

THE GOOD TIME COMING.

While the leading papers of the Atlantic States are rejoicing over the unprecedented emigration from Europe, this year, we think that, in reality, the people of the North Pacific Coast are destined, in the end, to reap a greater amount of good from such a source than their Eastern neighbors. Without doubt, the incoming thousands from the Old World will have scattered a good deal of money before ever reaching our own borders; but it may be safely predicted that, as a class, they are frugal people, seeking for themselves and their children, lasting and abiding homes somewhere west of the Rocky mountains. To show our friends that we do not speak unadvisedly as to numbers, we are prepared to state, from statistical authorities, that, since the first of January, 2,300 emigrants have arrived at Baltimore, alone, against less than 300 for the same period in 1879. At New York, 35,825 have arrived by steamers and sailing vessels against 11,140 for last year. During the month of March, no less than 21,658 well-to-do emigrants landed on our eastern seaboard against 5,065 during the same month last year.

Now, should this tide of vigorous humanity continue to flow across the Atlantic, at its present flux, for a few months longer, it is not an easy matter to realize in all its phases, the change which will be inevitably wrought in the great commonwealth of our land.

It is not a little encouraging to hear the proprietors and agents of the various trans-Atlantic transportation lines say that the emigrants now swarming hitherward are far above the average class, there being very few heads of families among them who do not bring a sufficiency of ready money to make a pleasant and prosperous start in the new land they have adopted.

A harvest time has come which our immigration societies and well disposed land owners should not fail to improve; and right here, we crave the opportunity of putting in a few words of advice for the lasting benefit of all who may be concerned.

It may be laid down as an axiom that incoming settlers, as a rule, have very little confidence in the descriptive pamphlets issued by immigration societies. The reason of this is perfectly obvious and legitimate. Unscrupulous railroad

companies and land kings have so abused the good faith of emigrants, heretofore, that those now seeking homes among us are exceedingly wary in regard to what reports they read and hear. "Away with your guide-books and pamphlets," say they; "Send to us samples of the newspapers and magazines which are sustained by your people and which find lodgment in your families." In giving expression to such sentiments as these, we believe prospective settlers are entirely correct.

About a year ago, a Puget Sound gentleman proposed to the emigration societies of the Territory, that a common fund be set aside for defraying the expenses of sending specified newspapers and magazines published on the North Pacific Coast, to appointed agents throughout the Northwestern States, and by those agents to be scattered broadcast in all those districts whence emigration streams have their source. The novel proposition was taken up and highly recommended by the press of Eastern and Western Washington. In many cases, the publishers were ready to donate, for a reasonable length of time, their weekly issues to the immigration societies for such a purpose. Instead of accepting this munificent offer, the societies resorted to the everlasting and hackneyed "pamphlet" base-line of operations, and what has been the result? Thousands of dollars have been spent in the publication and sending abroad of this style of literature, for which only a small harvest has thus far been garnered to compensate the time and money expended.

It may not be generally known that immigration societies exist in the Atlantic States as well as on this coast. They are the converse of ours, however; their aim and object being to relieve those States of their surplus population by informing the people in town and country on all points most essential to those contemplating a removal to our Western and Northwestern frontier.

Now suppose a few of the very best weekly and monthly publications of Oregon and Washington could be sent free of charge to the managers of those societies, for distribution among the unsettled population whence all the great immigration movements take their rise? It cannot be doubted for a moment, that thousands of families,

now halting between two opinions, would become possessed of facts as to the inducements offered by this part of the coast, which they could obtain in no other way.

Since charity is said to begin at home, we will make bold to speak a word for ourselves. Not a number of the WEST SHORE has been issued since its inception but it has been a well-spring of just such information as thousands are now hungering for in the densely populated districts of the Atlantic, Middle and Northwestern States. As our magazine announces in its own words, to "Literature, Science and Art," is it devoted; a pure Literature, exhaustive Science, and the liberal Arts. Besides this, it seeks to labor for the best interests and abiding good of the entire Pacific Northwest.

ANOTHER CHAPTER ON RESOURCES.

It should be an axiom in the economy of human affairs, if it be not so recognized already, that every able-bodied man should be a self-supporting constituent of the community in which he resides. This was reckoned a sound principle among the Greeks and Romans more than two thousand years ago. It was St. Paul's privilege to boast that he was at charges to no man for a livelihood; and in his second letter to the Thessalonians, he distinctly lays it down as a rule that, "If any would not work, neither should he eat."

Now, we can as well conceive of an able-bodied *country*, as an able-bodied man. In this sense, the Pacific Northwest is eminently able-bodied, and, being so, it should be self-supporting in all those things which may be enumerated among its resources, either developed or undeveloped. But to our subject. A broom-handle is a very simple thing, and cuts but a small figure in the commerce of the world; and yet, millions of them are shipped, every year, from the Eastern States to San Francisco, and thence to this part of the coast. We have taken some pains to investigate this absurdity, and feel that we can speak advisedly on the subject. That it is just as we denominate it, a grand absurdity, let the sequel show. Nay, it is worse than an absurdity. It is a libel on the interminable forests and water-powers of Oregon and Washington. Broom-handles are shipped