

## THE PROBLEM OF IMMIGRATION 27

purpose of going on the land with three of my sons. My eldest, Dr. —, is now in practice at G—. He is a Guy's man. When I arrived I discovered that the Government had no land suitable—in fact, only small areas in isolated and detached portions, quite unsuitable and extortionately high in price, owing to the whole of the available land of this country being in the hands of the large owners, who won't part except on a boom price.

"I was led to believe by the agents at home that I should be welcomed to this country—first, because I was a man of capital, with a large family, and secondly, because I was going on the land with grown-up sons who had been specially trained for the purpose. My sons had been through a course at an agricultural college and the Crystal Palace School of Mechanical Engineering. They are 19 and 27 years of age. But I had the utmost difficulty to get them placed, although these boys are hard workers and have given every satisfaction.

"This is a grand country if it were properly settled; but under the present system it will never be settled. How can it? The Australians want our capital, and only so many settlers as the financial houses can deal with, because these institutions are at present up to their necks in loans on land and cannot cope with more. It is their fear that, if they open up the country too fast, others will smell the good chances out and come and share the cake.

"There is a great and prosperous future for this terra incognita, and you will do the Empire the