

II.

From Toronto to the Golden Gate.

Dear Mr. Editor:—

The thing that struck me most, after leaving you at the Union Station, as I gazed through the window of the railway carriage at the moving strip of scenery, was the sameness of the character of the view. Anywhere, almost, for nearly fifteen hundred miles southwest of Toronto the country would have passed for agricultural Ontario. It is true that I saw for the first time those two great rivers of the continent, the Mississippi and the Missouri, spanned by tremendous bridges of steel; but as I glimpsed them, flowing between their low wooded banks, I missed the majesty of the St. Lawrence, and felt more than ever "content with Canada."

Chicago, of course, affords a diversion, and everyone who can, should stop off there to see Michigan Avenue and Lake Shore Road. There you will find a shining example of what human ingenuity and taste and care can do to improve a water front. You can drive for miles along the shore of Lake Michigan over a magnificent asphalt way. Between you and the lake lies a strip of green. On the other side of the road are trees, then an artificial river, and then a park. One hopes that those who have in hand Toronto's future water front will be able in some measure, at some not too distant epoch, to emulate the achievement of this, the leading city of the Great Lakes. Chicago certainly "knows how."