

expected that a meeting between the scions of two illustrious houses would have been felicitous, but it came to pass the reverse, for each doubting the other's pretensions to lineage, privily denounced each other to be impostors. The two sons of Germania were naturally irascible, and after much guttural vituperation they threw down the gauntlet and decided their pedigree by blows. Whilst discussing dinner at the Baron's table a jingling of glasses, nodding of pictures, and swaying to and fro of moveables attracted our attention; had we been on the restless billows we should not have been surprised at this oscillation, or if we had indulged in deep draughts of Rhenish wine we might have attributed this animated phenomenon to unsteadiness of vision, but it was no optical delusion, for ere it could be arrested a gravy bowl lost its equilibrium and poured its scalding contents over the snow-white pants of a phlegmatic coasting skipper. The tittering caused by so ludicrous a catastrophe aggravated the infliction, but the silvery tone of condolence, uttered by a blue-eyed nymph, doubtless afforded some relief, and perhaps restrained him from hurling a cut decanter at the occiput of a satirical wag who sat opposite. As soon as the shades of evening enveloped the town sundry undomesticated individuals assembled for convivial purposes; a variety of characters usually attend these Colonial re-unions, and such a diversity of topics is alternately discussed by them, that an attentive listener may often obtain a fund of miscellaneous information respecting the past and present state of the colony, and by discriminately balancing the different shades of opinion which experience suggests, derive an accurate idea of the resources of the settlement and condition of the community. The army and navy were well represented, business men were also numerous—the rolling stone that gathers no moss and the persevering trader were strikingly contrasted. The opportunities for elevation that occur in Colonies were likewise clearly demonstrated, for it was apparent that those who had landed with least capital were in the most prosperous circumstances. Many of the civilians were young men of talent, who, from an aversion to sedentary occupations, had exchanged the pen for the stock-whip. As might have been expected a *Bell's Life* was to them a most acceptable present; its perusal revived early recollections, for most had been tolerably acquainted with the winners of the turf and champions of the ring. Some could enumerate the racing lists, and detail the longevity of the favourites, others were conversant with Bendigo and his contemporaries, and though we personally refrained from booking bets with

any of them, it was gratifying to perceive that though utilitarian objects engrossed their attention these time-honoured pastimes were ardently esteemed in the distant antipodes.

The Pah, or native village of Te Aro, is the most interesting feature in the settlement. The Pah is in the form of a parallelogram, surrounded by high pallisadoes, which form an excellent breastwork in case of siege. Narrow entrances, flanked by high piles, admit one within the stockade. The enclosure contains several huts constructed of reeds, with sloping roofs, the eaves of them extending to within a foot of the ground. Their interior is usually fitted up with mats of various kinds; the coarser description, called *porera*, are made of unscraped flax; a superior sort, termed *korowai*, consists of plaited scraped flax; but the best fabric is that woven from the *muka*; the two latter, which are sometimes embellished with dye, are preferred for clothing. Curiosity induced us to inspect several of these habitations; the inmates of both sexes seemed idle and demoralised. Some were dosing, others sat upon their hams, emitting tobacco-smoke through their nostrils, ready to speechify for any period. In one hut we met a chief; this individual was more muscular than the generality, and, if possible, more garrulous than his inferiors. There was an air of conscious superiority about him; he was whiffing some most rank tobacco, meantime lecturing those around him. Our appearance turned the current of conversation, and according to request we seated ourselves. Previous to conversation, some tobacco was offered us, but we could not express the courtly acquiescence of the friends of Artaxominus the Great, who, when requested to smoke, replied—

Whate'er your Majesty shall please to name,  
Short cut or long cut, to us is all the same,

for though we felt an equal sense of the honour conferred, with all due deference we used our own kanaster. No sooner did the natives scent our tobacco than demands were vociferously urged upon us, nor did they cease their importunities till we had distributed amongst them the much coveted herb. The chief, meanwhile, complacently regarded the proceedings, and as the wreaths of smoke cleared off we could perceive him smile at their pertinacity and success.

