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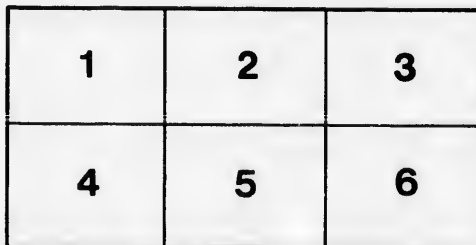
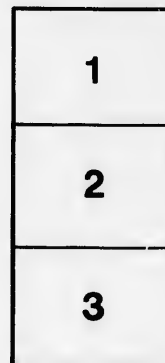
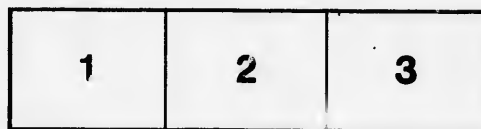
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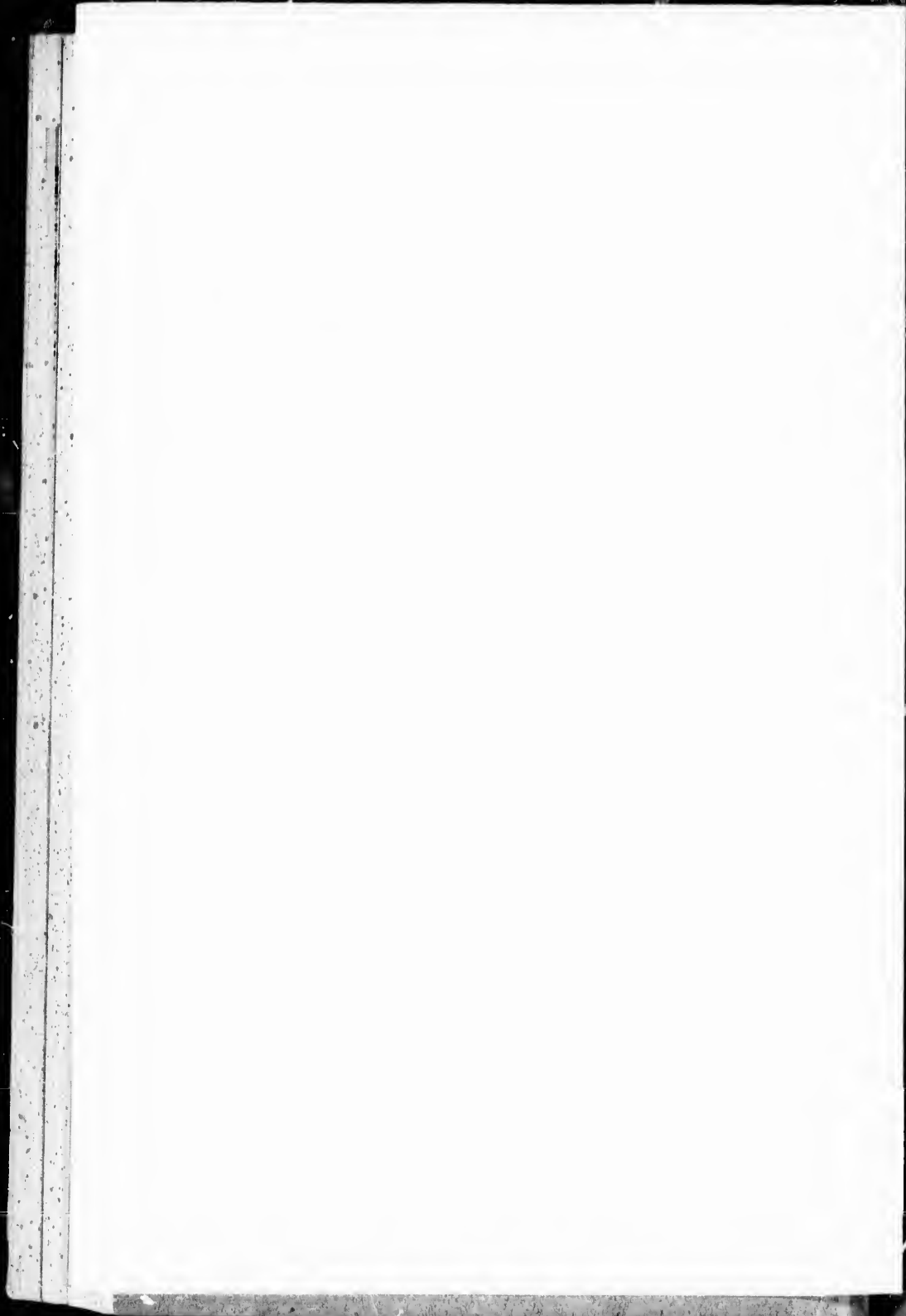
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THE VISIT OF THE TENANT-FARMER DELEGATES TO CANADA IN 1890.

