

administration can be in which the spoils system is even partially tolerated, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues have deserved well of the country for having solved, or, at any rate, removed, from the arena of political strife the vexed question of the Manitoba Schools, while the preferential tariff and the Imperial penny postage must be appreciated by all who wish to see a strengthening of the ties between the Mother Country and the richest and most important of her daughter nations.



Honour to the
Brave.

WE are looking forward to the honour and pleasure of very soon welcoming back to their Canadian homes nearly a score of our lads who went out as volunteers to South Africa with the Second and Third Canadian Contingents. We are proud to know that we were well represented in that splendid body of men who have so nobly distinguished themselves at the front, and whose services have earned such high honour for their country, and have been so enthusiastically recognized throughout the Empire. We extend our most warm and affectionate greetings and applause to our soldier boys, and we congratulate them with all our hearts upon the loyalty and courage they have displayed, and the magnificent service they have assisted in rendering to their Queen and country.



A Good Ad-
vertisement.

BETWEEN forty and fifty lads, attracted by the announcement of our Christmas excursions and unheeding the accompanying warning, have gone over to England to spend the holiday season with their friends. They crossed in three detachments, the largest, thirty in number, sailing from Montreal in the Allan Line *S. S. Tunisian* on November 11th. We have heard of their safe arrival on the other side, and the principal Liverpool papers contained a very flattering

little notice of the appearance and condition of the party and the good impression they created. We are quite sure that the same favourable impression will be made wherever the lads may go, and we could wish no better advertisement for Canada and for the advantages of emigration; but we shall none the less be glad to see our "wandering boys" back again in the Spring, and in harness for another season's work.



Work, Char-
acter and
Ambition.

WE are staunch believers and constant preachers of the gospel of work, and we confess that holiday-makings, "layings off," outings and pleasure trips very seldom commend themselves to us. True it is that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, but we prefer to be a little on the dull side than to have anything in common with the frivolous, feather-pated individuals to whom the expectation and enjoyment of holidays is the chief interest and ambition in life. A young fellow who thinks he has a highly enviable position because he is only required to work for about half as many hours a day as he is capable of working, and whose ambition is gratified by his having a great deal of time for play and loafing, seems to us the most contemptible of beings. We believe that a man's abilities, mental and physical, were given him by his Creator for the performance of useful service in the world, and in devoting his time and energies to any purpose that is not useful to himself and others, and which produces only selfish and passing gratification, he is failing in the object of his life—burying in the ground the talent that was entrusted to him by his Lord. We admire above all else in the lives of our lads that they are in no sense cumberers of the ground, but their lives are, as a rule, full of useful occupation by which themselves and others are made richer, and that, as men, they will grow up to be workers—men of solid purpose and steady aims, and