The Maori women are not without attractions; the features of some are delicately delineated, and the figure well moulded. For dress and trinkets they have as strong a predilection as European women, but tawdry ill becomes them. It might also be remarked that the vitiating

influence of a garrison town is detrimental to both sexes. The intellectual superiority of the New Zealander is a pleasing fact; experience testifies that they are susceptible to culture, and, therefore, capable of progressive civilization. Instead of dwindling into insignificance the acute Maori retains his own, and actively alive to his own interest, seeks information so as to enable him to compete in commerce with white men. In warfare they exhibited resources of a formidable nature, expert in the use of rifles, and unencumbered with baggage, they seriously harassed our soldiers and jeopardised the safety of detachments. The Governor, speaking of their Guerilla warfare, says, "they have repeatedly in encounters been reported by our officers to be equal to any European troops, and are such good tacticians that we have never yet succeeded in bringing them to a decisive encounter, for they have always availed themselves of the advantages afforded them by their wilds and fastnesses." Savages usually endeavour to terminate their conflicts by wholesale butchery, as they are incapable of protracted operations. The wily New Zealanders, confident in their skill and resources, conducted campaigns with military precision; fortified Pahs, to which they resorted to when hard pressed, were admitted by military authorities to be constructed on most scientific principles, and when these stockade defences failed, under the guidance of skilful commanders they retreated with celerity and concentrated suddenly elsewhere.

At last, wearied with hostilities and perceiving the benefits which must accrue to them by the introduction of civilization, they wisely resolved on peaceful co-operation with the settlers. Since the sword has been converted into the ploughshare, they have steadily pursued commerce and agriculture; in one district they own 1,000 head of cattle, six mills, and cultivate 10,000 acres of wheat. The principal measures enacted for their welfare are the establishment of savings' banks and schools, the providing medical attendance for populous districts, the enlistment of native constabulary, and a comprehensive system of industrial training. The above measures have all tended to incorporate the natives with the Europeans, to blend the interests of the two races, to render them mutually necessary to each other, and to contribute to the revenue.

To describe the prospects of Wellington, and its advantages for emigrants, would occupy considerable space; but a brief summary of its trade and resources will perhaps exhibit its condition and capabilities. Favoured with an amenity of climate and fertile soil, the difficulties attendant upon colonization have been easily surmounted;

the recent emigrant arrivals have also vigorously developed the resources of the country and modified its aspect; and the seeds of prosperity sown by previous settlers, emigrants may now reap without much difficulty. The central position of Wellington and its admirable harbour are its chief recommendations, and the preference hitherto paid to it by shipping, lead one to suppose that it is destined to become the future mercantile emporium of New Zealand. Previous to 1840, bay-whaling seems to have been the main trading pursuit. In 1843, 760 men were employed at the different whaling stations on the coast; the produce collected from these sources averaged £20,000 annually. Since the period of systematic colonization other objects have diverted the attention of the settlers, and the fisheries have diminished in value. Different branches of trade are now in successful operation. In 1848, there were six breweries, seven flour mills, one flax mill, two stocking looms, four rope walks, nine timber mills, six cooperages, seven ship and boat yards, four tanneries, and two brick yards. The principal exports hitherto have been grain, flax, hemp, oil, leather, dyes, timber, tallow, wool, and meal provisions. The increase of the trade of Wellington is shown by the following statistics. During the years 1841 and 1847, the total imports were 77,000 tons, value £392,000, and the exports 70,000 tons, value £143,000; in the same period, the coasting trade inwards was 59,000 tons, outwards, 66,000. In the year 1849, the exports were £76,000 value, and the imports, £147,000; the value of imports coastwise, £55,000. The revenue is principally derived from customs' duties, which are as follows:—spirits 2s. a gallon, tobacco 1s. a pound, malt liquors 15 per cent. British produce and manufactures 10 per cent., foreign ditto 12½ per cent. In 1850, the revenue from these sources amounted to £15,000.

