at that time the Association were absolutely committing a **FRAUD** upon the emigrants," it is absolutely untrue that the Board ever, at any time, for an instant, committed a fraud upon the emigrants, or any one else. Equally untrue is it, that the Association "was but **A BUBBLE** from its commencement," unless the high and honourable personages who aided myself to lay its foundation are willing to sit down under the stigma which such a calumny implies.

4. Relative to the attacks of the Public Press.

There was not one syllable of truth in the three allegations selected from the Mansion-house examinations, upon which the *Times*, in its leading article of April the 21st, speaks of the arrangement with the emigrants as "one of the most heartless and wicked frauds we can remember to have heard of," and otherwise deals in such expressions as "irightful scheme of swindling and kidnapping," "purposes of deception," &c. It is not true, according to a leading article in the *Herald*, of the 20th of April, that "the conduct of the British-American Association has been most scandalous;" but it is true, that the Association has been most scandalously abused and destroyed. "The enormity of the offence of speculating with human beings in the way that has been done" by the Association has the enormous depravity, but no further, that would attach to the proprietors of the *Herald* themselves, if they purchased an estate in the Isle of Man, taking power, before the purchase-money was paid, to send over half-a-dozen workmen

to make certain repairs, but the passage of which workmen to the said island should be delayed by a combination of circumstances, which the proprietors of the *Herald* could neither foresee nor control, although they had taken the utmost possible care to select a good vessel to convey them to the island, and had made all and every preparation for their employment, board, and lodging, on their being lauded there. "The successful endeavours to put money in the purse, by trafficking in the ignorance and credulity of honest and industrious working men," decried by the *Herald*, "as perfectly monstrous, and highly criminal;" nay, even as an offence that "has not even the infamous motive to palliate it which begot the kidnapping for the plantations of the 17th century," wants only one element to give it cogency, viz. TRUTH. Neither Mr. Haldon nor his band of workmen (nineteen in number) paid one farthing to the Association. It was for labour to be done on the lands contracted for (lands which exist not, "if;" as observes the *Herald*, "Mr. Campbell speaks true and correct"), and not money, for which the emigrants were to receive a free passage, rations, cottages, and locations. Mr. Haldon gave to the Association a bill for 750*l.*, to cover the charges incurred by his enterprise; but that bill was to be paid, not in coin, but by executing works preparatory to the large emigration which would have been directed to the estates of the Association this season, except for those groundless charges which the Press has laid hold of to misrepresent, defame, and ruin the Association.

I feel, my Lord, that I have already far exceeded the bounds of what many will consider a readable Letter; but I have a higher object in view by going so fully into these particulars than merely the exoneration of myself and others, with whom, or for whom, I have been acting in those unfortunate affairs. After the facts which I have set forth, and the few comments made, I am hopeful that your Lordship, and the universal public of the United Kingdom, will allow that all the charges brought against the British-American Association resolve themselves into ONE OF DELAY. The arrangement entered into with Mr. Haldon, whether good or bad in itself—and upon that I desire to offer no opinion—would, in all human probability, have turned out well, had the *Barbadoes* sailed according to the charter-party, on or before the 20th of September. Who, then, is culpable for her not sailing before or on that day? Upon this subject I leave your Lordship to form your own conclusion, referring you to that portion of my letter (page 8) which embodies the substance of Mr. Andrews's correspondence during my absence in Scotland, when all connected with the arrangements for chartering the vessel, and the supply of the stores, were made. If any blame attaches to the fact of the Board having entertained the proposal first made by Mr. Haldon in July, and upon which, after various deliberations, a minute was come to on the 4th of August, I must plead guilty, but it is a guilt which Sir W. Ogilvie, Dr. Rolph, Mr. Andrews, and myself must share amongst us. Further, that guilt, if such it shall be considered, will be modified, I trust, by the fact, that Mr. Haldon, from his intelligence, experience, and activity, was well suited to head a pioneer band; that his men (nineteen in all) were excellent artizans, judiciously selected; and that, by the operation, authorised as it was by the resolution of the previous Consulting Council, we had no other views or motives than the mutual benefit of all parties concerned. One inducing reason for purchasing the Holland Bay, or Cascumpec Estate (the chief town in which was to have been named *Argyll*), was to have afforded this season a suitable location for that portion of his Grace's tenantry who have been accustomed to fishing pursuits, and whose destitution and privations may be conceived from the heart-rending circumstance, that, in the densely peopled island of Tirree, the half-famished inhabitants, some time ago, assembled, and, in the presence of a bounteous Creator, entered into a solemn resolution to restrict themselves to one meal in the twenty-four hours, and that bad in quality and small in quantity, being principally of shell-fish.

