

son in **Canada**. Another difference to be learned by experience is seen in irregular employment during the Canadian working season. The bricklayers here leave a building as soon as the walls are up, while in Britain, where there are fireplaces and other adjuncts to build, the work is necessarily more continuous. The irregular nature of employment here extends not only through the building trades, but into many industrial occupations. A free influx of workmen and other causes making it easy to secure men when wanted have led employers in many industries to disregard the continuity of employment among their men. Tenders are made and contracts taken in the full assurance that labor can be obtained if material is available. In Britain, where conditions are more stable, a manufacturer or other employer must carefully consider his available supply of both labor and material before undertaking a contract.

Our correspondent says that agencies furnish the intending emigrant with letters of introduction to different firms in the Dominion, by whom he is employed. After a while he is laid off, and then he realizes that he has been employed only for a "rush" job. It is then also he experiences for the first time what it is to be dismissed at a moment's notice. The chief ground of complaint is that Canadian employers send to these agencies for men when they are busy on work which they know will not last, and then cast the men off. A Canadian mechanic is not long out of his apprenticeship before he realizes what it means to be laid off without notice. Often it happens unexpectedly when he finishes some piece of work in the middle of a half-day. What the Englishman regards as a hardship is in **Canada** a familiar custom. If any hardship arises or any injustice is done it is due to the fact that the intending immigrant necessarily sees the picture presented by the agent through British eyes. While new-world conditions are certainly more favorable, the arousing of roseate hopes must lead to disappointment.

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#### CANADA'S INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

A British mechanic, evidently well qualified to express his opinions and narrate his experience, has complained, in a letter to The Globe, of harsh treatment in **Canada** from both fellow-workmen and employers. The feeling of Canadian workmen against those who intensify competition in their various trades seldom leads to openly-expressed antagonism. The individual cases in which such complaints are justified are fortunately rare. The tendency to ridicule all strangers and **foreigners** is not entirely absent, but its disappearance is hastened by the courtesy and discipline inculcated in the meetings of unions and other organizations. There is often quite as much antipathy shown toward men moving from a village or town to a city as against arrivals from Britain. The complaint as to employers and employment shows that, however fairly the conditions in this country may be represented to British workmen, there is certain to be more or less misunderstanding.

That English workmen are unable to obtain permanent positions shows, not a special antipathy or inconsideration, but a fundamental difference between conditions in the two countries. In many occupations in **Canada** permanent employment is the exception rather than the rule. This is especially the case in the building trades. Bricklayers in Britain hear roseate stories of the wages in **Canada**, but they are not told of the greater amount of work necessary to earn the higher wages. Nor can they realize that there is a long idle sea-