

present Government, but to a most unfortunate bargain made when the charter was issued. The Liberals opposed that bargain and pointed out the evils that would follow its consummation, and in so doing called down on themselves the displeasure of the entire west from the lakes to the Pacific. They were frustrated in their efforts to save the people of the west from the evils that now beset them. The bargain was made, and there is now nothing to be done except to insist on the strictest interpretation of its provisions in the public interest. Canadians have burdened themselves to establish transportation facilities and Governmental institutions adequate for a population of forty or fifty millions. It would be a poor policy to sit down under the burden and wait for population to come. The energy of the Government and the discernment shown in selecting an agricultural people have supplied several districts with a good class of settlers, and while people from the United States or from older Canada might be locally more desirable, it is far better to bring an agricultural people from southern Europe than to leave rich areas vacant for two or three generations.

FOREIGN IMMIGRATION.

In a letter published to-day Mr. Frank Moffet of Assinboia finds fault with the policy of assisting immigrants from southern Europe, and argues that similar inducements should be held out by the Dominion to the young men of Ontario to settle in the Canadian west. No doubt the people of Ontario would be pleased to see such of their young men as are dissatisfied at home still remain British subjects in some other part of the Dominion. It is unpleasant to reflect that so many of our best young men have felt impelled to seek their fortunes under a foreign flag. But while we have in Ontario such vast resources awaiting development, so much good agricultural land to be settled and cultivated and so many opportunities for productive enterprises, we cannot be expected to favor any policy of encouraged emigration from this to any other Province or Territory of the Dominion. Ontario bears a full share of the cost of immigration, and is not inclined to complain because the chief benefits fall to Manitoba and the Territories. The people of this Province may not be entirely unselfish in that attitude, for they recognize the reciprocal advantage that will be accorded their commercial and manufacturing enterprises by the settlement and development of the western wheat areas. Even where there are no discernible advantages to this Province there is sufficient national spirit to endorse public expenditure for the benefit of undeveloped areas in a sister Province. But the proposal to spend the money of all the Provinces to promote migration from one Province to another must be viewed in a different light. Manitoba and the Territories are free to hold out the most tempting inducements to the young men of this Province, and we would far rather see such as are dissatisfied finding homes there than drifting across the line. But while Ontario is spending its own money in building roads and otherwise opening its own territory for settlement, there is no justification for the expenditure of the funds of the Dominion to induce migration from this Province to the west.

There is room in Ontario for double the present population, and while there is no feeling of envy at the more rapid growth of the west, there are decided objections to the spending of our money to induce our population to go thither. Mr. Moffet alludes to the opposition shown in the United States toward immigration from southern Europe, and favors a similar attitude on the part of the Dominion. It is true that our neighbors have not had a fortunate experience with every class of foreigners, but the only objectionable feature developed across the line has been the formation of foreign "colonies" in the large cities. There has been no trouble through agricultural immigration such as has been brought to Manitoba and the Territories during the past three years. The people from European cities have established in crowded centres of population in the United States the same conditions as they left on the other side of the Atlantic. They have lowered the wages of labor and the general standard of comfort among the working classes. Their objectionable habits and conditions have led to a policy of general exclusion directed against the poorer classes of immigrants from all foreign countries. But our neighbors have had no difficulty with agricultural immigrants. The men eager to take up land and cultivate it have rapidly developed into good citizens. Agricultural pursuits have assimilated all races, and we can feel perfectly safe so long as we have abundance of land for our foreign immigrants and they are eager to go upon and work it.

Complaints against the Canadian Pacific Railway may be fully justified, but we must face the fact that it is only as the sparsely-settled districts are filled up that cheaper freight rates will become commercially possible. Our correspondent is entirely in error in assuming that we urged the loyalty of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Canada as an excuse for all or any of its acts. In dealing with an attack on the Canadian Pacific Railway for having promoted alien or disloyal immigration and an attack on the Government for having furthered the designs of the railway it was perfectly fair to point out that the railway was essentially a Canadian enterprise. Its prosperity and its success are bound up in the prosperity and success of the Dominion, so that on no higher grounds than policy it should be, in a broad sense, loyal to Canadian interests. The "iniquities" of the Canadian Pacific Railway are not due to any aid that it is obtaining from the