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RECEPTION AND PROTECTION
OF
FEMALE IMMIGRANTS
IN
C A N A D A.

Published by authority of the Department of Agriculture.

OTTAWA, CANADA, 1874.

The above important subject was brought to the notice of the public by Madame Elsie Von Koerber, Delegate of the Canadian Government to Germany and Switzerland on Immigration matters, in an address delivered by that lady at a meeting in the City Hall, Ottawa, on the 9th inst., presided over by His Worship the Mayor of the City.

The address alluded to, which is hereinafter quoted, will be found to possess much interest, and the objects in view, so ably set forth by Madame Von Koerber, it is respectfully submitted, are such as recommend themselves to the favorable consideration of the public in Canada.

His Worship the Mayor, who occupied the chair, stated the object of the meeting, and said that it gave him great pleasure to preside over it. He referred to the labors of Madame Von Koerber in inducing immigration to this country, and the means by which this was accomplished. In Toronto and other cities committees had been formed to work in connection with committees in England, Germany and Switzerland, and it was the intention to form one in Ottawa. In Great Britain Her Majesty the Queen was connected with a Committee for the protection of female emigrants to Australia and New Zealand. Madame Von Koerber was conversant with the whole subject, and would lay the matter before the meeting.

MADAME VON KOERBER'S ADDRESS.

Madame Von Koerber said—Ladies and Gentlemen: Having watched for many years the question of immigration to Canada, and the non-success of the Canadian Government to attract German immigration, I felt persuaded that the Government did not use the proper way of reaching our people, for working in England is a very

different thing from working in Germany. While agents have no difficulty in working openly and even agitating for emigration in England (Canada being one of England's colonies) it would be unfair to send them to Germany, to work there against the will of the Government, and to ensure its co-operation in emigration matters. An emigration does and must exist as it is, and that emigration, or at least a portion of it, might be influenced to go to Canada instead of going elsewhere. The German Government, giving its paternal protection to its subjects, might be asked to take some interest in those leaving their homes, compelled by necessity to do so, while Canada, in her turn, offers to facilitate the establishment of the people as much as lies in her power; and I may add that this must be accomplished not only by what the Government can do in such matters, but also, and perhaps, I may say principally, by the kind interest which should be shown in these strangers by Canadians individually. My social position enables me to reach such classes as are capable of influencing the inferior ones, for, in Germany, confidence comes from above, and the emigration question has been so much abused, and has been in a great measure in such shockingly bad hands, that it is but just and fair to set a movement on foot by which better protection and safer guidance is provided for the emigrants by the disinterested and benevolently disposed in both Europe and America, for, naturally enough, the success of such a movement must be based upon co-operation. This is the principle which has been guiding me in all my operations, both with regard to general and with regard to female emigration, as all my official reports and the few addresses I have made in Europe will testify. I admit that I had difficulties when I first went to Germany, owing to the prejudice which prevails against emigration generally, and so I resolved to confine my work at first to Switzerland, and illustrate my principles by practical work. Now that my reputation is made, when my name has become a guarantee for honest advice; now that my work can no longer be misconstrued, and when I have won the confidence of the Swiss Government and the leading public, I could venture to go to Berlin, and, on the ground of my success in Switzerland, ask for the confidence of the German Government as well. I have personally experienced the great want of respectable, reliable and serviceable women in this country, and have frequently listened with great sympathy to the outpourings of similar troubles experienced by friends and acquaintances; and, remembering how large the class of women is on the Continent, who would actually be benefitted by coming here, I should have felt glad if many years ago it had been in my power to bring about such a supply for this country. When the time came that this secret wish of my heart could be accomplished, I undertook the work as a high mission in the service of humanity, entrusted to my care, being aware of the enormous responsibility I was assuming, but feeling assured, also, that if success should crown my efforts, I could consider myself the humble instrument in a Higher Hand to bring about one of the most useful movements of the time. When I first returned to Europe, I purposed starting a female emigration. The surplus of women is a cause of great perplexity to our statesmen even, who lend a helping hand to different associations who have undertaken to pave the way to better and more numerous ways of affording a livelihood for women, which in every respect has become a pressing, a burning question.

