exhibited its furious pantomime and wild evolutions, much to the gra-
tification of their countrymen: on such occasions they stripped the
upper half of their bodies naked, and suspended from their waists four
or five blankets, no doubt to represent their robes of honour; and these
blankets would turn round and flap, whenever they made the grand
wheelings and other wonderful manœuvres of the martial exercise.

The war-dance was not confined to the Benguelas; each tribe had a
specimen of it; and if that executed by the Benguelas was the most
majestic, that performed by the Mozambiques was the most varied in
its figures, and the wildest in its expression. Armed with a hatchet or
a knife, the Mozambique would turn it round about his head with great
rapidity, kicking his legs about in all directions; would pretend to fly
from his enemy, then suddenly turn round and pursue; would whistle
as if calling for aid, then shout and yell as if he gave expression to his
joy at the achievement of a victory; and would at times gallop about as
if mounted on an animal, which part must have been done to imitate the
Portuguese, as they alone enjoy the advantage of having horses. The
Mozambique dance was always executed by one person at a time, who,
when tired, was immediately succeeded by another, who contrived, by
varying the steps and movements, to keep up the attention and contrib-
ute to the amusement of the bystanders, all of whom were employed
in keeping time by clapping their hands, and exclaiming in regular
cadences, "ti ti katimba."

The general character of their songs was monotonous, and, though
not deficient in melody, the music was usually of a dull, mournful kind,
as if inspired by painful recollections of their lost homes, the scenes of
their early days, and the bereavement of friends and relations; it ex-
pressed the sadness of resignation or the hopelessness of despair more
than any tender sentimental regret or anger at the injustice and unkind-
ness of destiny, or vengeance upon the authors of their calamities, or
hatred towards their remorseless oppressors. The songs were always
accompanied by the clapping of hands.

Often, in the still hour of the evening, would the young people as-
semble on the battery, and seated in the embrasures, with looks fixed
on the far-moving waters, recall the memory of their distant lands, and
raise a mournful and clamorous song in tribute of respect to their
parents, and as an expression of their sorrows for the loss of their country
and kindred, and all that was dear to them. There was one song be-
ginning with the following words—"Quando, quando couriria, aimamio,
quando, quando courira," which was generally sung on these occasions,
and the burden of it told of their grief and despair at leaving their
weeping relations behind them, and of the hardships and cruelty they
suffered during their passage on board the slave-vessels. There was
something peculiarly sincere and affecting in their manner at these
times that created a sympathy for their misfortunes; and perhaps the
sublimity and wildness of nature around, aided by the picturesque effect
of a setting sun, whose beams, as they faintly disappeared, seemed to
be quenched in the illimitable waters of the ocean, conspired to endow
the scene with an interest and a solemnity which might have been de-
ned to their music and effusions of grief. When asked, however, if
they wished to return to their country, very few expressed their inclina-
tion to do so, replying that “mammy was no more, and hapa (father)
no more, and Portuguese catch me again.”

The nearest approach to a European instrument of music I have
observed amongst the Africans was in the possession of a Mozambique,
who was very clever at the fabrication of them. It was formed out of
a hollow cocoanut-shell, one end being cut off and covered with a piece
of bladder or skin; a few small circular holes were pierced around the
shell, and a strong stick, representing the handle, was attached and
furnished with a cord raised on a bridge. This cord was scraped with
a small bow just in the same way as a violin, and the tones, though
possessed of little modulation, from the want of a sufficient number of
strings, resembled in some degree those of the celebrated European in-
strument. The cords were made of the fibres of the leaves of the aloe,
which they bruise by beating against a stone, and then wash all the
herbaceous parts away with water.

But the most common musical instrument in usage among the
negroes is the booloomboomba, known to all the nations of Southern
Africa, not even excepting those who are settled in the territories of the
colony of the Cape of Good Hope, for the booloomboomba is as much
the solace of the patient Hottentot shepherd as it forms the delight of
the wild hunter of Kavoomboo. It is composed simply of a bow with
a string stretched tightly on it, and at one end of a hollow gourd, which
is applied to the naked chest. The cord is struck with a slender
stick, and the sound which is produced is rendered more sonorous by
the hollowness of the chest, and is accompanied by a synchronous caho,
resembling the sound of the instrument, emitted from the glottis by the
musician himself.