THE REPORTS OF

Major STEVENSON, Knockbrack, Goshaden, Londonderry ;
Mr. GEORGE BROWN, Watten Mains, Caithness, N.B., and
Mr. HENRY SIMMONS, Bearwood Farm, Wokingham,

ON

The Agricultural Resources of Canada :—
Prince Edward Island ; Nova Scotia ; New Brunswick ;
Quebec ; Ontario ; Manitoba ; The North-West Territories ;
and British Columbia.



Published by authority of the Government of Canada
(Department of Agriculture).

1891.

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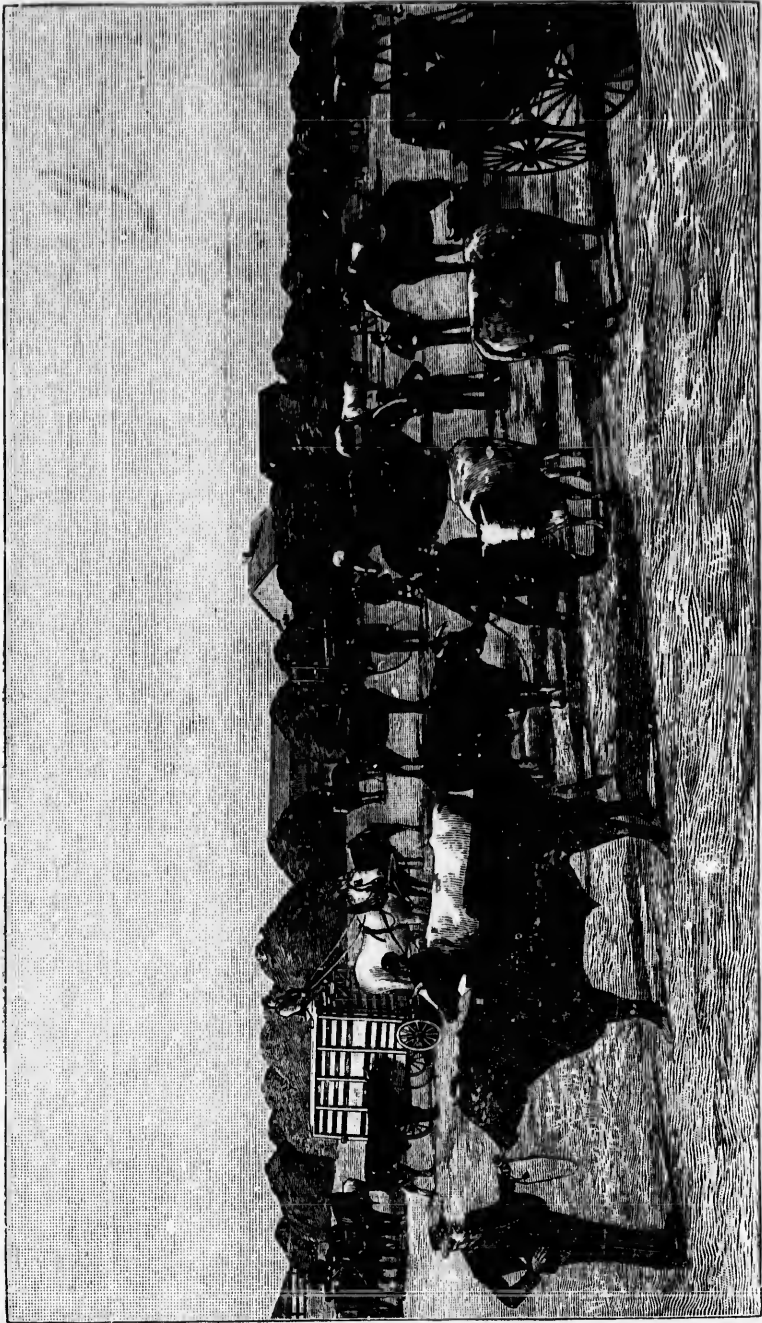
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FARM SCENE IN MANITOBA—THE BERSFORD STOCK FARM.