But although Mr. Campbell failed to clear the *Barbadoes* by the 20th of September, with the assistance of the Board, Mr. Leslie, and myself, he did not fail to clear the vessel before the 20th of October, on which day, or on either of the two following, had she sailed, she would (according to Captain Light's affidavit before the Lord Mayor) have made out the voyage in safety. Who, then, are the

culprits in the case? The whole damage sustained arose from events *posterior to the 20th of October*, not antecedent to it. Had the *Barbadoes* sailed prior to the complaints made at the Mansion-house on the 22nd of October, the fatal delay of ten days would not have occurred—the attacks of the public Press would not have been made—the Duke of Argyll would not have retired from office—the credit of the Association would not have suffered—the *Barbadoes* would not have returned to London—nor would an Institution, founded for a vast public object, and calculated to render the most important advantages to the community, have been destroyed.

Now, my Lord, it is quite certain that the delay, to which all these calamitous and most mischievous occurrences are attributable, is to be ascribed to one of two causes:—1st. Either to the circumstance of the Land and Emigration Board having carried their interference beyond the strict limit of their official duty, and that upon intelligence derived from some individual who, according to your Lordship, refused to come forward for examination, on the ground that the information he had to give might subject him to PENAL CONSEQUENCES; or, 2nd. To the circumstance of the late Lord Mayor, Sir John Pirie, having, in a case of complaint brought against Mr. Haldon, by a few men who had *broken their contract with him* (and who, therefore, deserved at the hands of justice that sort of sympathy which ends in the tread-mill), travelled out of the line of his judicial capacity to throw out “some very strong remarks, relative to the names which had been put before the public as being Directors of the Association,” and declaring from the bench, that “he had no doubt the *exposé* would, at least, save the complainants from going to a place where, on their arrival, THEY WOULD BE FROZEN TO DEATH.”

What reason Sir John Pirie had for making “some very strong remarks” against the Directors, as the *Morning Post* of the 24th October reports he did, I am at a loss to comprehend. Of the six Executive Commissioners, the names of Sir Allan Macnab and Dr. Rolph speak for themselves; Sir R. Barclay had ceased to have any connection with the Board; and of the remaining three, Sir W. Ogilvie and myself were the only resident acting members. It was said by Sir John Pirie, from the bench, that one of the most active Commissioners had applied to him for charity;—it was said by Childs, a Mansion-house runner employed as a scout on the occasion, that he had got from Captain Pratt (who was for some days in charge of the *Barbadoes*, and dismissed for bad conduct) a parcel worth 20,000*l.*;—it was said by a Mr. Wright, who volunteered information, that the emigrants, even if the vessel got to Halifax, would have to travel 200 miles over almost impassable tracts and enormous masses of floating ice;—it was said by Mr. Hobler that it was horrible to send people, in the dead of winter, to an arctic region, where the inhabitants only could keep themselves alive by wearing buffalo-hides;—it was said, on the 14th November, that the *Barbadoes* was then off Deal, short of provisions. Now all these statements were not only untrue, but were mischievously untrue. Sir John Pirie, after being waited upon by Sir W. Ogilvie, publicly recanted his offensive observation. The parcel, said to be worth 20,000*l.*, when opened was found to contain some Prospectuses, and copies of a “Concise Statement, showing the Royal Letters, Charters, Infeftments, Statutes, and other Legal Instruments by which the rights of the Baronets of Scotland and Nova Scotia to grants of 16,000 acres of land each, in the province of Nova Scotia as anciently bounded, are instructed.”* Mr. Wright sent a letter to the *Times*, mentioning that “he did not make a statement to the full extent of that attributed to him in the report.” Mr. Hobler begins now to understand that Prince Edward’s Island lies about 500 miles to the south of the Mansion-house, and is the Isle of Wight of British America; whilst on the 7th of November the *Barbadoes*, then 700 miles on her passage out, supplied from her abundance the wants of the ship *Caroline*, homeward bound. Why then Sir John Pirie made the “very strong remarks” in question, he has yet to account for. True it is that the acting Commissioners, dur-