The Congos are very fond of large glittering bracelets and anklets,
which I have seen them manufacture out of the copper bolts found in
the timbers taken from broken-up slave-vessels, and furnished to the
Liberated African Establishment for firewood; and they would con-
vert copper boat-nails into passable fishing-hooks, with which, though
destitute of barbs, they would succeed in catching fish very dexterously.
They work the metal, if it be of large volume, with the aid of fire; but
the small copper nails they fashion into hooks simply by continual
beating. Some understood the working of iron; and the Mozambiques
informed me that near their country there is a territory where plenty
of gold is found, and where the natives are very skilful in its manu-
facture into rings and articles of jewellery. I have in my possession
a singular musical instrument formed of flat iron bars of different
lengths, gradually decreasing from the middle to either side, raised
upon a piece of wood, so as to be elevated about half an inch from the
surface of a flat board, pierced with a hole, under which is placed an
open calabash: by striking the ends of these bars with the nails of the
two thumbs, whilst the hands sustain the instrument, a very respectable
approach to harmonious sounds is produced: and all these bars were
formed out of a large iron nail by a Benguela negro. A man of the
name of Mivarra was a perfect master of this instrument, which he handled with great facility. Many of the tunes he played were really melodious, were executed with good taste, and would have been admired in Europe. I often regretted that his kisangy was not louder and more powerful, for it would then have been a no mean substitute for the harp; and Mivarra was an excellent performer, far transcending Maguaka on his cigar-box. No mean proficient either in the cultivation of the muse was he, if the simple sententious character of his songs could be dignified with the name of poetry. Such as they were, he would delight in their extemporaneous composition; and his fair companions were equally charmed in listening to his lays.

No people in the world attach such extraordinary value to beads as negroes do; the possession of a few strings of them is considered a little fortune; and in the barters that they carry on between themselves, a new handkerchief, worth a shilling, will perhaps be given for a few beads of the value of a farthing. Beads are esteemed, however, principally as articles of ornament, with which all are eager to decorate themselves; even the men take a pride in wearing necklaces, small strings of minute beads through the ear as ear-rings, and bracelets, formed of more or less rows of them, with gaudy tassels attached. But the Benguela woman is conspicuous amongst them all for her rich attire of bead ornaments. A band, sometimes an inch thick, consisting of several rows of beads passed through wire to make the rows remain flat and even (the beads being sorted of different colours, and laid in to represent rather pretty figures on the band), extends across the forehead, and is fixed at the back of the head; and from the band three tassels, composed of strings of graduated-sized beads, are suspended, the largest one over the nose, sometimes hiding the eyes, and the other two down the temples and cheeks. Rows of beads are worn around the necks, arms, wrists, and ankles, and even the waist is not forgotten to be included for a share of the tawdry ornaments.

A FEW HINTS ON FOREIGN AND HOME COLONISATION.

No. II.

"Salus populi suprema est lex."

"Emigration is nothing more or less than transportation," says the Times; and we perfectly agree with that journal, so far as the present mode of conducting it is concerned. But we entertain too high an opinion of its editorial talent and clear-sightedness, to suppose that it would do otherwise than support and encourage a humane, well-organised, and well-conducted system of Government Emigration. To oppose Emigration in every shape and form, is to attempt to subvert the laws of nature—to look upon ancient and modern history as a mere fable—to set at nought the sublime truths of Holy Writ.
The Sacred Historian informs us that Abraham and Lot separated when they found that the land was no longer able to bear them.

Do not animals, birds, and fish, migrate from place to place in search of food? Even the humble-bee, each succeeding year, ejects from the busy hive the excess of its industrious tenants, and thus sets us an example we have only to follow.

What but Emigration has founded the empires of the New World—has given value and importance to your Colonies, created new and remunerating markets for your manufactures, increased and supported your commerce—in short, made England what she is—the greatest nation on the face of the earth?

