is found that there are few regions where ordinary wells of moderate depth do not succeed in finding ample supplies of water; and this not only far removed from the rivers, but in their immediate vicinity, though the water level of the stream may be considerably lower than that of the bottom of the well. The rather impervious nature of the prairie subsoil renders it probable that these wells are supplied either by intercalated coarser layers, or,—as appears to be more likely—by water circulating in fissures; which, formed originally by the cracking of the soil at the surface, often penetrate its homogeneous mass to a considerable depth." In the vicinity of Winnipeg boring has been extensively carried out; water is reached at an average depth of fifty feet, and it rises to within a few feet of the surface. The general section met with is thus stated:—

Black loam - - - - - - - - - -	about 4 feet.
Yellow mud and sand - - - - - -	" 6 "
Blue mud and alkali - - - - - - -	" 30 "
Limestone concrete, resembling the bed of a river, and carrying water - -	

Wherever there is alkali in the soil, the well is tubed round to prevent infiltration.

Another difficulty to which we called attention—the existence of great areas of treeless prairie—can be solved slowly but surely, as has been done in Minnesota and elsewhere by the exertion of settlers, encouraged by Government. It is indeed satisfactory to know that the surveys of the last two or three years have proved that the supply of wood is not so limited as was generally supposed. The scanty supply between the Red River and Edmonton was declared by some to be an almost insuperable barrier to railway construction, whereas it is now known that on the first great section of the line that has been located—the 270 miles from Selkirk to Liv-