* To be had of Messrs. Cunningham and Mortimer, Publishers, Adelaide-street, Charing-cross.

ing all the harassing and unexampled oppression that the Association has suffered, were neither of them men of fortune; had it been otherwise, the British-American Association never would have suffered the shipwreck it has experienced. We had got no money from the public; Sir W. Ogilvie and myself were not prepared for the run that was made upon us; our public credit and our private characters were destroyed simultaneously. Wilkinson, the officer, at the first blush of the Mansion-house plot, said "that the mate of the *Barbadoes* had desired him to state publicly that the whole transaction was a swindle." The Lord Mayor nodded approval, and immediately afterwards opened a correspondence with the Duke of Argyll. His Grace replied that he "was very much obliged to his Lordship, and certainly did not consider himself responsible;" and the Press raised a universal cry of execration,—the echoes of which had not ceased to reverberate when your Lordship put a consummation upon the matter by the statement made by you in Parliament, as Colonial Minister.

But, my Lord, to the complexion determined by the facts which this Letter contains, sooner or later must come the calumnies, reports, allegations, and statements, of whatever nature, relative to the British-American Association, and from whomsoever appearing. I never, my Lord, felt the noble attributes of a British subject, or the mighty power of the public Press, so much as at this moment, when, from the last plank of that once goodly vessel, THE BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION, and surrounded with a sea of troubles, I can demand for myself and former colleagues, at the hands of your Lordship, justice and reparation for the injuries we have received. The whole losses sustained, sufferings endured, and distresses occasioned, throughout the performance of this modern drama of "MEASURE FOR MEASURE," I here, in the presence of the country, publicly charge upon the Land and Emigration Board, or Sir John Pirie; and unless your Lordship would justly have ascribed to you all that which was most unjustly attributed to the disguised Duke, you will discharge the functions of Vincentio in this ravelled affair.

It was my intention, my Lord, to have made some comments upon a letter signed "W. Ogilvie," which appeared in the *Age* of the 30th ult., with an abominable article in connection with it, both concocted, I have no doubt, by Dr. Rolph. I here desire to acquit Sir W. Ogilvie of any unworthy intentions by becoming a party to either production, although nearly every alternate sentence of each is refuted by the facts which will be found in this Letter. Sir W. Ogilvie has not inherited the ample possessions, but he has the high feeling, of his once powerful ancestors; and so far as my personal knowledge of him extends, he is a man of honour, of truth, and integrity. That Sir William allowed his name to be put to the said Letter, without being instigated and misled, is what I never will believe. There is, however, one point, and only one, which I will at present notice: he says—"Having devoted two years' unremitting attendance to the Association, without receiving either money or the representative of it, so lavishly distributed to others, and having frequently remonstrated against the proceedings of Mr. Andrews, which, had I been more just to my own position, I should have prosecuted with more vigour, I feel that I have a right to complain of the heartless and impertinent manner in which I have been unjustly assailed; and I cannot but think that it would be more consonant with justice and propriety, that, before such unmeasured language had been used against the Duke of Argyll, Sir James Cockburn, Dr. Rolph, and others, some semblance of proof should have been adduced to show their approbation of it." That some semblance of proof can be adduced to show that the Duke and each of the immediate and responsible officers of the Association knew that a pioneer band of emigrants was to go out during the autumn to Prince Edward's Island, this Letter will make incontestably manifest. But it will also establish that that knowledge forms as little a valid reason for the unmeasured attacks of the Press, as the groundless charges made at the Mansion-house form a just and substantial pretext for the Duke's retirement from office, and the unmeasurable evils produced by that event. Further, the allegation is not true that money, or its representative, was *lavishly* distributed to any one,—unless the sum

of 250*l.*, given to Dr. Rolph for travelling expenses, shall be so considered. Of the representative of money here referred to, that was only issued for one of three considerations—for value received, for services rendered, or for cash expended. Of the notes placed in my hands for services, the proportion belonging to Sir W. Ogilvie and Dr. Rolph were, as they know, appropriated for their joint behoof; whilst, of the other notes issued, not one has been used for any other purpose except that of lodging them as collateral securities for the settlement of debts, which, individually, I was as innocent of contracting as your Lordship. Of Mr. Andrews and myself, upon whom it is now falsely attempted to affix all the blame for the evil consequences attendant upon the breaking-up of the Association, it can be truly said, that since our first acquaintance, on the 15th of February, 1840, we have devoted our time, talents, labour, and expended about 3000*l.*, to found a noble and beneficent public institution, WITHOUT EITHER OF US DERIVING ONE FARTHING FROM OUR CONNEXION WITH IT—a fact of itself sufficiently strong to countervail a multitude of aspersions.