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PREFACE.

IN August last the High Commissioner for Canada, by direction of the Minister of Agriculture, invited the following gentlemen, who are all connected with the agricultural industry in the different parts of the United Kingdom in which they reside, to visit the Dominion of Canada, to report upon its agricultural resources, and the advantages the country offers for the settlement of farmers and farm labourers, and the other classes for which there is a demand:—Mr. George Brown, Watten Mains, Caithness, Scotland; Mr. Arthur Daniel, 172, Dereham Road, Norwich, Norfolk; Mr. Wm. Edwards, Ruthin, Wales; Colonel Francis Fane, Fulbeck Hall, Grantham, Lincolnshire; Mr. G. Hutchinson, Brougham Castle, Penrith, Cumberland; Mr. E. R. Murphy, The Kerries, Tralee, Ireland; Mr. Robert Pitt, Crickett Court, Ilminster, Somerset; Mr. Wm. Scotson, Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, near Liverpool, Lancashire; Mr. H. Simmons, Bearwood Farm, Wokingham, Berkshire; Mr. John Speir, Newton Farm, Newton, Glasgow, Scotland; Major Stevenson, Knockbrack, Goshaden, Londonderry, Ireland; Mr. J. T. Wood, The Court, Halewood, near Liverpool, Lancashire.

The reports, if published together, would make rather a bulky volume, and it has been decided, therefore, to divide them into four parts, as under:—

Part I. will contain the reports of Messrs. Edwards, Hutchinson, Scotson, and Wood;

Part II., the reports of Messrs. Daniel, Fane, Pitt, and Simmons;

Part III., the reports of Messrs. Brown and Speir, from Scotland; and

Part IV. was to have contained the reports of Messrs. Murphy and Stevenson, from Ireland, but as Mr. Murphy's report has not yet been sent in, Messrs. Brown's and Simmons's reports have been printed with Major Stevenson's, so as to make the pamphlet fairly representative of English and Scotch as well as of Irish opinion.

Any or all of these volumes may be obtained, post free, by persons desiring to peruse them, on application to Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., G.C.M.G., C.B., High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.; or to any of the agents of the Canadian Government in the United Kingdom, whose names and addresses are as follows:—Mr. John Dyke, 15, Water Street, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Grahame, 40, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow; Mr. John W. Down, Bath Bridge, Bristol; Mr. H. Merrick, Victoria Chambers, Victoria Street, Belfast; Mr. T. Connolly, Northumberland House, Dublin. Copies may also be obtained from the steamship agents, who are to be found in every village.

In addition to these reports, an official handbook of information is issued by the Dominion Government, and approved by the Imperial Government, which may also be procured, post free, on application to any of the Government agencies. It contains particulars of a statistical and general nature about the country, its resources and trade; the classes for which there is a demand in the Dominion, and which are confidently invited to settle in the country; the prices of provisions and other necessaries; the rates of wages that are paid; and a more detailed description of the various provinces than can be given in the space at the disposal of the Tenant Farmers' Delegation. It is regretted that the delegates, except those from Ireland, were not able, owing to the limited time at their disposal, to pay a visit to the Maritime Provinces; but the pamphlet mentioned above, and others that are issued, supply full information in regard to those parts of the Dominion.