I have mentioned before that in Germany confidence comes from above, and recognizing this fact, the noble ladies who wear our Imperial and Royal crowns have taken under their immediate patronage all efforts made in such a direction, and nothing can surpass the zealous energy, the practical labor with which these ladies follow up their high purposes. In the first line we see Her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess of Germany, your own Princess Royal, at the head of the "Lette-Vereine (Unions,") formed in order to provide such a practical education as really enables women to earn their bread honorably. When we hear the antagonists to superior education of women, the remark is generally made, and not without some foundation: let them keep to the actual women's department, which seems to consist in sewing, cooking, dressmaking, etc.; but even these departments, though considered exclusively as women's, are filled by men, who assert the superiority of their work by means of a systematic and technical training, from which women are generally debarred. The Lette Unions endeavor to give women the same privileges of training as men have hitherto had. These departments, though generally looked down upon, become, nevertheless, most interesting in our eyes, for how important to the well-being of a nation, of a family, is, for instance, the preparation of cooking based upon principles of health: how much dyspepsia and poverty of blood have their origin in bad cooking? If, therefore, cooks are such important figures in our national economy, it seems but natural that we should pay more attention to the training of our cooks, and that we give them the proper treatment and payment. The same application can be made to all the sewing and tailoring departments. How rare is a good dressmaker, and again how seldom has a dress come home without bad sewing, calling forth bitter complaints? And again, how expensive it is for a family of daughters to pay for the taste of a dressmaker, which taste the young ladies might have themselves if they would acquire the technical knowledge of dressmaking? Young ladies and young women, both, are taught at the establishments of the Lette Unions—the former so as to save their money, the latter in order to earn it. In the same manner all other sewing and all other handiwork, from the coarsest to the finest, is taught; and not only that, but an opportunity is offered to them to sell their work at a more reasonable rate, instead of its being given to the shopkeeper, who usually absorbs himself the greater part of the profit: stores are opened by these associations, and orders for work accepted and distributed by them. Registry offices are combined, providing the young women with respectable positions offered on acceptable terms. In the cooking schools the dishes prepared are sold at restaurants and by pastry cooks; orders for dinners and parties are accepted also. There is a printing school connected since some time with the Lette House in Berlin, and the young girls trained there have hitherto found ample employment; telegraphy, book-keeping for bankers and merchants is taught, and the young ladies provided with situations; girls are trained for the keeping of shops, and not only that, but, in many cases, money is given on loan, or sewing machines bought under condition of repayment, so as to assist them in an independent establishment. Moreover, every possible opportunity is given for the higher education of women. And your Princess Royal, who is the soul and the stay of all these institutions, who, apart from the manifold duties devolving upon her in her high position and as a

mother, has made the former a subject of almost daily solicitude: she honors them with regular visits of inspection, and no progress and no negligence escapes her vigilant eye. She makes it a point to honor work, and especially women's work, and since then prejudices are wearing away which used to form such an obstacle in the welfare of our middle and higher classes. I mean, since work is properly honored it is no longer a dishonor for a lady to earn her bread. The largest Association is that of the Patriotic Women of Germany, at the head of which stands Her Majesty the Empress; it was formed after the last two great wars, first with a view of providing the necessary nursing for the sick and wounded. It is quite unnecessary to repeat here with what ready enthusiasm our sisters of all classes of society worked in rank and file, and became the heroines of devotion and self-sacrifice. It is necessary, however, that I should mention here that just those two deplorable occasions opened the eyes of the public as to the great need of more skillful and practical training of nurses, of the necessity of a large number of such, and particularly the extreme need of the finer touch, the greater tact, the more educated judgment and foresight, and the authority of educated women in our hospitals. Her Majesty declared it an honor to do such work, and hundreds of the daughters of our oldest families replied to the muster-roll. Since then the condition of our hospitals, and with it a portion of suffering mankind, have undergone a beneficial change. In time of peace the care of the children of the poor, of the abandoned, of the fatherless has been added as a work of this association, and it gives pecuniary assistance on occasions of extraordinary need, such as famines, inundations, etc. We have in the third line a very perfect organization of the inner mission, and you all know what are the objects of such an association. Next to it are the different associations for a more thorough education, and foremost among the friends of these institutions ranks the Baroness von Marholtz Bulow, the great friend of Froebel, and one of the principal promoters of his system of children's gardens. This lady has for 30 years devoted her time and fortune to this work, and pays special attention to the training of nurses on that principle. In Switzerland I notice principally the *Sociétés de Secours*, formed with the obvious intention of offering moral protection to any young teachers or nurses leaving their homes for foreign countries. These societies were a result of Mrs. Josephine Butler's movement. In England a similar organization exists which prevents young women from leaving any village or town without letters of recommendation to the place to which they go, and you may judge yourselves how much good is done, how much evil prevented. In spite of the great pains taken by all these philanthropic ladies, the need and the want of work is distressing, and more even than in my younger years do I recognize the necessity and usefulness of opening up channels in the new worlds. Now in Canada, as in all new countries there is not only an opening for different branches of women's industry but there is an absolute want of women, viewing this want from the standpoint of a housekeeper, or looking upon it as a political economist. There always is a larger emigration of men—that of women might keep apace with it, for they are wanted not only as assistants in households, but sober, hardworking and industrious women are wanted as wives for your settlers, your farmers, who form the bone and sinew of a country; and such being the case, you perceive what importance you must attach to

