

## FARMING IN MANITOBA.

WHAT AN ENGLISH GENTLEMAN'S SON ACCOMPLISHED.

RESULT OF TWO YEARS OPERATIONS.

Mr William Hardie, of Sturgeon Creek, Man., is one of the eminently successful farmers in the Prairie Province, and the results of his operations are significant, as showing what a gentleman's son, not brought up to the work, may accomplish on a North-West farm. Mr. Hardie, who is a Manchester man, knew nothing of the business except what he had learned at an English agricultural college. Three years ago, says the *Winnipeg Sun*, he came out here and bought a farm of 500 acres at Sturgeon Creek. A small crop was put in the first season, but attention was mainly directed to putting up comfortable and commodious farm buildings. It was not till last year that he can be said to have commenced

### HIS FIELD CAMPAIGNS

in earnest. Then during the spring, summer and fall he had pretty constantly twelve men in his employ, and about half that number in the winter. One item in last year's returns was 6,000 bushels of potatoes, of which he sold a large quantity in the fall, when prices had risen to the interesting height of \$2 per bushel. He stored away 4,000 bushels till the following spring, and then again he was in luck, for he got rid of this immense quantity at from \$2 to \$2.50 per bushel. That of itself was as nice a little operation as any agriculturist could fairly expect as the result of one season's operations in one branch of the farm. But his hay, too, proved a veritable bonanza. He put up 500 tons of it, and marketed the same in Winnipeg at from \$15 to \$30 per ton—the latter figure being realized in the spring. Sixty head of very fine cattle were kept farther up the Assiniboine, where Mr. Hardie has a 1,200-acre farm. The cattle being bought for breeding purposes, scarcely any attention has been devoted to butter or milk, and though the animals themselves will be sold at handsome profit now, Mr. Hardie thinks it best to retain them in pursuance of his original intention. He does not milk his cows, but allows each of them to bring up two calves—her own and another.

### CATTLE IN WINTER.

Mr. Hardie does not stable his cattle in winter. His plan is to build for them a shed on the river bank, in the shelter of a bush. Forming a quadrangle of his large stacks of straw, it proves convenient for sheltering and feeding purposes and as this barrier to the wind and snow decreases, it is built up again by two of the hands detailed to haul and stack the straw. The cattle wintered in this way, did remarkably well. One man only was in constant attendance on them, the most important part of his duty being to keep the water-hole in the river free from ice and snow, so that the cattle could drink. The only thing done in the way of stabling any of the cattle was towards spring, when for a few weeks prior to calving the cows were put in. Owing to this precaution none of the calves were lost. During the winter Mr. Hardie put some of his men and teams into the woods and got out railway ties—an operation which it is said made satisfactory additions to

the annual receipts. This year Mr. Hardie had in all four hundred acres under crop, sixty acres being in roots, and the balance in grain. His root crops are principally potatoes, turnips and carrots. He put ten acres under turnips

### A FINE ROOT CELLAR

is one of the things not to be met with on every farm, but Mr. Hardie has an exceptionally good one, the adaptability of which he has fully and fairly tested. On the banks of the Sturgeon Creek he has one cellar which holds 6,000 bushels, and it is so well arranged that he can, contrary to general practice, go into it any day in the winter without damaging the roots. In fact it is entered almost every day in order to see that the temperature is just what is necessary. When it is too warm the ventilators are opened. When it is too cold the aid of a small stove in the cellar soon enables them to warm the air sufficiently. Last winter they had occasion to use the stove only five or six times, and then chiefly as a matter of precaution.

### MANURING FOR FIELD ROOTS.

While on this subject for roots, it may be stated that Mr. Hardie manures all the ground put under roots, and has found, to his satisfaction, that this process increases the yield fully one-third. In the drills, when they are opened for potatoes, manure is first spread. Then the potatoes are planted and covered up. As are the other field roots, they are sown on land used for potatoes the year before, and in that way get the benefit of the manuring. The locality in which Mr. Hardie has settled, Sturgeon Creek, is one of the finest in the Province for agricultural purposes. He has had means to make a good start and push operations when needful. At one time last spring he was paying wages at the rate of thirty dollars a day.