The agents of the Government will be glad to supply any information that may be desired as to the trade, industries, and varied resources of the Dominion; and persons contemplating settlement in Canada are advised, as a preliminary step, to place themselves in communication with the nearest Government agent.

In Canada the Government has agents at the principal points throughout the country. The following is a list:—

QUEBEC	Mr. L. STAFFORD, Louise Embankment and Point Levis, Quebec.
TORONTO	Mr. J. A. DONALDSON, Strachan Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.
OTTAWA	Mr. W. J. WILLS, Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario.
MONTREAL	Mr. J. J. DALEY, Commissioner's Street, Montreal, Province of Quebec.
SHERBROOKE	Mr. HENRY A. ELKINS, Sherbrooke, Province of Quebec.
KINGSTON	Mr. R. MACPHERSON, William Street, Kingston, Ontario.
HAMILTON	Mr. JOHN SMITH, Great Western Ry. Station, Hamilton, Ont.
LONDON	Mr. A. G. SMYTH, London, Ontario.
HALIFAX.....	Mr. E. M. CLAY, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
ST. JOHN	Mr. S. GARDNER, St. John, New Brunswick.
WINNIPEG	Mr. THOMAS BENNETT, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
.....	Mr. J. E. TETU, St. Boniface, Manitoba.
BRANDON	Mr. A. J. BAKER, Office at the Railway Station.
REGINA	Mr. J. T. STEMSHORN.
CALGARY.....	Mr. F. Z. C. MIQUELON.
PORT ARTHUR	Mr. J. M. MCGOVERN.
VICTORIA, B.C.....	Mr. JOHN JESSOP.
VANCOUVER, B.C.....	Mr. MORRISON SUTHERLAND.

These officers will afford the fullest advice and protection. They should be immediately applied to on arrival. All complaints should be addressed to them. They will also furnish information as to lands

open for settlement in their respective provinces and districts, farms for sale, demand for employment, rates of wages, routes of travel, distances, expenses of conveyance, and on all other matters of interest to settlers, and will receive and forward letters and remittances for settlers, &c.

The following are the land regulations prevailing in the different provinces of the Dominion:—

Prince Edward Island.—The available uncultivated and vacant Government land is estimated at about 45,000 acres. These consist of forest lands of medium quality, the very best having, of course, been taken up by the tenants in the first instance, and their price averages about one dollar per acre. Parties desiring to settle upon them are allowed ten years to pay for their holdings, the purchase-money to bear interest at 5 per cent., and to be payable in ten annual instalments.

Nova Scotia.—There are now in Nova Scotia about two millions of acres of ungranted Government lands, a considerable quantity of which is barren and almost totally unfit for cultivation; but there is some land in blocks of from 200 to 500 acres of really valuable land, and some of it the best in the province, and quite accessible, being very near present settlements. The price of Crown lands is \$40 (£8 sterling) per 100 acres.

New Brunswick.—Crown lands may be acquired as follows:—(1.) Free grants of 100 acres, by settlers over 18 years of age, on the condition of improving the land to the extent of £4 in three months; building a house 16 ft. by 20 ft., and cultivating two acres within one year; and continuous residence and cultivation of 10 acres within three years. (2.) One hundred acres are given to any settler over 18 years of age who pays £4 in cash, or does work on the public roads, &c., equal to £2 per annum for three years. Within two years a house 16 ft. by 20 ft. must be built, and 2 acres of land cleared. Continuous residence for three years from date of entry, and 10 acres cultivated in that time, is also required. (3.) Single applications may be made for not more than 200 acres of Crown lands without conditions of settlement. These are put up to public auction at an upset price of 4s. 2d. per acre; purchase-money to be paid at once; cost of survey to be paid by purchaser.

