

buying city property, in what is known as the suburbs, for comparatively low figures, and it is to these especially we would like to draw attention. The present suburbs will, without doubt in a few years, become more central as the city extends its limits, and the value of what are now considered suburban lots will increase to a wonderful extent.

This is what the correspondent of an Ottawa paper thinks of the Prairie City:—"A stranger's first impression on arriving at Winnipeg is, that it is a dull, dreary place, but a walk through the principal streets completely disabuses his mind of that fallacy, and convinces him that there is not a livelier place of its size in the whole Dominion of Canada. The amount of business done is indeed surprising. Stores are numerous, and they all seem to get plenty of custom. One thing certain is that, as in other Canadian cities, there are no failures or rumours of failures, but on the contrary, every merchant appears to be rolling up wealth. Without any exaggeration, I can say that there appears to be more business done than in Ottawa; there is more bustle on the principal streets and more evidences generally of business activity."

(*The Times*, Jan. 7th, 1880.)

THE CAPITAL OF MANITOBA.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

"Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, surprised me more at first sight than any one of the countless cities which I have visited on the North American Continent. The older ones frequently surpassed my utmost expectations; the younger as frequently fell below the most moderate which I had formed of them in imagination. Indeed, a pretentious city in the Far West is commonly on a par, in external appearance, with a paltry village elsewhere. I had read much about Winnipeg before visiting it, and the impression left on my mind was not favourable. The Earl of Southesk, who was here in 1859, says that "there were houses enough to form a sort of scattered town." Lord Milton and Dr. Cheadle, who followed him three years later, saw nothing worthy of note. Captain Butler, who paid it a visit in 1870, refers to it in his "Great Lone Land," as "the little village," and "the miserable-looking village of Winnipeg." I knew that changes had been made since Captain Butler came hither on duty connected with the Red River Expedition under Colonel (now Sir Garnet) Wolseley; but I was not prepared to find that they had been so great and startling as those which I actually beheld.