

very good crops of other kinds—roots, clover, barley, peas, oats, and the like, while in some parts profitable crops of Indian corn are grown; the latter, however, is also an exhausting crop, even more completely so than wheat, but not so quickly, and can only be grown to profit on a rich soil and a hot climate. The difference between the two crops is this: wheat exhausts a soil of certain elements, leaving the rest comparatively untouched; but maize is a generally exhausting crop, less dependent on special elements, but feeding, as it were on all alike; and so it follows that it can be grown for a longer time before the land shows signs of exhaustion, which at last is so thorough that fertility is restored with difficulty. There is, however, a great deal of good wheat-land in Ontario, and much more of it to be cleared. The partially-exhausted land, too, will come round again, and will grow wheat as profitably as before, but it is only good farming that will bring this about. The farmers of Ontario declare that they would hardly have known what to do with their land if it were not for cheesemaking, and particularly for the new cattle and beef trade with England. Wheat, wheat, nothing but wheat as a paying crop, was simply exhausting the land, returning nothing to it; cattle-raising paid poorly, because the demand was limited; and cheesemaking could only be profitably carried on in the districts suitable to it. But the demand arising in the Old Country for beef, and the improved means of transportation over the sea, have provided a new and profitable opening towards which the energies of the farmers are being directed. The raising of stock suitable to the English market is now a leading and profitable branch in this part of the Dominion, and it is encouraging to the cultivation of root and green crops, of clover, timothy, and other forage crops, of green corn, etc., for soiling. The growth and consumption of these crops, indeed, is the very practice that was needed to restore fertility to soils which had been injured by over-cropping with wheat. But numbers of the Ontario farmers seem to be so wedded to wheat-raising, that rather than go extensively into stock-raising and fattening, and the growth of various rotation crops, more after the English and Scotch models, they prefer to sell out and go to Manitoba and the North-West, a territory which is *par excellence* a wheat country, and which must soon become, perhaps, the greatest granary in the world. They are the more inclined in this direction because they can sell their Ontario farms at \$40 to \$100 an acre, and can buy virgin soil in the North-West at \$1 to \$10. By an exchange of this nature they can easily establish their children in separate farms, a thing but few of them could hope to do in Ontario, where land is comparatively high. They have also the spirit of restlessness which permeates the Americans as well, but which is scarcely known in England.

These various influences are causing numbers of farmers to migrate in the direction of the setting sun, and the Americans themselves were never more crazed about the West than are the Canadians of to-day about their Manitoba and North-West Territory. They treat their land as a parcel of schoolboys treat an orchard of apples, into which they are suddenly let loose: they rush about from one place to another, plucking an apple here and there, having a nip at it, and throwing it down, only to repeat the process at every tree they come to, thinking in this way to find the best fruit in the orchard. So it is with the Canadian and the American farmer of the West. His farm is a mere machine, out of which he gets all the work he can in the least possible time, and he quits it for another, as his fancy suggests. It is of second or third-rate importance to him, for he can buy on the Western prairies at a less cost than that of putting the first crop into it; and the affection with which an Englishman regards his farm, and the home of his childhood, is a factor at present almost unknown in the social life of our friends across the Atlantic.

In time this will change in Canada, and in England the old ties are rapidly weakening. It is well, or rather, would be well, if English landlords would note this change of feeling, this loosening of the Old World sentiment, this infiltration of new ideas, which are surely, and not slowly, permeating the rank and file of British farmers. Steam has made the whole world a possible market for the products of any single portion of it, and, along with education, is making the people everywhere cosmopolitan in thought and feeling. To him who travels these things are clear,

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