

Following this, the pelts were made up into desired shape; tied with three cords of rawhide, measured 24 inches long, in width 17 inches, ten inches thick. A well constructed bundle would withstand the rough overland journey perchance hundred of miles from an inland post. As regards the valuable furs of silver and cross fox, these consignments were packed in boxes thirty inches in length. A pack of ordinary pelts consisted of 500 muskrats or 720 large and small sizes mixed; 40 large and 20 less of beaver; eight bearskins with 4 smaller pelts. Any damaged or broken skins were shipped in separate bales from such of prime condition. In northern latitudes, fur continues in first class state for much longer period than in localities southward.

The Great Company many years ago laid aside annually a specified sum of money for fire insurance account. This policy arose from the fact underwriters would accept no risks situate in territory wherein inspection could not be undertaken. Sequential to precautions in vogue few forts or posts have suffered destruction from conflagration.

And thus was the Company of Gentlemen Adventurers trading into Hudson Bay.

The year 1867 had come. Western Canada stood at the threshold of a progress unparalleled in a world's history. Change in internal administration of this immense territory was necessitated. As remuneration for relinquishment of charter donating exclusive rights and privileges, the Great Company were donated certain concessions of land together with two sections in each township from Lake of the Woods to Rocky Mountains from boundary line of United States.

To-day its emblem may be observed in the vicinity of Fort Garry gate, that remaining relic of years when the yell of the Indian sounded from Red River, and smoke from his teepee curled over the plains.

Farm House or Farm Home?

Written for The Western Home Monthly by Allan Campbell

Home, what a magnetic word it is, its memory is surely intensified out here in the vast West. Pioneers as we are, it becomes our duty to establish a home regime with new traditions, traditions to wit, that shall by future generations be spoken of with honor. The log shack era has done very well and has proven that the resourcefulness and hardihood of the offspring of the Old Country, Ontario and Quebec have proudly upheld the traditions of the races commingled in those lands.

It is undoubtedly the pull of home that keeps the farm family a progressive organization and it is under the family roof where the prosperity of the farm originates. Good land well cultivated and good stock well and carefully fed, are essentials, but the farm home must be harmonious in every respect for there is a great influence for good or bad in the environment of home. The continual sight of the axe lying in the corner with its silent command to chop, makes the son of the house ambitious to get out, to a greater or lesser degree, while the separator forever in view of all and sundry, will be one of the prime factors to make the daughter interested in that part of the agricultural journal which deals with business colleges, with the future prospects of being a stenographer in some city office. The great incentive to work is to be able to drop it when the family circle is formed at the end of the day. We summer-fallow our fields and also go in for rotation of crops, surely the brains and brawn of the farm need a rest and change also. The writer had the pleasure of staying at an ideal farm for a time. The farm buildings were shut out from view from the house by a bluff, the house itself was fenced completely round and this fencing enclosed gardens which were a beauty spot on the farm. Inside the house was a library embracing a multitude of subjects—surely a place of mental and physical refreshment—and the whole air of the farm was one of harmony. In this age of money making, one must consider whether the money's worth is being secured, for what is life if we must

make it slavery. It is of no use living on skim milk for the sake of the cream which we never touch for the sake of economy.

This introduces the subject of diet and the table generally. Although I do not wish to pose as a gourmet, I have ever been impressed with the importance of the cook in the affairs of the world. London "Punch" once made a famous reply to the question, "Is life worth living?" by the simple statement, "It depends on the liver." There is a lot of pathetic truth about this reply. If some of the eggs that go to market were left in the farm house, I think they would be utilized to greater advantage than is obtained from the few dollars that come back from the store in exchange for those marketed. The farm horses and cattle get care and attention, in fact, their feed is selected to produce the best results, how about the human occupants of the farm? A continuous

diet of pork and potatoes cannot be productive of mental and physical results of the best kind.

In the West it behooves us to unpack our trunks and settle down. The camp life of the half settled farmer has an unsettling effect on the whole household. The greatest benefit about the farm house is its sheltering capabilities, it should be our refuge from the cold and snow, from sun and rain, and should most emphatically be a shelter from the cares of the farm work. While we incorporate the farm house as one of the farm buildings, and let it harbor, pieces of implements, the churn, and other little momentoes of our daily work, so long will we feel that our harness is never off us.

There is a lot of organization to be done to insure contentment within the house and good and efficient work without. It is the getting away from "shop" and the absence of "talking shop" which

makes the home our refuge and shelter, instead of just a feeding and sleeping place.

It is not for ourselves alone that the home interior should be made attractive, but for the young minds ever grasping new impressions, and, with chameleon like proneness to assume the color of their surroundings.

Colleges may mould a character, but the lines upon which a character subconsciously shapes itself are those traced in childhoods world, called home.

Pat, Mike and Terry went to war. During a battle Mike's arm was shot off. Running to Pat he cried: "Oh, Pat, Oi've had me ar-m shot off."

Pat turned to him in disgust. "Quit yer howlin'. Look at Terry over there. He's had his head shot off an' he ain't sayin' a word."

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