Wellington may be considered more a commercial than an agricultural settlement; the district contains about 5,400 square miles, of which 2,000,000 acres are deemed fit for cultivation or adapted for pasturage. The available land in its vicinity for agriculture is about 40,000 acres, but about forty miles to the north-east is the valley of Wairarapa, where there is 300,000 acres of arable land, and about the same distance west, at Waikanai, and from thence to Wang-anui, 115 miles distant, 1,000,000 of acres are capable of cultivation. The quantity of land already disposed of amounts to about 100,000 acres. Until recently land purchasers had to repurchase of individuals, as the majority of sections originally allotted had been bought up on the formation of the Colony. Since the New Zealand Company has resigned

its functions, Government has issued instructions for the sale of land at the following rates:—town allotments, £12 10s. per quarter of an acre; suburban ditto rural allotments of twenty-five acres, £50. The value of land sections materially depends on their vicinity to townships or roads; whether encumbered with wood or fern is another important consideration. Clearing often requires a serious outlay. Before rendered fit for cultivation fern land costs from 10s. to 30s. an acre, woodland from £3 to £10. Fern is a most troublesome obstruction to the agriculturist, but the soil, which is usually light loam with a porous subsoil, yields fine crops of grain, and is well adapted for the growth of vegetables. The average produce per acre is stated to be wheat twenty-five bushels, oats twenty ditto, barley twenty-six ditto, and potatoes six tons. The quantity of land already in cultivation is said to be 3,000 acres.

The pastoral tracts of New Zealand contain almost every description of grasses, the herbage is said to be not only thicker but more nutritious than that of Australia, inasmuch, that whereas New South Wales requires 3,000 acres for each 1,000 sheep, which produce 2,500 lbs. of wool, New Zealand only requires 300 acres to feed 1,000 sheep, which will yield 7,000 lbs. of wool. The available grazing country being less expansive, and more scrubby than the pastures of Australia, it is supposed that New Zealand will not be so pastoral a country. Pasture licences for fourteen years can be obtained for £5, the size of the run is determined by the number of head with which it is to be stocked, but no run is granted capable of carrying more than 25,000 sheep. In 1850 the number of stock was 60,000. Coal, iron, copper, tin, manganese, lead, silver, fuller's earth, and other minerals, have been discovered, but neither exist in sufficient quantities to justify the belief that New Zealand will become a mining country. Timber is the most important of its national productions. The principal trees are the *rimu*, or red pine, it works well, and is adapted for building or cabinet work; the *kihi katea*, or white pine, opens equally sound, and is fitted for general purposes—both trees grow to a considerable altitude and are free from knots; the *pukatea* is of a soft nature and is used for out buildings and rough work; the *puriri* or iron-wood, is of a close grained, heavy description, and from its durability fit for fencing-posts; the *totara* is of a similar species, and splits freely. Various other indigenous woods might be mentioned; some make excellent furniture, specimens of them may be seen at the

show rooms of Mr. Levien,\* cabinet maker. At Nelson there is supposed to be sufficient accessible timber to bring in a million sterling. Annual licences to cut timber are granted on payment of a fee of £5, and saw-mills are erected on the banks of most of the navigable inlets. The cost of felling and shipment of timber is about 6s. per 100 feet, freightage may be estimated from 5s. to 10s. more, and as the price of it in the adjacent Colonies varies from 10s. to 25s. per 100 feet, the timber trade often proves a remunerative speculation. Scantling, broad-paling, and shingles, have been sent in large quantities to California, and fine spars are exported to different parts of the globe. The most remarkable of the vegetable productions is the *phormium tenax*, or New Zealand flax. It was at one time supposed that this prolific plant would form a staple article of export, so as to rival the cotton of America and wool of Australia, but its manufacture has been hitherto limited. There are ten varieties of flax, each differing in texture; the plant bears from twelve to thirty leaves similar to those of a flag. It is of a perennial nature and grows spontaneously, unrestricted to localities; it yields on an average two tons per acre of fibre which when fit for shipment is worth from £15 to £25 a ton. The fibre of this indigenous plant is of manifold use to both Colonists and natives; the finer species is convertible into beautiful fabrics, the coarser is used for cordage, and a leaf cut green will furnish a tether, bandage a limb, or replace a brace. The slow and wasteful native mode of preparing the raw material has prevented its extensive exportation, but since the introduction of a more economical process of dressing it has become an important article of manufacture. Large quantities of ropes and cordage are now sent to the Australian Colonies, and sacks, and wool packs are made for home use.

