

hundredfold iteration of "respect" with which nearly every letter that I now give you concludes.

Your Inspector tells you of the terrible hardships he had to endure from impassable roads to reach the homes of the children. I can also tell you that on the 14th September 1874, over 300 of these young children had at any rate sufficient affection for me to travel over these terrible roads to pay me a visit at the "Western Home." You are also, I believe, aware that Mr. Doyle, although invited to this gathering previously a fortnight before, and with the express understanding that the children were being gathered for his inspection, did not favour us with his company, although the Bishop of Toronto, the Archdeacon of, and the Member for, Niagara, together with several Justices of the Peace, were good enough to attend to meet your representative.

Now, Sir, I am sure that you are anxious to reduce pauperism; nearly all your efforts since coming into office have been in that direction; therefore, the better to commend my own special work to your favourable notice, I beg to draw your attention to the following extract from Mr. Froude's *Short Studies on Great Subjects*:—

"The colonies will not take our paupers; and as we make our beds we must lie in them; but we can prevent pauperism from growing heavier upon our hands. If we send our able-bodied men with their families to settle upon land, we must support them also till their first crops are grown. If we advance money for other people's benefit we expect to be repaid, and cannot see our way to obtain security for it. But there is not the same difficulty in providing for the young. When Mr. Forster's Education Bill is fairly in work, in one shape and another we shall have more than two million boys and girls in these islands, of whom at least a fourth will be adrift when their teaching is over, with no definite outlook. Let the State for once resume its old character and constitute itself the constable of some at least of these helpless ones. When the grammatical part of their teaching is over, let them have a year or two of industrial instruction, and, under understanding with the colonial authorities, let them be drafted off where their services are most in demand. The settlers would be delighted to receive, and clothe, and feed them on the conditions of the old apprenticeship. If the apprentice system is out of favour, some other system can be easily invented. Welcome in some shape they are certain to be. A continued stream of young, well-taught, unspoilt English natures would be the most precious gift which the colonies could receive from us."*

As my labours for the children commenced in 1869, my work antedates Mr. Froude's words—by three years—and that that work has not been altogether such a failure as Mr. Doyle would have you believe, is shown by the fact that my scheme has already found the following imitators—viz., Messrs. McPherson and Bilborough, with their Whitechapel and Belville Homes; the Rev. Styleman Herring, who took, in 1870, children from the Holborn Union to an orphanage in Brantford; the Rev. George Rogers, who received and placed out in New Brunswick women and children from the Bristol Union; Miss Fletcher (for the Roman Catholics), who has carried women from Liverpool workhouse to Ottawa and Montreal; the Rev. Bowman Stevenson, with his Lancashire and Hamilton Homes; Dr. Middleton, with his Birmingham and London, Ontario, Receiving Houses; and Mrs. Burt, with her Liverpool and Nova Scotia workings.

Surely it is contrary to all our experiences to have so many followers of a failure. Is there room for us all in Canada; is there any fear of collision or jealousies? No, a thousand times no! Canada can take all the children we can all of us bring, and find homes, and plentiful homes, for them all; the limit is in ourselves and not in Canada. But you will say, why Canada above all our other colonies? I will answer you by calling to your memory the fact that some 30 years ago the emigration of pauper children was commenced to the Cape. I have every reason to believe from private papers I have seen that that work was a far greater success than has been generally believed; but in the days to which I refer postal communication with the colonies was both expensive and uncertain; the cable did not exist, and exaggerated reports upon isolated cases, alas! as rife then as now; but there existed then as now an insuperable objection to my mind to anything like a large emigration of pauper children to the Cape. I allude to the great preponderance there of coloured peoples, and to this

* "England's War," Vol. II., p. 510, 1872.