

dom, Northwestern Europe, and the United States. These settlers readily adapt themselves to Canadian conditions, and at once enter into the spirit of Canadian institutions. While we have enough of such colonists to maintain the balance on the right side, we can afford to make a few experiments with the less certain races, who may yet prove desirable also.

The influx from the United States is a noteworthy feature of the case. Last year 18,000 persons crossed the line and took up their homes in Canada, and in the first six months of the present year 25,000 more had come from the Western and Middle States. Some of these were Canadians returning. It must not be inferred, however, that either they or the American born immigrants were dissatisfied with their condition on the other side. Land in Canada, although rising in value, is now much cheaper than in the American West, where the available tracts have been nearly all taken. It was merely a shrewd business move on the part of the emigrant to sell his farm there, at a handsome price, and buy on much lower terms in Canada. At the same time he got better land, for while both are good, the Canadian West is better wheat country, and yields more to the acre. Many of these American immigrants are bringing money with them. Generally speaking, they are very excellent settlers. They already have good farming experience, sometimes superior to the Canadians, and they are in sympathy with the spirit of British law. In a few years' time it is hard to distinguish the man who came from the other side from the native-born. He came across to make a home and a living, and he was prepared to be a citizen. For these reasons the United States immigrants are the most desirable of all. The Canadian Government recognizes this fact, and is encouraging their settlement in the newly opened districts of the West, where an infusion of American enterprise will be a benefit.

The Pacific Cable

WHILE Signor Marconi is experimenting with wireless telegraphs across the Atlantic, a new cable is being laid in the Pacific. It is expected that by the end of the year Canada and Australia will be in communication, the line being already in operation between Australia and the Fiji Islands. Work on the Canadian end is well under way, and a complete cable station is being built at Banfield Creek, on the west side of Vancouver Island. Connection with there be made with the Canadian Pacific Telegraph, thus providing an all-British line for the entire distance.

The cost of the work was originally estimated at \$10,000,000. The cable was first projected at the Colonial Conference in 1887, when a survey of the route was ordered. This survey was not completed until three years ago, but since that time the work of construction has been going steadily on, and is now nearing completion. The cable is being laid under an agreement between the Imperial, Canadian, and Australian Governments, the entire cost being divided into eighteen shares, apportioned among the Governments interested. Canada's share is five-eightieths. The management of the undertaking is vested in a board of eight members, two of whom represent Canada.

As a link in the telegraphic girdle of the world, and especially in Colonial and Imperial connections, the Pacific Cable is of great commercial and strategical importance. It is sure to play an active part in the development of Imperial commerce. At present it is impossible to foresee what the next twenty years will accomplish in the way of trade relations between Canada and Australia, but better acquaintance and closer connection will inevitably be followed by a widening of commercial interests. From a naval and military point of view, the value of telegraphic connection is at once apparent.