

pickets and posts are driven into the clayey soil of the North-West. The end of the post or picket is first sharpened as in figure 5. If the ground is soft, the operator raises it up about a foot or more and brings it down with all his force on the spot where it is destined to stand. It is then pulled out and forcibly stuck into the same hole until it has reached a depth of about a foot and a half when it is allowed to remain, undisturbed by frosts, which do not upheave posts at all, as in the eastern provinces, so that a line of pickets if put in the ground in a straight row, will continue just as they were left at first, until they rot down. When the ground has become dry and hard, the post planter carries with him a pail of water and a cup. The sharp end of the post is first stuck into the spot where it is to stand and then withdrawn, leaving a small square sharp pointed hole, into which a small cup of water is poured to be immediately absorbed by the dry earth, which at once becomes soft. Another prod with the sharp pointed post is followed by another cup of water, and the watering prodding process is continued until the post has got down to its proper depth without the aid of a spade or post auger.

IN CONCLUSION—ADVICE TO NEW SETTLERS—WHO SHOULD STAY AT HOME—WHO SHOULD GO TO THE NORTH WEST—WHEN TO GO—HOW TO GO.

SIR,—I know there is great difficulty in giving advice which will not lead to disappointment, if not ill-will, on the part of some who may take it. The dispositions and circumstances of people are so varied that what might lead to the very best results in one case might lead to disappointment and disaster in another; or, to apply to an old proverb, "What may be sauce for the goose, may not be sauce for the gander." As I like always to treat the worst cases first, I will now briefly refer to the classes and conditions of men who should not settle in the Canadian North-West, at least for some years to come.

OFFICE-SEEKERS

should remain at Ottawa until their appointments have been gazetted, before going to the North-West, for their chances of securing situations will diminish in about the inverse ratio of the square of their distance from the Capital, because of the extreme selfishness of most of Manitoba's representatives at Ottawa, who have so many of their own axes to sharpen on the Government grindstone that they cannot attend to the axes of their constituents.

Strong party men need not go West unless they are prepared to make "Manitoba First" their chief cry, no matter what their thoughts may be on that subject.

Clerks and genteel people generally, who hate manual labor and everything else they supposed to be tainted with vulgarity, will find nothing congenial in the North-West.

Gregariously disposed persons will be come lonesome when separated so far from their neighbors, as is generally the case, especially in the new settlements in the North-West.

People who have passed the middle of life, whose habits and modes of living have become fixed, had better remain where they are, except in some exceptional cases, to which I will refer more at length further on.

Parents who have large families of small children had better not go West until some of their children be grown up, unless they have also a competent portion of the good things of this life in the form of \$1,000 or upward in cash, to enable them to settle down comfortably at once.

People of a fickle-minded, changeable disposition, should not waste money by a trip to Manitoba, for they will not continue there long enough to get fully recovered from the first severe attack of "North-West blues," which nearly all new settlers feel after their arrival in that country, and which leads them to secretly wish that they had never come to the country at all, although within less than a year afterward they would on almost no account return to live at the old homestead.

Young men, whose moral character is not already fully established, should avoid Winnipeg as they would a den of rattlesnakes, for, although there are a good many excellent people living there, yet their influence is not so potent for good as to counteract the prevailing intemperance and lasciviousness, which prevails to an alarming extent, even among persons in high positions. I have reason to fear that many young men have been sent by their fond parents to push their fortunes in this country, but never went beyond Winnipeg, where they fell among

A WORSE CLASS OF THIEVES

than those who, of old, robbed and wounded the traveller who went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and, after losing their money and morals, and learning a lot of Western stories and slang phrases, returned to tell of their imaginary adventures, and bring an evil report about the whole country, although they saw very little more than the banks of the Red River.

I need scarcely advise those who think themselves to be well enough where they are to remain where they are so well off, for they will do so without being told; but the number of such contented people in English-speaking countries is so small, that it matters little whether they go or stay.

Having said so much about the classes of persons who ought not to go to the North-West, permit me to say a few words to those who are likely to be benefited by making their homes in that country. First,—Young men whose patrimony is small, except in brain or muscular development, are more likely to succeed in the North-West than in any other place that I know of, if they are willing to work hard and "rough it" for a few years, which latter term means being deprived of a commodious house, dainty food, and social enjoyments of various kinds which can be had in old, settled countries. If such a young man has a wife, like-minded and like-bodied with himself (and if he is not married he should lose no time before getting a suitable mate), the roughing part of the business will seem a very easy matter. I may add that it matters very little whether a man has a previous knowledge of farm work or not, as the mode of farming is so different in this country that

BRITISH IMMIGRANTS GENERALLY DO BETTER AT FIRST

than the sons of Ontario farmers.

A farmer or laborer who has a family of grown children, be they male or female, can start them on their own hook much more expeditiously and