

LETTER OF TRANSMISSION AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS.

HON. ROBERT ROGERS, M.P.,
Minister of the Interior,
Ottawa.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit the report on immigration to Canada which you instructed me to make on November 9 last, and a short account of the work I have done, and a summary of the proposals that have grown out of it.

Between the receipt of your letter of instructions and December 23, I visited the department at Ottawa, and had interviews with premiers and other ministers and officials of the provincial governments of Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Owing to the election in Prince Edward Island, a conference with Premier Matheson was postponed and ultimately took place at Ottawa. There were also open conferences with settlers at Lloydminster (Saskatchewan and Alberta), Liskeard and Englehart (New Ontario), and Kentville (Nova Scotia); and I met the Boards of Trade at Toronto and St. John, and Canadian Clubs at Winnipeg, Vancouver and St. John.

On Christmas night I left home for England, arriving on January 3, and embarking for Canada on February 9. Most of the time was spent in London, but I visited Exeter, Birmingham, Liverpool, York, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dublin and Belfast, where the Department has offices; and also went to Woking, Maidstone, Beckenham, Norbury, East Ham, Norwich, Worcester, Churchdown, Gloucester, Bristol and Plymouth. Conferences were held with many representative persons who are interested in emigration to Canada, including the Rt. Hon. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, who expressed the views of the Imperial Government on emigration to the last Imperial Conference; Lord Pentland, Secretary for Scotland; the Emigration Board of the Colonial Office, and officials of the Board of Trade. A conference with representatives of emigration societies was presided over by Lord Strathcona, the High Commissioner for Canada, to whom I am indebted for much kindness. Other conferences with individual societies took place, and also with representatives of the transportation companies and with booking agents.

In looking for a policy that can be broadly applied to nine separate provinces as well as to the Dominion as a whole, it is obvious that a clear apprehension of fundamental principles is most necessary, first, to a grasp of a complex proposition, and secondly, to an effective administration of it. To set forth in detail the facts that have produced the conclusions would necessitate a volume that would have taken months to write. The mention of admin-