

may enter into contracts with such emigrants enforceable after their arrival in this country. They may also act as agents of persons or societies in the old country to renew advances made by them to assist intending emigrants to this country.

HEALTH OF IMMIGRANTS.

The health of immigrants arriving by way of the St. Lawrence was generally good during the season of 1871. Forty-one vessels were inspected at Grosse Isle, containing a total of 8,383 passengers, against forty-nine vessels and 13,136 passengers in 1870 showing a decrease of eight vessels and 4,758 passengers. The deaths in hospital were seven against six the previous year. The expenditure for the maintenance of the station at Grosse Isle for the year was \$12,316.31.

There was very little sickness at the other quarantine stations in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and none among immigrants.

CLASSES OF PERSONS WHO SHOULD IMMIGRATE TO CANADA.

A memorandum has recently been published by the Imperial Government, written by the Hon. Mr. Pope, the Canadian Minister, who is charged with immigration (dated June, 1872), in which the following statements are made respecting the classes of persons who ought to immigrate to Canada:

"The classes of labourers whose labour is most in demand, are the Agricultural, Agriculture being, at present, the chief interest of the Dominion. But there is also a very large demand for the classes of common able-bodied labourers, arising from the numerous and extensive public works and buildings everywhere in progress in the Dominion, and this demand will be largely increased by other large public works projected,—notably the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Canadian Canal System.

"The handicrafts and trades generally, which are, so to speak, of universal application, can also always absorb a large number of artisans and journeymen.

"There is everywhere, in town and country, a large demand for female domestic servants of good character.

"Children of either sex, respectably vouched for, and watched over upon their arrival, by parties who bring them out, may be absorbed in very considerable numbers.

"The various manufactures incident to a comparatively new country, constitute an important and rapidly increasing branch of industry; and they cause a large demand for Immigrant labour.

"The getting out of timber from the forests and its manufacture, form a leading industry of the Dominion; but not one to be much relied on for newly arrived immigrants, the various descriptions of labour which it requires being best performed by persons who have had special training in this country. The various industries, however, which have immediate sympathy with it, make a large demand for Immigrant labour.

"The Fisheries of the Dominion, both on the Atlantic and Pacific coast, are of almost unlimited extent, and afford a field for the particular kind of labour adapted to them.

"The Dominion possesses very extensive mining resources of almost every kind. These offer a wide field for explorations, and hold out much promise for the future. Their present state of development calls for a consi-

derable amount of labour, which it is expected will be increased to a very large extent, in the immediate future.

"It may be remarked that the classes which should not be induced to emigrate to Canada, unless upon recommendation of private friends, and with a view to places specially available, are professional or literary men, and clerks and shopmen. As a rule there is a tendency towards an over supply of applicants for these callings from within the Dominion itself, and unknown or unfriended immigrants seeking employment in them, might encounter painful disappointments."

NUMBERS OF IMMIGRANTS CANADA CAN ABSORB.

Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners in their 32nd Report, for 1871, make the following statement:

"Canada cannot at present absorb more than between 30,000 and 40,000 emigrants a year; and the excess beyond that number can obtain employment only in the labor market of the United States."

This statement has not only no foundation in truth, but it is wholly gratuitous and unjustifiable. Against that may be set off that of the responsible Canadian Minister (Hon. Mr. Pope) in the memorandum before referred to:

"With respect to the number of those for whom employment could be found in the Dominion it is impossible to give a precise answer. But it may be stated that the number of immigrants who arrived by the St. Lawrence in 1871, and announced their intention to settle in Canada was 27,773; besides those who came by the Suspension Bridge, and inland ports of Ontario and Quebec, and the ports of the Maritime Provinces, the total number of whom was 28,702; but there are no means of distinguishing among the arrivals by these routes, those who intend to settle in Canada, from those who simply passed through to the Western States.

"The immigrant arrivals during 1871, as well as for some years previously, were quite insufficient to satisfy one-third of the labor demands of the country. These are at this moment more importunate than ever.

"The numbers of immigrants which might be absorbed by the immense agricultural and other requirements of the Dominion are practically unlimited. It is a fact that more than treble the number of the ordinary yearly arrivals of immigrants could be absorbed without making any glut in the labor market."

These statements of the Minister refer only to the ordinary labour demands of the Dominion; and it appears from them that three times the number of immigrants stated by H. M. Emigration Commissioners as the limit of those Canada could absorb, would not make any glut in the labour market. But beyond the ordinary increasing labour demands of Canada, there is at present springing up an extraordinary demand of very considerable magnitude, for the construction of the Pacific Railway, the enlargement of the Canadian Canals, and other public works in progress.

The unoccupied lands of the Dominion can, in fact, absorb many millions of settlers, but these will be more particularly hereinafter referred to.