

THE GOVERNMENT'S LAND POLICY.

Our land policy is one of the most practical questions that can engage our attention at the present moment. We require for our country a liberal, settled, truthful land policy, that will attract rather than repel immigrants—a policy that will induce men to seek homesteads rather than town sites—a policy that will favor the farmer and discourage the land-grabber. If a policy is adopted which allows the greater portion of our fertile land to go into the possession of absent landlords instead of into the hands of actual settlers it will greatly retard our progress. It is by the cultivation of the soil that our resources are to be developed. Unless we grow wheat and raise cattle on our great plains we cannot prosper. Our immediate need is settlers rather than speculators; ploughmen rather than tradesmen—farmers rather than shopkeepers. And the government is adopting a suicidal policy when it obstructs the streams of immigration by any unkind or unjust treatment of the settlers who are cultivating the soil. It is wrong to be more liberal to colonization companies than to private individuals. It is gross injustice to build up great land monopolies at the expense of public rights. The rights of pioneer settlers should be protected against all the claims of mere speculators. Ejecting settlers from any sections will not help the cause of immigration. Locking up great districts in the hands of companies will not aid the cultivation of the soil. For the Government to join the rings that are speculating in city sites and town lots, will not promote the cause of public morality. The welfare of this Dominion will be best secured, not by having a few great landlords, but by having millions of small farmers.

OUR HIGH VANTAGE GROUND.

In the race of progress we occupy high vantage ground in this western country. We can begin where our fathers left off. We can use for our new institutions all the experience of past ages, and all the improvements of modern times. The forces of nature that have been harnessed by late inventions are now our servants. We begin to send our messages, not by post, but by telegraph. We begin to illumine our cities, not with gas, but with electricity. We begin to travel, not on coach roads, but on railways. We begin to do our work, not with horses, but with steam engines. And machinery driven by steam power is destined to play a most important part in the development of this new country. The iron horse will carry in the coming col-