

conditions, it would remain longer unsettled and consequently unproductive. The policy which should guide Canada in disposing of ungranted public lands ought to be such that, while offering every possible encouragement to productive immigration, would secure a revenue from these lands at the earliest possible date. This object we believe, can be secured by extending the free grant system as much as possible. And Canada must let the people of Europe know what the advantages are that she offers to those that are willing to immigrate hither in search of new homes. Mr. Herring, in his letter, complains that there is a lack of this information. If Canada wishes to become the great and powerful nation which nature has evidently designed her to be, she must have a productive population, and in seeking this population among the people of other lands she must be prepared to give such definite information concerning the advantages and inducements she offers to those willing to accept them as will enable them to arrive at correct conclusions in the premises. The lack of such information in the past has been the cause of much injury to Canada; let it not be so in the future.

#### EMIGRATION TO CANADA.

To the Editor.

SIR: The season is fast advancing for the renewal of this, to Canada at least, important matter. As far as I can judge the applicants, though not so numerous as during the past two years, are considerable, and of good type. Work in the Old Country is fair, but many of the friends of late settlers are striving manfully to join them. Emigration clubs and societies have greatly increased. From some cause, no Governor or Provincial pamphlets have reached your indefatigable Commissioner, Mr. Dixon; this lack of information is greatly felt, and will lead to a diminution of emigrants. If Allans had not issued 100,000 pamphlets, matters would have been much worse. The million sterling our enterprising countrymen have voluntarily subscribed towards the sick, wounded and famished French, has seriously interfered with the funds of Emigration Societies. I expect this will retard, though not interfere with emigrants being helped out. After our emigration conference at Ottawa, and that too during the earthquake. I had hoped a system of "Passage Warrants" would have resulted; by these a settler might have got out his relatives and friends at a cheaper rate; but I trust this is only deferred until a more convenient time. Canada greatly wants population. The late settlers speak very highly of their present position and future prospects. The school system, the closing of grog shops on Sundays, and the free grants are greatly approved. Most sincerely do I hope every encouragement and sympathy will be shown to the newly arrived. They require it. I have given and illustrated lecture in different parts of England this season, and hope to

have awakened fresh interest towards Canada, which, indeed, has been a blessed place for many. I shall always look back with feelings of unmixed happiness for the very kind reception, hospitality and encouragement I received during my late visit among you. Praying God will abundantly bless and prosper Canada I remain, yours,

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#### REPORT OF MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

From the report of the Dominion Minister of Agriculture the following interesting facts are obtained. In 1870 there were 11,442 letters received by the department against 9,919 in 1869. The number of letters sent was 20,276, against 13,634 in the previous year. The number of trade marks, patents, &c., issued was 1,110 against 965 in 1869. The number of immigrants who arrived last year and were attended to by the Department was 69,019. Of these 44,475 arrived by the St. Lawrence route, which is the largest number ever known since the year 1854. The number who arrived by the Suspension Bridge was considerable less than last year, being 23,857 against 30,326 in 1869, 437 immigrants at Halifax; 29 at St. John, N. B., and 31 at Miramichi. By far the largest number came in steamships. Out of the 44,475 who landed at Quebec, 35,074 were from the United Kingdom, and 31,714 came by steamships. The total amount expended for immigration purposes was \$73,440. Of this sum \$16,892 were for Quarantine establishments, &c. The cost of the European agencies was \$13,564. The amount paid out to immigrants direct by Dominion Government, included in the sum above, was \$26,932. In addition to this the Ontario Government paid \$24,382, and the Quebec Government \$6,375 for immigration purposes. The amount of the Dominion capitation tax on the immigrants was \$42,000. The number of immigrants who passed through the Dominion of the United States last year was 44,107. The number of those who declared their intention of remaining in Canada was 24,019. The number of laborers required by Ontario this year is 25,000, while Quebec wants 5,000. Of course there is room for a large additional number of settlers.

The report from Grosse Isle show that last year was the healthiest season ever known. There were 1474 patients admitted to the marine and immigration Hospital at Quebec, the mortality among whom was three and three sevenths per cent.

#### Arts and Manufactures.

##### ANOTHER MONSTER STEAMSHIP:

The largest vessel ever built on the bank of the Mersey was launched February 9th. The Liverpool Courier says that with the exception of the Great Eastern, no larger craft floats in any waters. The new ship is the screw steamer Egypt, built for the service of the National Steamship Company