The present system of Emigration is merely a misnomer for transportation; proving the oft-repeated and re-echoed assertion, that however well off the Colonial Office may be in efficient hands, there certainly must be within its precincts a vast number of sleepy heads. We can well imagine the exultation of its dignified practical officials, when perusing the Emigration returns of the last few years. Have we not, say they, rid you of 70,686 paupers during the season of 1844? Do you call that nothing? Some people are never satisfied—true, and we unfortunately have enlisted in that mutinous corps. Nothing can or will satisfy us short of a well-organised, practical, humane, and economical plan of Emigration, established by an act of the Legislature. "His Majesty" may smile at this; but it is high time such "jacks in office" should be made to know and feel that they are the paid servants of the public. Nine-tenths of those employed in our various public departments are mere machines—automaton figures of humanity—performing a certain quantum of official duty, as a horse turns the crushing-stone of a cider-press. Your thorough man of business they heartily despise, looking down upon him with the same dignified contempt as a free and independent citizen of an American Slave State does upon a nigger; forgetting, that to trade alone they are indebted for their daily bread, and that a merchant's clerk of two years' standing would make himself perfect master of their onerous duties in less than three months!

To the mercantile community the nation is generally indebted for the various reforms and improvements which take place; for nothing short of the pressure from without will induce your thorough official to depart from the time-honoured rules and precepts of his predecessors. One thing we will give them credit for—good breeding; for every communication is duly acknowledged according to the strict rules of etiquette—"I am desired by—- to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst.," &c.

Political influence is the sure passport to office, and the public weal is sacrificed at the shrine of party.

You have for First Lord of the Admiralty a thorough landsman, who knows nothing whatever of nautical affairs beyond what he may pick up during his tenure of office.* The reply to this may possibly be, that the

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* We say not this disparagingly of Lord Haddington, than whom we believe no civilian can better or more impartially fulfil the duties of his important office.
veterans of the Fleet are not men of business habits. For the sake of argument we will assent thereto; but surely he does not require military Aide-de-Camp. What would Field Marshal the Duke of Wellington say to the appointment of Sir Charles Napier as Secretary at War? Look at your Foreign Consuls—men who are entrusted with the interests of your merchants, who ought to be practical men of matured experience, versed in all mercantile details—what and who are they? Officers on half-pay in the Navy and Army in numerous instances; the former may be considered eligible as nautical men, but a red coat—a man who shudders at the very mention of trade, though his father or grandsire possibly kept a roadside inn or chandler's shop—really the thing is too monstrous to be believed. A nation of shopkeepers represented by a man whose motto is—Sink the shop!!

All this may appear foreign to our text, but we wish to satisfy the reader that we are not invidious, and do not join the hue and cry against this or that department from sheer spleen or disappointment. We hold no political opinions opposed to the public weal. We look to measures—not men, and care not who takes his turn at the helm of the State, provided he steers a safe and steady course. We feel no hesitation in asserting that all human laws are bad which are in any of their bearings opposed to those of God; and further, that no theory is maintainable in practice, which in any way distorts the unerring laws of Nature.

We shall now proceed to inquire into our present admirable plan of Colonial Emigration.

There is an Emigration as well as a Poor-Law triumvirate—both equally deserving the high consideration of their fellow-citizens, for their genuine philanthropy and parental care of all who have the good fortune to claim a share of their bounty. The latter provides a comfortable home, with abundance of wholesome food, for all houseless, starving wretches; and though sometimes compelled to separate man and wife, children from their parents, the helpless infant from the bosom it was wont to nestle in, you cannot blame them—such is the law of the land! To give out-door relief in any shape, or under any circumstances, is to encourage vice and idleness; and to allow the various Boards of Guardians to decide on each individual case by its own merits would be the acme of folly. How can these short-sighted, ignorant bodies be supposed to know anything of such matters? There is ample employment for all who choose to work. Wages are high, particularly in such agricultural counties as Essex and Dorset; consequently, none but idle vagabonds can possibly stand in need of parochial relief! It is very true that one slight inconvenience may arise—the danger of rearing a generation of paupers. Let our children look to that. All that we care for is the present hour—"Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof." The law must be respected.

The first-named triumvirate are much more sagacious in their operations, for they rid you effectually of all plaguey paupers committed to their care. They send them across the Atlantic in quest of adven-
tures. Once safely landed, there is not much fear of their imitating Leander, for the Herring Pond is not the Hellespont.