my call upon you to assist in introducing a system by which you might secure a respectable class of female immigrants. To discover a way of securing to Canada such desirable immigrants has been one object of my mission to Europe. I had felt persuaded for a long time that the Continent could sooner serve you than England, because in England the wages paid are even higher than those given in Canada, and the object a woman has in view when she emigrates is to better her condition. In France people do not emigrate. In Germany and Switzerland there are many provinces and cantons laboring under a surplus of women, who find it hard to live because the work is badly paid. In Austria, too, there is a superabundance of useful elements which might be most acceptable to the American Continent. It is, therefore, towards the Continent that we must direct our steps. But there is an obstacle to a successful female emigration, and one which has prevented me also from entering at once upon an energetic prosecution of the work, and that is the fact of this, like all other emigration, lying in the hands of the very lowest speculators. During my several voyages from Europe to Canada, I have closely watched the people through whose hands emigrants have to pass; the houses in which they have to stop on the road. I have learned to know the dangers which are attendant on a girl who undertakes so long a journey, and I have listened to tales of shocking abuse of this special kind of emigration; the traffic in fact, which is made with women as a purchasable merchandise. Is it to be wondered at, though? Whom has a woman to apply to for advice in the choice of the country to which she might go? It is the agent or the sub-agent of a shipping firm who will send her to that country, or that person who will pay him the largest commission. Secret agents are continually traversing the Continent, engaging women for evil purposes, while making fair representations of a brighter future, and misery listens to their representations; for "better for worse" they will try the new world—worse than at home it could not be; and, again, who is there in the New World ready to bring them to a protected home? Who gives them the kind word of advice that will lead them and keep them in the right path? Who have they to apply to in cases of imposition or persecution? In Europe, the police have introduced some superficial measures of protection; but is the destiny of our needy sisters for ever to remain a "police measure? Are we not called upon to know exactly their condition, and are not we to help and protect when help and protection are needed? Would not the condition of these things generally, with regard to women, be a better one if the educated classes had not ignored the fate of the others for generations past, and left the unfortunate ones to the care of the police? In the United States the Castle Garden institution is certainly doing a good deal of useful work, in placing and distributing the arriving immigrants, and in Canada the Government has entrusted the care of them to some efficient agents; but women require more care than agents can bestow, and a more complete system than we have at present must be introduced if female emigration is to be treated with success, and to become a matter of satisfaction to this country. You will, no doubt, admit that I have followed the proper course in trying to engage the attention of our different Ladies' Associations in Europe to the necessity of offering, in the first place, a better protection to the female emigration already going on, as a

work of humanity, taking it out of the hands of speculators and placing this life question for thousands under the control of the associations; and, in the second place, by opening, under such control, a channel for future usefulness to our enormous surplus of women. As such a system must be based on reciprocity, my first endeavors were to form Ladies' Immigration Protective Societies in Canada. You are aware that I have advocated this for some time past, and have even addressed some ladies of Ottawa on the subject. During my last visit to Canada, I succeeded in forming connection with the Y. W. C. Association in Toronto, who have opened their home to girls arriving with letters of recommendation from me. The Government of Ontario has kindly defrayed a week's board at that home. In Montreal some leading ladies have acceded to becoming our correspondents, and to give their help and protection to young women coming to the country, but I do not know yet if any house will be opened in that city as a temporary home. In Ottawa nothing has yet been accomplished, but, as you see, that I am determined to obtain what I have in view, I come now again, requesting you not to turn a deaf ear to me. At the risk of taxing your attention too long, I permit myself to tell you now how I set to work in Europe. In Switzerland I formed a Committee in Lausanne, of which Madame de Goumoëns Doxat is the President, who has sent several girls to Canada as an experiment; in Neuchatel, the *Société pour l'avancement des sciences sociales*, of which Monsieur Frédéric de Perregaud is the President, has become my correspondent. In Geneva, the *Comité Central de Bienfaisance*, of which Colonel Rilliet is the Director. In Berne, Basle, Zurich, St. Gall, all preparations are made for the formation of committees. It requires but another visit from me to set them working. In Germany, my papers on female emigration had been forwarded to Her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess, about two and a-half years ago. On the occasion of a conference of the Lette-Union at Hamburg, Her Imperial Highness caused the question to be placed before the public for the first time:—"Is a higher protection for female emigrants necessary, and how can it be offered?" I was present, but did not then press for an answer, because it was so new a subject to all the ladies present. From Hamburg I went to Berlin, paid a visit to the Foreign Office, where I was known by reports of my work in Switzerland, and letters of introduction from the German Ambassador in Switzerland. I found the Minister of Foreign Affairs well disposed to facilitate my work in Germany. Since then I have again been in Canada, and in company of a Swiss lady, Mademoiselle de Lerber, of Berne. Being anxious to make the Committees self-acting, I requested the lady mentioned to come with me, see the country, and judge for herself what chances there are for her countrywomen, and to persuade herself that some good could be done. She saw the different homes for children, saw your public institutions, met the Committees in Toronto and Montreal, even went to the Swiss Colony I have founded. Her report, which was published in suitable papers at home, is very favorable to Canada, and quite corroborates my opinions. The reports from the different girls, sent out by the Committees and by me as experiments, within the last two years, are, on the whole, satisfactory also, so that having these practical proofs to support me, I no longer hesitated to go to Berlin, and try and form a Committee there. No German Government felt itself at liberty

