

of the Atlantic often prevents the recognition of such absurdities.

The only possible opening for criticism which our system as conducted by us could afford to any but the ignorant or the interested, would be in the case of failing to carry out what we undertake. The same criticism would be applicable in case of failure we presume to any of the transactions of life with the similar result, namely, want of confidence. It would be strange indeed, if motives of mere self-interest, let alone any higher ones, did not prevent us from such senseless blunders as that. With a three years' existence moreover, the proofs to the contrary are always so easily available, that we may dismiss, I think the subject as irrelevant. With regard to the premium. It is placed as low as is compatible with efficient management. The actual expenditure is considerable. In addition to this the time and services of responsible people have to be retained. From the peculiar nature of the work too, the anxiety is constant and great, the correspondence is very large indeed. If we persuaded and induced inexperienced people to send their sons to America, as to some eldorado and tied them down by written agreements the purport of which they only half understood, and in the case of failure attributed it as a matter of course to the emigrant and flung off all responsibility, then probably the trouble would be immensely lessened. The class of people who worked with us would be of a cheaper and an inferior stamp, the anxiety would be unfelt, the responsibility comparatively nothing, and the premium less, while the number of young men undertaken might for a time at any rate be much greater than we now care to receive.

A fairly long experience however, has evinced conclusive proof that our terms are at the minimum point possible for efficient work. As an indication of this I may point out that almost every other channel for this kind of emigration advertised throughout England, whether by agencies, companies, or individual settlers is very much more costly. With regard to the terms required by American farmers English people at times are apt to be a little unreasonable. They will pay without a murmur hundreds

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