

REPORT OF THE DUBLIN EMIGRATION AGENT.

(MR. THOMAS CONNOLLY.)

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCY,
NORTHUMBERLAND HOUSE, DUBLIN, 31st December, 1889.

SIR,—In accordance with instructions from the High Commissioner, the Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., G.C.M.G., C.B., I have the honour to report that I have done a good season's work, although there has been a falling off in the general emigration from Ireland, and a considerable demand for emigrants in the Australian Colonies and South Africa, while in the early part of the season several thousand Irish emigrants went to the Argentine Republic and to Chili, and other States of South America, and, as usual, a large number of Irish emigrants went to the United States on prepaid tickets sent by their friends.

The emigrants I sent direct through this Agency comprised female domestic servants, general labourers, agricultural labourers, some farmers with sufficient capital to take up land, and several gentlemen with capital sufficient to engage in ranching or commercial pursuits; in fact I sent out quite a large number of saloon passengers.

Although a large number of persons called for information in relation to the Dominion, a still larger number applied for information by letter from all parts of Ireland, and from places as remote as Malta.

While I feel pleased to have done a good season's work, I am still more pleased to learn through my correspondence, and otherwise, that the large number of emigrants I have sent to Canada, during my time here, have remained there and are on the whole doing well, so that their success has assisted me very much to maintain a steady emigration of good, useful settlers. At the same time I have faithfully attended to the duties of this Agency, and endeavoured to promote the interests of Canada in this country by every means in my power, and with twenty years' experience, and the support of the High Commissioner, I find that I have no trouble whatever in maintaining the position of the Dominion.

No doubt the falling off in the general emigration from Ireland is the result of a decrease in the population, and to some improvement in the material prosperity of the country. Trade has improved, and manufactures are gradually extending. The fisheries are more productive. The railways are all paying better, and many branch lines are projected, while labour is in more demand and better paid. The harvest has been good and well saved, the hay crop abundant, and roots and green crops an average, so that there is plenty of food for cattle, while oats have been a fair crop, and barley has not been more productive or of better quality for many years, and the following report in reference to it may interest barley growers in Canada.

The total area under barley last year was 170,929 acres, but this year there were 185,981 acres, of which 132,425 acres were in Leinster, 42,178 in Munster, 5,697 in Ulster, and 5,681 in Connaught. Thus, in the language of the North-West, Leinster is the banner province, and Wexford, which had 34,061 acres under barley this year, is the banner county. It is estimated that the average yield of the entire crop will be about 6,000,000 bushels, and that about one million and a-half bushels will have to be imported to supply the demand.

The brewers and distillers are the principal consumers of barley, but it must be of good quality, and weigh from 53 to 56 pounds to the bushel. The Messrs. Guinness, Son & Company require some two million bushels annually for their brewery, and there are six brewers more and thirteen distilleries and rectifying establishments in Dublin, all making large profits and extending their trade. The manufacturers