to act or even to permit me to act without the general sanction of the Federal Government in Berlin, and there, again, the feeling was said to be quite antagonistic to any emigration movement, in fact I was told I would risk even my personal liberty in going there. But I had faith in the common sense and the true heart of my countrymen, and, nothing daunting, I went forth to place before them a polite question, to which I was sure I would, at least, obtain a polite answer. My reputation had gone before me; the Swiss Government testified as to the confidence which it had been pleased to repose in me by giving me letters of introduction to its Ambassador in Berlin. I have always worked for the better organization and control of emigration, and have in no instance agitated the promotion of it, and that makes all the difference in the world. Last Autumn I could disengage myself for some months from Switzerland, and went first to Wiesbaden, to attend a conference of the Lette Unions, thence to Darmstadt and Dresden. In the latter place I met with much encouragement, and the formation of a Committee is certain; Frau Von Armin has been suggested to place herself at the head of it. Saxon women are hard working, and we could get a good many from there. In Berlin (my second visit) I first assured myself that Her Imperial Highness still felt the same interest in the question which she was pleased to assure me of first by writing, and later on during a personal interview. Her Imperial Highness is quite of opinion that a well protected emigration is by far the most rational means of helping a portion of our sex. She was also pleased to engage the full interest, sympathy and moral support of Her Majesty the Empress. My next step was to have a line of action drawn out by the Foreign Office, where I was received in the kindest manner. I found that the Minister of State, Herr Von Bulow, would facilitate my position in Germany, as a delegate of the Canadian Government, in every possible way, and I ascertained, also, in what manner the Committees could work without coming in collision with the Government. Upon the request that I should lay before the Government my views upon the organization of female emigration, I sent in the following sketch, and I had the pleasure to see that every point of it was acceptable, and, such as it is, it can serve as a basis for the statutes of the Committee to be formed.

Col. Dennis then, at the request of Madame von Koerber, read the document, which was as follows:

1. That a Central Union be formed in Berlin, with the object of establishing an organization for the protection of women travelling alone or with children under years of age.
2. Its first object shall be the establishment of protection committees in those countries to which the women will probable emigrate.
3. The Union shall secure the appointment and observance of certain days for the departure of female emigrants, and shall provide female attendants for the voyage.
4. The Union will endeavor to obtain from the authorities of the seaport towns the use of certain houses for the exclusive reception of female emigrants travelling alone.

5. At the proper time the union shall take the necessary steps to obtain improved accommodation in emigrant ships.

6. The Union binds itself, in conjunction with those in the charge of the aforesaid houses in the seaport towns, to see that no girl shall sail without a letter of recommendation to the Protection Committee in the country of her destination, and to furnish such letter if necessary.

7. That the branches of the Union shall furnish advice to all girls desiring to emigrate, in respect to choice of country.

8. The Union will endeavor to obtain the co-operation of emigrant shipping agents, in requiring the latter to send their female emigrants to the proper houses of reception only, and in forbidding them to allow such emigrants to sail without letters of recommendation to the Protection Committees.

9. The Central Union shall establish branch unions in Prussia, and foster the establishment of similar unions in other parts of Germany.

10. Each Union, when established, shall obtain recognition from its Government, and shall advertise itself in the public papers. It shall send its circulars to persons whose position enables them to offer counsel to women desirous of emigrating, such as municipal officers, clergymen, charitable associations, school teachers, &c.

11. The days of departure must also be published, and the Government of each country, or the Imperial Government, shall notify the emigration agents to keep those days in mind.