### CONDITION OF BROCK'S MONUMENT.

The gentleman employed by the government to inspect General Brock's monument at Queenston Heights has sent in his report to the Attorney-General. It states that with the foundation and monument itself there is nothing defective. The joints, however, were never properly filled up, being in the first place, simply filled up in the face. In bad weather the rain finds its way through these defective joints, and a short time ago the caretaker was obliged to bail out seven or eight buckets of water. No immediate danger would likely result from this defect, but ultimately the effect on the structure would be apparent if repairs were not shortly made. The report suggested that the joints should be repaired with Portland cement. The terrace wall was considerably out of order, and some of the stones in it projected from one to two inches. It was suggested that channels be cut around the base of the pedestal leading over the projection. The steps and the pavement leading to the monument need also to be repaired. The cement flooring has flaked up in consequence of the ice which has got frozen in it in the winter. The lodge at the entrance will also need repairs. The whole cost of the repairs, it is estimated, will not exceed \$800.

## AS OTHERS SEE US.

AN OHIOAN'S OPINION OF CANADA.

TORONTO AND ITS ENTERPRISE.

Mr. W. J. Chamberlain, of Columbus, O., in the *Country Gentleman* of the 19th inst., gives his impression of things Canadian and Torontonion in a complimentary fashion. He rather under-rates our one-hundred-thousand population, but nevertheless does the city justice in other respects. He says:—

We have been accustomed to regard the Canadians as "slow" and old-fogyish, and lacking in enterprise, and sadly needing to be annexed; and it makes us open our eyes when we travel in Canada. Suppose you start from Toledo or Detroit by the Canada Southern. After crossing the grand Detroit River near its mouth, and having a revenue officer inspect your baggage you are really convinced you are in a "foreign country." But not by any slowness of your train are you thus convinced, for it whirls you over a hundred and a eleven miles with only threestops (only one on the night train), and in less than as many hours. Not by the farming, which is quite as good, especially near St. Thomas and along the Credit Valley Railway, as that left behind in "the States." Not by the hotels which are just as enterprising, and charge you \$4 a day for accommodations no better than you pay \$2.50 and \$3 for in Cleveland, Detroit, or Buffalo! Not by the stock you see at the great fairs, for nowhere shall you find such splendid shows of heavy draught, and of carriage and general purpose horses, or cattle. Not by the cereals or root crops, for your eyes never rest on more perfect wheat, both winter and spring, and as for rye, and especially barley and root crops

### WE CAN NOT BEGIN TO EQUAL

those "slow" Canadian brethren of ours. Not by the exhibition buildings, for at Toronto they and the grounds taken all in all are better than any I have ever yet seen in the United States, the main building alone having cost \$150,000, and being surrounded by a large number of tasteful and substantial buildings for the several departments, ranging in cost from \$15,000 down to a few hundreds, but all, by a joint effort of architect and landscape gardener, so arranged as to secure the best artistic efforts, and the greatest convenience to exhibitors and visitors.

### TORONTO AND ITS ENTERPRISE.

We have not found the expected "slowness" of the Canadians yet; and it will repay an American to visit Toronto for a day or two at the time of the great fair, look over the grounds, buildings, and exhibits, and study the city and the people. The city is peculiar in some respects. It is more *solid* than our cities of the same size, there are finer wooden buildings, and those of brick and stone seem more substantial. It apparently does a heavier mercantile business than Cleveland or Buffalo with twice as large a population. One reason for this probably is that it is the distributing centre for a larger area. It is, in fact, the only trade centre of any importance for the whole Province of Ontario, which has an area and a cereal production just about equal to Ohio, while

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