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The stimulation afforded to the material advance of all Canada by a large and well conditioned immigration has never been questioned. Its resources may be not always proportionate to its numerical amount, and a large class of our yearly arrivals have but little money left after reaching their new country. every season many persons of considerable capital are comprehended among the emigrants to Canada, and a much larger number possess means and money which in the aggregate form an important addition to the general capital of the country adopted by them. The industrious and hardy labourer, even without a trade or following, is never long without employment, to the benefit of the older settlers who furnish him with work, not less than to his own advantage. And although every large immigration must, it seems, include some who are burthensome, from the absence of power or inclination to assist themselves, the province is now of such extent and population as to be enabled, without much difficulty, soon to absorb this class as the others. The charge which it entails on the resources of the province is amply compensated in the general result. It would be difficult, if not impracticable, to ascertain the particular classes of the immigration of 1858, which present the largest proportionate decrease; but even if it may be assumed that the comparatively wealthy immigration has fallen off no more than the labouring classes, there is subject of great regret in the comparison of the immigration of 1858 with that of any previous year since 1839. At Quebec the immigration for 1858 has fallen off from that of 1857 by nearly 60 per cent. At New York a similar comparison shows a deficit of upwards of 58 per cent. Taking the United Kingdom's emigration to the two ports respectively, it will be found that at either port the falling off in 1858 is in the ratio of 56 per cent. At New York the emigration received from the continent of Europe has fallen off 58 per cent. At Quebec the number of the Germans and Norwegians arrived in 1858 is less than in 1857, by upwards of 66 per cent.

There is furnished in these statistics of the year's emigration from the United Kingdom and the continent, to other parts of the world, evidence to the effect that it is not within the province that we are to look for the causes which have so much reduced the arrivals at Quebec. It is true that Canada has suffered a sensible check in its course of material prosperity, and that such a disturbance in the relations of its several internal interests has taken place, as could not under any circumstances have failed to affect the prospects of immigrants dependent on employment of every nature, and particularly of those entitled to be classed as skilled workmen. But Canada has suffered in this respect only in common with the rest of the commercial world, perhaps in a less degree than most other countries; and its prospects as a destination for emigrants of even very moderate resources, have always borne a comparison with those of any part of the United States. All the emigration of the year, whether from the United Kingdom or the continent, has fallen off in a large degree, and the deficit in the arrivals at New York, as before stated, the chief immigration port for the northern half of the American Union, is quite as large, proportionately, as that apparent at Quebec. There is room for assigning the reduced Canadian immigration, for the greatest part at least, to causes affecting the condition and prospects of the classes who furnish it, in their respective countries in Europe, rather than to any falling off in the promises of advantage which the province has been latterly able to offer.

The wealthier classes who may have proposed to emigrate from Europe, have been deterred by a difficulty which must have been experienced throughout the year, in realising property of all kinds, and in rendering it transferable to this continent. All persons having small holdings of landed property, must have been unable to effect sales, except at large sacrifice; and even for the conversion of goods, household furniture, and other small resources, such as are depended on by the humbler ranks, the means must have been every where much reduced. At the same time the wages of the labouring classes in Ireland, particularly,