

JOSEPH ARCH'S CANADIAN EMIGRATION MISSION.

THERE is no necessity to introduce JOSEPH ARCH to those who will read this pamphlet; his name is indeed as "familiar in their mouths as household words." Some three years ago, it was known only to some select few, who were well convinced of the strong native energy and ability of the man, and who admired in him an instance of what a farm-labourer can do when animated by high and noble resolves. Mr. ARCH, as he has told us himself, was a farm-labourer in Warwickshire from his ninth to his forty-seventh year, but to-day he is courted by Ministers of State and great colonial dignitaries.

In the beginning of 1872 the National Agricultural Labourers' Union was formed. The object was to better the condition of the farm-labourers by means of a combination strong enough to insist upon their just demands. The Union had its natural head-quarters in Warwickshire, the home of JOSEPH ARCH, and its business is now conducted in Leamington. At the outset of the movement, the idea of its originators was that it would be possible, by means of transferring labour from the badly-paid districts to those in which higher wages prevailed, to ameliorate the condition of the farm-labourer. At this time they would not listen to a word on the subject of Emigration, although it was evident that only by a wholesale depletion of the English labour market could any permanent and important increase in the rate of wages be effected. But, as Mr. ARCH has said at Leamington, the labourers, as Englishmen, loved their country, and their leaders were unwilling to see the bone and sinew of the country transferred to other lands. This was a sentiment which did them the highest credit. But the logic of facts was quite irresistible. They found they could not effect their object by migration, and Emigration necessarily forced itself upon their attention.

For some time the matter was discussed at the meetings of the Union; and in August of this year, 1873, the deliberations took the practical form of a direction to Mr. JOSEPH ARCH to proceed to Canada, and to make himself acquainted with the condition and resources of the country as a field for emigrants of the farm-labourers' class. This direction or request expressed the wish of 80,000 members of the National Agricultural Labourers' Union, to say nothing of the hundreds of thousands of farm-labourers who, although they are not members of this particular Union, look upon JOSEPH ARCH as their natural and incorruptible representative in the eyes of the world.

On the 28th of August, 1873, Mr. JOSEPH ARCH, in company with Mr. ARTHUR CLAYDEN, a member of the Consultative Committee of