

with cold or hunger. The best kind of emigrants Canada can have are such as can come on their own hook, and can pay their own way all the time. It might with such take somewhat longer time to fill up the country, but it would be done more surely and more satisfactorily.

It can never be said too often to boys that they should learn a trade. It is only in this way that they can become really independent. The saying among the Jews is a good one that he who did not give his boy a trade brought him up to be a thief. With a good trade and good habits a man has nothing to fear. He will always get something to do. He is next to the farmer the most independent and most to be envied of men. Every where the great difficulty is to get boys with brains who are willing to learn a trade. The professions are ridiculously overstocked even in a young country like this. A clerk in a store or a book-keeper can be got for an old song, and yet from the idiot idea of gentility, the crowd pressing into such occupations is as great as ever. Don't dare to be true to yourselves and strike for independence by having a trade at your finger ends.

Mr. John Hallam, as chairman of the public Library has issued a circular inviting all who may have old newspapers or pamphlets or broadsides of any kind which may give useful hints about the state of things in the bye-gone days of Ontario, to send them into the Chief Librarian, Mr. Bain, for preservation and reference. TRUTH hopes that the appeal will be very successful. Every one who has at heart the success of the coming historians, political economists, and statisticians of this province will do all that is in their power to swell the collection of such pamphlets, newspapers, etc. By all means, friends, send them in. And don't say in any case that what you have would be of no use. You don't know. You may think that useless which better informed people look upon as almost beyond price.

There is something entirely too bad in the way in which poor Irish peasants are being shipped off to this western world. Apparently it is thought all right if they can only be fairly landed, either in the States or in Canada, without a penny, and that at the beginning of a severe and trying northern winter. A considerable sensation has been lately made of some cases of the kind in Toronto here. The whole benevolent denizens of the city have been roused by the details, which were evidently both too strongly drawn and given without any consultation with those who, by actual and long continued contact with the struggling poor, have learned to know pretty well what to believe and what not. Now, in the first place, a good many of these people were taken directly out of Tralee and other workhouses. They were told that when they got to Canada they would get work as soon as they landed, and at excellent wages; that they would get houses to live in without paying any rent, and that provisions were so cheap that a whole sheep could be had for about sixty cents or half a crown English,

and everything else in proportion. With such barefaced, impudent lies to begin with, how were things managed after they started? They had their passages paid. They had no clothes provided for them except those on their backs. They brought not a stick of furniture, not a quilt, not a blanket, not a bed, not an extra pair of stockings, or a great coat. Well, all that was very nice and considerate on the part of those who were shipping the poor wretches off to what they knew to be a somewhat inclement, somewhat hyperborean region in the winter time. And what more was done for them? In the clothes in which they stood, strangers, helpless, in many cases paupers without the knowledge of a word of English, they were turned adrift when they got to Toronto with the gift of a pound each to husband and wife and ten shillings for each of the children. Let it never be forgotten that as a general thing they had not the ghost of a blanket, stove or bed, and sink or swim they got each their pound and were called upon to git. Well, what has been their history since? They have all huddled together in one locality. Injudicious benevolence has, at the promptings of somewhat sensational descriptions, rushed helter skelter without plan and without concert to "rescue the perishing," and the result has been an intensification rather than a removal of the evil with the certain development of the pauper spirit with all its lies, concealments, greed and imposition. These people are, without doubt, horribly poor, dirty, and destitute, and it is infamous to send such people to this new country. But let them be helped in a rational way to help themselves. What is the use of hysterical women and almost equally hysterical men, making a mighty spasmodic ado about the whole matter, and rushing off to relieve their feelings by giving the first poor wretch they meet a couple of dollars or the worth of these in coal or bread? There are gentlemen who have been for years patiently, lovingly and laboriously going from house to house in that very locality trying to help the helpless and raise the fallen. These men have been visiting these very persons. Why not hear what they have got to say? Why not give help through their instrumentality? Why contract their work by rushing broadside on with loaves and coals and sugar, without learning first what these people have already received and what they are receiving? These people can't be allowed to starve, but it is an awful mistake to allow them all to huddle in one locality, and thereby make it a wretched, fever-stricken nest of paupers. When they are here they must be cared for, but let it all be wisely and carefully done, so that a few may not get all by their whining and others none from their self-respecting silence. It is shockingly too bad that lying agents of steamship companies, who are always sure of their percentage for every emigrant returned, should so impose upon such ignorant peasants, and it is worse that benevolence should send them out to starve, if necessary. By another season this kind of jobbing fraud and heartless cruelty should be stopped. In the meantime let everybody not take the matter exclusively in his or her own hand. Let there be con-

