

be particularly easy and tempting victims. The tune of the Indian Agencies in the United States may be played with an Irish variation in Manitoba. Moreover the scheme itself seems doubtful. How will an Irish peasant prosper if he is set down by himself in a strange and wild country, with a shanty and a bit of sown land, but without money, with poor clothes and insufficient equipments of every kind? Will he at once take heartily and cheerfully to the work of a farmer? Is not the net result too likely to be a number of deserted shanties partly broken up for fuel? At the same time, emigrants of other races will perhaps be disgusted and repelled because houses and sown lands are provided for the Irish alone.

Irish emigrants employed on the railway will find work suited to them, and the companionship for which they crave: those who have an inclination for farming can afterwards take farms; they will have been acclimatized and will know the country. This seems the best scheme for Irish immigration. The core of the new population must be Canadians and Americans, or other people equally accustomed to a rigorous climate and handy as pioneers. Of our Canadian farmers, many, we hear, are going; and no wonder, considering how heavily farms are mortgaged and that the high rate of interest which the mortgagors, especially those who fell into the snare of "table rates," are now paying, has become still more oppressive since the rate of interest generally has fallen. To supply the places of these men on Canadian farms is an object of vital importance to Canada, and it can be done only by commending the country to the notice of British farmers, many of whom, in their present predicament, must be thinking of emigration, and who would certainly do better on land already tilled, and with all aids and appliances within their reach, than they would as pioneers. Extension from sea to sea may be politically very grand; but, in an economical point of view, this is an anxious moment for Old Canada.