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CANADIAN IMMIGRANTS.

From time to time a cry is raised that some great scheme should be devised for the transplantation of English labourers *en masse*—more especially the unskilled labourers of our large cities—to the Dominion of Canada with its hundreds and thousands of acres of fertile farming land, its railways pushing long fingers further, and further into the great North West, and its thousand and one opportunities for strong-armed industrious folk to make way for themselves and a living for their families such as they have never known in the old country. On the other hand Canada replies in most emphatic language, "Do no such thing. Send farmers, with capital; send girls fit for service, as many as you please; send farm labourers, especially steady single men; send mechanics as long as they are good ones, but keep your unskilled town labour to yourselves. Our own cities are full of labourers. We have no room for more."

Where lies the truth? Shall we in England, groaning with our chronic overplus of unskilled labour, rest satisfied with the Canadian reply, and cease to aid or promote emigration of anyone to Canada except the capitalist, the farm labourer, or the servant girl?

Certainly, Canada ought to know what is good for her, and nothing but harm can be done by thrusting emigrants upon an inhospitable shore. At the same time there are always two sides to a question, and, sometimes, more than one motive for the expression of an opinion. The present writer, having lately returned from a careful examination of the condition of English emigrants in the mills and factories of Montreal, as well as on the farms of Ontario and Manitoba, ventures to offer a few remarks upon the matter drawn from personal experience.

We may dispose at once, and for ever, if that were possible, of the notion that under any conceivable circumstances "Colonization" of English unskilled labour would be wise or right. It has been tried on a small scale, and has miserably failed. It is bad for Canada, very bad for the people who promote and organize the scheme, worst of all for the colonists themselves. Unless there