

MANITOBA AND THE NORTHWEST.

ENGLISHMEN WHO GIVE THEIR TESTIMONY FOR THE

Benefit of the English Farmer—Lots of Land and a Grand Farming Country.

THE REV. LEONARD GAETZ, OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, SAYS:

I came to the Northwest in the autumn of 1883. My object was to see whether a man in my position, with impaired health, limited means, and a large family, could likely live and rear a family in a very respectable way. I was favourably impressed with the beauty and fertility of many places I examined, from Southern Manitoba to the Sturgeon river, north of Edmonton, but Red Deer, for several reasons, suited me best then, and suits me still. I returned in April, 1884, with a wife and ten children, a man and maid servant and nurse girl, and am living on the spot where I first drove down my tent pins. At that time there was no railway north of Calgary. Our household effects, farm implements and supplies had to be carted in by half-breed freighters at 1½ cents per pound; and our cattle were driven the one hundred miles from Calgary in such daily stage as they could stand, grazing by the way, the young men with a team, tent and supplies camping wherever

NIGHT OVERTOOK THEM.

Then there were no people in the country with the exception of some half-dozen white and a few half-breed families. There was not one post-office between Calgary and Edmonton, two hundred miles; no schools except on Indian missions, and only a fitful existence there; no minister of the Gospel or church for the two hundred miles from Calgary to Edmonton, and east and west many hundred miles. If there were any really dark days in the experience of a veteran settler, these might have been counted on as days of gloom and hardship, compared with which the present is an advanced stage of civilization. The hardships were not nearly so many or great as we expected, the comforts more. Away from the rush and whirl of city life, where head and heart were full of care, and every nerve at the utmost tension, the beauty, the quiet, the charm of nature seemed like the hush of God, and everywhere was "peace." We set to work to rear our shanty. We could indulge in very little lumber; lumber was a luxury; common sawed boards cost \$30 per thousand ft., but mud was cheap, and with a plentiful supply inside and out we managed to make a warm, if not handsome, habitation; and having pictures in minds and music in ourselves, we learned that happiness is not a matter of grand houses or luxurious furniture; but love and confidence, and common and high purpose to succeed in spite of all obstacles.

We had faith in God, and a whole lot of faith in ourselves. We went to work with a will, getting up in the morning, contrary to the habit of many in these days, and staying with it all day.

We had much to encourage our industry. The soil was rich and productive, the climate in my judgment the best in Canada. That does not say that we have not at times severely cold weather. But the atmosphere is dry,

THE WINTERS ARE SHORT.

many of them very mild, so that cattle and horses are absolutely independent of the stall, except, of course, working teams or milch cows. Hay, however, is abundant, so that in more severe winters feed is abundant, and no loss need never occur. The springs are early as a rule. There is a vast preponderance of bright weather. The autumns are long and delightful. The rainfall is under the average for Canada, but for the ten years we have been here we have had no approach to a killing blizzard nor hot winds. Taken all round, it is a delightful, healthy climate. We have a rich and abundant pasturage, pure water, good supply of wood, an inexhaustible

SUPPLY OF COAL.

These are some of the natural advantages which seduced us in the early days, and our love to the country, has not decreased with the years. As civilization has come to us in the forms of post office, school, church, society railway, law and order, open accessible markets, the best all-round prices for farm produce anywhere that I hear or read of—why should I think less of this great inheritance which God has given loyal

Canadians, and the people of all the earth who are willing to become loyal Canadians—part of the greatest empire on earth?

The country still has room for *bona fide* farmers, with a little capital, and a whole lot of sense and push, and stay-with-it-ness; but for the adventurers, ne'er-do-wells, and birds of passage, there is no room. It is particularly adapted to mixed farming, possessing every known condition for successful dairying. I am persuaded there is no better country open for settlement today.

The Good News Spreading.

