

## FOREWORD

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STUDENTS investigating practical questions connected with the history of immigration have felt that the subject covered such an immense field that few have found either time or inclination to delve into it. At best, it is a chapter of tragedy and mismanagement.

To get even a bird's-eye-view of the question means not only months of study of the scattered literature available, but a sifting of evidence only too often distorted by the political exploiter, whose views were partisan and by no means inspired by a desire to tell the truth.

So many selfish interests were involved; ship companies on the one hand endeavouring to stimulate emigration from the Old World, profiteers on the other making the burden of recent arrivals so intolerable that one marvels how Canada succeeded in preserving its good name.

Why the United States attracted the many, and often the best, while we had to be content with the few, and frequently the worst, is easily understood by those who have had the