

will not be long ere we will have towns and villages lining the Saskatchewan River offering comfortable homes to thousands of energetic farmers, merchants and machanics. So much for go-aheadism in the great North West.

THE CROPS OF 1871.

The dry season last year, did a great deal to retard, what promised at one time to be a very fine crop. The quality of the wheat however turned out very good, in fact, we have not seen a poor sample this winter, but the average yield we feel safe in saying, did not exceed 20 bushels to the acre. On the subject of wheat, we would here recommend many of our farmers, to be more careful in cleaning their grain, as we have observed of late, a great deal of dirty wheat (otherwise good) coming into the market. A dealer or miller will always be found willing to pay the outside price for clean wheat.

Barley or oats did well last season, the yield being on an average 40 bushels to the acre. We would like to see our farmers paying more attention than they have hitherto done to the raising of oats, as the demand for them will certainly increase hereafter.

Hay on account of the dry season, was a failure to a great extent,—in addition to which the destruction of large quantities by the prairie fires has made it an expensive article. We had almost written luxury. We would like to see pressed hay tried in Manitoba, we feel sure it would prove a success. Our volumes are always open to practical hints on farming in Manitoba.

INCORPORATION.

In reply to the *Manitoban* we beg to say that on the subject of Incorporation we merely offered a suggestion in our last and did not pretend to produce any argument in favor of the step feeling certain that the advantages to be gained were well enough known without any necessity for comment by us. As we have been asked for information however we will here give a few of the benefits to be derived.

First our corporate powers will allow us to compet everyone within the limits of the town to take every necessary precaution against danger by fire.

Second—We will be enabled to have sidewalks on our streets, the expense of which will be borne generally instead of as now by one or two individuals.

Third—The limits of our town will be decided upon whereas now there is a good deal of doubt where they are or where they are likely to be.

Fourth—We will be enabled to have our streets laid out regularly so that in the future there will be easy access from one point to another as well as neatness in the apperance of the place. Now there is no such thing and this individual or that one can plan a street on his property to answer his own individual purposes, irrespective of the community at large.

Fifth—We will be able to have our bye laws to regulate matters generally so as to answer the public good and not the ideas of individual parties.

Sixth—We will be able to secure our present town against the liability of being placed on the outskirts instead of the heart of a future city. Our present townspeople would feel far from satisfied if they found themselves just on the limits the other end of the town being somewhere up the Assiniboine or perhaps across it.

We are aware that a certain few whose cause the *Manitoban* may be advocating fear that on account of the large stake they have at issue they will be taxed heavily but we may say that there is no necessity for the town running into any important expense at first, we can commence in a small way and so far as we can see there is no necessity for heavy taxation, even in the case of the largest property-holder in Winnipeg. We are not obliged to have gas works, water works, an extensive police force, &c., &c., at the outset.

We still say that we would be glad to see some of our enterprising citizens take the matter in hand.

OUR BRICK YARDS.

Lumber is at present, and likely to be, an expensive article in Manitoba. We have no stone quarries of any importance close at hand, and therefore we are obliged to turn our attention to some other building material less costly, and easier to procure than either wood or stone. In brick we have that article the clay in Manitoba of which there is an almost unlimited quantity, being particularly well adapted to its manufacture. Charles Land so well known has turned out in his day many thousands of hand made bricks of a superior quality. But when it was found that the demand for the article exceeded the power of Mr. Land to supply, our townsman Dr. Schultz,

with praiseworthy enterprise imported a brick machine, capable of turning out 9,000 per day, the substantial results of which can be seen in the two rows of neat brick houses on each side of the Doctor's store. These houses have proved that brick manufactured in Manitoba, is a durable as well as a cheap material for house building.

Messrs. A. M. Brown & Co., next brought in a machine capable of turning out 11,000 per day, which was worked successfully last summer alongside of Dr. Schultz' yard. Both of the machines which we have mentioned are driven by horse power. From hand to horse power the demand still continuing in advance of the supply, a Company of wealthy gentlemen was formed for the purpose of bringing in a steam machine. This latter arrived too late last season to turn out any brick of importance, a few were however made, to test its working qualities, and we understand that our brick yards will be able next summer to turn out at the rate of from 50,000 to 60,000 a day, and this ought to keep us going for a while.

We would recommend those owning frame houses, and who can afford the extra expense, to case their building on the outside with bricks, which can be done by means of iron binders here and there, running through from the outside of the brick connecting with the inside frame. The security from fire would be greatly increased, and Insurance Companies would no longer hesitate to accept risks in Winnipeg. Come now, gentlemen, let us have a brick town instead of a wooden one before next fall.

THE MINNESOTA STAGE COMPANY.

We have no wish to be put down as grumblers, we are rather inclined to be thankful for small mercies, but at the same time, we must say that we would like to see a "four horse team" jerking that stage along between here and Breckenridge, instead of the two quadrupeds that bring it in now-a-days once a week. "Three times" Messrs. Blakely & Carpenter is the contract. We don't mind the stage coach so much as we do the passengers—and the express—and Mails—there's the rub. Now Colonel, try four and see if they won't work better than two. Never mind the snow-banks, push through them, and keep your name up—and don't let your passengers walk when they pay for "riding."