And now, my Lord, I conclude this Letter by appending to it the Prospectus of the Association as last revised, and ready for issue, had the Duke of Argyll returned to office. This I do, because there is still a possibility of reorganizing the Board, disposing of the shares, and carrying out the original objects of the Association. Whether the Government will give any aid in this attempt, it will depend upon your Lordship's magnanimity to say. The SYSTEMATIC COLONIZATION of North America was one which the first British Monarch of the House of Stuart declared that he would make a "ROYAL WORK" of his own—and to advance the same the SCOTTISH BARONETAGE was erected. Your Lordship stands in the place of HIM, in the present generation, who pre-eminently has the power to remedy evils more crying than those which occasioned the Civil Wars. Never was there an age or country in which problems of more signal difficulty, or more awful importance, rose to demand practical solution, than those which multiply in Britain at the present day.

But whatever may be the issue, I desire, for my own expurgation, emphatically to protest against the impression, wherever it may exist, that any man has been brought into a false position by any wilful faults of mine. Of the noble members of the Scottish Baronetage whose names have been connected with the British-American Association, not one is liable for any debt or engagement of it, except such of them as have signed for shares; and they who signed did so not without ample means of information, and a knowledge of their responsibility. The real state of affairs was not concealed by me from them, the moment that it became my duty to divulge it. Has the Duke of Argyll exercised ordinary discretion in this case?—Had his Grace replied thus to the Lord Mayor's letter of the 25th of October,—“I am President of the Association—I hold shares—I have full confidence in the integrity of the Executive Commissioners,” the attacks of the Press would have passed away as a *brutum fulmen*,—and no insuperable financial difficulties would have ensued. Had the Duke of Argyll availed himself of the door which the Report of the “Committee of Inquiry” opened in December last, to have publicly announced—“I will return to office—I will give the Board my personal co-operation—I will carry effectually out the objects of the Association,” the men and the funds necessary for that end would have been found in abundance. Nay, even at the last moment, after his Grace's return to town, on the 20th March, the expence since incurred by him for fruitless law-charges would have prevented the return of the *Barbadoes*, and sustained the Association—yet he would not advance a single sixpence. Was there ever, then, a matter in which there was grosser judicial blindness than this? With regard to the unfortunate emigrants, if any Baronet has subscribed for their relief, that is well and good; but their case is one of justice, not of charity; and the parties responsible for the return of the vessel will yet be compelled to make reparation for the injuries they have inflicted. Had the *Barbadoes* foundered at sea, and all on board perished, I, for one, would have been branded as a murderer, but the true assassin would, nevertheless, have been the Emigration Board—their anonymous correspondent—or the late chief magistrate of the City of London. During my seat at the Board, I may have done little wisely, and

nothing well. But this I can conscientiously say—that which I did, under the adverse circumstances in which I was placed, I held and considered to be for the best. I was privy to no acts of malversation. My intentions and actions have been upright throughout. I have deluded no one. I have defrauded no one. I have lied against no one. Whether, therefore, I succeed in disabusing the public mind of the extraordinary misconceptions that exist in this matter—or whether I may continue to be maligned by some who once surrounded me as advisers and colleagues—I shall STAND ERECT—victimised perhaps, but not degraded.

