

MISTAKES OF NEWCOMERS

The writer knows of such a case, where land fit only for pasture or ranching was bought at \$25.00 an acre, in a year in which there was an abundant crop; but it turned out that such a crop could not be expected more than once in seven years. This unfortunate man after struggling along for four years, was completely discouraged, lost all he had invested, and was obliged to leave the country with feelings of resentment and despair, when a little advice at the proper time, such as the officers of this Association could supply, would have enabled such a settler to seek employment from some farmer for a few years, after which time he could select land suitable for cultivation, and likely to yield a steady return.

Another branch of the work is, to meet such cases as the following:—

Men or boys may arrive having qualities fitting them to make good citizens, but with limited means, although able and willing to work if employment could be found for them. To such persons, after careful enquiry, the Association may be able to make slight advances, to be repaid out of the first earnings obtained.

A case of this kind occurred, when a substantial looking farmer arrived at the port with his family of two adult girls and three children in their teens. They had little money, but expected to join the eldest son who had settled in the Peace River country. It was a serious matter to keep such a family in Montreal. But a private citizen took the risk of advancing sufficient funds to make up the shortage in railway fare and for necessary expenses, and they were enabled to continue their journey.