

## CANADA : A FIELD FOR EMIGRATION.

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Emigration may not be a matter of choice, but to some it is a necessity. The British people, and more especially the Scotch, are found in all parts of the world. It is to be regretted that Dr. Nansen was unable to verify the oft-repeated assertion that a Scotchman is perched on the pinnacle of the North Pole, calmly surveying the surrounding icebergs. Many countries afford attractions for those who have to leave their native land, but, when a Briton is far from the old country, he is pervaded by a feeling of homely security, when he finds himself in one of the colonies, under the shadow of the British flag. While each of the colonies has its advantages and disadvantages, Canada has much to be said in its favour.

Those who can look back to their school days twenty years or more will remember that geography books described the British possessions in North America as consisting of the provinces of Ontario or Upper Canada, Quebec or Lower Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the remainder being comprehended under the general title of the North-west Territory. Although this vast region contains an area six times as large as that of all the provinces above named, it was depicted on the maps of those days in a similar manner to the unexplored interior of Darkest Africa, save for a shading representing the Rocky Mountains and a blue colouring showing the position of several large lakes with long names, which sorely taxed the memory of youthful students. Between the eastern provinces which are thickly wooded, except where cleared, and the Rocky Mountains, lie the open prairies, described by Rudyard Kipling as "a vast expanse of nothingness." The breadth of the prairies from east to west is about 900 miles, and they extend from the United States boundary away to the far north. The area of this immense tract of country, which is usually called in Canada the North-west, including Manitoba, is nearly equal to that of Europe, but the northern portion has a soil too sterile, and a climate too severe, to admit of the successful pursuit of agriculture. Nevertheless the portion of this great territory, which is capable of pro-