

may be suitable or States, but not here. abilities for the pro-called, are laid upon y should be done ers. It should be chant to be able to mp on his tobacco, rehouse, and date of roof that the revenue ed with. And why differing colors or distinguish domestic which pay higher officer ought to see and reasonable form-with complied with any tobacco to the got the goods hon- o his possession and of thereof, the mer- no further responsi-

en appointed by the Guild of Toronto to ation of the retail uestions towards cor- he present Orders in- It is easily suscep- overnment will listen on-sense and every- many of them are g. We trust to see d.

IMMIGRATION.

been a marked fall- on into the United to a diminution of n emigrants and the countries which offer who are disposed to air birth. To these g added, in the form ration in the United s of exclusion being evident that restric- President Harrison revise the naturaliza- lic, and he lays down who are the avowed er, or who come to e injurious influence vil practices of any s our laws, should citizenship but a ion embraced in this far-reaching. Fore- tionable classes to should, in the opinion nished, may be placed ho have given the air quality by their cago. Next in order ent societies like the has figured so con- in trial. Its methods der are contrary, not , but to the laws of Irishmen of another best to unmask and members of this order, glad to see the exclu- ent wishes enforced o this category also nal, whose relations

to the Republic go back to the year 1867. It first got a footing in New York, and afterwards in Chicago, Philadelphia, and other places. Its objects embrace the establishment of an Universal Republic on the socialistic pattern, which implies the destruction of the existing American Republic. Everywhere one of the objects of this society is to prepare for the universal revolution. The self-named Anti-Poverty Society is an offshoot, in doctrine at least, of the International, and is perhaps the most dangerous of the whole. It inveigles into its circle honest and unsuspecting persons, including even some easy-going ministers of the Gospel, who are taken with its name, and do not sufficiently reflect that its creed is confiscation of one form of property. The pestilent thing has attained a sickly existence even in Canada.

The catalogue of dangerous societies might indeed be extended, but here is quite enough to warrant the anxiety which respectable Americans feel, and to which the Chief Magistrate has given expression. The difficulty of dealing with these social excrescences will, we suspect, be found to be very great. As a precaution, President Harrison suggests a more thorough "enquiry into the moral character and good disposition towards our Government of persons applying for citizenship." This he proposes should be done "by taking fuller control of the examination, by fixing the times for hearing such applications, and by requiring the presence of some one who shall represent the Government in the enquiry." In case American consuls abroad should report the sailing for the United States of avowed Anarchists, or organizers and propagandists of the International, the police might keep their eye upon them; but if they did not ask for citizenship, it would be difficult to deal with them should they merely proceed to settle down into domicile. But as these characters are kept under the surveillance of the police in other countries, the same precautions might be taken in the Republic. No doubt this is the case now with the most notorious of them. Anything like a general inquest into opinions when naturalization is asked for must be out of the question, and such a searching enquiry as the President points to could only be made in the case of suspects. And even this would be a wide departure from previous practice, though it would be justified under the changed circumstances; for the Republic, like every other Government, must guard its national life. It is not probable that for opinion's sake the line of exclusion will be pushed very far. It is more probable that exclusion by the form of barrier raised against the Chinese may be extended much farther in future. Poles and Italians are already nearly as unpopular with the working classes in the Republic as are the Chinese. Their turn is likely to come, and it is not absolutely certain that the Irish laborer and the French-Canadian peasant will always continue to be welcome.

The truth is, immigration is no longer a pressing necessity to the United States. At the same time, it has some positive dis-

advantages, foremost among which is that it impedes or injuriously modifies the formation of national character; it warps national and state politics occasionally from the line of rectitude, and stamps municipal government with corruption and dishonor. In political and social aspects, the Republic would decidedly gain by taking a breathing spell, to boil down into the American mould the ill-digested foreign mass, which is strong enough numerically to control many of its cities. This will happen in time, but it would come much sooner if a truce were given to immigration. Free homes can no longer be flung to all comers; the era of lavish grants of land is about to be succeeded by a scramble for the soil. This fact is obscured just now by the other fact that farming is ill remunerated and all old farms in some States can almost be had for a gift. But this state of things will not last forever, or even long. It is true farming may change its character and methods by being brought more under the dominion of capital. The Americans may awake to the conviction that they want what remains untitled of the soil for themselves: the economies of aggregation, under the direction of capital, may revive agriculture and make it profitable, especially when it gets as it is bound to get, fair play in the race with manufactures.

