

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA.

EMIGRATION BRANCH.

Assistant Superintendent's Office,
11 and 12 Charing Cross,
London, S. W.
10th January, 1908.

Sir :

For some time I have been devoting attention to the operations of certain Philanthropic and Charitable societies in this country, particularly in London, as far as their connection with emigration to Canada is concerned. The work of these societies has always given me the gravest anxiety, and from the information I have been able to obtain, after a close study of their methods during the past few weeks, I desire to say to you frankly, that in my judgment the classes which these organizations send to Canada are for the most part not desirable citizens. There is no doubt that all the Philanthropic and Charitable Societies engaged in the work of emigration to Canada are able to point with satisfaction to a certain proportion of their emigrants who have been successful in the Dominion. I am very far from seeking to convey the impression that all the material sent to Canada by these organizations is either unsuitable or undesirable; I readily recognize that many gratifying instances can be shown in which the emigrants availing themselves of the new conditions, have been able to start life afresh, and are able to look forward to a life of comparative comfort and competence as compared with the conditions in their former home.

I do not think, however, that emigration to Canada is a solution of the London unemployed problem, and I do not think, speaking generally, that the class of persons coming within the scope of the Associations to which I am referring in this report, are suited to the requirements of Canada and are likely to succeed in any great numbers in this country, even under the most favorable conditions.