The following interesting letter sent to Mr. W. H. Porritt, of Hertfordshire, Herts, and published in the Christian Herald and Times, London, England, offers a graphic picture of rural life in the Canadian Northwest. It is dated Saltcoats, Jan. 27th, 1894:

Now that our fourth year is about commencing, I thought you would like to hear of our success in the N.W. Well, taking things on the whole, I have no cause to regret that I ever listened to you on the advisability of leaving the old country and seeking a home where the landlord and the tax-gatherer, &c., do not rule pre-eminently over the working man. I have had, along with others, my losses and troubles, and bought wisdom and knowledge in a dear market; but I am glad to say that that time is passed, and I am now in a fair way for prosperity, and should I be fortunate,

IN TWO YEARS' TIME I SHALL BE INDEPENDENT.

beside having an excellent future before me for three sons, a thing I could not have done in England.

Well, this November I had 973 lbs. of fresh beef in the house, 22 sacks of flour (100 lbs each), groceries for four months, 22 turkeys, chickens, rabbits, &c., all frozen and put away, and we are now enjoying them and not tramping the streets seeking work and wondering where the next dinner is coming from. Yet there are those who say, "Canada is no use!" Comfort and plenty are right here on the prairie, but you must work for them or get left. I have adopted the plan of mixed farming, as I soon saw it did not do to have all your eggs in one basket. I try to do a little in all lines, and to do it well. I do not like to undertake more than I can accomplish thoroughly. I find one acre well cultivated is more profitable than two which received only the labor and attention that should be given to one; and one animal well fed is more profitable than two fed on the amount necessary to keep one, and no wise man will allow his stock to stop growing for the want of sufficient food. Still I see neighbors doing all this, neglecting stock, land, &c., and then blame the country. I have seen this year twelve bushels of oats only to the acre, and I have also a neighbor (though thirty miles off) who took special pains with two acres, and who got, from those two acres only, 212 bushels of oats. He has gone over to England about some families emigrating here in the spring, and I took the liberty of giving your address to him, so I hope you will have a chance to talk over the wonderful crop he had. I have one fault to find—that is, the girls get married and leave the farm so soon. Last year my eldest daughter married and went to Regina. This May my second is to marry and leave for Kamsack, Fort Pelly, and I shall then have only a little daughter of eight left. I went out last season and earned 280 dollars—no small thing for one of the "green ones," as the Canadians called me in 1891, when they saw me at work. My son will be 21 in May, and is sending over for the girl he left behind him, and going to settle down on his own account. I think I can start him in the spring.

Mr. Porritt says: "I have known the writer and his family for many years. He was, indeed, 'down in the world.' The death of a relative, however, put him in possession (by legacy) of a small sum of money. He wrote to me from Bristol asking my advice as to emigration. I ran over and met him at Didcot, and recommended him to go out to North-west Canada, warning him that nothing but steady perseverance and resolute hard work would enable him to make a home for himself and family (eight persons). North-West Canada has been passing through the period of general depression, but, knowing the country as I do, I have absolute confidence in its future progress and grandeur. The writer of the letter knew nothing of practical farming; he lived in a town at the foot of the Yorkshire wolds, and was a printer and stationer."

A FLAG QUESTION.

Many Canadians from Kingston, Gannonque, Brockville, Prescott, Ottawa and other places visited Ogdensburg, N.Y., on Wednesday, on the occasion of the celebration of "Independence Day." A noticeable feature of the decorations, if they may be so called, with a single exception on Ford street, there was not a Union Jack or a Canadian flag to be seen anywhere—the Stars and Stripes and Stars everywhere. And what is true of Ogdensburg is true of the cities of the Union in general. Americans display their own flag—no other. In this matter Canadians might take a lesson. They are too magnanimous in displaying miniature American flags on Public Holidays—a matter in which they can never have reciprocity with the States. Self-respect, then should induce them to make no display of American bunting, unless upon occasions when a compliment is needed to be paid to representative visitors. Another marked feature of the day at Ogdensburg was that the majority of stores were open, while in front of hundreds them bells rung and men screamed themselves hoarse inviting pedestrians from the streets to step inside and enjoy a "square meal for a quarter." Between fire-crackers, bands, and the roar of voices it was a case of pandemonium let loose. Recrossing the river was a relief. May the great Republic prosper; but Canada is good enough for Canadians.