I have reserved closing my Letter until I should have seen the report of the examination in the Bankruptcy Court on the 18th inst. After what has transpired, is it not, to use Mr. Roy's language, "INFATUATION TO ALLOW THIS TO GO ON?" Mr. Leslie has truly said, "the matter is in a nut-shell after all." The Duke of Argyll would not have been under examination for five minutes until the Court would have been satisfied of that which every one except his Grace's lawyers know and allow. What, then, is to be done? The Duke and Sir James Cockburn have either to undertake to wind up the affairs of the Association, or to address themselves to the task of reorganising it. Let, then, the Duke of Argyll act upon the enlightened principle that he is called, in his day and generation, to give an onward movement to THAT which the ancient monarchs of our common country themselves denominated a "ROYAL WORK." Let him act with the magnanimous spirit of his race, and proclaim that he will rather pledge his dukedom than fail to carry out the patriotic designs for which the BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION was devised. If he will take this wise and noble course, he will not be deserted by the generous sympathies of the country. The Baronets of Scotland and Nova Scotia will be true to the duties of their Order. The merchants, bankers, shipowners, and others, who so lately memorialized the Government in favour of colonization, will not deny their aid. The public Press will repair the grievous wrongs it has inflicted. Your Lordship's countenance will not be withheld. And even the jeer thrown out by Sir John Pirie, that the injury intended to be done to the Association by the proceedings at the Mansion-house WOULD OPERATE AS A GOOD ADVERTISEMENT, will become a mighty and beneficent truth, redeeming, by its practical agency, the people of the age which now is, and also those of ages yet to come, from THE CURSE which a partial obedience to the Divine injunction—"INCREASE AND MULTIPLY—REPLENISH THE EARTH AND SUBDUCE IT"—has produced.

I have the honour to remain,

MY LORD,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

R. BROUN, Eq. Aur.

TO THE RIGHT HON. LORD STANLEY,
HER MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE COLONIES.

BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR EMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION.

Capital—£500,000, in £25 Shares.

Deposit—£1 per Share.

THE BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION has been founded upon consideration:—1st, of the great advantages presented by the Colonies possessed by her Majesty in North America, as well for the profitable investment of capital as for the beneficial location and settlement of a large portion of the unemployed population of Great Britain and Ireland. 2nd. Of the importance, both in a political and social point of view, of remedying the evils attendant upon the desultory and vagrant mode of EMIGRATION hitherto pursued, by the introduction of a system upon well-regulated principles. 3rd. Of the national benefits which must flow from a more complete development of the resources of our North American possessions by not merely facilitating the removal of Emigrants to their lands in those countries, but enabling them to colonize the same on such terms, whether as leaseholders under, or purchasers from, the Association, as shall secure to the Emigrants themselves a certain and permanent maintenance, and to the Association a gradual, but lucrative and rapidly accumulating return for the capital invested. 4th. Of the great results that must attend the opening up to such Emigrants and all other subjects of her Majesty as may be disposed, under the auspices of the Association, to embark in such engagements, all the natural means offered by their Estates for the extension of their Trade and Commerce, and rendering available their Minerals, Woods, Fisheries, and other products; and, finally, of the ancient rights vested in a numerous portion of the Scottish Nobility, the revival of which is eminently calculated to strengthen and promote the lasting prosperity, opulence, and peace of the mother country and the colonies.

With a view to the accomplishment of the above objects, arrangements have been entered into for the purchase of the following valuable properties, which combine all the above elements, with prospective results of a nature eminently advantageous to the Association.

I. THE HOLLAND BAY, or CASCUMPEC ESTATE.—This beautiful property, amounting to 74,000 acres, is situated in the western division of Prince Edward Island. It consists of an unctuous loamy soil, capable of producing, in the greatest abundance and perfection, all the grains, vegetables, and roots of this country. The lands are surveyed, and good roads laid down. The climate is most salubrious, and free from fogs, differing little from that of the South of England, except during the four winter months. There are on the estate two villages, with churches, schools, &c., and a prosperous tenantry of nearly 900 souls. The present rental is considerable. The property is well watered by several rivers; it contains much valuable Timber; and possesses extensive and lucrative Fishing stations. The Island is about 500 miles south of the latitude of London. It is the garden of the British-American Archipelago; contains a thriving population of upwards of 40,000; and Tithes, Poor-rates, and Taxes are unknown.

