

George's Society of this city recently sent an application through this Agency, to the head office in Quebec, claiming to be reimbursed sums expended by them last summer in affording relief of this nature where the restriction on the issue of the passes would not warrant us in granting them. This application is, I believe, at present in the hands of Dr. Taché; however, I would not be understood as pressing my views in this matter upon the attention of your Committee, my desire being only to state the facts as they came under my notice. True we had at one time last year brought to Quebec, by two vessels, the *St. Lawrence* and the *Thames*, a class of emigrants from England quite unfit for this country. There were some seven or eight hundred in all, arriving within a short time of each other; the portion of these sent to Kingston, as well as those sent from Quebec, arrived in this city, for whom we had to provide employment within the precincts of this Agency. They consisted of boiler makers, iron workers, fitters and hammersmiths, mostly from iron yards in England. Their avocations and habits of life were but illy suited to this country. They were sent out by a Committee in London, England, who paid their passages hence. They were no loss to England, and certainly, from their dissolute habits, men and women, no gain to Canada. They arrived entirely destitute and penniless. I represented these things at head-quarters in Quebec, and to our Agent in Wolverhampton, in order to guard against a recurrence of them.

It is my pleasing duty to state, from all the information I have received, that we may safely look for a large and healthy emigration this season. Amongst the numerous applicants for information, many were men with considerable capital in quest of improved farms; and while it is to be deplored that so many emigrants pass our door on their way to the Western States after arriving on our shores, and now that the lands are ready for settlement, it is more than probable that a much larger ratio of increase than that of last season, already noticed, will continue. I may be pardoned mentioning one of many instances that occurred here of parties being influenced to remain when undecided as to whether they should make this or the neighboring Republic their domicile.

The instance I refer to particularly is that of a Mr. Fuller, who arrived here last season with a family of eleven, six grown-up sons, principally mechanics, and possessing in money \$10,000 together with an ample outfit. He came to the office, conversed with me, and the result was that he determined to go and see the country in the vicinity of Orillia, in the County of Simcoe. I advised him, before leaving the city, to deposit his money, and accompanied him to the Canadian Bank of Commerce, where I introduced him to its president, the Hon. Wm. McMaster. Furnished with all the information I could give him and lists of lands, he proceeded and purchased first 200 acres and located his family thereon, and subsequently purchased 200 acres more, and is now well pleased with the country, and expects, by his example and advice, to influence many others with capital to follow him this season. He is a most intelligent industrious man and a valuable settler. Another party from New Zealand, with \$5,000 in hand, settled within one mile of Orillia, and expects to draw here a much larger amount on the conversion of lands and stock owned by him in New Zealand. He came to this country for the benefit of his health which is now quite restored, and he is determined to make Canada his home.

The cause of some little additional expense being incurred at this Agency during the winter months has arisen from the increased number of emigrants arriving *via* Portland. Between 1,000 and 1,100 reached this point, many of them good settlers remaining in the country. Of this number many were destitute of means and were assisted,—in all 134½ men, 29 women, and 33 children. I would therefore recommend that a Canadian Agent should be on the spot on the arrival of the ocean steamers, when a large portion of these emigrants might be directed to Canada. If it is found a necessity to furnish them with information and assistance during the summer months at Quebec, surely it would be equally politic to do the same at Portland in the winter; and this service could be supplied from some of the present agencies without any new appointment or additional expenses being incurred, except the disbursement on the spot. I would willingly have this duty added to this Agency if thought expedient.

Witness the case of the Owen family, who were landed without their parents or means, and would have been sent back to Europe, according to the American Law, but for the timely aid rendered at this Agency. Their passages, seven in number, had to be paid from Portland here, and onwards to their destination in the Township of Luther, in the