12. Every Union shall have a lady officer, whose name and signature shall be known to the Committees abroad, and who shall prepare letters of recommendation for the girls, without which none shall sail. It shall be further her duty to give such information respecting countries as she can from time to time obtain from the Union in Berlin. This central office shall use all means to obtain reliable information on this subject.

13. All Unions shall accommodate themselves to the days of departure fixed by the Central Union, in order that a sufficient number of women may be assembled to render it worth while to send persons in charge of them.

Continuing, Mme. Von Koerber said: Only when all these matters were explained, every difficulty removed, I thought the proper moment come to form a Committee, and consequently we fixed upon the 6th of January (of this year) as the day on which a meeting should take place. Doctor George Von Bunsen opened it; his brother, Baron Theodore Von Bunsen conducted it; several prominent gentlemen and Frau Lina Morgenstern spoke, and Herr Theodore Von Bunsen was charged by the meeting to form the Committee. The Swiss Ambassador sent the correspondents of the leading Swiss papers there; the prominent German press sent theirs, and the press of both countries bespoke the meeting cautiously, but kindly. Letters of congratulation came to me from all sides, for those who understand the difficulties with which I have had, and still have, to battle can judge also of the extent of my success. To awaken a general interest in this question, an interest which would extend from one continent to the other; to study the question thoroughly so as to lay a practicable plan of opera-

tion before the Committee both here and in Europe, to bring these Committees into direct communication with each other—that has been done and remains to be done. When the organization is completed, and when the control lies in the hands of the ladies in Europe (and in following the suggestions just now read by Colonel Dennis, such a complete control may be obtained), then Canada can apply to them at all times for the women she needs; emigration can be encouraged or discouraged as necessity requires or circumstances demand: the responsibility is shared, and therefore lightened, and respectable women will no longer hesitate to try their fortunes in a new country, if assured of a safe conduct and a kind reception: and with kind hearts at home and kindred hearts here, why should we not succeed? It is proposed that the Central Committee should be formed in Ottawa, it being the capital of the Federation, but more especially because the Royal sister of our Protectress in Germany dwells among you, who has already graciously expressed her satisfaction with the plan, and will, I hope, ultimately become the Protectress of the Committees in Canada. Her Royal Highness's opinion, advice and help, will be most beneficially felt, and will be the greatest possible guarantee to the Committees at home.

His Worship the Mayor, being requested by the speaker, read the following letter:—

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

OTTAWA, 5th April, 1879.

MADAME.—I regret that absence from Ottawa should have occasioned a delay in replying to your letter. With regard to the request contained in our communication to Her Royal Highness, I am to say that she takes an individual interest in the effort you are making to get girls and women from Switzerland and Germany to emigrate to Canada, to provide good homes for them on their arrival here. These efforts Her Royal Highness knows are appreciated in Germany, where the Crown Princess, her sister, and the Empress have shown their interest towards the private societies of ladies constituted for the purpose of aiding this salutary emigration. Her Royal Highness would be glad to hear what steps you propose to take in regard to your Committee: the procedure that is to be adopted, and what your rules are to be.

I beg to remain, Madame Von Koerber,

Obediently yours,

F. DE WINTON.

Madame Von Koerber continuing, said: Through the Lette Unions you can obtain, in the first place, qualified teachers for general education, for kindergardens, for the instruction in sewing, dressmaking, &c., the cutting out of linendrapery, millinery, &c. The Association of Patriotic Ladies can help us in the general introduction of the work, and help, with their influence, to establish thorough confidence; the Committee in Berlin will look towards this Association for assistance in funds, and as they centralize as much as possible all benevolent works, numbers of their branch committees will very frequently be in a position to direct women in their emigration. Further, your contact with this Association will strengthen the interest which is already alive here for the hospital and nursing question, and you may be in a position to apply for their many-sided and great experience. The Association of the Inner Mission is the one through which you will obtain the greater number of the working class, as they propose to pay special attention to preventing young women from streaming into

large centres of population, so perilous for them, and rather direct them to the smaller towns of Canada. The Baroness Von Marenholtz Bulow would be very happy to give you the benefit of her experience and advice in the introduction of the Froebel system of education. She could send you a certain number of nurses and governesses annually who have been trained at her own establishment in Dresden, and she commissioned me specially to tell you so. Considering how great an influence the daily surroundings exercise upon the mind of a child, it becomes a matter of serious consideration to procure persons of more refined and systematic training to watch over their tender years, by paying, perhaps, a few dollars more annually than is now done. As mostly all these associations have free registry offices combined with their establishments, and come otherwise into contact with the working classes, too, you see that ample opportunity is offered to supply you with what you need in that line, and new fields of activity can ever be created for daughters of better families, and the importation of German education, culture, and simplicity can be but an advantage to Canada in every respect. During my five years of active labor in this matter, and during nearly twenty years of observation of the course of emigration, I have come to the conviction that nothing has so large a bearing upon all the sore questions of our time than that of emigration; it enters into all our social and benevolent questions, and into those of political economy, &c. Doubtless, Her Majesty the Empress of Germany thinks so too, or else she would not have written so kindly to show me how we can secure the co operation of her association, as the following letter will show, and which was more than I had expected.

