

## MECHANICS, ARTIZANS, &amp;C.

Very few of this class have passed through this agency this year. The general feeling among such is that the colonies do not at present offer them sufficient inducements to emigrate.

## UNSUITABLE EMIGRANTS.

I have experienced much trouble this year in dealing with this numerous and increasing class of people. During the whole season I have been almost daily called upon by clerks and general labourers, of a very deplorable stamp, anxious to get away to the colonies. I have been firm in my action, offering them no encouragement, and am sure by doing so I have kept away from Canada many persons who would only have been a source of trouble to the country. No efforts have been made this year, as were formerly, to put in motion a pauper emigration. The prompt action taken last year to suppress any such movement has taught the Union authorities to relinquish all ideas of ridding themselves of their burdens by drafting them out to the Dominion.

## EMIGRATION SOCIETIES.

Within the past two years many societies have been started for encouraging emigration to the colonies, but, with a few exceptions, all have fallen through, and that such is the case is not to be regretted, the authorities, as a rule, being by no means over careful in selecting good men, choice generally resting upon influence and not upon general fitness for hard work.

## CAPITALISTS.

Money is sorely needed in many parts of Canada to extend her trade and develop her resources. By means of the numerous papers forwarded me by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, I have kept myself well informed upon all matters relating to Canada's commerce, manufactures, mining industries and agriculture, and whenever openings for the investment of capital have come under my notice I have been careful to bring the same before the wealthy business men in this neighbourhood.

The duties of this agency are by no means limited to emigration simply, but extend to all matters affecting Canadian trade with this port. I am frequently called upon for information and advice by merchants, shippers, and others having business relations with Canada, and have been able to render good service in many instances.

## BRISTOL TRADE REPORT.

This year has again proved very disastrous to farmers. Although the weather has been most favourable in every respect, as compared with the cold and wet summer of last year, the reaction has proved of but little benefit to farmers generally, as the remarkable prices of their goods have been so low, as to make the undertaking entirely unprofitable. The fairly good price hay and straw fetched last season was an inducement to many farmers to lay down as much as possible in clover and grass. A splendid crop was the result, but prices had, unfortunately, fallen 50 per cent., for, whereas hay and straw commanded £5 per ton last year, the value this year is only £2 10s. on an average. This result will not pay the farmer's rent and labour.

The yield of grain, notwithstanding the extremely favourable weather, is small, and in most cases inferior. The substitute for malt now employed in brewing, together with the large foreign importations, will cause barley to be sown less and less in future.

I have mixed a great deal of late with the farming class, and I find they are convinced that they can no longer pretend to grow grain and compete with the Canadians, and consequently lands are being sown down to pasture, &c. Farmers are now considering whether stock-raising pays in England. Some are doubtful, while many think