What was Promised and what has Happened.

The Mark Lane Express presents in a striking manner the contrast between Cobden's predictions concerning the effects of free trade and the actual experience of fifty years. Here they are: Prophecy.—Land would not be driven out of cultivation by the repeal of the Corn laws.

Fact.—Nearly 2,500,000 acres have been driven out.

Prophecy.—Land owners have nothing to fear from free trade in corn.

Fact.—Rents and agricultural land values have fallen from 80 to 50 per cent.

Prophecy.—In a country growing in population and advancing in prosperity, land always increases in value and without any help from the owners.

Fact.—If all the land in cultivation twenty years ago was worth £50 an acre, and has fallen 40 per cent., that is a loss of £20 an acre.

Prophecy.—The land of England would produce 25,000,000 quarters of wheat per annum.

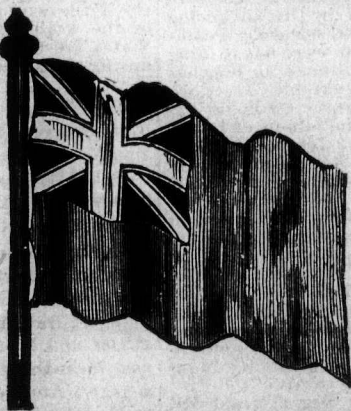
Fact.—In 1862 we grew 17,000,000 quarters, in 1892 about 7,000,000.

Prophecy.—We should always have a natural protection of 10s. 6d. per quarter on wheat in the shape of carriage from abroad.

Fact.—Freights for wheat are now below 2s. a quarter, and it has been carried free as ballast.

Prophecy.—We might as well doubt that the sun would rise on the morrow as doubt that in ten years every civilized nation on earth would have followed our free trade example.

Fact.—Not a single nation on earth has followed our example, and all are heavily taxing our goods in return for a free market here.



ENGLISHMEN!

Leaving the Old Country for Canada

Will find it to their advantage to keep THIS PAPER in their possession. On page seven will be found the locality of the LODGES of the Sons of England, extended over the whole Dominion. When you reach your destination, look up the nearest Lodge to your place of residence, and at once join your fellow-countrymen. You will meet brother Englishmen, who have years of experience in Canada and who will kindly impart to you their knowledge; Englishmen who will gladly extend to you the right hand of fellowship on your arrival.

The advantages of the Sons of England Benevolent Society are manifold, among others, to foster the loving memory of Old England; caring for each other in sickness and adversity; to bring into organized union all true Englishmen, to maintain the liberties and integrity of the British Empire.

In our Lodge Room social distinctions are laid aside; we meet on the common level of National Brotherhood. The Society extends over Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shores. Cast in your lot with us, thereby swelling the grand roll of those bound together in fraternal sympathies—

"A union of hearts and a union of hands,
A union none can sever;
A union of homes and a union of Lands,
And the flag, BRITISH UNION, forever."

Any further information will be cheerfully given by the undersigned Grand Lodge Officers;

WM. HANCOCK, HAMILTON, ONT., Grand President.
GEO. CLATWORTHY, TORONTO, ONT., Grand Vice-President.
THOS. ELLIOTT, BRANTFORD, ONT., Grand Past-President.
B. HINCHCLIFFE, TORONTO, ONT., Grand Treasurer.
JOHN W. CARTER, TORONTO, ONT., Grand Secretary.

And District Officers in the following Provinces:

A. S. DODSON, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.
J. H. BELL, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.
REV. CANON COOMBS, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
A. H. B. SPERLING, Qu'Appelle Station, Northwest Territories.
G. C. KING, Calgary, Northwest Territories.
CAPT. G. W. ROBERTSON, Victoria, British Columbia.
W. BAILEY, Vancouver, British Columbia.
T. TEAKLE, Quebec City, Quebec.
A. D. THOMAS, Fredericton, New Brunswick.
REGINALD J. STEEL, Regina, Assiniboia District, N. W. T.

ENGLAND.