Quebec.—Lands purchased from the Government are to be paid for in the following manner:—One-fifth of the purchase-money is required to be paid the day of the sale, and the remainder in four equal yearly instalments, bearing interest at 6 per cent. The price at which the lands are sold is from 20 cents to 60 cents per acre (15d. to 2s. 5½d. stg.). The purchaser is required to take possession of the land sold within six months of the date of the sale, and to occupy it within two years. He must clear, in the course of ten years, ten acres for every hundred held by him, and erect a habitable house of the dimensions of at least 16 ft. by 20 ft. The letters patent are issued free of charge. The parts of the Province of Quebec now inviting colonisation are the Lake St. John district; the valleys of the Saguenay, St. Maurice, and the Ottawa Rivers; the Eastern Township; the Lower St. Lawrence; and Gaspé.

Ontario.—Any head of a family, whether male or female, having children under 18 years of age, can obtain a grant of 200 acres; and a single man over 18 years of age, or a married man having no children under 18 residing with him,

can obtain a grant of 100 acres. This land is mostly covered with forest, and is situate in the northern and north-western parts of the province. Such a person may also purchase an additional 100 acres at 50 cents per acre, cash. The settlement duties are—to have 15 acres on each grant cleared and under crop at the end of the first five years, of which at least 2 acres are to be cleared annually; to build a habitable house, at least 16 feet by 20 feet in size; and to reside on the land at least six months in each year. In the Rainy River district, to the west of Lake Superior, consisting of well-watered uncleared land, free grants are made of 160 acres to a head of a family having children under 18 years of age residing with him (or her); and 120 acres to a single man over 18, or to a married man not having children under 18 residing with him; each person obtaining a free grant to have the privilege of purchasing 40 acres additional, at the rate of one dollar per acre, payable in four annual instalments.

Manitoba and North-West Territories.—Free grants of one quarter-section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of 18 years, on application to the local agent of Dominion lands, and on payment of an office fee of \$10. At the time of making entry the homesteader must declare under which of the three following provisions he elects to hold his land, and on making application for patent must prove that he has fulfilled the conditions named therein:—

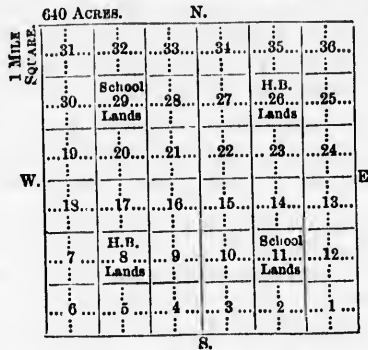
1. By making entry and within six months thereafter erecting a habitable house and commencing actual residence upon the land, and continuing to reside upon it for at least six months in each year for the three next succeeding years, and doing reasonable cultivation duties during that period.
2. By making entry for the land, cultivating it for three successive years, so that at the end of that period not less than 40 acres be under cultivation; residing for at least six months in each year during that time within a radius of two miles of the homestead; and erecting a house upon the homestead and residing in it for three months next preceding the application for patent.
3. By making entry, and within six months from the date thereof commencing the cultivation of the homestead; breaking and preparing for crop within the first year not less than five acres; cropping the said five acres, and breaking and preparing for crop not less than 10 acres in addition, and erecting a habitable house thereon before the expiration of the second year, and thereafter residing therein and cultivating the land for at least six months of each of the three years next prior to the date of the application for patent.

Persons making entry for homesteads on or after September 1st in any year are allowed until June 1st following to perfect their entries by going into actual residence. The only charge for a homestead of 160 acres is the entrance fee of \$10. In certain cases forfeited pre-emptions and cancelled homesteads are available for homesteads, but slightly additional fees are demanded from the settlers in each case, and when abandoned pre-emptions are taken up they are required to perform specified conditions of settlement. Full information can be obtained from the local agents. In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three or five years, as the case may be, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least 12 months subsequent to date of entry, and has cultivated 30 acres thereof.