Col. Dennis read the following letter. —

BERLIN, 19th December, 1878.

MADAM:—

I have the honor to communicate to you that at the sitting of the Committee of the Union of the Patriotic Ladies, which took place on the 15th of this month, under the presidency of Her Majesty the Empress and Queen, I had occasion to bring to discussion the question of organizing a protection for female emigrants, as I had promised you. I made use of the material which you left me, and of the information which I gathered at the meeting of the 11th of this month. Her Majesty was pleased to give the subject her most high and lively interest, and expressed especially the opinion that the plan was well worthy being furthered, and that it can but be gratefully acknowledged that you lend it your warm and energetic interest. So much the greater was the regret of Her Majesty to agree to the opinion of the Central Committee, that the statutes of the union do not leave room within the limits created for them, to take themselves the initiative in the formation of your projected Emigrant Protection Committee. But there was agreement on all sides on the point, that if said Committee is once founded, it would be possible for the union to enter into relations with it. The opinion was generally expressed that if you could succeed in forming branch unions in Canada, in connection with the Emigrant Protection Committees there, they could establish a common field for action between the Central Union: here and the Emigrant Protection Committee about to be formed, and the relation would mutually gain in warmth and interest.

I have the honour to remain, &c., &c., &c.,

VON BOWTICHER,

Privy Government Councillor,

Sec. to the Union of Patriotic Ladies.

And now that I have paved the way abroad for you, said the speaker, I may hope that female emigration will be placed on a higher standard; now that I have every

hope of securing you the co-operation of all the persons of eminence and intelligence, I think it becomes your bounden duty, and, let me add, an honor, to come forward and respond to my request to treat this matter seriously. When our over-crowded countries ask what is to become of their superfluous labor, the answer is ready: the Almighty has reserved these immense American continents, with their millions of broad acres untouched by plough or harrow. You have been the first to reap and enjoy all these benefits, and, from a very sense of gratitude, you should feel called upon to extend a helping hand to those who follow you; but when such an influx of human hands becomes one of your necessities or commodities, the duty becomes a more serious one still. And although you suffer at this moment from a depression of business, there is, nevertheless, a want of women; at any rate we must proceed with the completion of this organization, to make it subservient to your future wants. As a due tribute to the late Princess Alice's memory, I must add that she, too, had taken a great interest in this scheme, benefitting at once Germany and the Canadians, whom she mentioned to me as having at all times been considered by the Royal household. "The loyal of the loyal."

Finally, let me remark that this work being once introduced in Germany, the associations will see that this control be adopted in other countries also, and that the protection be offered to emigrants going to the United States as well. There, in fact, voluntary offers have already been made to do all that is required, as soon as the object of my movement was made known. Yet, I can assure you that Canada will be most considerately treated, when the ladies here come forward, as no doubt they will do now, after some years of consideration.

Mr. Lowe and Mr. Trow, M.P., spoke approvingly of the work of Madame Von Koerber, and trusted that her efforts in the undertaking which she had commenced, would be successful.

Mr. Cockburn, M.P., said that having had an opportunity of seeing the results of Madame Von Koerber's work, which had not been confined to any special class of immigration, he was in a position to state that the emigrants who had come from Switzerland, principally, and settled in his own county, were succeeding admirably. He had visited their settlement last summer, and found that their farms were well ploughed, and looked much better than farms owned by the natives. Madame Von Koerber had not only seen the emigrants settled in their new homes, but had been very solicitous since for their welfare, making them two visits, at great personal inconvenience and difficulty. From the very thorough manner in which this lady's work had been attended to in the past, he had no doubt the scheme now proposed would be completely successful.

Rev. D. M. Gordon regretted that there was not a larger attendance of the residents of the Capital present at the meeting. He felt highly gratified at hearing the statements of Madame Von Koerber, and would like to see the address put in such form so as to reach the country, as there was a strong opposition abroad in the Ottawa Valley to furnish any further emigration. If he understood the matter correctly, Madame Von Koerber proposed not to encourage but to direct emigration. The

system which was advocated would save them any trouble, and at the same time give them all the benefits. He hoped the necessary steps would be taken to ensure the success of the project.

