

the picture of the country can not be painted too dark to avenge their dissatisfied feelings. Several of these speculative adventurers have made money out of their less fortunate neighbors, and either remain in the country enjoying it, or are spending it at leisure in the east; but as the stories of the disappointed speculators travel much more rapidly than those of their successful neighbors, it is a comfort of the effect of the former that the honest Manitoban finds the most difficulty in the old world as well as in the more eastern Provinces of the Confederation. There is, however, one practical argument available, and wherever it has been applied, it has never been known to fail—the industrious emigrant who comes to this country with expectations not in excess of his purse, and with a determination to bear with the disadvantages of pioneer life, which are as nothing compared with those of the early settler in the eastern Provinces or the United States of America, immediately meets with a handsome reward for his labors and industry. As there have been in this country all manner of wild goose speculations, such as have existed and collapsed in Australia, California, and other speculative scenes, known to fame, it is useless to spend space and time in following their shadows and fighting the marks these shadows have left, and are still leaving, behind, so we content ourselves dealing with the real, and representing the true resources and bonafide opportunities in this country of buoyant atmosphere, vigorous climate, immense natural resources and unlimited capabilities, trusting that a practical common sense representation of the facts supported by the testimony of several of the oldest and most reliable residents will bear their legitimate fruit.

THE SOIL.

Pre-eminently Adapted for Agriculture and Stock-Raising.

It could hardly be expected that in a terri-

tory the size of the Canadian Northwest, embracing an area as large as the whole of Europe, there should be no bad land. Inarable tracts are here; but unlike those of some other countries they are found to be a valuable possession in other directions.

From a meridian about a degree east of Winnipeg, and easterly to Lake Superior, a distance of about 90 miles, and north of the lake, the face of the country is very rough and and uninviting, except for its beautiful scenery. It is covered with many beautiful lakes, rivers, muskegs (deep mire holes in plain language), hills and rocks. In many sections there are valuable forests, and the unevenness of the country occasions many waterfalls, which as time rolls on, will be utilized for water power for several purposes. Already, from a few experiments made, this country is found to abound in minerals, and may yet produce the elements for making Manitoba and the Northwest a great manufacturing country. As exploration has been made but to a limited extent, it is premature to speculate upon the hidden wealth of this great belt of country.

To the west of this meridian and to the base of the Rocky Mountains, a distance of about 1,400 miles, and extending northerly to an average distance of say 350 miles from the boundary, lies the great wheat growing district of the Northwest. As you proceed westward from Winnipeg the wheat growing belt extends more northerly, reaching as far as 650 miles from the American boundary at the base of the Rockies, in the neighborhood of the Peace River. Like an isothermal line its boundary is uneven being generally determined by the altitude of the place, the strata of the surface, river basins, slopes and other natural circumstances, constituting a territory 1400 miles in length, with an average breadth of 350 miles, and comprising 490,000 square miles of territory, or 313,600,000 acres. To the average reader this is almost incomprehensible, and to simplify, we remark, it would constitute two million farms of 160