The preceding brief sketch of the trade resources of the province will convey some idea of its importance. In 1850 the number of buildings in Wellington were 1,100, and the total population of the Colony 7,000. According to late accounts wages were high, and the necessaries of life easily obtainable, while the unceasing tide of emigrants and their ready absorption proved the ample scope for the expansion of capital.

The other settlements of New Zealand present somewhat similar features, and may be briefly enumerated. Auckland, the seat of

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\* Davies-street, Berkeley-square.

government and capital of the northern island, was founded in 1840. Government expenditure has afforded it material benefit; the town has some fine public offices, and numbers 3,000 inhabitants. The district is undulating and well watered, adapted for agriculture or pasturage. The accessibility of Auckland offers facilities for trade; in 1848, the shipping inwards was 14,397 tons, outwards 16,905 tons, their respective value being £84,000 and £48,000.

The infant settlement of New Plymouth was founded in 1841, and is situate about 120 miles from Auckland. On account of the fertility of the soil it has been designated the garden of New Zealand; it has no harbour, but a safe roadstead. Agriculture, which is the main pursuit of the settlers, has been strenuously followed. In 1848 there were 1,000 settlers and 3,000 acres in cultivation, at the rate of five acres each male adult. The district of Nelson, which was colonized in 1842, is situate on the south side of Cook's Strait; it has a safe harbour, and is a commercial as well as agricultural settlement. Although the population is only 4,000, 5,000 acres were in cultivation, and 72,000 head of stock were depastured in 1848; the value of goods manufactured in that year were estimated to be £16,000, and the exports £12,000. Otago is near the southern extremity of the middle island. This settlement was founded in 1847, on sectarian principles; adherence to the Presbyterian form of worship being expected of the Colonists, an anxiety for religion and education is a pre-eminent characteristic of the association, for a portion of the funds derivable from the sale of land is devoted to these objects. The settlement comprises 144,600 acres of land, and these are subdivided into 2,000 properties, sold at the rate of 40s. per acre. Otago has an extensive harbour, and the surrounding country is well adapted for the farmer and grazier. In 1849 the population was 1,500, 18,000 acres were then purchased, and 5,000 head of stock depastured. The Canterbury settlement is situate on the east coast of the middle island, and contains 2,000,000 acres. It has been colonized under the auspices of an association professing Church of England tenets, and the predominance of the national church is the essence of the system. Another most conspicuous feature is the wholesale transfer of emigrants, so as to establish all the elements of society, and thereby dispense with the progressive but tedious stages of colonization. To promote this object land is offered at £3 per acre, the proceeds of such sales to be thus expended:—£1 for religious education, £1 for emi-

gration, and the remaining £1 on road making and public purposes. As the first body of emigrants sailed in 1850, it would be premature to predicate the results of the system. The above-mentioned settlements are scattered over 800 miles of latitude; the European population is estimated to be 25,000, and the natives 120,000. The government is at present vested in a Governor-in-Chief and Lieut.-Governor, who are aided by two Legislative Councils. It is hardly necessary to add, that ample provision is made for religion and education; personal security also prevails, for the laws are everywhere administered the same as in England. The moral superiority which New Zealand has acquired by the exclusion of convicts is universally admitted, and is to emigrants an important consideration. Intentions have been expressed to establish a penal settlement on the coast, but the determined opposition offered by the Colonists to such consignments has caused the plan to be abandoned. The natives manifested an equal repugnance to their admission, for the following quaint remarks appear in an address to the Queen:—"Oh! Lady, we shall be perplexed if the convicts be allowed to come here. They would steal the property of the Europeans, and the natives would be accused of the theft, and we should be very much displeased. Rather let gentlemen—men of peaceful life—come here. We like such men. Let them be numerous for our country is large."\*