Dr. Ortin, M.P., characterized the work of Madame Von Koerber as deserving of the highest commendation, and trusted the Government would extend a more liberal aid to the scheme when it was in a position to do so. Madame Von Koerber's plan was a most feasible one, and that class of emigrants which it was intended to bring to this country was highly desirable.

Rev. Mr. Pollard said the scheme met with his entire approval; without the sinews of war it would be impossible, however, to do anything; to get a home would require means, and a large sum would have to be raised to meet the expenses of such an institution; he thought if the Government would give a liberal grant the citizens would assist, and with the kind approval and assistance of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, the undertaking would prove successful and prosperous.

Col. Dennis, in submitting the following proposition, took occasion to speak warmly of Madame Von Koerber's scheme:—

“It is proposed that Committees be formed in Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto, in aid of female immigration from Europe, such Committees to consist of ladies.

“The duties of such Committees to be:—

1. “The ascertaining, from time to time, the wants of the country represented by the Committee, in the way of female labor, and through communication with corresponding Committees in Europe, facilitating the introduction of such labor into the country.

2. “The protection of women and girls on their arrival, and placing them in families as rapidly as opportunity offers.

3. “The Committee at Ottawa should be considered as the Central Committee, and we hope that Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise will graciously consent to become the patroness of the movement. This Committee, therefore, being the one with which she would be in direct communication, the Montreal and Toronto Committees would correspond through it.

4. “The Montreal Committee, it is suggested, should represent the Province of Quebec.

5. “The Central Committee to represent that part of Ontario lying east of and including Port Hope.

6. “The Toronto Committee to take all of Ontario lying west of Port Hope.

7. “Through the Central Committee, communication should be maintained with the corresponding committee in Berlin, Germany, with a view of reporting, from time to time, the number of the different classes of females for whom places may be found, the localities proposed to be supplied, &c.

“The several committees should, by periodical enquiries from the proper persons in each municipality, acquaint themselves from time to time with the requirements in the way of female labor, which, it is suggested, could be most readily done by the formation of sub-committees through the country, which sub-committees would also form the distributing medium in the supplying of servants.

"With a view to rendering the labor of the committees successful, it would be essential that they should be recognized by the Government as the proper agents for the reception, protection and distribution of female immigrants brought out under Government supervision."

It was further agreed that the Committee, when organized, should pass a resolution, fixing the annual subscription at one dollar, to meet postage and other small incidental expenses; that an endeavour would be made to secure a respectable boarding house for female immigrants, until a home in the city can be opened to them; and that, to this extent, the Committee would tender comfort and protection to women coming from Great Britain, as well as to those coming from the continent.

It was also moved by Mr. Cockburn, M.P., seconded by Mr. Pollard, "That, having heard Madam Von Koerber explain her proposition for the facilitating of female immigration into Canada, the meeting heartily sympathizes with that lady, and promises its active co-operation in furtherance of so important an object".

A vote of thanks was tendered the chairman for his kindness in presiding over the deliberations of the meeting, after which the proceedings came to a close.

A Committee, consisting of the following ladies, to be known as the "Ottawa" or "Central" Committee, was subsequently formed, that is to say:-

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|---------------------|---------------------|
| MRS. R. W. SCOTT, | MRS. DENNIS. |
| MRS. JOHN O'CONNOR, | MRS. ZOLLIKOFFER, |
| MRS. TILTON. | MRS. K. ARNOLDI. |
| MRS. GORDON. | MRS. A. A. CAMERON. |
| MRS. CROSS, | MRS. M. GRIFFIN. |
| MRS. POLLARD, | MRS. J. HILL, |
| MRS. KINGFORD, | MISS WOODMAN, |
| MRS. BROPHY, | MRS. WM. STEWART. |
| MRS. BORRADALE, | MISS KINGSFORD. |

The Committee was organized by the appointment of the following ladies as office-bearers; that is to say:-

President:-MRS. R. W. SCOTT.

Corresponding Secretaries:-MRS. TILTON and MRS. ZOLLIKOFFER.

Secretary and Treasurer:-MRS. BROPHY.