Little minds are ever prone to follow the example of their superiors—we are mimics by nature, and we once played the Commissioner on a small scale. During the golden days of Emigration, when all the world ran mad after South Australia and New Zealand, we resided on the Banks of the Thames in a country village. Our poultry-yard was well stocked with bipeds, and in the early part of the summer we rejoiced in the possession of some score of chicks and ducklings; our neighbours, on the other hand, rejoiced in the ownership of divers sleek members of the feline species. Aldermen are known to consider ducks and green peas as a savoury dish, but cats are less difficile, and a junior member of the feathered tribe is actually devoured, neither cooked nor plucked, with the greatest gusto. Each succeeding day diminished the number of our stock,—and Grimalkin was discovered in the act of poaching. A large trap was forthwith procured, and baited with some tempting morsel. In the morning we were duly apprised of a capture, and the heartless wretch of a man-servant requested we would, sans cérémonie, seal the unfortunate captive’s death-warrant. A moment’s reflection convinced us of the injustice and danger of such an act, and we forthwith resolved on taking a leaf out of the Emigration Commissioner’s book. Puss was quietly transferred to a sack; the ferry was close at hand, and having crossed the river with his charge, John was directed to restore the brute to liberty. The neighbourhood was thus shortly relieved of its destroyers of vermin, our poultry-yard was once more restored to peace and safety, and we thank the Commissioners for an idea which has saved us many a bitter pang. It is just possible that some of them died of hunger, for there were no houses in the immediate neighbourhood on the opposite shore, but we did not kill them. The Emigration Commissioners and their Colonial Office colleagues can make the same assertion, without danger of contradiction. They transport the people to save their lives, heedless of their fate or whereabouts, once safely bundled on shore.

Your whole system of Colonisation is bad; for, correctly speaking, ’tis no system at all. It is very true, that we alone as a nation have been eminently successful in the formation of new Colonies—Thanks to what? To the wise and wholesome provisions and regulations of the Home Government? Not so; but to the perseverance, industry, and spirit of enterprise with which our people are endowed. How is this spirit encouraged and nurtured by those in power? Either by tardy or over-officious interference. Practical suggestions are for the most part unheeded; and the Colonial Office teems with valuable and important communications, from well-informed men, on the wants of our various possessions—possibly unopened, or destined to accumulate on dusty shelves. That an endless train of wild and visionary schemes are and have been proposed, is beyond a doubt; but if you select the tares from the wheat, much that is good will be found.

A very short period has elapsed since the veriest coffin that ever
swam salt water was allowed to carry any number of human beings across the Atlantic. The unfortunate emigrant was left to the tender mercies of rapacious shipowners, voracious shipbrokers, kind-hearted skippers, et hoc genus omne, till the universal cry of "Shame! shame!" brought forward Lord Stanley's Act. This, we admit, has in a great measure remedied the evil; but there is still much to object to. We beg, therefore, to suggest a plan which we have long advocated—the employment of our ships of war for Emigration purposes. Why, in peaceable times like these, are merchant vessels employed for any public service, when you have a large fleet of vessels rotting in Chatham, Portsmouth, and Plymouth harbours? About £100,000 is annually expended for the conveyance of troops, ordnance, and naval stores; add thereto the amount disbursed for emigration purposes. This sum, we presume, would keep a few ships in commission, as half their complement of hands only would be required. A considerable saving may thus be achieved, in addition to the advantages resulting to all who are compelled to tempt the dangers of the ocean at the Government expense. We should no longer hear complaints of want of space, bad provisions, short allowance of water, ill ventilation, and, worse than all, unseaworthiness. Numbers of meritorious officers would once more be engaged in the service of their country, and England ever have afloat a truly efficient and powerful navy, ready for any emergency. Your officers, be it remembered, are on half-pay; your ships exist, and suffer more when laid up in ordinary than on active service. Every practical man must be aware of the expense attending the dismantling and refitting, the building of wooden roofs to preserve them from the weather, &c. &c. Had this plan been adopted years ago, your Egyptian and Chinese expeditions would have cost a mere trifle, and thousands saved which may truly be said to have been fooled away. There is an old vulgar adage, that "a fool and his money are soon parted." Our Continental neighbours consider this the universal characteristic of the John Bull family; and the same lavish expenditure pervades our public departments. All who preach economy are sneered at as mean money-worshippers. Our forefathers have entailed upon us a charge which nothing can justify; and, far from following in their footsteps, we ought to endeavour, as much as possible, to relieve our descendants of the dead weight of taxation under which we groan.

