

first instalment of emigrants under this scheme. Of the fifteen hundred about 250 were English, and shipped at Southampton, the remainder being Irish, chiefly from the West and South.

"From the first moment that the proposed free passes were announced those anxious to obtain them were warned not to do so, and several prominent Catholic ecclesiastics warned their parishioners of the dangers they would have to encounter in proceeding to a country altogether strange and the language of which was an unknown tongue to them. This was specially the case with Limerick, where several priests wrote condemning the movement. The warnings, however justified they may prove, appear to have had but little effect, as no less than 470 left that county and city undeterred by the advice to the contrary which they received. While this represents but a small percentage of the applicants whom the agents had to refuse for various reasons, about 25 per cent. of the entire lot are mechanics, such as carpenters, joiners, &c., while the remainder are largely composed of farm labourers, with a considerable sprinkling of plasterers. None but men with families were accepted by the agents, single men being ineligible under the terms set forth in the forms of application. The agents are Mr. O'Meara, Dublin, and Mr. J. S. Dillon, Cork, both of whom looked after the shipping of the emigrants at Queens-town, and attended to any complaints which they had to make; the latter, however, were very few. There was once comical exception, that of a sturdy fellow who had been taking a parting glass, and who tearfully requested that he might be supplied with sweet cake with his tea.

"Considerable anxiety is felt as to how the emigrants will get on in Buenos Ayres, and there is no doubt should satisfactory accounts be received, other ships similarly freighted will rapidly follow in the wake of the "Dresden." Already almost all the berths have been taken on board a vessel which it is expected will sail on the 15th of next month."

Of course, intending emigrants could hardly fail to take advantage of the favourable inducements offered, and to expect great things from the flattering accounts given of the country by its agents. I am afraid, however, from the reports which have appeared in the newspapers, that very many of them were sadly disappointed, and their great expectations were not realized.

Canada, I think, can at least be congratulated upon the fact that intending emigrants are not flattered or deceived by your agents, nor do they find the country other than it is represented to be in the admirably prepared pamphlets so largely circulated through all parts of the United Kingdom, and if the number of emigrants has not been so large as in the year 1888, a much larger proportion has been of the tenant farmer class, many of them fairly well provided with funds, and, so far as I could judge of those I have seen, were a really superior class of emigrants.

In my experience here of over two and a-half years, I have learned how much emigration is assisted by the encouraging letters received from those who have recently gone to Canada, who have been able, from practical experience and knowledge of the country, to advise their friends to emigrate.

Canada as a field for emigration has always been in considerable favour in the north of Ireland, and would receive by far the largest share of those emigrating were it not for the great inducements offered by the Cape Colonies, Queensland and the Argentine Republic, &c., &c., and moreover, these inducements are principally to farm labourers and female domestics, both of which Canada is in need of.

There is no doubt that the large sum of money required by an intending emigrant to Canada, who has a family of children, to purchase tickets for them, say to Winnipeg, is a very important matter, and does, to some extent, interfere with a very large emigration. It is not at all unusual to find families composed of, say, from six to ten persons, and the sum of money required to purchase the tickets *alone* to the North-West would be from one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars, which is by no means a small amount for a small farmer or farm labourer to expend on his travelling expenses to reach the locality where he proposes to settle, and which would go a considerable way towards keeping the same family for a whole year in provi-