

country that need be afraid of honest criticism is the country which has things to hide.

You have the right to walk straight-shouldered and to hold your heads high. Your fate is not in the lap of the gods; it rests on your illimitable prairies and on the two thousand million acres of Commonwealth lands still available for occupation. Not you, nor any of us, shall live to see the time when the breasts of all those prairies will yield food to wide-scattered mankind. But we are seeing the beginnings of a mighty settlement. The crowded parts of the world are beginning to turn their eyes to your southern land. Are you going to welcome them? They have been tardy in coming. Perhaps this is because they have been misinformed. If so, ask from where they got their information?

A year or so ago there was a Franco-British Exhibition in London. Australia made a brave and interesting display at that great Fair. Yet the visitor smiled. Here is an account written by a good Australian of what took place: "A farmer goes into the Australian Court for information, and he is immediately struck by the different information he gets. He calls at the New South Wales Court, and receives pamphlets, and is told that that is the country for him. He goes on to Victoria, and hears that New South Wales is subject to drought, and that he had better go to Victoria. He then drops into New Zealand, and is told that that is 'God's own country.' He winds up with Queensland, and tells the man in charge what he has heard. That individual laughs at him, and says, 'Look here, read these cuttings