

settlements in Manitoba will bear witness that these thrifty settlers make farming pay, and that although many of them commenced life almost barehanded a few years ago, they are now surrounded with evidences of comfort and even luxury.

A contemplation of their prosperous condition makes one regret that the other and more numerous classes that have settled in Manitoba as agriculturists did not adopt the co-operative plan of their quaint brethren, the Mennonites. In such an event their success would have been assured. Instead of co-operating there was a reckless paddle my-own-canoe daring which ended only in disaster. Many were impressed with the false notion that man is an independent creature instead of a dependent one, forgetting that there is no such reality as independence; that it is a relative and not an absolute term, and that men everywhere need the companionship of their fellow men in some form, and often their assistance.

However much this independent spirit may be admired in the abstract, as a practical measure it is a failure, and the agricultural settler will find that co-operative effort is the best in the long run, it being always the rule for every man to "do as he would like to be done by." In old communities where the pressure on subsistence is very great, if a man has lost his substance, no matter how well-meaning he may be, he is regarded as a pauper, and so he is kept back in the race. But in a new community, where there is room to rise, a man may be "dead broke," as the phrase is, but if he has willing hands they soon find work, and thus soon a home and a competence. This is one of the best features in the environment of a new and undeveloped country—it stimulates the wavering, encourages the laggard, makes an industrious man of the idler, and a rich man of the pauper. One of the pleasing features of life in the Territories is that it is free from the labor agitations which have become chronic in old settled countries.

A man can always find work in the Territories, because there is always something offering, and although it may not be to his taste and he may not be an experienced artist in the line, yet his employer is better natured, does not exact the same degree of efficiency as would be necessary in an older country, and thus the timid man is encouraged, and is ultimately surprised at what he can do when he tries. Such could not happen in an old country. There the employe must be an expert or he will not be tolerated. His employer has no sentimental or humanitarian views on practical questions. If the hand does not know his business he is not wanted. I mention this because in a country unsettled like the Territories are, there is an opportunity for that very class who seem to be so unfortunate in the country where only skilled labor is in demand.

In the Territories a good all-round man may be the head of his own establishment, although not trained to the business methods of older countries, and instances are not wanting where men have risen in the mercantile line who were never trained to business, while experienced individuals

failed because they have endeavored to introduce eastern ways in a western country.

It is scarcely necessary to refer even in a general way to the great resources, the fertile soil, and the many inducements that present themselves when contemplating the western Territories from the Red River to the Peace River of the far North-West. Years ago Manton Marble of New York, who wrote for *Harper's Monthly* a famous article on the Saskatchewan country, predicted a future for the Canadian West that was regarded by many as a dream. Mr. Marble was not a speculator. He was a literary man of high accomplishments, but he had the faculty of seeing that progress must one day overtake the Canadian prairies, and who is there that will deny that his prediction is already partly verified?

One of the great needs of our Territories is the advent of a class of agriculturists possessing means that will enable men to make a proper start on their own account, and work out the problem of prosperity on lines suitable to a reasonable ambition.

It is contended by some that such a class cannot be induced to go to the Territories; but representatives of this class are already to be found in Southern Alberta along Sheep River and Fish Creek, and they are prospering. Much of the territory of Southern Alberta which has been taken up by ranchers is reverting to the Government and consequently to the settler. The movement of a large emigration of well-to-do agriculturists to that country is therefore a probable event, but it must be energetically worked up by those who are in a position to do so.

At some future time I may be in a position to show more clearly than I have attempted the important relation between eastern depression and western development. I firmly believe that Canadians, instead of wasting time discussing questions of trade with foreign countries, should go energetically to work and develop their own western territories, as being within their means and as offering inducements to small as well as to large capitalists, especially to Canadians themselves. Thus by their own example will they encourage others to make investments and enter into the work of converting nature's raw material into the finished product fit for sale and consumption.

TRANS-CONTINENTAL.

Toronto, Sept. 20th, 1891.

THE MONTREAL EXHIBITION.

The fair which closes to-day has been a gratifying success. A hundred and fifty thousand persons must have visited it; and so well had the coming event been made known, and so energetically managed, that a really excellent show was the result. The municipal authorities of Montreal aided the enterprise of the Exhibition Company, too, by declaring a civic half-holiday on the afternoon of Monday last, and requesting citizens to observe it. That this was largely done was seen in the phenomenal attendance on that day. At 3 p.m. of Monday, said the superintendent, there were 38,280 paid admissions, and at five, when they were still coming in, the same authority estimated that there were 42,000 to 44,000

persons present. Doubtless the fire-works would bring more. The statement of a total attendance of 50,000 on the next day is not unreasonable, but we could find no authority greater than a guess for the claim of 68,000.

What strikes one first entering the grounds is the extent of unoccupied green-sward. Before you is a green parallelogram, apparently 1,000 feet by 450, unbroken by buildings, save a kiosk-like band-stand. At the height of the rise which leads from the gates is the Main Building, which, with the Machinery Hall, fills the prospect to the north. To the left are executive offices, refreshment halls, the root and vegetable building; behind these, horse stalls; and back of them all the fine background of the mountain. The quarters of the sheep, hogs and cattle, respectively, follow the line of the fence north and east, at right angles; and the Carriage Building, the Amusement Hall, and other structures are dispersed near by. Small flags in hundreds, at intervals of ten feet, surmount the fence, and—whether our Quebec cousins are more friendly with the Americans or not, they have no senseless objections to the Stars and Stripes (as some Americophobists in Toronto have), for there were three or four large ones floating over different buildings. The Tri-color of France was common, almost as much so as the Union Jack or the shielded ensign we are proud of calling the Canadian flag.

Improvements in detail can be suggested: for example, in the Carriage Building, which has a row of windows in a sort of clerestory near the roof, not one of these was open, and the result was an unbearable stuffiness. And again, the atmosphere of the museum of wonders on a hot day or a hot night was frightful for want of ventilation. The closets and urinals for men at the north-west corner were in a disgraceful state on Wednesday. But these are matters which will doubtless be remedied on the occasion of a future fair by the capable and business-like management.

MAIN BUILDING.

Close by the entrance of the Main Building, where crowds have their necks craned and their eyes shaded to see the top of a tall conical structure of furs and fur clothing that looks like a petroleum well in winter, is the booth of Wm. Barbour & Sons of Lisburn, Ireland, the well-known linen thread manufacturers, who are represented in Canada by Thomas Samuel & Son, Montreal.

Near at hand is the prominent and large display made by the Canadian Rubber Company. In the centre of this is a very large square mirror, which rarely fails to stop the average passer-by, who sees himself or herself reflected. And at either corner of the space they have chosen is a pyramid of hose and a pyramid of belting. The centre of the exhibit is taken up with rubber shoes, only one shoe of each line instead of a pair of each line being shown. The improvement in the style and finish of these is immense of late years. Then the company shows wagon-springs, packing, tubing, valves, rulers, perforated mats. On another side we find wire insertion packing, wire-wrapped hose, vulcanized goods in great variety. Also carriage-cloths, hospital sheeting, etc., etc. A card attached to a pile of Paragon Hose reads: "Part of 2,000 feet ordered for the Montreal Fire Department."

Warden King & Son of the Craig Street Foundry have agencies in Toronto, Winnipeg and British Columbia, and have issued a neat illustrated catalogue of cast and wrought iron