

"and grow up with the country." The virgin soil yielded them good crops of potatoes, mangolds and beans. Their garden too has done well with the most primitive kind of cultivation. They had all the garden luxuries in abundance—lettuce, peas, cucumbers, melons, citrons, vegetable marrows, onions, cabbages, cauliflower, &c., &c. These gentlemen have been eighteen months in the Canadian North-West and are fully satisfied with their prospects and with the country. They say: "We have no hesitation in stating that a man who is willing to work and to put up with a few inconveniences at first, cannot help but succeed. We have found the climate all we could wish. The summer very warm with cold nights, the winter cold but bracing."

MR. GEORGE VANDERVOORT,

of Alexandria, Manitoba, went to the Canadian North-West in June, 1876, from Hastings County, Ontario. He was poor but plucky. He says that after entering for his homestead he had not one dollar left to take him to the Canadian North-West. This was in 1882. He has now a farm of 320 acres, with a snug house upon it built by his labor and worth, according to his calculation, \$300. He had, this year, eight acres under wheat, twenty acres under oats, and five acres under barley. He had also a considerable breadth of land under potatoes and turnips, and a good kitchen garden. His wife, he says, values his farm at ten thousand dollars. Whether he regards that estimate as too high or too low he, as a dutiful husband, does not say, but most people will conclude that the country in which a man who commenced worth forty dollars less than nothing two years and a half ago, can acquire such a snug little property as Mr. Vandervoort's, cannot be a very bad one. Naturally this settler thinks a great deal of the country in which he has done so well in so short a time. He, however, advises settlers to be cautious and to husband their resources, and he concludes his letter by saying that "as I claim to be a successful Northwester I would be pleased and most happy to give advice and information to incoming settlers free."

MR. D. N. GRUMMET,

Elm Valley, Manitoba, formerly of Blandford, Oxford, England, after four and a half years residence in the back woods of Ontario, emigrated to Manitoba. He had very little money to make the fresh start with, only two hundred dollars. In 1882 he settled on a farm of 160 acres which he values now at a \$1,200. He has had many difficulties to meet but he has surmounted them all. He is well pleased with the quality of the land and believes that at present measure would do it more harm than good. He believes that, with industry and economy, a settler cannot fail to do well. If a poor man now wants to earn money he can always get employment at from \$25 to \$35 a month. He thinks that a man from England or anywhere else would do well to bring out with him a good set of carpenter's tools.

MR. WM. REID

of Rapid City, had only two dollars and

twenty-five cents when he went to the Canadian North-West in 1870. He first settled upon a homestead lot, then he preempted more, and after a while he bought a quarter of a section from the Canadian Pacific Railway. He now owns a farm of 480 acres of good land. He, like the other settlers, had to rough it for a time. His first place of abode was a \$10 log house. But he got along. This year he had 90 acres under crop, but next year he expects to have 150. He owns a pair of mules, a team of oxen, two cows and four head of young cattle. Altogether Mr. Reid by his industry and thrift during the last five years has made himself and family very comfortable. The account that he gives of himself is so interesting that we cannot help reproducing it. "I landed," he says, "in Rapid City with my family of three, with only \$2.25. I had neither furniture nor stove, but the times were good then. I would not advise anyone to come here now with so little capital as times are hard and money scarce, although any industrious man, willing to rough it, can get a start here better than in the older provinces. I never did any farm work until I started to plough on my homestead. I am a shoemaker by trade."

We have seen above how a Canadian without money and without any practical knowledge of agriculture or any experience of farm work managed, from a very small beginning, to get on in the Canadian North-West; we will now see how an English farmer, with a small capital, prospered, and what he thinks of the country.

MR. GEORGE DICKSON

settled in the Canadian North-West in April, 1882. He was not by any means rich. After he got his family from Toronto he had \$600 to commence life with in the Canadian North-West. It cost him \$200 to get a house to live in. He took up, in all, 320 acres of land. The soil is a black loam with a subsoil of porous clay and slate. His crops grew well, and he has collected a nice little herd of nineteen head of cattle. The animals have thriven as well as they would in England with the same shelter as he can provide for them. He can get plenty of hay, and the cattle do as well on it as they do on pasture in England. The climate suits him in every way. His health is good, and he does not feel the winter to be very severe. He says he travelled twenty miles with an ox team in the worst blizzard that came last winter, when the thermometer showed 47 degrees below zero. He has plenty of water on his farm, but wood is, he says, getting scarce; but he will be able to get coal before it is gone. He has lost nothing by summer frost, and he does not think that there is any danger from frost to crops sown reasonably early. He remembers having seen frost in England in July, but no one thinks of judging the climate of occurrence. An acre of land can be broken in eight hours by a team of oxen, doing it at early morning and evening, filling up the time with gardening, &c. There is no lack of employment in winter, and there are but very few days that farmers cannot get out from sunrise to sunset. Mr. Dickson's remarks relative to

the best kind of settlers for the Canadian North-West are pertinent and sensible. He says: "There are those induced to come here who are an injury to the country, owing to their ignorance of agriculture. Seek emigrants from the class of agricultural laborers and small farmers. They will have an idea of the new land and how to work it. I may say there is a living here for a man if he will seek it. I have a wife and nine children, the eldest twelve years old, and I am better off to day than when I came here, though I have made our living by teaming, or whatever else I could get to do. There is the same chance for any man if he will seek it."

While looking over the letters received by Mr. Hegg's one is struck with the rapid way in which men who began in the Canadian North-West, with a very small capital acquired what, under the circumstances, must be considered very handsome properties. It must be remembered that while they were improving their farms, erecting buildings, buying machinery and increasing their live stock, they had to support their families. When this is borne in mind, the rapidity with which property is acquired in the Canadian North-West will be looked upon by many eastern men as something wonderful. Even admitting that some of Mr. Hegg's correspondents over-estimate the value of their farms, and making every allowance for exaggeration, it will be seen that the greater part of the settlers have done better in the Canadian North-West than they could have done in the same time, and engaged in the same occupation, in any of the eastern provinces, or in any of the countries of the Old World. Let us take a few examples at random.

MR. WM. MCKERTRICK,

now of Rosebank Farm, Crystal City, left Goulburn, in the County of Carleton, Ontario, in the spring of 1880 to try his luck in the Canadian North-West. He brought with him \$800. He homesteaded and preempted 320 acres. He has now 100 acres under cultivation, a snug house, three horses and other stock, and altogether he values his property at \$4,000, or five times his original capital. Mr. McKertrick has been growing rich to the extent of \$800 a year since he settled in the Canadian North-West.

MR. THOMAS OLIVER,

of Burnside, emigrated to the Canadian North-West from Dumfries Township, Ontario, in 1877. His capital amounted to \$500. His farm consists of 320 acres, of which he has now 150 acres under cultivation. He has built a house, which cost him \$500, and he has two horses and twelve head of cattle. Mr. Oliver values his farm at \$6,000. This is an extraordinary increase in seven years.

MR. J. W. FANNING

left Bruce County, Ontario, on the 8th of April, but forgets to say in what year. He had with him \$400 to commence with. He settled on 320 acres of land. He built a house and purchased two horses. He values his farm now at \$3,000. It is evident that Mr. Fanning is a bachelor, and now that he is getting on in the world, he longs for the comforts and the delights of