

felt was a great drawback in the North-West, though it has a good literature of its own. But Evans told me that you were taking charge of his farm. What made you leave it?"

"I am afraid," said Morgan, "that the holiday I have taken without leave will not encourage you to keep me on when you take to the farm. I can only say that if any loss has been sustained in my absence, I will pay for it with a mortgage on your homestead, that you made over to me. For the rest, I must apologize very humbly for my conduct; and only excuse myself by admitting that Johnnie Wilmot knows as much about the work as I do, and that I left him to look after the farm, with his younger brother's help."

"But what about the bronchos that Evans told me he had bought, and that you were to help to train, as you were good at horses?"

This a little alarmed Morgan. The letter about them came after he had left, so he had never received it, and had heard nothing of the bronchos. The two young boys could certainly not manage untrained ones without assistance.

Holmes supposed that perhaps the bronchos had not yet been sent to the farm.