

British birth and nationality. We are not amongst the number of those who feel any alarm at the prospect of the settlement in the West of large colonies of Germans, Scandinavians, Finns, Doukhobors or Gallicians. There is plenty of room on the Western prairies for as much of the tide of European emigration as Canada is likely to receive for many years to come, and the people who are attracted by the bracing climate and rigorous conditions of life in the Canadian North-West are not a class whose presence will have any degenerative effect. But we sometimes wonder that those who censure or criticize the Canadian Government for its failure to draw larger numbers of immigrants from England, Scotland and Ireland, do not turn their attention more actively to the possibilities of juvenile immigration. Unquestionably it is a work that requires careful organization, and one that can only be successfully carried on within certain strict limitation and under wise and watchful administration. The young colonists must be carefully selected in the first instance to ensure their physical, mental and moral fitness for Canadian life, the homes in which they are placed must be selected with judgment and after due and proper enquiry into the character and circumstances of the persons receiving them, and subsequently the young people must be kept under close and vigilant supervision until they are able to manage their own affairs. These conditions, however, are neither costly or impracticable, and we venture to express our opinion, based on our knowledge and experience in the work, that there is no enterprise to day that the Canadian Government could concern itself in with greater advantage to the country than an attempt to co-operate with the Imperial authorities in some comprehensive scheme for placing out in Canada on the lines that Dr. Barnardo has so suc-

cessfully followed, some of the thousands of orphaned and dependent children who are now being supported in Poor Law institutions, but who have the physical health, the training and the ability to become useful citizens of the Dominion if the chance were but placed within their reach.



WE are devoting a considerable amount of space in the present **Our Western Budget.** number to letters recently received from our youngsters in the North-West. We cannot claim for the majority of these productions any high order of literary merit, but they will, we are sure, have an interest for all our readers in the bright little glimpses they give us of the lives and doings of our lads on the prairie farms. They serve to show that our boys are contented and happy amongst their surroundings, that they are taking a keen and intelligent interest in what is going on about them, and looking forward hopefully to their prospects in the country. We think we may assert without fear of contradiction that these letters demonstrate conclusively that the Canadian North West is a good country for our boys, and that our boys are good. If we stated our candid opinion we should say the very best-settlers for the country. We have only to add that we offer all our correspondents, both those whose letters are inserted and the sadly large number whose contributions we are compelled by lack of space to reject for publication, our cordial and grateful thanks for their communications, and to express our hope that our boys will write to us as often and as fully as they can about their affairs, letting us as far as possible share their experiences with them and enjoy their confidence in anything that concerns their welfare and progress.