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that a few miles from the railway the land was of a much better quality, and better farmed; I found this to be the case also in the North-West Territory, the land fifteen or twenty miles from the railway track was better wooded and more desirable for farming. After reaching Hardieberg the land begins to improve—better modes of cultivation are seen. The growing crops are principally oats, barley, and peas; the latter seemed to be the most abundant crop of any. Changed trains at Montreal, and started on our way to Ottawa, a distance of 160 miles. The land just outside Montreal is mostly settled, but, as the French Canadian element largely prevails there, the land is poorly cultivated. These French people, on the whole, make but poor farmers—too idle or indifferent to gather the stones off the land. These people can live so cheaply on their own land it makes them indifferent as to the future. When nearing Ottawa we passed through a large tract of forest, the trees being regular giants of the forest, principally maple, ash, and pine. Here and there we saw a shanty which a hardy settler had erected, and was attacking the woods with axe and fire. The great bulk of the lumber which comes down the river St. Lawrence to Quebec comes down the Ottawa River. Ottawa is splendidly situated, the streets are well laid out, the buildings good, especially the new block of Parliament Houses, which is a beautiful sight; such a block of buildings it has never been my lot to see before. There is a fine Public Library in connection with the buildings, and in the midst I was pleased to see a statue of our own beloved Queen. There are large saw mills, driven by water power, cutting up immense quantities of lumber, which go to build the towns and cities of the Far West. In our rambles in the gardens of the Parliament Houses we came across a section of a fir tree cut from a tree grown in British Columbia: it was over eight feet in diameter, its height 300 feet; its age, computed by counting the rings shown in cutting, 566 years, so that it would be 183 years old when Columbus discovered America. Having letters of introduction to Mr. Lowe and Mr. Small, of the Department of Agriculture, we sought an interview with the latter, when we found that Mr. Lowe had just started for the North-West Territory; however, as the Hon. J. H. Pope, Minister of Agriculture, was in attendance at the office, Mr. Small kindly introduced us to him, and we had a lengthened interview. I was much pleased with the interest he took in the object we had in view when he found, by our letters of introduction, that our object was solely to see the country and report on its adaptability as a field for emigration. *As I had come out solely on my own responsibility, and having to pay my own passage, I had provided myself with a memorial signed by a large number of my fellow farmers in the neighbourhood where I live, stating my position and the object I had in view in going out to Canada.* When I placed this in his hands, and he had looked it over, together with the testimonials of my colleague, he at once said that we were just the men they wanted to look over the country, form our own opinions, and go back to England, and give our people the result of our observations. And here I would bear testimony to the courtesy and kindness we received, not only from the Minister himself, but also from the Government Emigration Agents at the various places where we stayed, among whom I would mention especially Mr. Stafford, of Quebec, Mr. Donaldson, of Toronto, Mr. Grahame, of Winnipeg, and Mr.