The Southern Colonies offer an unlimited scope for capital, and ready demand for labour. Industry and perseverance are the two main qualities required to ensure prosperity. The employer, unfettered by taxes, may easily obtain a competence, while the employed, no longer subject to arduous competition, under ameliorated circumstances becomes socially improved. The late Charles Buller has eloquently remarked, "We shall not cease to be Britons because we remove from one part of the empire where we are too thick to another where we are too thin." In our distant possessions the justice of this observation is apparent. Energy and perseverance are characteristics of English Colonists, and though distance may sever connections, and time dim old associations, a patriotic feeling and respect for national institutions animates all classes.

The prospects of settlers may be briefly summed up. Although cases of sudden elevation have occurred, they may in most instances be attributed to the exercise of superior judgment and sagacity. These

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\* Parl. pap., 1850.



individuals have taken advantage of "the tide that leads on to fortune;" but it requires a happy combination of circumstances to permit of such results, and as such contingencies rarely happen, it is absurd for the emigrant to calculate on them. Much unavailing regret might be avoided if the emigrant were to gather correct information respecting his future bourne, and consider whether his mental capacity or physical powers qualified him to succeed.

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### THE AGED EMIGRANT.

ON the shining beach an old man stood—  
 A tear bedimmed his keen blue eye,  
 As, lost in dreamy, sorrowing mood,  
 He gazed on the glorious sea and sky.

He gazed on a sky that was warmly glowing  
 With the Tropic sun's rich farewell rays ;  
 He gazed on a sea that, calmly flowing,  
 Reflected all that golden blaze.

Bright shells lay glittering at his feet,  
 And creeping vines with their blossoms gay,  
 While the mangrove spread its boughs to meet  
 The smooth waves white and feathery spray.

Soft evening lent its fragrant, light,  
 Refreshing breeze to cool the air ;  
 Oh! 'twas an hour—a scene that might  
 Have almost soothed to peace—despair.

Yet the old man gazed with saddened eye,  
 For his thoughts had wandered far away,  
 To a colder clime—a darker sky—  
 To the home of his childhood's happy day.

His native rocks, grey—stern—sublime—  
 Once more in fancy round him rise,  
 Whose rugged sides he was wont to climb,  
 To make the wild bird's eggs his prize.

He hears the wintry tempest roar,  
While he turns on the cheerful hearth to gaze ;  
Now—now again he's straying o'er  
The purple heath, and gowan'd braes.

Voices long hushed, he seems to hear—  
Familiar forms crowd on his view—  
He starts—they fade—those visions dear ;  
Dreams of the past—adieu—adieu !

No more he'll tread on Scottish ground—  
He'll cross the sea—oh ! never more !  
He feels that he for life is bound  
To this far distant, foreign shore !

But in this far off sunny land,  
Had not success his labours crown'd ?  
Success that on his native strand  
His utmost toils might not have found.

Time was when the old man had gazed  
With pleasure on his second home,  
On all the comforts he had raised  
Around him, nor wished thence to roam.

Yet so it is, man always dreams  
In age with fondness of the past ;  
While youthful fancy ever seems  
Forward its eager view to cast.

The old man left the shining beach,  
And though a tear stood in his eye,  
For all the good within his reach  
A grateful glance he raised on high.

Contentment dwells in no fixed state,  
Nor is it bound by ties of birth ;  
We may be happy, though our fate  
Leads to the farthest spot on earth.