

Spaniards. During the period 1857 to 1908. 2,594,666 Italians and Spaniards emigrated to Argentina. The total immigration was 3,178,456.

Farming methods in Italy and Spain are poor, and, though there are signs of improvement now, the immigrants farm by the old methods in Argentina. What Argentina needs is capable agriculturists with some capital. The Argentine Government offers no incentive to poor immigrants from the best-developed countries in Europe—Great Britain, Germany, and France—but is content to attract immigrants from Mediterranean lands, who, though better adapted to the conditions of climate and labour, will only develop the country very slowly. Only a small portion of the settled area is, as yet, producing even half the yield of wheat of which it is capable. If Argentina can increase the number of the right type of "colonist"—the one who buys his land on a permanent colony—her prosperity will be more assured. The temporary "colonist," who breaks the soil of new land, and then moves to a new district at the end of his term, tends to make conditions worse for wheat production. This latter "colonist" owes his origin largely to the growing of alfalfa, a clove-like plant, which requires little rain, but thrives on the surface-water, which is abundant on Argentina's flat, low-lying plains. Alfalfa will not grow on hard unbroken ground, and where the land is such, cereal cultivation is necessary for at least three years to reduce it to a fit condition. A contract is made by the cattle-kings with Piedmontese or Basque peasants to break the soil, and grow cereals for three or five years, either for a fixed rent or for a percentage of the crop, the