

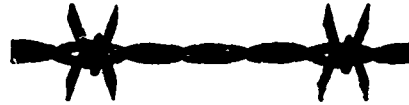
"beaus and bonnets." Prissie turned scarlet with indignation, drew herself up and said: "Sir, your ideas of woman's capabilities belong to the last century. You would find if you kept up with the times that woman is fast coming to the front in every line of business and every profession that is open to her. Your ignorance is deplorable and your rudeness is insulting." And she walked out leaving the old man very much astonished to chuckle and say: "By Jove! caught a Tartar that time. Like her pluck though. Hero Currie run after that young woman and got her address." "I know it sir, she boards in the same house as I do," said Currie coming forward. The old man had a little conversation with him about Prissie, the overplus of work, &c, and the consequence was that afternoon Prissie received a note offering her the position at a salary of \$25 a month. She was inclined at first to refuse it but reflection showed her that would not be wise and that although the remuneration was not large it would pay her board and it was at any rate a beginning. So next morning she started to work. At first her back ached and her hand cramped with the unfamiliar work, but she stuck bravely to it, never allowed anything to interfere with her duties and kept her mind on her task in office hours, and after a few months was rewarded by the knowledge that her work was more than satisfactory, and that her cheque would now be made out for \$30, each month. Prissie, however, was not quite contented. She felt that the possibilities of advance in her present position were limited, so when the long winter evenings came, they found her with note book and pencil up in her little room poring over "Pitman's shorthand." Exercise by exercise, page by page, she mastered the queer little characters and their significance, dreamed of them by night and studied them every spare moment when awake, until her landlady began to scold her for working so hard, and to tell her she was getting thin, as indeed she was. Then when she had mastered the rudiments, she took a course of lessons from a good teacher, and by spring had so far succeeded that practice was all that was required to make her a rapid writer. Then she hired a typewriter and completely shattered her landlady's nerves, click, click, clicking at it till all hours of the night. This was easier to learn and in a month or two Prissie began to look out for a situation in which she could make use of her newly acquired knowledge. After a time she succeeded in getting one at a very much increased salary with good prospects for advancement. She is now fairly, started and there is no need to follow her any further, so we will leave her. The following letter written by her after she had been in the country about three years, is the result of her experience:

DEAR MOLLY.—I have your letter asking me to advise you as to your prospects of success in case you came out to Manitoba. I feel very diffident about doing so, as I know very little of your present circumstances or your capabilities, and on the latter particularly will depend your success or failure. I can only tell you my own experience is that if any one makes up his or her mind to come to this province expecting to make a great deal more money for a great

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dealless work, and who does not realize that there may be difficulties to overcome, had much better remain where he is if he is making any sort of a living. Big as this land is, boundless as are its prairies and rich as is its soil, there is no room in it for the shiftless and the idle. The kind of a man that succeeds here is the kind that only wants a chance given him to succeed anywhere, for it is a fact that a man who makes a failure of his life in one place, unless he gives attention to and seeks to remedy the cause of failure will be quite as liable not to succeed in another. Our streets are not paved with gold nor does the soil give of its plenty without toil, but to anyone who is willing to let his hand do with all his might whatever it may find to do, who is prepared sometimes to be discouraged and try again, who is industrious and has an independent spirit, and who feels that he has in him greater capabilities than his present life calls for, we say come. With these tendencies he is not poor if he lands in Winnipeg with very few dollars in his pocket. You will think I am reading you quite a lecture, but we see so many people coming here from the old country and from the other Provinces who are very easily discouraged and who do us a great deal of harm, because in attempting to justify their failure they disparage the country, and we naturally feel a little sore at being made the scapegoat.

As far as I am personally concerned I shall be delighted to have you here and will do all I can for you in a business way. I will confine this letter to business only, and you may expect a gossipy letter from me next week. Let me know as soon as you decide what you will do.

Yours faithfully,

PRISSIE STRONG.

—BURTON.

The Fraser Valley Fruit Cannery Co., of Chilliwack, have decided to put up pickles this year, and also go more into vegetable canning. Notwithstanding the comparatively poor fruit season last year, the cannery did a large business, and it is expected this year that the turn out will be at least doubled.

At Chilliwack the prospects of the fruit this season are fairly promising. The cherries and plums, where exposed, will be a partial failure, but a heavy yield of apples and pears is expected.

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