

First: Why have we had such contradictory reports upon the condition of our emigrants in Canada?

Secondly: Can emigration to Canada be safely recommended; and if so, what facilities exist for the protection and general welfare of our emigrants?

CONTRADICTORY REPORTS.

As soon as it was known that I was about to visit Canada, in the discharge of these duties, I was favoured with various communications warning me as to the difficulties and losses which had fallen upon settlers in that country. These were sent to me from Canada as well as from England, and the severest censures were passed upon those who had misled the public by highly-coloured reports upon Farming in Canada. In replying to these communications, I asked for the names and addresses of any of these cases of unsuccessful emigrants, or any definite details which I could examine into on my arrival in Canada. I felt that these were just the cases which I needed, and I was therefore most anxious to secure this information. My correspondents were in every case unable to give me any such particulars, and my English correspondents could only refer me to certain Canadian newspapers for these instances of failure. Feeling, as I did, the immense importance of having these instances of failure before me, I renewed my applications for the same on my arrival in Canada, but here also the alarming incidents which had been described could not be localised or identified so as to admit of examination on the spot, and I failed to obtain the details I so much desired.

I therefore proceeded on my tour through Canada, and by personal observation I have been able to form a very definite opinion upon the facts of the case. I may state that after my arrival in Canada I travelled fully 5,000 miles within Canadian territory, and that I had most favourable opportunities for coming in contact with settlers, not only in the older provinces of the Dominion, but in Manitoba, and even beyond its borders, in the Assiniboia District of the North-West Territories. Throughout the whole of this lengthened tour of inspection I found those settled upon the lands happy, prosperous, and healthy. After conversing freely with large numbers of these settlers, I am able to state that I did not meet with a single instance in which they were not fairly successful, contented, and full of hope for the future. They worked hard, it is true, but that labour was sweetened by the knowledge that they were improving their own property. Their personal requirements were easily provided for by the aid of a rich and productive soil; their families were growing up around them in the enjoyment of