The Board of gentlemen consists of the following:-

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| HON. R. W. SCOTT, | COLONEL DENNIS, |
| REV. D. M. GORDON. | JAMES TROW, ESQ., M.P. |
| REV. H. POLLARD, | JOHN LOWE, ESQ. |
| REV. A. A. CAMERON, | |

On the occasion of the first meeting, after being organized as above, the following resolution was passed by the Committee :—

Resolved,—Whereas, an idea is prevalent that the object of this movement is the encouragement of female immigrants generally, which, it is considered, would be undesirable at the present time, in view of the superabundance of labor of that character, it is resolved: That it be made clearly to appear that the labors of this and other committees working in harmony with it, both in this country and abroad, are to be devoted to finding out in Canada, by communication with the various parts of the country, what may be, from time to time, the particular wants of special localities in the way of governesses, nurses, skilled or ordinary servants, and to take the requisite steps to supply such special want, not countenancing or furthering indiscriminate female immigration.

A sub-committee was then appointed for the purpose of drawing up and presenting to the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture an application asking the Government to give a practical recognition to the proposed work; also to prepare a circular for general distribution, with the view of enlisting the sympathy and aid of the general public in giving a fair trial to the movement in question.

A copy of the memorial submitted to the Government will be found herewith, and it only remains for the Committee to appeal for co-operation to those benevolent ladies and gentlemen throughout the country who may be disposed to assist, to give effect to Madame Von Koerber's scheme, by forming local committees, or by communicating to existing committees in the large cities the wants of particular localities or of individuals in the way of female labor.

The Committee cordially invite public attention to the movement, and especially do they suggest that, by general co-operation therewith by those principally interested—that is to say, by the ladies of Canada—a means will be realized by which one of the most serious drawbacks to the comfort of domestic life, the difficulty of getting good and honest servants, will be very greatly ameliorated.

The object in view being one calculated to be of such value to society, the Committee do not hesitate to ask therefor the powerful aid of the newspaper press throughout Canada, in making the movement generally and favorably known; and they would, in addition, respectfully request Clergymen, generally, also Mayors of Cities, and Reeves and other officers of municipalities, kindly to take an interest in, and assist, in manner as hereinbefore suggested, to bring about a successful working of Madame Von Koerber's scheme.

(Signed),

MARY SCOTT,

President.

ROBERTA E. TILTON,

Secretary.

COPY OF MEMORIAL ASKING GOVERNMENT AID
AND RECOGNITION.

To the Hon. J. H. POPE,
Minister of Agriculture and Immigration.
Ottawa.

The memorial of the Central Committee of the Society for the Reception and Protection of Female Immigrants *respectfully sheweth* :—

1st. That the objects of the Society named, being those set forth in the published resolution, a copy of which will be found in the margin hereof, are, it is believed, such as commend themselves to public favor.

2nd. That your memorialists are prepared to give their services cheerfully to work out the numerous details involved in the important duties which they propose to take upon themselves, but they fear that, without they are favored with the sympathy, and, to some extent, the practical aid of the Government, their efforts are unlikely to meet with success.

Your memorialists therefore respectfully beg as follows :—

3rd. That the Central Committee in Ottawa, and the several Committees of the Society to be formed in the other leading cities and towns in the Dominion, may be recognized by the Government as the proper agents for the reception, protection and distribution of such female immigrants as may come to Canada duly recommended by corresponding committees in Europe.

4th. That a special policy may be adopted by the Government in regard to female immigration, and that, in order to encourage the work of the several committees in Europe in organizing emigration, such policy be made to hold good for, say, five years.

5th. That the other principal features of such policy be as follows, that is to say :—

a. That the Government continue to grant \$5 bonus for such immigrants.

b. That the Government endeavor to obtain from the Ontario Government the continuance of their grant of \$6 each, as also the allowance (as is done in Toronto) of \$2 for a week's board, each, on arrival in Ontario of such immigrants.

c. That the above bonuses may be allowed and paid for intermediate passengers as well as for steerage passengers, so as to provide for a superior class of persons, such as nursery governesses, children's nurses, &c., who could not well be expected to go in the steerage.

d. That the bonus vouchers may be placed in the hands of the several committees in Europe in correspondence with this Committee.

e. That the Government continue to give a free passage through this country to those immigrants who come recommended by the several committees in Europe.

f. That the regular immigration agents of the Government stationed at Canadian ports, may be instructed to advise the lady Secretaries of the committees of the Society

in Canada as may have immigrants consigned to them, or the arrival in port of such immigrants—in order that prompt measures may be taken for the reception and distribution of the latter.

The bonuses asked for in paragraphs *a* and *b* of section 5 of this petition, your memorialists would respectfully represent may be restricted for the present year, should the Government so desire, to the persons (in number fifty or thereabouts), for whose introduction into Canada, during the coming season, arrangements have been already made by Madame Von Koerber.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

(Signed.)

MARY A. SCOTT.

President of the Committee.

(Signed.)

ROBERTA E. TILTON.

Corresponding Secretary.

Ottawa, Canada, 18th April, 1879.