

# The Western Sunbeam

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OUR BOW.

With this issue the WESTERN SUNBEAM makes its first appearance before the public. There being no Home Journal published in Western Canada, it was felt that such a publication was desirable, hence our entering the field.

It is our aim to place within the homes of Western Canada a good, readable journal at a price within the reach of all. Its columns will be found replete with interesting articles on the various subjects which go to make up a first-class family paper. From time to time it will be enlarged as occasion demands, when new departments of interest will be added.

We start with an issue of ten thousand copies, which we hope to maintain and rapidly increase. When you have read the WESTERN SUNBEAM, kindly show it to your friends and induce them to send their subscriptions along with your own.

## EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

American emigration agents who are working in the Eastern Provinces do not receive as much attention from our people as ours do who are working in their country. According to

accounts from Dakota, the agents who were actively engaged in inducing settlers to emigrate to this side of the line were threatened with tar and feathers and a taste of cold lead if they did not make themselves scarce. This speaks well for the effective work our men are doing but not much for American law and order.

The British Government are building seventy new war-ships, in order to maintain the standard adopted by the Admiralty, which is to have a navy equal to that of any other two nations.

It would seem as if the storm-cloud is again hovering over Europe, as the present friendly attitude of France and Russia is not looked upon with favor by Germany, who, it is said, contemplates placing her navy on the same footing as that of Great Britain

Senator Butterworth, of Massachusetts, who has been for the past twelve years one of the leading lights in political circles at Washington, has resigned to accept the secretaryship of the World's Fair. Why should not Manitoba be represented at the World's Fair as well as British Columbia?

It is said that Baron de Hirsch has a scheme on hand to establish Jewish colonies in Manitoba and the Northwest for his persecuted brethren in Russia. Senator Sanford, of Hamilton, Ont., has been asked to accept the Honorary Secretaryship of the society, who are looking after the Jews in regard to this matter.

If our readers will pardon the presumption, we wish to inform them that we are going to have an early and unusually favorable spring, which will lengthen the growing season at least two weeks over that of late years. This is our first venture at weather prophecy. We struggled against it for a time, but finally yielded to the inexorable law. But if this doesn't carry out right, it's the last time we have anything to do with the weather. It's a pretty risky thing to fool with anyhow.

Now that the emigration season has opened up and that people of all classes and conditions from all parts are coming in, we wish to draw the attention of emigration authorities to the fact that it is not only the number of people that this country wants but the quality as well. We do not desire

to see these fair provinces made the dumping-ground of assisted undesirable settlers who are without means and who are sent from other countries that they may be out of the way. Nor is it advisable to locate whole colonies of the different nationalities by themselves. Past experiences of other countries, and even of our own, have shown that where the emigrants of different nationalities are intermingled, they soon become a good, industrious people amendable to the laws of the country and eager to imitate their neighbors, while if colonized they maintain stubbornly all their foreign manners and customs, even to the languages, thus placing obstacles in the way of advancing them to a higher state of civilization and retrograding the settlement of any vacant lands in the same locality.

One thing which we would like to impress upon the people of this country, is the importance of planting trees and shrubs. There is nothing supplied by nature which so enhances the surroundings of a home as a few trees. On the open prairie a great many places which look barren and desolate, with their nakedness, might be improved beyond recognition, if a little trouble and pains were taken in this direction. Besides the ornamental, there is also the useful part. In winter they serve to break the cold blast which sweeps across the prairie; while in summer they afford a shelter from the heat both to man and beast. If some of our people would spend one quarter the time in planting trees and shrubs that they do in talking politics, we would soon have as attractive homes as could be found anywhere in the Dominion. Now is the time to start; let every one both great and small get to work and plant some trees, even if only a few, and they will reap its benefit in the very near future. There is no labor expended on the farm which will yield better and more lasting results than that put in tree planting. It is not enough to dig holes and dump the trees in anyhow, but have enough loose earth to give them some encouragement. Cut off the same proportion of limbs as the trees have lost roots, and give them as much attention through the summer as you do your grain, and if they don't give you a crop of dollar bills in the fall, they will at least add that much value to your place and make you a prouder and better citizen.

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