Is not that man looked upon as a good father and worthy citizen, who, having succeeded to large estates encumbered by the reckless extravagance of his ancestors, endeavours, by every legitimate and honourable means, to transmit them to his posterity without a blemish on the title-deeds? And what, we would ask, is a nation but a large family?

We will, however, suppose that no considerable saving can be effected—that in the end it comes to the same thing. Independent of the boon conferred on the lower class of emigrants, you are enabled to keep up a naval war force without additional expense, and thus secure to England her well-earned title of Ocean Queen. War we abhor, and consider it neither more nor less than a legalised system of
wholesale murder; but our surest safeguard against a renewal of its horrors is the conviction in the breast of each foreign bully, that we are in a position to return every shot with compound interest.

We have consulted numbers of old experienced naval officers on this subject—men of the olden school, who, from early habits and prejudice, might fairly be supposed to reject all similar innovations—but, in every instance, our suggestions have been approved of. The only opponents we have to record are the Emigration Agents, who doubtless prefer a snug berth on shore to the active and dangerous vicissitudes of a floating hulk. "But how about the guns, old fellow? of what use are the ships if their crews know nothing of gunnery?"—"Steady, my friend, steady! Even this has not escaped our attention. Let the lower-deck guns be safely stowed in the hold during the outward passage, and, the emigrants or convicts, &c., once safely landed, you restore them to their proper place, thus having abundant opportunity and time for exercise during the homeward or other intended passage.

The ship being but half manned would require no extra quantity of stores and water, or at all events but to a trifling extent, and any objection on the score of her being too deep therefore appears, to us at least, ill-founded.

Complaints are now continually made by officers of the difficulties they encounter in procuring hands, and those of a most questionable description; a ship being often sent to sea with a crew three-fourths of which are landsmen. Suppose a war suddenly forced upon us, are such vessels fit to encounter an enemy? Moral courage or brute force are of little avail to a seaman where practical knowledge is wanting. One thorough Jack-tar is worth a dozen raw clodhoppers.

Jack is not the fool some people think him. No class of men are more sensible of kindness or neglect; convince them that their services are appreciated, that their good conduct and noble daring will ever be rewarded, and they will not only enter the service, but continue in it so long as they are fit to go afloat.

How stands the matter now? Your seamen are badly paid. No reward is held out for a progressive length of service; all they have in perspective is Greenwich Hospital—an institution which every Englishman has just reason to be proud of.

Another evil connected with the service is the ill-advised plan of commissioning a ship in one port, and ordering her to be paid off in another; thus putting the men to considerable expense if their families or friends reside in the neighbourhood of that from whence they sailed.*

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* Does not this also admit the possibility of peculation with respect to stores? Suppose a ship paid off at Chatham, after a three or four years' cruise, and an application made from thence to the authorities of Plymouth Dock-yard, where she was commissioned, respecting some discrepancy not satisfactorily explained; could such an answer as this be sent? It is so far back that we cannot refer to the books. To a man of business such a reply may appear impossible from a public department; but, without being over-credulous or suspicious, we can assure Lord Haddington that we have heard of and seen even stranger things than that in the course of our experience!
All these are matters deserving the attention not only of the Admiralty, but of every naval officer.

Enough of the mode of transport—let us now consider the position of the emigrant once safely landed in the country of his adoption. He leaves the land of his fathers, becomes an exile, tempts the dangers of the mighty deep, in quest of what?—honour, wealth, amusement? No! In quest of bread!—that which he cannot obtain amid his own kindred, a sufficient and equitable remuneration for his daily toil. He is told that in that second Eden labourers are scarce, wages high; in short, his foot once placed on terra firma, masters will prowl around him like hungry wolves, all anxious to secure his services at any price. Alas! his golden dreams are but of short duration! he wakes as from a trance to discover that his second condition is, at least for the present hour, worse than the first. He has touched the strand amid an over-grown population, so far as present wants are concerned, and learns that his only hope is to proceed to this or that distant point, which his exchequer cannot afford. The few shillings he possessed are soon spent, and he finds himself beggared in purse, health, and spirits. This is no far-fetched or highly-coloured picture, but a true and faithful delineation of your present system. 'Tis true that of late years you have your Emigration Agents in the various ports, who are bound to direct and advise the new-comers as to their safest and best course; or, in other words, a generous, kind-hearted physician prescribes gratuitously for a sick pauper, forgetting that his patient has not wherewith to pay for the medicine.