The following diagram shows the manner in which the country is surveyed. It represents a township—that is, a tract of land six miles square, containing

36 sections of one mile square each. These sections are subdivided into quarter-sections of 160 acres each.

TOWNSHIP DIAGRAM.



The right of pre-emption has ceased to exist, having been altogether discontinued after 1st January, 1890.

Information respecting timber, mineral, coal, grazing and hay lands, may be obtained from any of the land agents. Homesteaders in the first year of settlement are entitled to free permits to cut a specified quantity of timber for their own use only, upon payment of an office fee of 25 cents.

It must be distinctly understood that the land regulations are subject to variation from time to time. Settlers should take care to obtain from the land agent, when making their entry, an explanation of the actual regulations in force at that time, and the clause of the Act under which the entry is made endorsed upon the receipt, so that no question or difficulty may then or thereafter arise.

List of Dominion Land Agents in Manitoba and North-West Territories.

Name of Agent.	Name of District.	Agency.	Post Office Address of Agent.
A. H. Whitcher ...	Winnipeg ...	} Dominion Lands.	Winnipeg, Manitoba.
W. M. Hilliard ...	Little Saskatchewan ...		Minnedosa, "
W. G. Pentland ...	Birtle ...		Birtle, "
W. H. Hiam ...	Souris ...		Brandon, "
John Flesher ...	Turtle Mountain ...		Deloraine, "
W. H. Stevenson ...	Qu'Appelle ...		Regina, Assiniboia, N.W.T.
John McTaggart ...	Prince Albert ...		Pr. Albert, Saskatchewan, "
C. E. Phipps ...	Coteau ...		Cannington, Assiniboia, "
E. Brokovski ...	Battleford ...		Battleford, Saskatchewan, "
Amos Rowe ...	Calgary ...		Calgary, Alberta, "
P. V. Gauvreau ...	Edmonton ...		Edmonton, "
E. G. Kirby ...	Lethbridge ...		Lethbridge, "
T. B. Ferguson ...	Touchwood ...		Saltcoats, Assiniboia, "
E. F. Stephenson ...	Winnipeg ...		Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Thos. Anderson ...	Edmonton ...	Edmonton, Alberta, N.W.T.	
C. L. Gouin ...	Calgary ...	Calgary, Alberta, "	
John McTaggart ...	Prince Albert ...	Pr. Albert, Saskatchewan, "	
		} Crown Timber.	

British Columbia.—In this province any British subject who is the head of a family, a widow, or a single man over 18 years, may, by paying a fee of 8s. 4d., acquire the right, from the Provincial Government, to not more than 320 acres of Crown lands north and east of the Cascades, and 160 acres elsewhere. The price is 4s. 2d. an acre, payable by four annual instalments. The conditions are—(1) personal residence of the settler, or his family or agent; (2) improvements to be made of the value of 10s. 6d. an acre. Lands from 160 to 640 acres may also be bought at 10s. 6d. an acre, without conditions of residence or improvements.

The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Syndicate have not yet fully arranged the terms upon which they will dispose of their unoccupied lands. They own about 1,500,000 acres, but they are much broken up by rock and mountains.

The land belonging to the Dominion Government begins near the sea-board, runs through the New Westminster district, and up the Fraser valley to Lytton; thence it runs up the Thompson River valley, past Kamloops and through Eagle Pass, across the northern part of Kootenay district to the eastern frontier of British Columbia. The country is laid out in townships in the same way as in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. The quarter-sections may be purchased at a price now fixed at \$2.50 (10s.) per acre, subject to change by Order in Council. They may be "homesteaded" by settlers who intend to reside on them. A registration fee of \$10 (£2) is charged at the time of application. Six months is allowed in which to take possession, and at the end of three years, on proof of residence and cultivation, he acquires a patent on payment of \$1 per acre for the land. If preferred, the homesteader can hold his land for the first two years after entry by cultivating from eight to fifteen acres (the former if the land is timbered, and the latter if it is not so encumbered). During the three years next thereafter he must reside upon it as well as cultivate it. Homestead grants of 160 acres (price \$1 per acre) can also be obtained for the culture of fruit. In case of illness, or of necessary absence from the homestead during the three years, additional time will be granted to the settler to conform to the Government regulations. These conditions apply to agricultural lands. The Dominion Land Agent for British Columbia is Mr. H. B. W. Aikman, New Westminster.

