

Agriculture and Colonization.

hall. The object of this class of service is not only to excite the general interest of the public in the question of emigration to Canada, but to maintain that interest by personal appeals to the affected classes, and, wherever practicable, our agents follow up the work of the lecturers by interviews with persons likely to become good and satisfactory settlers, who in this way might be induced to make choice of Canada in preference to foreign countries or some of the other colonies.

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the very important assistance rendered us by educated, intelligent and disinterested gentlemen of various professions, but chiefly clergymen, teachers and those interested in educational advancement generally, who have delivered free lectures upon historical and geographical subjects connected with Canada. This kind of work has been carefully fostered by the High Commissioner, by whom indeed it was initiated, and he has collected in his office in London, for the use of people engaged in this work, no less than thirty sets of stereopticon slides produced from photographs of places and things in all parts of Canada, relating chiefly to agricultural and industrial pursuits, which tend to add greatly to the popularity of the lectures and serve to attract the attention of the intelligent classes, in a way which probably work conducted more directly in the interest of immigration would not do.

Incidental to this work, a great amount of printing and advertising has to be done, but, in regard to both classes of expenditure, I must say that within the past twelve months we have done much less than is desirable in the public interest simply for the lack of the necessary money with which to pay for it. As an example of our methods in this work I may mention the Handbook of Canada, the printing of which formerly cost us, for an edition of 80,000 copies, \$5,219.92, or \$65.25 per thousand. The cost of this work has been greatly reduced within the last two years as the results of methods adopted, some—and the most important of them—at the suggestion of the Queen's Printer, and others at the suggestion of the chief of the Immigration Bureau and myself; and an edition of 50,000 now costs the Department \$2,610, or \$52.20 per thousand, a saving of 20 per cent. A synoptical edition of this work has been translated into French, and it will also be translated, if we can afford it, into the other European languages as well. Meantime, we are utilizing in the last mentioned countries, pamphlets published under the supervision of Mr. Dyke, specimens of some of which are produced. We found these pamphlets defective in some particulars, and have sent carefully revised proofs to Mr. Dyke with a view of having new editions published. Up to the present time no copies of the new editions have reached us, and I am therefore not in a position to produce any specimens of them.

I submit a pamphlet specially prepared by Mr. Auguste Bodard, our agent in France and Belgium. Mr. Bodard was a resident of Canada for a long series of years, knows the country well, and the result of his observation and experience has been that he has produced what, I am satisfied, will be regarded as a very satisfactory and creditable presentation of the advantages to be derived by the people of France and Belgium if they select Canada as a field for settlement. Mr. Bodard is due in Canada in a short time with a personally conducted party of settlers.

BONUS TO STEAMSHIP AGENTS,—THE UNITED KINGDOM.

In addition to the agencies, permanent and itinerant, to the circulation of printed information in regard to the country, to the advertising, lecturing, &c., above referred to, it should be mentioned that on the recommendation of the High Commissioner an arrangement was made, by Order in Council of the 6th January, 1893, for the payment to booking agents in the British Isles, of a commission upon all tickets to Canada sold by them. As the Committee will readily understand, a great many people who are in the mood to emigrate, have not really made up their minds to what part of the country they will go, when they consult the local steamboat agent about the purchase of a ticket. He is usually the representative of nearly all the steamship and railway lines, and in this way may be said to have an equal interest in them all, but the ticket from the selling of which he can derive the largest profit is naturally the one he is most interested in selling. On the other hand, the intending emigrant is likely to be largely influenced