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## British Immigration Aid Association

In addition to our circular setting forth the objects for which this Association is formed, and the officers chosen to initiate and prosecute the undertaking, it has been thought that an explanatory note may be useful to members desiring to invite others to join, and to those so invited.

First, it has been ascertained that the population of the rural districts of the province of Quebec, as well as the adjoining province of Ontario, has not kept pace with the growth of the cities and towns; and sufficient attention has not been drawn to the advantages of the older settlements as compared with districts more recently opened up. Similar conditions apply to the maritime provinces, all calling for greater energy in making the claims of such regions known to immigrants from the mother country.

In Quebec, during the 40 years preceding the census of 1911, the rural parts of the whole province increased by some 73,000; but large territories had been added to the north where the increase had been 75,000, and south of the St. Lawrence; extensions to the east had added some 95,000 to the population, and these two being set off against the apparent increase, shows an actual loss in the older settlements of 97,000 persons. During this period the urban population increased 800,000.

### RURAL PARTS LOSE POPULATION

In Ontario, in like manner, while the urban population increased by a million, there was an