

seeking settlers, it is not received without reservation, or a suspicion of colouring, and this, notwithstanding the insertion of letters from old settlers, which now appear to form a striking feature; for, unless these letters are fairly selected, the presumption arises that they show the bright side only.

An excellent remedy for the first of these defects is furnished by the action of the Board of Trade of the City of Los Angeles, who, in 1892, offered a prize for the best set of specific questions and answers for the use of intending settlers in Southern California. Several hundred copies of the prize series, containing over two hundred questions and answers of great value, were quickly taken up by settlers and visitors for the benefit of their friends in the East.

This indeed is the natural method of seeking information and in this form it is most easily absorbed. Dr. Brewer was a shrewd man and recognized the value of this principle as a means of education; there are few of us who cannot recall lively recollections of the "Child's Guide to Knowledge," with which we chiefly associate his name. Such a publication issued from each of the Provinces of the Dominion, and periodically and methodically kept up to date, would be found of the greatest service to successful colonization, and would be greatly appreciated both by those who are seeking, and those who are supplying information; by carefully noting the enquiries made to the emigration agents and at the office of the High Commissioner in England the wants of intending settlers can be easily watched, and additions made from time to time.

The second difficulty has been appreciated and met by our Government, who, presumably, at great expense, sent out deputations of farmers from Great Britain and the United States to report on the resources of Canada, as the representatives of farming communities. Our Government, too, have been quick to make use of the voluntary services of clergymen and others, in lecturing through the country, and, if we are rightly informed, are making a practice of supplying, gratis, a series of stereoscopic views descriptive of the country to anyone who is willing to undertake this work.

It is only lately that the opportunities for missionary work through the medium of the schools have begun to be appreciated. Although, indeed, some years ago, much enthusiasm was aroused by a competition in free hand drawing between the schools of England, Canada and Australia, in which the gold medal was won by a school in Ontario.

In the schools of Great Britain we find young people of the better classes drawn together from all parts of the surrounding country, and in the higher class of schools, from all parts of Great Britain, affording a fertile ground for the reception of the seeds of interest in our country to bear fruit at some future date, or perhaps directly, through the medium of the pupil, or the school magazine, in the emigration of some other member of the family.

During the winter months, illustrated lectures are always welcomed by the pupils, and in view of the growing feeling that it is the duty of the masters to afford a means of instruction respecting life in the countries in which many of the pupils are destined to make their living, it is not unlikely that the expenses of a lecturer will be gladly paid. An important step has lately been taken by our High Commissioner in the introduction of "The Canadian Reader," an immigration pamphlet into the schools in England, which is eagerly sought after by teachers as an interesting means of imparting knowledge respecting this country.

A valuable suggestion in this connection has been unconsciously made by a school mistress in Valparaiso, Indiana, who, lately, wrote to the Government School Inspector, at Kingston, Ontario, proposing that the children in her school should, as an exercise, write short descriptions of their life, and exchange with some schools in Canada for letters of a similar description, in order that the young people might be brought in touch with one another. The School Inspector, we are informed, with a conception of statesmanship, apparently bounded by the limits of his department, assented to the proposal, and such an arrangement has been made with the children of a Kingston School. The intelligent editor of the newspaper in which this information appeared allowed the item to pass without notice. This suggests a train of possibilities which might be productive of most far-reaching results. Let our Government at Ottawa and the Provincial Educational Departments proclaim a truce, and, together with the educational authorities in England, carefully consider the best means of turning to an international advantage the opportunities afforded by the organization of young people in schools.

The suggestion of the Valparaiso schoolmistress, as we have said, is a valuable one; but we need hardly point out, that, in the interests of Canada, the exchange of letters should be between our Canadian schools and the schools of Great Britain, and between the schools in Ontario and the North-West and those of our Eastern Provinces. One distinctive merit in this proposal, which will commend it to the public, is that it necessitates little or no expenditure. We are, therefore, in the position of the man, who has everything to gain and nothing to lose.

In the work of keeping alive the interest in colonization, a useful example has been afforded by the periodical magazines of the English church missionary societies; a noticeable feature in which is the element of personal news. The establishment of a monthly magazine upon these lines, dealing with colonization matters entirely, and representing the interests of the Government, the C. P. R. and the other numerous interests concerned, would afford a means of communication between the settlers and their friends in the Old Country, and furnish a valuable addition to the present supply of emigration literature. A journal, too, of this description would be received in Clubs and Reading rooms, where pamphlets would be thrown aside.

We cannot refrain from some remark upon the inactivity, in past years, of our Provincial governments, with perhaps the single exception of Quebec, in the work of colonization within the province, and the absolute repudiation by our Dominion Government of any interest in moving population from one province to another.

The efforts of the C. P. R. have been mainly directed to the agricultural population of Ontario; but there has been no attempt to reclaim our population from the cities and towns in the East, no introduction of immigration literature as "Readers" into the schools of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or unfortunate Newfoundland, no attempt to check the draining of population by the unnatural forcing of higher education in Ontario, no talk of "assisted" migration at home. "Back to the Land" is the cry now in Great Britain. Home Colonies have been established for the city unemployed in England and the array of literature on the subject is formidable. Without let or hindrance the population of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick drift to the United States, and the soup given by Toronto and Montreal only serves to afford a breathing time to seek for occupation in some city across the line. It will, no doubt, be said that each Province can more than attend to the wants of their own citizens, but the fact remains that they have not done so. Moreover, experience has shown, however illogical or untrue it may be, that to a restless and unsettled population, the farthest fields have always seemed the greenest, and opportunities near at hand have been despised. Consequently inter-provincial colonization appears to be a necessity. A citizen saved is worth many immigrants gained. It would seem to be far wiser and more economical instead of paying \$100 to secure a single permanent immigrant from Europe, to give free to our native born Canadians the best and choicest of our crown lands and to lend them all the money that they need for the purchase of all necessary stock and supplies. We have lately spent large sums of money to recover prodigal Canadians from the United States, many of whom have been allured thither by misrepresentation, misconception and coloured statements. Here is a splendid opportunity to embody the experiences of these men for the use of immigrants passing through the country and of our surplus city population, in order that they may be led to agree with us in the belief that colonization, like charity, should begin at home.

ERNEST HEATON.

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The returns for March show an increase in British emigration of a little over 3,000, as compared with the returns for the same month last year, most of which must be credited to the United States. There is a slight decrease in the movement to Canada and to Australia, and a slight increase to South Africa. The movement of foreigners *via* English ports remains about the same. For the three months ended March the total of British emigration is 27,096, against 21,466 last year. The emigration to the Colonies remains about stationary. The increase in the case of the United States is accounted for by the return of a proportion of the large number of people who left that country owing to the depression that existed last year.