sultation, co-operation and a full understanding of what each needs and what each has received. Let blankets, cast off wearing apparel, stoves, beds and what not, be all sent to one place, say to the House of Industry, for storage and assortment, and let distribution be made as every one has need. TRUTH, for instance, would have more faith in the printed report of such a man as the Rev. Charles Darling, who has this Conway locality in his district, than in the planless, hysterical, indiscriminate and gushing gropings and rushings to and fro of half a dozen of amateur and excited philanthropists, who may fancy that nothing had been done till they took the whole in hand. Help by all means with both hands and all your might, good friends, but don't burden with your help as some of you are in danger of doing. Paupers are awfully easily manufactured, and perhaps it is scarcely possible avoiding the manufacture of some. But as few as possible of that most undesirable class will always be the aim of every wise and truly benevolent Canadian.

Sewer gas is making more mischief than many people suspect. One little child actually lost its life from it a little while ago in Petrolia.

It is said that there is a party rising up in the Province of Quebec whose open policy is annexation to France. If this is so, then the French friends in that region may just as well now understand as at a more distant day, that that will only be accomplished after England has fired her last gun and spent her last shilling. It is possible that one after another, the Canadian Provinces may go for annexation to the States, and if it was the general will of the people, England would not say a word in opposition. But re-annexation to France is a very different thing. Not only England, but the U. S. would have a good many things to say, and deeds to do, before that became an accomplished fact. No, gentlemen, that is a something which "cannot be did," "you bet!" Talk about selling Anticosti to France! Pshaw!

The byres to the east of the Don will have to go unless the influence of money and whiskey, together with a flavor of religion, is not too strong for the Toronto sanitarians of the day. Nice customs courtesy to great kings and bad smells and filthy sewerages will sometimes be successfully winked at if influential parties have an interest in their maintenance. Sometimes such things take place, even in the most democratic countries. Money, you see, has such a mighty power on some people.

The women have been going for Mowat in order to rope him in for the female suffrage move. Mr. Mowat is too gallant to need much roping. He says he is prepared to grant it as soon as women indicate that they want it. But dear good Attorney-General that is not the way in which the leader of a great free people ought to proceed. What is right ought to be granted whether it is asked for or not. What a pagan farce to say that children in mines would be protected as soon as they gave the hint that they wanted to be, or that gambling should be suppressed as soon as, &c., or that the election law

should be made more stringent when &c. ! That is not the way for a true leader. He ought, indeed, so far to follow public opinion, but he ought to lead and educate, and guide it as well. It is somewhat difficult to say if women should be members of Parliament and take part in the public service as for instance Prime Ministers. Nobody is asking that at present. It would be a little awkward to be sure if the Finance Minister could not make the budget speech on account of an interesting domestic occurrence, &c.

It seems as if Toronto at any rate were fairly in for Presbyterian marriages in churches as a means for displaying the finery and vulgar manners of those who figure as principals and who wish to be for the time being on exhibition. Marriages in churches are all very well among Roman Catholics and Episcopalians, for the simple reason that with these it is thought that only thus can they be duly celebrated. It is quite different with others, whose proceedings are evidently dictated either by flunky imitateness or an inherent love for vulgar display. One poor girl says she would like to have her marriage in church, but the people she must invite are not able to dress well enough for that, so that she must regretfully forgo the pleasure. Another would rather die than forgo such a sensation. And so it goes on, till every person of any tolerable amount of self respect will flee from the church at such a time, as if it were smitten with the plague. To cap all, some like to have it at night, so that they may have a greater crowd, and so that the paint on the cheeks of the fair ladies may not be seen so distinctly in all its native reality. If a few get their ribs crushed, and all that, so much the better. In short, the whole system is one of stupid, vulgar, upstart snobbery, which ought to be left severely alone by every person who has the smallest particle of self respect.

A girl of the name of Mary Churchill, has been making a sensation on the other side of the lines, by running away from her father's house. One of those homes of comfort and luxury, which are usually thought so much of, and praised so highly. After a few weeks of absence and agony to her parents, Mary has been brought home in triumph, and has been cordially forgiven. After all, the case is not so bad. It seems the cause of Mary's exodus was her being condemned to practice on the piano, for four hours every day. This has usually been thought an affliction which falls exclusively upon the unfortunate neighbors. The case of the poor girls condemned to the frightful drudgery has not been sufficiently considered. Mary would not stand it. Rather than that she would sacrifice all the comforts of home. She accordingly went, and she has returned singing *Io triumphe*, for she has received the solemn promise that the daily four hours of torture should not be insisted upon. Mary has also a peculiar taste for washing and dressing fine linen, and got employment at the same when away on her romancing. A girl that protests against piano practice, and takes to laundry work as a duck to water, must have grit in her. Some young man ought to look after Mary as a wife.