

they succeed in finding work come back to Toronto, get their kit and return to the other side for good.

Earlier in the season the Dominion Government were paying steamship agents in Europe and the old country a commission of \$5 a head on all emigrants going into Manitoba and the Northwest. This, of course, was a discrimination against Ontario, as naturally steamship agents were interested in booking all newcomers through to the west. Representations to this effect were made to Ottawa by the Ontario Government, with the result that the arrangement was very much modified, and made to apply to the eastern Provinces as well as the west. It is understood that the commission now paid is seven shillings a head. The effect of this has been seen in an increased number of people coming into Ontario, and it would look as if the emigration officials at Quebec had received some intimation, for a number of emigrants who have arrived in Toronto state that they were told at Quebec that there was no work in the west, and their tickets were changed so as to read Toronto.

CROSSING THE BORDER.

IMMIGRANTS SEEK WORK IN THE UNITED STATES.

Claim They Could Not Obtain it in Canada—Number Who Have Gone is Comparatively Small, However.

Immigrants who have been brought out to Canada, and upon whom, it is understood, the Dominion Government are paying a commission, are said to be finding their way across the border into the United States. The claim is put forward by those who leave the country that conditions here were misrepresented, that they were told they could earn big money by agents who induced them to come, and that when they arrived here they found they were unable to obtain work.

While it is true that a number of old countrymen who came to Canada with the intention of settling down here have found their way across the line, still there is no reason to believe that the number is large, and would probably not exceed one hundred since the season of navigation opened. Most of them go by boat, and are easily traced, not only by the boat lines themselves, but by the agents kept here by the American Government to prevent undesirable immigrants getting into the United States.

At the Niagara frontier there are stationed a number of United States agents who have power to turn back any undesirable class, and one agent is stationed in Toronto to watch and inspect the emigrants going through and report to the officers at the frontier. There is said to be a considerable class passing through Toronto, principally Italians, Finns, Syrians and Greeks, which the inspectors will not pass, and the number turned back will probably average twenty-five a month. Some Italians recently turned back had been rejected at other points, and were making another effort to get through by way of Toronto.

English, Scotch, Swedes and Canadians usually pass through without much question, but with the exception of the Canadians they have all to pay a tax of \$2 per head. The United States Government now taxes all immigrants this \$2 except Canadians, Mexicans and Cubans, the idea being that the tax will help to pay the cost of the special service maintained along the border from the Atlantic to the Pacific. There are some 116 inspectors scattered along the border, and the number is to be increased.

Passing through Toronto now there are large numbers of both English-speaking immigrants and foreigners, but they are nearly all ticketed through by the steamship companies. Most of those who are ticketed to this Province stay here, but a number, principally mechanics, find work on the other side, and go over there to live. The cities they mostly go to are Buffalo, Cleveland and Pittsburg, where they do not appear to have much difficulty in finding work, for after being there a short time they write over here to their friends and invite them to settle there, too. Hardly a Sunday school excursion from Toronto to Niagara Falls but has one or more of these workmen taking advantage of the cheap fare. They take a run up to Buffalo, and if