

000,000); and recently left "the cold climate of Alaska" for the warm arms of a wife, finding the latter in London. It is a romantic story, and likely to turn the head of any fortune-seeking young Englishman, who regards the London "Daily Telegraph" as a reliable guide to the town of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Dawson City, Alaska.

A Good Representative.

Lord Strathcona's letter to the London "Times" is calculated to give great encouragement to those who may be contemplating emigration from Great Britain, and as a plain and simple statement of facts it sets forth in captivating style the advantages offered by Canada as a new home for "persons with capital, agriculturalists, tenant farmers, male and female farm servants and domestic servants." The High Commissioner says:—

"The great need of Canada is population, and there is room for many millions of people in the different provinces. With a territory nearly as large as Europe, its inhabitants are not more numerous than those of London. Free farms of 160 acres are offered to settlers in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, where thousands of square miles of fertile lands remain unoccupied. This land is suitable for mixed farming, for the raising of cattle, and for dairying. Crown grants may also be acquired in the other provinces, and improved farms at reasonable prices. I may mention also the great mineral wealth of the Dominion, its fisheries, its forests of timber, and its growing manufacturing industries, all of which are capable of great development if the necessary capital is forthcoming.

"Canada seems to have entered upon an era of prosperity. The harvests of the past two years have been generally satisfactory. The other industries, as well as agriculture, have shown considerable expansion and the export trade, notably in food products of all kinds, is rapidly increasing. The same remark applies to the import trade, especially from the Mother Country, which cannot fail to be benefited by the preferential tariff. The inauguration of penny postage will certainly also have the happiest results in cementing the bond of union between the different parts of the empire."

Lest there should be any trouble in obtaining information, the Dominion Government have established agents in the United Kingdom, whose names and addresses may be found on a notice displayed in almost every post office, through the courtesy of the Postmaster-General. From these agents and from the Commissioner's department, advice, information, pamphlets, and letters of introduction to the Government agents in Canada may be obtained.

Lord Strathcona adds that those who come to Canada, ready and willing to aid in the development of the country, may be assured of a cordial welcome. They will not find themselves in a strange land, but among a loyal and prosperous people, as proud of being subjects of the Queen as if their destiny had led them to reside in the United Kingdom.

The present High Commissioner is a good, benevolent and useful friend of the country he represents.

MONTREAL'S NEW CHARTER.

The Danger of More Expropriations Being Saddled on the City.

The folly of taxing capital and imposing additional burdens on the citizens of Montreal has been illustrated again and again. It is admitted by many that a reasonable addition to civic revenue is necessary, while others, and among them intelligent aldermen, allege that economy in administration is all that is needed to ensure the prosperity and welfare of the city. We believe that additional revenue is essential to efficiency in the public service. But, at the same time, no one conversant with civic affairs can deny that there is room for economy, or that a better system of administration would not result in a large saving of civic funds. In fact, additional taxation without a change in the present system of administration will be useless and ineffective. There is nothing to be gained by imposing heavier burdens on our citizens, unless a business-like system is introduced at the City Hall.

It is positively alarming to find that there is a movement on foot to impose more expropriations on the city. Expropriations have in the past added millions to our debt and hundreds of thousands of dollars to our interest charges.

They have been the means of reducing the city to its present straightened circumstances. Is it not an anomaly for Montreal to ask permission to impose additional taxes for administrative purposes, and then have the Legislature listening to those who have properties to sell at big prices to the city, the purchase of which would add thousands of dollars to our yearly outlay? Expropriations have caused all our civic financial troubles. Not only is the actual cost of properties to be considered, but also the additional amounts requisite for new paving, drains, water-pipes, etc. And when all this has been completed, the city is frequently, too frequently, mulcted in damages because of these same improvements.

To adopt the language of truth, the expropriation business was conceived in iniquity, and carried out in corruption, and, unless the Legislature desires to injure the credit of the city, it will decline to listen to any more expropriation schemes. It is well-known that what was done in connection with Notre Dame Street East was at the suggestion of interested parties who had property to sell to the city, and, as the city offered to put back the fence and remove the poles, it has certainly done all that could reasonably be expected. Moreover, the proprietors, if aggrieved, have their recourse at law for damages suffered, if any. There are tax-payers to be considered other than those who wish to enhance the value of their properties and sell same to the city. No metropolis in the wide, wide world could continue this expropriation business without ultimately ruining its credit, and surely Montreal should not be saddled with any additional burdens at present.