

The Japan Daily Mail.

YOKOHAMA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1907.

CANADA AND JAPAN.

Canada, in the name of the Governor-General and the Government, has addressed to the Government of Japan through the British Embassy in Tokyo a frank expression of regret for the outrages to which Japanese subjects were subjected recently in Vancouver, and a declaration that every possible step will be taken to avert the recurrence of such events. This message has been submitted to the Emperor of Japan by Count Hayashi and has elicited a warm expression of his Majesty's satisfaction.

The telegrams with reference to the coming of the Canadian Minister of Labour, Mr. Lemieux, are not easy to comprehend. If there is to be any discussion for the purpose of drafting an emigration convention such as the cablegrams describe to be the object of Mr. Lemieux's coming, the conference must be between the Governments of Great Britain and Japan and not directly between Canada and Tokyo. It is alleged in the Japanese capital that Mr. Lemieux's visit has no reference to a convention, but is intended solely for the purpose of examining into conditions and discussing some means of solving the problem quietly and satisfactorily. But as a matter of fact Japan may be said to have already solved the problem by refusing to grant passports to emigrant labourers. It is now confidently stated that the number of such passports will be strictly limited to 3000 annually, and that they will be given for one destination only, namely, Hawaii. If this policy be adhered to, it will effectually settle the difficulty. We believe that Japan's ideas may be very easily interpreted. She will not sign any international document which discriminates publicly against her own subjects, but, on the other hand, she will not encourage or assist her subjects to go to places where they are the victims of outrage. Incidentally it may be noticed that this policy is a death blow to the emigration companies. Not more than two are likely to survive out of the whole number.