

land of promise. And very few of the young men who have been settled here for any length of time would like to go back and begin farming in the Eastern Provinces.

So when we look across these vast Northwestern plains and remember how low they lie, what genial showers water their soil, what length of summer days they enjoy, what luxuriant vegetation covers their surface, what warm breezes fan their wide expanse, what herds of wild cattle have fed and bred and wintered within their boundaries, what races of men have lived and grown strong on their most northerly limits; when we appeal to the experience of the pioneers who have been long settled in the country—we have the strongest ground for believing that our climate is favorable to the prosecution of agricultural pursuits and that it furnishes all the necessary conditions for producing a hardy, healthy and industrious race of citizens. We have indeed a goodly heritage.

THE EXPERIENCE OF 1882.

Another year's experiment in developing the resources of our country has been a decided success. At least, 40,000 immigrants of a very superior class have come to take possession of the great wheat fields of the West. The land for hundreds of miles to the west of us has been taken up by the pioneer settler. Large tracts of the soil have been ploughed and sown and have yielded most abundant returns. The wheat crop is reported at more than 30 bushels to the acre, potatoes more than 300, and oats and barley over 70 bushels per acre. The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway has been pushed forward with most commendable vigor, and already the locomotive is awakening the activity of pioneer life across 700 miles of the great prairies that lie to the west of our city. Settlements, towns and cities are growing up as if by magic all along its track. And about 1,200 miles of this great national highway, which is to connect the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific, has been opened for traffic. Within the year our city has doubled its dimensions. About \$5,000,000 have been expended in the erection of buildings during that time. Our trade has increased immensely. It is said that the returns for the year will show the value of our imports to be not less than \$15,000,000. Business has been brisk. Wages for laborers have been good; and on the whole the history of the year has been marked by wonderful growth in the city, and surprising progress in the country.