

PREFACE.

The city newspapers contain advertisements asking returned volunteers to call at certain places where they can dispose of their scrip at profitable prices. Many of the returned heroes could be seen yesterday in the speculators' offices, bartering off their rewards at a price much below the actual value of the lands. A scrip speculator last night said that he considered it a profitable but risky business. About two weeks ago scrip could be purchased for any sum between \$2 and \$15; but now, since there is a demand, the price has risen to \$30. Many have intimated their willingness to sell out, but will not accept less than \$50. Those who are anxious to get rid of their scrip are either out of situations or hard pressed for money to pay off debts contracted by their families while left alone. There appears to be a desire on the part of most of the scrip-holders to dispose of it, as they do not appreciate its value and have no inclination for farming. One young man sold his holding to a speculative Yonge street tobacconist, who, on going down town, found the same young man driving a bargain in a King Street office.—*The Globe*, August 22nd, 1885.

The obvious want of correct information in regard to the intrinsic relative value of land grants and scrip, as shown by the above facts, suggested the preparation of this pamphlet, the main object of which is to protect those entitled to benefit by the bounty of Parliament from being persuaded to sacrifice their interests for lack, on their part, of trustworthy intelligence. If the effect of the circulation of the work should be that men who have tried to take advantage of the necessities or ignorance of the grantees come to realize that they have bought "a pig in a poke," probably little sympathy will be felt for disappointment experienced by a class of speculators able, as a rule, to take very good care of themselves. The numerous references, as well as the text of certain official documents printed in the appendix, will enable any one who differs from the conclusions of the author to turn readily to original sources of information. Finally, the brief exposition of the new regulations governing the award of pensions and allowances for casualties on service will be found, at the present time, valuable reading for those interested.