

end to the other of it, a free grant of land to settlers from the Government. The distinction, therefore, between Ontario and the United States, in this respect, was that, whereas the former gave land without any charge, and upon the condition of settlement, and having given it, protected it from seizure for twenty years, in the United States, they sold the land for 5s an acre, and then gave it, not as to its entire area, but only up to a certain value, the benefit of a homestead exemption." [Cheers.]

It is a great pity that the *Herald* did not take the trouble to inform itself with more accuracy as to the law of the land it so much loves and admires. We have before us the latest circular issued by the Department of the Interior at Washington, under date 10th March, 1869. The purport of the circular as stated in the opening sentences, is as follows:

"The following is communicated in reference to the manner of acquiring title to the public lands under different laws of Congress:

There are two classes of public lands, the one class at \$1 25 per acre, which is designated as *minimum*, and the other at \$2 50 per acre, or *double minimum*.

And that there may be no mistake as to the absolute correctness of Mr. White's statement which it appears is as much required in Canada as in England, we quote from the circular further:

13. LAWS EXTENDING THE HOMESTEAD PRIVILEGE.—The original Homestead Act of May 20, 1862, gives to every citizen, and to those who had declared their intentions to become such, the right to a homestead on *surveyed* lands. This is conceded to the extent of one quarter section, or 160 acres, at \$1 25 per acre, or 80 acres of double minimum in any *organized district* embracing *surveyed* public lands.

The above, we take it, requires no further comment, and we ask our Montreal contemporary as a simple matter of justice to a gentlemen whom it has grossly and offensively maligned to make the *amende honorable*.

EMIGRATION OF BOYS FOR FARM SERVICE.

Among other projects in the Emigration line which are engaging the attention of benevolent people in England, we learn that a movement is on foot to send out a lot of boys from 14 to 18 years of age, with a view to their being employed as farm hands, or in the service of gentlemen who may need some one to take charge of a horse, and make himself generally useful. A maiden lady of leisure and means who paid a visit to this country last summer, and thought she saw an opening here for this class of emigrants, is taking a warm interest in this enterprise. A letter of hers, not meant for publication, but requesting us to bring the matter before the Canadian public, in the *ONTARIO FARMER*, states the object in view so clearly that we take the liberty of quoting a few sentences from it. She says:—"There seems to be a great willingness on

the part of the boys to go, and no lack of funds to help them, if we feel sure they are wanted, and places are open for them, when we shall have brought them to your district, at various stations in numbers exactly according to the wants of the gentlemen or farmers who can employ them. In this country there are a very large number of boys from 14 to 18 years old, who would love to emigrate to Canada, if they can be employed, and find good food and fair play. We have the means of landing them at your doors, and only want to know how many doors in the new Dominion of Canada will open to them, that every lad may find a master, and every master a useful lad from our groups of boys ready for their stout service."

It is proposed to send out at least a hundred lads to begin with. Mr. Norman Hamilton, of Paris, has the matter in hand, and at our last advices had secured places for fifty six of the expected youngsters. Any parties desirous of being in this way supplied with needed help, will do well to address Mr. Hamilton.

We regret that our information regarding this movement came to hand just too late for insertion in our last issue. It is, however, still time enough for parties who may feel an interest in this undertaking to lend it co-operation. We have much pleasure in expressing our approbation of the matter, and wishing our fair friend and her co-adjutors all the success their benevolent endeavors deserve. If in any way we can aid in promoting this or kindred schemes, our columns will be ever open, and our pen always ready to do what we can to help people our land with useful emigrants of all ages.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND ARTS FOR 1869.

We have received but have not yet had time thoroughly to examine this important public document, consisting, as it does, of 322 large octavo pages, its perusal will require more than a few moments of leisure. The report proper occupies no great amount of space; there are, however, voluminous appendices of great value, particularly those containing analyses of reports from Agricultural Societies, returns from Mechanics' Institutes, and the doings of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association. We shall endeavor in an early issue to give our readers a full account of the reported operations of that department of our Provincial Government which presides over the agricultural interest, and is, as we believe, doing its best to be useful to that interest.

WENTWORTH AND HAMILTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—A special meeting of these Societies was held on Saturday at Cook's Hotel. The chair was occu-