II. and III. THE CANADIAN SEIGNIORIES.—These comprise in the aggregate 178,446 acres of land, admirably adapted for agricultural pursuits, as regards soil, climate, and position. The four Seigniories lie on the north bank of the St. Lawrence, about half-way between Montreal and Quebec, and form one of the most fertile and splendid domains in British America. They abound in natural resources, contain several villages, are surveyed, planned, and have good roads laid down. On Carufel alone, the mansion-house, farm-buildings, mills, wharfs, forge, stores, and other works, cost the late proprietors upwards of £40,000. The present population exceeds a thousand, the estates yield a rental of considerable amount, and the whole of them may be rapidly settled upon the most advantageous terms. The water facilities in the Seigniories are very great, comprehending (besides several navigable streams) the Maskinongé River, which issues from

a lake nine miles in circumference, abounding in the esteemed species of fish from which it derives its name. Iron-mines exist in the vicinity of the lake, and may be let for working on advantageous terms. The timber is of the most choice description, and very valuable. Further, these estates being within a few hours' reach, by water communication, of the two chief markets in Canada, their produce can always command an early, certain, and profitable sale.

IV. The properties in Canada West, and in the Eastern Townships, amounting to 67,148 acres, form portions of the U. E. (United Empire) rights. They have all been selected with great care, and are amongst the most fertile and valuable tracts in the province, lying in situations to which the tide of settlement is rapidly tending, and where they can be both speedily and advantageously disposed of.

V. The GASPE PROPERTIES.—These are free from all Seigniorial rights and royalties, and are situated on the Bay of Chaleur, at the mouth of the River St. Lawrence, the nearest point of Lower Canada in going from this country. They consist of the Seignioriy of Pabos, containing 53,000 acres; lands in the Townships of Cox and Hamilton, amounting to 66,242 acres; and the Coal-field of Port Daniel, extending to 3,500 acres. Selected with much judgment and care, these estates give to the owner the command of the best fishing station in the British Provinces; an entire control of the extensive forests of YELLOW PINE on the lakes and streams of Pabos; with the selection of such lands upon the Bonaventure as enable them to erect mills, and secure for them a supply of the most valuable timber for more than sixty years to come. They also embrace the exclusive command of all the Coal in the district, which is ensured by the fact that there is not a harbour from Gaspé Bay to Dalhousie, a distance of 150 miles, from which, even if it were found, Coal could be shipped; and the facilities for shipping it from this port, in addition to the timber and fishery, it is confidently asserted, render these properties the most valuable of any on the continent of America for the profitable investment of capital, and the means they furnish for giving employment to a great number of emigrants.

The following summary exhibits a statement of the respective situations, extent, and total cost of the properties in question:—

	ACRES.	COST.
In Prince Edward Island	74,000.....	£25,000
Seigniories of d'Aillebout and de Ramsay ..	84,672.....	20,000
Ditto Carufel and Lanaudière.....	93,774.....	20,000
In Western and Eastern Canada.....	69,148.....	18,000
Gaspé Estates	122,000.....	90,000

Total present extent of estates and properties
of the Association 443,594 Total cost £183,000

Of this amount of £183,000, there is to be paid, in *money*, only £133,000; the parties from whom the Gaspé property has been acquired having agreed to retain an interest in this property to the amount of £50,000, to be represented by Shares charged upon the same. The *money* payments are to be made in the following instalments:—In 1843, £55,500. In 1844, £22,500. In 1845, £22,500. In 1846, £12,500. In 1847, £8,333. 6s. 8d. In 1848, £8,333. 6s. 8d. In 1849, £8,333. 6s. 8d.,—making a total as above of £133,000.

Of the above 443,594 acres, there are conceded about 40,000 acres, for which there is received a rental of about £1,650 per annum; and there are reserved for timber about 80,000 acres, leaving to be disposed of 323,594 acres, which it will only require a little time to sell at an average of 20s. per acre, or to lease on terms equally advantageous.

The present capital required may be stated at	-	£150,000
Of this must be paid, to put the Association in full possession of all the properties, and to cover all past expenses or liabilities on account of Emigrants, &c.,	£65,000	
" Second instalment in 1844	22,500	
" The expense of erecting two large mills on Bonaventure and Pabos	10,000	
" Wharf and buildings at Port Daniel	4,000	
" Expense of cutting, hauling, sawing, and other expenses at Gaspé	16,000	
	<hr/>	117,500
Leaving a balance of	-	£32,500

as a working capital to defray the expenses attendant on procuring a Charter of Incorporation and an Act of Parliament; expenses of management; the interest accruing on the unpaid instalments; and all other incidental expenses.