All these possibilities point to a probable decline of emigration to the United States in the near future. The experience through which the Republic has passed will be ours, with modifications the result of observation and the possible intervention of new factors in the immigration problem. In Europe people are asking what Canada is doing or going to do to attract emigrants, which to her are among the greatest of necessities—emigrants of the right sort—to people her vast stretches of waste lands. We recently heard an intelligent and highly cultured German say that, in his country, nothing is known of Canada, and if any mention is made of it is apt to be in disparagement by agents of American interests. He says that a large number of settlers could be got from East Germany by merely making known there the fact that free grants of land are to be had in Canada. He denies, what is often asserted and generally believed, that his countrymen prefer the United States because it is a republic, and asserts that their preferences are monarchical, and that the form of government here is not objectionable to them. It might be worth while to act upon the suggestion. It cannot be denied that our prairies are not filling up as fast as they should. So far as it discriminates in favor of the United States, the C.P.R. is surely standing in its own light. Its first interest is the settlement of our North-West. Emigration to Canada is likely to meet greater opposition from the labor element here than it has met in the past from that source in the United States. The times in this respect are changed. At present, the agricultural field is open; but who can say, after what Joseph Arch has done in England, that this will always remain so; that no labor society will rise up on our soil to insist that six men shall be put in the harvest field to do

the work of four? Meanwhile, it is plain that, on the whole—witness the case of Germany—we are not doing what we might do and ought to do to attract emigrants to the rich soil of the plains of our North-West.

CHRISTMAS.

The mention of Christmas brings to the religious feelings of reverential retrospect. To them the time is one of solemnity as the anniversary of the birth of our Saviour and the advent of the Christian dispensation. To the worldly, it is merely a time for feasting and the exchange of courtesies. To the young the season is one of school vacation, presents, mince pie, and merriment.

But whether one takes a high or a low view of the great Christian festival, the general effect of the coming of the Christmas season is unquestionably one of cheer and friendliness. It is, as Dickens has said, "a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time, the one day in the year when the rich open their hearts to the poor as if they were fellow-passengers to the tomb, instead of looking down upon them as a race of beings belonging to another planet." The spirit of Christ appears more manifestly to move men, and charity comes natural to all.

Still we are bound to say that with all the ideal charms of the day, and with all the rhapsodical thoughts and words with which men grace the time, there are some practical points that deserve to be kept in mind. The true Christmas spirit is just, as well as generous. If we would properly honor the Founder of the festival, duties present themselves which have a meaning beyond self-indulgence or the gratifying of our friends and little ones. Shall we give a plain example applicable to business men? If one has a note coming due, and sends a renewal for it in order that he may use the money to buy a piano for his daughter, he thereby does violence to the very spirit of Christmas. If one gives a party for his richer neighbors, and leaves his poorer ones without comforts which are within his power to bring them, he misses the meaning of the day. Should an employer "dock" the wages of his men for the holiday while he sends to his correspondents abroad Christmas cards bearing the message "Good will to Men," he does dishonor to the great Exemplar of Christianity.

The other day a group of school-girls stood on Elizabeth street in this city, just after school was out at noon. One blue-eyed, sprightly, snappy creature of eleven was holding forth to the rest after this fashion:—"Don't the lesson say, 'Do unto others as you would have others do unto you?' Of course it does: Sarah Jane, gimme me a piece of that there pie!" And poor little Sarah Jane, who had the pie, was coerced by this school-girl logic into parting with pieces of her treasure to various hungry sets of teeth. And among adults, who are only 'children of a larger growth,' do we not find a like application of The Golden Rule? There are more of us looking and longing for pieces of the "pie"