

Farming in Vancouver Island.

A Book of Practical Suggestions.

ANY man who has health, industry, a knowledge of farming, or at least the love of country life, can prosper on a small farm in Vancouver Island. A farmer here is his own master, depending upon no man's favours. The landlord of his own freehold farm, he has complete security of tenure. No one can raise his rent—for he pays none—or take his land either to let to another tenant, to sell, or to use for other purposes. Much less capital is needed than he would require at home in order to acquire a freehold and provide against the emergencies of bad seasons and falling prices. Every capable and energetic man who has gone to Vancouver Island has made money. A practical knowledge of farming in the United Kingdom is an advantage, but (for reasons explained within) not a necessity.

THE NEW LIFE AND THE OLD.

At home the farmer is almost a proverb for his discontent. Nor does he grumble without cause. Often he has to struggle against adverse conditions, handicapped by rent or heavy mortgages. A bad season sets him back seriously. Two in succession may compel him to give up his farm. Difficulty in getting produce to market cripples the small farmer. Often he works under a load of debt. Circumstances which are no fault of his own may operate against him. If he is a yearly tenant, the misfortunes of his landlord may become his own ruin; the estate may be sold and the tenants turned out. New methods of taxation are destroying the old friendly relations between landlord and tenant. Only a very experienced man can hope to prosper, and even he needs luck. The more equitable land system of the New World favours the farmer, and he can without difficulty acquire his own freehold, while the bugbear of bad harvests is unknown if a man will use a reasonable amount of precaution in his