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CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL	129
CONTRIBUTED	135
SELECTED	136
WORKMAN'S LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	137
MUSICAL	138
HISTORICAL DIARY.....	138
LETTERS AND QUESTIONS.....	139
PERSONAL MENTION.....	140
NOTICES	140

LANSDOWNE.

THE people of Winnipeg gave His Excellency the Governor General a rousing reception on Thursday 22nd of October, on his return from British Columbia, and if we may judge from His Excellency's speech at the banquet held in the Grand Roller Rink in his honour, he is most favourably impressed with Manitoba, the North-West country, and the Pacific Province. After a few earnest words of acknowledgment to Consul Taylor, United States representative at Winnipeg, for his kindly remarks in reference to the international relations of the two countries, and of corroboration as to the services rendered the Dominion of Canada by the United States border forces during the

late trouble, His Excellency gave a most interesting sketch of his journey over the branch railways and the main line of the C. P. R. to British Columbia. He was strongly in favor of branch lines, as without them the grand resources of the country could not be fully developed. He saw on these lines and in the neighbourhood of Brandon "a greater extent of arable land than it had ever been his good fortune to look upon before." But it was not all of first-class quality—there were gravelly ridges and some poor and apparently unproductive soil. Much of it however was of extraordinary richness. In the neighbourhood of Minnedosa there was much agreeable scenery and undulating land relieved by copsewood and lake, which was more attractive to many than the flat monotony of the level prairie. He met and conversed with numbers of settlers and found them for the most part hopeful and full of faith in the future of their adopted country. There was talk of injury to the wheat by frost, of course, and no doubt in some sections that injury was serious, but the people were by no means discouraged and would not for a moment admit that the obstacle, however difficult, was insurmountable. When the soil has become drier by cultivation, and when the most suitable varieties of seed have been obtained no doubt the berry will ripen earlier, and thus escape the ravages of the frost. In many cases the grain which suffered most was grown on newly broken land. Much injury has been done the North-West both by pessimists and optimists—the one describing the country as a frost-bitten wilderness—the other as possessing a soil and climate similar to that ascribed by ancient poets to the Islands of the Blest. He hoped the price of wheat had touched bottom, but was inclined to the opinion that for some time to come it would continue to rule low. From the Western States and from British India enormous supplies of wheat had been poured into the markets of the world, and while this continued we could scarcely expect any marked advance in the price of that cereal. But the demand was fast overtaking the supply; Great Britain alone imported food-stuffs in