

THE BYSTANDER.

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IMMIGRATION into the North West, up to the present time, though large, has not been quite so large as was hoped. The country will be peopled: but it will be peopled, we apprehend, by the general march westward of population on this continent rather than by a special stream of immigration drawn from England through Canada. All attempts to give the current an artificial direction for the benefit of British dependencies must be said to have failed: at least if they have ever succeeded it has been, as in the case of New Zealand, by lavish outlay and by burdening the colony with taxes which will in the end drive away as many settlers as the subsidies brought. Besides, New Zealand is geographically so situated that when the emigrant lands, there he must stay; whereas when he lands in Canada he finds himself on the skirt of a great continent, full of wealth, over which he is always tempted to extend his wanderings; for abundant experience has shown that with the man who leaves his native shore in quest of bread, the visions of Imperialist politicians have no influence whatever, nor does the political line for a moment arrest his steps. Moreover, the emigrant chosen by natural selection is the only one worth having. There are indigent masses in the purlieus of the English cities which might possibly be tempted hither, but would come only to perish. Of that agricultural labour of which there is assumed to be a large surplus in England cer-