

pence at the office of the Daily Record and Mail an excellent book, specially written for emigrants by James Lumsden. Its title is "Westward."

MORE ABOUT ALBERTA AND THE NORTH-WEST.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

There were many things of interest concerning the celebration at Edmonton, which were omitted from my last communication either inadvertently or because of lack of space. For example, nothing was said, though very much might have been, of that fine body of men, the North-West Mounted Police. A large detachment of these valuable guardians of the peace of the West, went through difficult manœuvres before His Excellency and—for a new country—an extraordinary large crowds of enthusiastic onlookers in the picturesque exhibition grounds at Edmonton, to which I have before referred. The North-West Mounted Police is a body which is not given to boasting of its prowess in the military manœuvre line. They have too much to do in the way of real work to have much time for the tinsel. But the fact is they carried out their part in the review just as well as if they had been the sort of soldiers who know little else.

The Mounted Police are a unique class, of which Canadians may well be proud; in truth, we have few institutions so closely related to the governing body of which we have so little to be ashamed. Some of their exploits read like an epic. Imagine a couple of sergeants ordered to go and hunt up a "bad Indian," in the midst of his tribe perhaps a thousand miles away, and after a following of the trail through rock and tangle, over mountain and river, to seize and bring him back to civilization, practically single-handed. Tales such as these are many, only they sound bald compared with the more picturesque reality which allows for the terrors of the wild country through which some of such exploits have led. It is not only in these more showy military feats that these Canadian military police show their mettle. For such, it is true, courage both moral and physical is required, but moral courage is manifested still more conspicuously in the way they undertake civil duties. I shall never forget the way in which a visitor to this country—an American—described what he had seen of the way in which the North-West Mounted Police carried through their duties. It seems he was present by permission when a small detachment was in the act of performing a certain duty of this nature. The civic duty referred to was the raiding of a certain house in the vicinity of a North-west town. One of the men arrested offered, it appears, the sum of \$50 to the sergeant in charge of the detachment, if only he would let him slip the net. "No sir," was the quick reply, "nor for \$5,000 can you bribe a man of the North-West Mounted Police." The American gentleman who described the scene said he nearly fell to the floor with astonishment. "Why, sir, for fifty dollars," he said, "you could bribe any civil officer in my state." It is to be hoped the American was exaggerating, but the story goes to show the high degree *esprit de corps* possessed by the mounted police, who pride themselves upon the fact that in the whole course of their existence there has not been a case where monetary or any other consideration ever caused either officer or man to shirk his duty.

Another incident of the celebration at Edmonton to which attention may be drawn, was the parade of school children. It was the sight of a life-time to see the hundreds and hundreds—how many hundreds I do not know—marching along the streets of Edmonton waving their Union Jacks and cheering, cheering—would they ever stop? They were in regiments, according to age, and these ranged from five-year-olds up to twelve or fourteen. The question on the lips of every visitor was, where did they all come from? The answer, that they all came from Edmonton or its vicinity, makes it very evident that there is but little race-suicide to be feared in the far North-West.

A surprising thing about these towns and cities in the North-West is the fineness and up-to-dateness of their stores, and another fact to cause astonishment is the ex-

traordinary large business many of them do. Edmonton, for example, is a great fur emporium, and hundreds of thousands of dollars change hands every month in connection with that one staple. One store, I am informed, did a business of over a million dollars last year, a main portion of which was in silks and Paris goods sold to the people from the wilds who, when they buy at all, want the very best.

As may be expected under the circumstances, a little high feeling exists between the various cities in both the new provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta as to which shall be created the permanent capital of either. The jealousy, however, is really only manifested to any extent by the cruder, younger elements of the population. For example, a Calgary paper had a paragraph the day after the celebration to the effect that the vice-regal train had passed through three or four inches of snow on its way to Edmonton. This was, of course, an absolute fabrication. However, the representative business men both of Calgary and Edmonton recognize the true factors of the situation. Both cities have made extraordinary progress in recent years, and both have wonderful opportunities for continued advancement. Calgary occupies already a very important position as a wholesale distributor for the country lying on four sides of her.

Edmonton is the centre of a very rich farming country, which is being opened up very rapidly. Should the country lying between it and the Peace River also become developed, as is far from being impossible in the near future, the latter is sure also of a large distributing trade. But whatever may loom in the future for Edmonton, and the probabilities are that it will be the permanent capital of Alberta, there is not the slightest doubt that Calgary will retain a very high position as one of the chief wholesale points on the line between east and west. The growing of fall wheat, too, is a thing which will redound to its prosperity in no mean degree. But this is a subject, the discussion of which I will leave for another letter.

F. P. W.

Edmonton, Alberta, September 6th, 1905.

Canada's commercial agent in Bristol writes to Ottawa that the Bristol docks committee are sending their assistant general manager, A. Harvey, to Canada early in September to endeavor to get a larger share of Canada's trade for that port. The new Royal Edward dock has just been completed at Bristol.

Word comes from Ottawa that herring cured at Yarmouth, N.S., by Scottish curing experts and sent to the United States markets brought last week \$7.50 the half-barrel, or at the rate of \$15 per barrel, as against a price of from \$4 to \$6 per barrel obtained under former systems of curing.

The South African Republics are apparently beginning to open out, and Canada is beginning to reap the benefit of the South African war by the way of trade extension. We observe that the Ontario Wind Engine & Pump Co., Limited, have received an order from Pretoria for three complete outfits of the well-known Canadian airmotors, and we are pleased to find the above firm pushing their goods into all parts of the world.

—It is so far satisfactory that enquiries from French houses who are open to do trade with Canada are becoming more frequent. The French Chamber of Commerce, Montreal, has recently received a number of trade enquiries: For instance, two Bordeaux wine firms desire to appoint an agent in Canada, or to do Canadian trade. A firm in Marseilles wishes to introduce into Canada its specialties of fruit preserves. Firm in St. Etienne, France, desires a reliable agent to sell ribbons, silks and velvets in the Canadian market. French manufacturer of linen and upholstery wants an active agent in the Dominion. French needle manufacturer wants to be put in touch with Canadian buyers. Parisian manufacturer of electric lamps wishes to correspond with Canadian trade, and a Parisian firm in dry goods is open to appoint a Canadian agent.

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