



A MODEL SCHOOLHOUSE IN THE IRRIGATION BLOCK.

## Part I. INTRODUCTION.

**"The farmer is the most independent man on earth. He is in partnership with nature, and with her assistance produces what all the world must have—food. There is a never-ending demand for this product. Agriculture holds forth to the young man the promise of independence, comfort, peace, and full enjoyment of life."**

"Back to the Land" is the cry heard from the densely populated centres of the world. The last generation developed our great industries and most of the enormous fortunes gained in financial and commercial pursuits. In the meanwhile agriculture made strides of a kind. But the urban population increased in greater ratio than the rural population, until the world had unemployed problems, housing problems and many others, indicating unhealthy economic conditions.

Now the city man joins the farmer in the "Back to the Land" call. Our social system is out of balance. The congestion of cities must be relieved and the surplus population diverted to the farm.

Rural life is becoming more and more convenient and attractive and, what is quite as important, more profitable, and there can be no doubt that a reaction has set in and that the tendency in the future will be towards the healthier and more independent country

life. "God made the country and man made the city." It is the natural destiny of humanity gradually to drift back to the soil and to those surroundings most favorable for the creation of happy, prosperous homes, where children can be raised and educated amidst the elevating influences of nature, healthy in body and mind.

The Canadian Pacific Railway invites all those who are looking for farm homes to investigate the various openings available along its lines in Western Canada. The immediate purpose of this publication is to bring to the attention of those interested, the exceptional opportunity now offered in this direction within the "Irrigation Block," located in Southern Alberta, Canada, which is at present being colonized by that company.

The United States is now practically settled. Its agricultural lands are more than spoken for, and its citizens are looking to Western Canada as the one spot where good land can still be bought cheaply. The question now being asked by those who wish to avail themselves of the present opportunity is, "How long will these lands be open for settlement at the present prices?" The answer is that it cannot be for long, as the world's available supply of unoccupied land is rapidly decreasing while values are steadily increasing.