

PREFACE.

EMIGRATION.

"Labour is discovered to be the grand conqueror, enriching and building up nations more surely than the proudest battles."

EMIGRATION, as the natural remedy for over population, has of late years become one of the most prominent questions of the day.

No apology need be made therefore for the appearance of this little *brochure*, inasmuch as it is the outcome of practical and dearly bought experience ; and it is with the view of saving others from many avoidable losses and incidental annoyances that the author has been induced to write the following lines.

There are few subjects in which clear-headed and shrewd men make more serious mistakes than in that of emigration. As the typical countryman has a vague idea that London streets are paved with gold, so the emigrant seems to act as if nuggets or diamonds could be gathered like blackberries, in the colony which he intends to settle in.

Now nothing can be more fallacious than these ideas. In the colonies, as elsewhere, prosperity is only attained by downright hard work, self-denial, and plucky endurance. Given those qualities, coupled with moderate shrewdness or common sense, and success is certain. The settler can be well fed, comfortably housed and clothed, and enjoy life somewhat as he goes on ; at the same time he will be free from the incessant turmoil of a hand-to-mouth living, or rather existence, which is the ordinary condition of the working, and even the lower middle classes in the old world. The transition from poverty to prospective independence is only to be attained by incessant industry. Idle and dissolute loafers fare as badly in the colonies as in the old country, perhaps worse, inasmuch as there are no amateur philanthropists. In fact, in all new