

out between this and the end of the season.

What we have referred to as the second noteworthy feature of the past quarter's work—the westward movement among our older boys—is one that we can dwell upon with pride and pleasure. The prevalence of “Manitoba fever” we regard as a most healthy symptom, and we hope to see it become increasingly virulent and epidemic. During the winter and early spring we had a great many letters of enquiry and requests for information about the North-West, and to each and all of our correspondents we gave Horace Greeley's advice, “Go west, young man!” We are glad to say that our efforts to encourage our boys in this direction bore very satisfactory fruit, and during the months of March, April, and early part of May, we were every week seeing off single individuals or small parties bound for various points in the West. A good many have since been heard from, and the reports have been most encouraging, and we only hope we may see a still larger number following in the same direction another year. The Canadian North-West is, in our opinion, an ideal country for young settlers. There is no laborious and expensive clearing of land from timber, brush or stones. The young farmer can run his plough from one end of his farm to the other the first day he takes possession of his homestead. The soil is unsurpassed by anything in the world, being nearly everywhere a rich black loam of varying depth, capable of producing magnificent crops of grain and vegetables. There is abundance of fuel, both wood and coal, and building material is cheap and easily obtained. The country is being settled with a class of thrifty, law-abiding, English-speaking people, who have either come direct from Great Britain or have migrated from the Eastern Provinces of the Dominion. There is plenty of employment at good wages, and the climate, in spite of the severe cold in winter, is splen-

didly healthy and enjoyable. There is no fever, ague or malaria, and none of the relaxing, enervating conditions that impair health and vitality in regions farther south. The Canadian North-West is destined to be the home of a hardy, vigorous, intelligent race, and we believe it will prove a veritable “Land of Promise” for those of our boys and girls who embark their fortunes in what was once called the “Great Lone Land.” We include the girls, as we have been impressed with the fact that the commodity at the present time most in demand in the North-West is wives. One sees on all hands young bachelors with good farms and in prosperous circumstances, but condemned to celibacy, and the attendant discomforts of such a condition, from the simple fact that they know not where to look for wives. As for servant girls they are unquestionably the masters (or mistresses) of the situation. Female help is scarcely to be obtained for love or money, and the few girls who are willing to take places of service can command their own terms. The North-West is a great country with a great future, and we hope and expect in future years to see very many of our young people making prosperous homes for themselves on the prairies, and growing up with the growth of the country to wealth and independence.

Both in the East and West the letters of our correspondents tell of the revival of “good times.” There is generally throughout the country an abundance of work and good wages. Confidence is reviving, and trade seems to be improving in almost every direction. In short, the tide seems to have completely turned, and there are indications that the country is on the eve of a period of unexampled prosperity. We have already felt the effect of this improvement in the increased demand for boys, and the larger number of openings for new-comers; but among our old settlers also prospects seem to be looking up all