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"The Coming of the People."

A Review of the Work of the Immigration Branch of the Department of Interior, with some Reference to the Allied Work of the Mounted Police.

By L. M. Fortier, Chief Clerk.

Some forty-five years ago, when the Hon. Mr. Rogers' great predecessor, Thomas D'Arcy McGee, was Minister of Immigration, it was considered a subject of congratulation in the Minister's annual report to Parliament that in one year 27,084 European immigrants had landed in Canada, 4,303 of whom had declared their intention of remaining in this country — the rest being birds of passage to the United States. Steamers and sailing ships were both still employed in the passenger traffic between European ports and Canada, the steamers making average passages of 12 days from Liverpool to Quebec, 21 days from London and 15½ from Glasgow; the sailing ships averaging 33⅓ days from the United Kingdom and 50⅔ from continental ports!

The Scene Has Changed.

Contrast all this with the "floating palaces" and seven day passages of today, and with the arrival last year at our ocean ports and across the international boundary of over 300,000 immigrants declaring their intention of remaining in Canada!

Winnipeg is closer to Liverpool now than Quebec was at the time referred to, and the comforts of travelling are of course incomparably greater. Now, as then, however, we get our immigrants largely

by advertising. In the time of our poet minister the department published a periodical in England, known as the Canadian Emigration Gazette, and gave it a wide circulation through the penny post; today various other methods are adopted of disseminating information about the resources of this country. Attractive bills, maps and pictures are hung in schools and public places. School children are supplied with Canadian geographies, and their elders have pamphlets and handbooks to read, and Canadian free land advertisements stare them in the face in their daily and weekly papers. Our Government leaves no stone unturned in its endeavors to make Canada and its attractions and capabilities well known to the average "Britisher;" and the same efforts are put forth in other European countries likely to yield a good class of immigrants, and where we are permitted anything like a free hand. Everywhere, therefore, where it is possible to do so the invitation is being sent out to sturdy sons of the soil and their families to come and occupy our vacant lands and enjoy all the good things we have to offer them in Canada.

Personal Canvass.

Personal canvassing by agents is also resorted to, and the most suc-