During the shipping season the produce of two mills is estimated at 4,368,000 feet of deals, three inches thick, or 6,618 Petersburg standard hundred; which, at the London prices, as calculated by the most eminent brokers, would yield £95,133; this, deducting duty, freight, insurance, interest, commission, and cost of manufacture, &c., will realize a net profit of £29,794. 16s. per annum. Of that sum the vendor's share would amount to £12,000, which would leave £17,000 to be divided yearly amongst the Shareholders.

Thus, the clear profits arising from Gaspé alone, without taking into the estimate any sum of rental already payable, or for lands to be yet let or sold on all their other properties, would enable the Association to pay eight per cent. on the capital employed, independently of a dividend on the stock taken by the vendors of Gaspé, together with a sufficient sum to pay all the expenses of maintaining the requisite establishment in England. The rental, amounting to £1650, and the price of land sold, might be left untouched in the mean time, to be applied hereafter to the payment of the remaining instalments, or otherwise, as the Shareholders might direct. It may be calculated that within ten years the whole lands may be settled and occupied with the greatest advantage to the money interests of the Shareholders.

The mills proposed to be erected at Bonaventure and Pabos would be kept in full operation by the supply of timber, would yield a large return to the capitalist, and would afford, together with improvements to be made at Port Daniel, immediate and constant employment to several hundreds of emigrants, of various descriptions, until they should learn to use the axe, and become acquainted with the mode of clearing land, when numbers of them would purchase or lease land from the Association in Gaspé, or in other parts of their properties, and become farmers; thus making room for a fresh band of emigrants, who, in their turn, and after proper training, would also become farmers. The Gaspé estate would in this way become an important nursery for the British emigrant, and, while he was certainly benefited, the value and amount of the properties of the Association and their products would be largely enhanced. The fisheries here will prove a valuable auxiliary in furnishing employment to a very great number of men accustomed to that calling; and also be a source from which the new settler may obtain a supply of wholesome food for his family, while awaiting the produce of his land.

The data and original documents by which all the above calculations are authenticated may be inspected at the Office, in a more detailed form, together with Maps and Plans of the property; but from the outline given, the British capitalist will at once see that the present will prove such a certain lucrative investment as has perhaps never before been brought under his attention. From the facts set forth, he will be satisfied that the Association, considering its joint objects of Emigration and Colonization, has acquired properties in various localities, admirably suited for the purposes wanted, easily manageable from their extent, and capable of realizing vast returns, not only by settlement, but also from their various products, Agricultural, Mineral, Lumbering, Fishing, &c.

Whilst the BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION enjoys a patronage and support such as has seldom ushered into existence any public institution, and whilst its objects are universally approved of by all who feel an interest in the condition of our labouring population, the formation of the Association has been imperatively called for by the wide-spreading destitution which prevails in the United Kingdom: further, it has been hailed with the warmest satisfaction by the British-American colonies, and the Association is in possession of the fullest assurances that the respective Colonial Legislatures and Governments will do everything in their power to facilitate its operations and secure its success.

It is deemed wholly unnecessary to dwell upon the great social, moral, and political results which must attend the progress of the Association, or to make any comments upon the certainty of its success. These are self-evident. But there is one main feature in this Association which is peculiar to itself, and which, as being its essential characteristic, may again be noticed. It is its combination of EMIGRATION and COLONIZATION. All other North American Land Companies are merely for the purpose of buying and selling lands. But this Association, in addition, contemplates the leasing of lands, and making available their various and valuable sources of wealth. While the value of the properties already described must be duly appreciated for the return expected upon the capital invested, they

are more valuable for the opportunities afforded to the Association for providing for so many of their suffering fellow-subjects.

The Association now propose, in order to realize, without delay, the necessary funds for completing their purchases and accomplishing the objects above stated, to issue their shares; premising that the resolution which was come to at a meeting of the Consulting Council on the 8th of June last, whereat his Grace the Duke of Argyll presided, to make a preliminary issue of 10,000 shares, was not finally carried out, it having been deemed advisable to await that position in which the Association now find themselves, of being ready to enter into possession of the several properties acquired, previous to the public appropriation of their shares.

The title-deeds of the properties are all unexceptionable.

Parties into whose hands this Letter may fall, disposed to hold stock in the Association, in the event of a new Board being formed, are requested to communicate their address to Sir R. Broun, 26, Suffolk-street, Pall-mall, London.

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