These are evils, we have oft been told, beyond the control of the Home Government. But we maintain not only that they can be remedied, but that it is the imperative duty of those in office to remove this foul stain on our national honour. The poorest emigrant, pauper though he be, is no illegitimate offspring of the State. His right of citizenship, and consequent claim to assistance and protection, stand enrolled in one common register with the names of the noblest and wealthiest of the land. He has changed his locality, but his allegiance to his sovereign is the same, and the proud banner of St. George still floats where he has pitched his tent. The ties of consanguinity, far from being severed, ought if possible to be more closely drawn, and thus cause him to revere, not curse, the land which gave him birth.

None, we presume, but beings who are a disgrace to any civilised community, will venture to question the moral obligation imposed on the rich to provide for the imperative necessities of the poor. Still the question may be raised by the sordid and heartless, who ever doubt the justice of anything and everything which robs them of their pelf. With such the law must be our sheet anchor, and trusting to that alone, we beg to remind them that there are such vile things as poor's rates, which compel them, nolens volens, to contribute their quota to the maintenance of the distressed and needy. We shall therefore proceed to treat the matter as a purely mercantile transaction, solved by that ancient and unerring rule-of-three calculation which settles all doubts as to profit or loss.
Your poor-law statistics, as we have previously stated, prove a considerable increase of pauperism. This increase, we assume, is in a fair way to become a compound interest calculation; for we know from sad experience, that nothing short of the most dreadful suffering will induce the working classes to seek a refuge in the Union. The threshold once passed, their spirit of independence is broken; all the ties which unite flesh and blood are severed at a blow; and thousands become, from that ill-fated hour—reckless, confirmed paupers. How can it be otherwise, when human ingenuity is racked to degrade, vitiate, and demoralise those who ought to be soothed and encouraged?

Are there any around us who would dream of going to a workhouse in search of a servant or labourer of any kind? If such philanthropic individuals exist, we warn them to beware—a commission of lunacy may possibly be the result. We believe the able-bodied paupers are occasionally allowed to sally forth in quest of work; but some of the most religious and best-regulated parishes around the Metropolis have wisely branded them, as our forefathers did a thief, the better to enable them to obtain employment. Oh, Charity! how sadly art thou traduced by those who assume the garb of thy true disciples!

All this, we are told, is the modern theory of anti-pauperism; but we, timidly and respectfully, beg leave to dissent therefrom, and will even go so far as to assert, that the aforesaid theory is vastly like the wet-nurse of pauperism.

We appeal to the Navy and Army, en masse, and challenge them to name even a solitary instance in which flogging has tended to reclaim a man in either service. Its necessity for the better maintenance of discipline is a false assumption, worthy the middle ages; and we hope the day is not far distant when a savage and barbarous practice will no longer disgrace the records of the Admiralty or Horse-Guards. An Englishman's proud spirit is broken from the hour that the cat-o'-nine-tails has stamped its indelible marks upon his flesh.

Should this page chance to meet the eye of certain naval tyrants, whom we could name, we would remind them of the atrocities they have committed on the plea of discipline. Can they justify flogging every man laid out upon the yard because one individual committed an error in reefing topsails?—Enough of this disgusting subject. The only atonement such men can offer is to raise their voice against a system which will leave a dark stain upon their memory, whatever may be the deeds of valour they can boast. Let none suppose that these severe animadversions embrace a sweeping charge against the whole service; some of our most valued and tried friends are 'R.N.s,' whose genuine kind-heartedness and fellow feeling may be equalled, but not surpassed.

If your poor are illiterate, depraved, idle, how came they so? Every hill and valley throughout the land echoes How? Future generations will scarcely credit the historian of our age, when he records the overwhelming flood of vice and misery which desolated the United Kingdom, at a period when powerful and eloquent appeals rang through Exeter Hall in favour of aliens, leading you to conclude that universal happiness reigned at home. Start not, ye friends of Foreign Missions! ye