A. J. CRASTON, Nichol's Building, Playhouse Yard, Golden Lane Barbican, London, E. C.

A Plank that the Dominion Government Accepts.

In the Patron of Industry platform, there is a plank which declares that that society is in favor of trade upon fair and equal terms with every country in the world. However the Conservative Government at Ottawa and the Conservative party may view some of the other planks of the Patron's platform, this is one certainly they most heartily accept and commend. It is said that the plank was put in the Patron's platform by the Grit wire pullers with the idea that it was a blow at the Ottawa administration. If such were the case it shows just how little these Grit wire-pullers know of the Conservative policy. The Government at Ottawa and the Conservative party as a whole do not in any sense deserve the name of restrictionists. We believe we can speak for the party and for the leaders of the party when we say that they have demonstrated not only their acceptance of this plank but their active desire to have it carried out ever since they came into office. Let us see what the Government have done during the past three or four years. A little attention to the labors of the Premier and his colleagues will show that we are correct in this statement. In the first place they have made offer after offer to the people of the United States for trade upon fair terms. It is true they have refused to give our markets up to the Americans without getting something in return; in other words words they have offered fair trade but refused to accept unfair trade. Even the present tariff recently passed makes an offer to the people of the United States to admit certain lines of products which the Americans have to sell provided the United States admits certain lines of articles that Canada has a surplus of, and we have no hesitation in saying that the Canadian Government are willing to extend the list just as far as the United States are willing to go, provided of course always that Canada get some advantage for every advantage given to the American people. Then take other countries. The Finance Minister himself has visited the West Indies with the object of opening up trade between them and Canada and as a result of his efforts quite a trade has been established. He has also both by his personal efforts and by the efforts of the Canadian Dairy Commissioner done his very best to place in the most favorable light Canadian products upon the British market, and there can be no doubt, because parliament has only pronounced upon the question, that if Britain to-day were to offer us any favour in her markets which she does not offer to our competitors Canada will give her as great favours in return.

By correspondence and otherwise efforts have been made to increase our trade with South America and with Mexico. The Government have aided a splendid steamship line to establish a large trade between Japan and China and Canada. As a result already considerable trade is established and a foundation being laid for very much greater things in the future. A treaty has been made with France, not including many articles it is true, but as many as could be secured for the purpose if possible of increasing our trade with that country. A steamship line has been established with Government assistance between the Australian continent and our own shores.

The Government sent its representative only very recently to interview the Australian Boards of Trade, and to point out to the Australian consumers that Canada could sell them with advantage. The result of this visit has been a meeting going on at present in the City of Ottawa of representatives from the Australian colonies, representatives of Canada and of the motherland too, whose business is to discuss better means of communication between the Australian continent and Canada, and if possible to mark out lines upon which a larger trade may be done. It should be remembered that if this conference should succeed in doing anything practical its work is only a sequence to the construction of the great Canadian Pacific Railway by the Conservative party. We have in this short article given some of the facts with regard to the effort of the Government to secure trade from very many parts of the world. With regard to trade with these parts and of other parts of the world the policy of the Government is just the same as their policy towards the people of the United States. Canada has a tariff against other countries; almost every country has a tariff against Canada. Canada is willing to lower her tariff for the encouragement of trade with any country provided that country will take steps in the same direction. This is putting in very few words the Patron plank that we referred to in opening this article. What Canada however proposes if the view of the Canadian Government prevails is not to give her markets to other countries if these countries are bound to continue their hostile tariff against us.

The Hamilton Times is of the opinion that the home market cry is largely humbug. Dealing with this statement the Montreal Star an independent paper with strong leanings against the Dominion Government, discusses the whole question from the standpoint of the farmers. Dealing with a further statement from the Times the farmer does not care a button whether his beef or his wheat or his pork goes to feed the darkey in Africa or is served on his nearest neighbor's table, the Star very aptly remarks that "the farmer does care and he cares to the extent of the freight that it takes to deliver his produce to the far-off market." The Star then asks the Times why it advocated reciprocity with the United States if not for the reason that the United States market was near, and it adds "for the same reason the home market so long as it can be preserved is the very best market that the farmer can have."