In addition to the free-grant lands available in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, several companies have large blocks of land which they offer for disposal at reasonable rates, from \$2.50 up to \$10 per acre. Among others, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. L. A. Hamilton, Winnipeg) has about 14 millions of acres; and the Hudson Bay Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. Lawson, Winnipeg) has also a considerable area. The same remark applies to the Canada North-West Land Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. W. B. Scarth, M.P., Winnipeg) and the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company (Land Commissioner, Mr. A. F. Eden, Winnipeg); and there are several other companies. The Alberta Coal and Railway Company also own nearly a million acres of land in the District of Alberta. The prices of these lands vary according to position, but in most cases the terms of purchase are easy, and arranged in annual instalments, spread over a number of years.

In all the provinces improved farms may be purchased at reasonable prices—that is, farms on which buildings have been erected and a portion of the land cultivated. The following are the average prices in the different provinces, the prices being regulated by the position of the farms, the nature and extent of the buildings, and contiguity to towns and railways:—Prince Edward Island, from £4 to £7 per acre; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, from £2 to £10; Ontario, from £2 to £20; Manitoba and the North-West Territories, from £1 to £10; and British Columbia, from £2 to £15. These farms become vacant for the reasons which are explained with accuracy in many of the accompanying reports. They are most suitable for persons possessed of some means, who desire more of the social surroundings than can be obtained in those parts of the various provinces in which Government lands are still available for occupation and settlement.

Canada has already assumed an important position as an agricultural country, and the value of its exports of such products alone now nearly reaches \$40,000,000 annually, in addition to the immense quantity required for home consumption. The principal items of farm and dairy produce exported in 1889—the latest returns available—were: Horned cattle, \$5,708,126; horses, \$2,170,722; sheep, \$1,263,125; butter, \$331,958; cheese, \$8,915,684; eggs, \$1,851,503; flour, \$646,068; green fruit, \$1,604,203; barley, \$6,464,589; pease, \$1,449,417; wheat, \$471,121; potatoes, \$287,763. In many respects 1889 was not a favourable year, and if other years were taken, the exports, particularly of food-stuffs, would be considerably larger than those given above. Besides the articles specially enumerated, a considerable export trade was done in bacon and hams, beef, lard, mutton, pork, poultry, and other meats, as well as in beans, Indian corn, oats, malt, oatmeal, flour-meal, bran, and tomatoes. The chief importers of Canadian produce at the present time are Great Britain and the United States, but an endeavour is being made, and so far with success, to extend the trade with the mother country, and to open up new markets in other parts of the world. The products of the fisheries, the mines, and the forests are also exported to a large annual value; and the manufacturing industry is a most important and increasing one, especially in the eastern provinces, and includes almost every article that can be mentioned.

In many of the reports mention is made of the money system, and the weights and measures, obtaining in the Dominion. The dollar, which is, roughly speaking, of the value of 4s. 2d., contains 100 cents, equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each. The following are the coins in use:—Copper, 1 cent;

silver, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents, and 50 cents. Paper money is also much in use, and is redeemable at any time at its par value. The following are the standard weights of a bushel of the various products:—Wheat, 60 lbs.; Indian corn, 56 lbs.; rye, 56 lbs.; pease, 60 lbs.; barley (six-rowed), 48 lbs.; malt, 36 lbs.; oats, 34 lbs.; beans, 60 lbs.; potatoes and other vegetables, 60 lbs. The hundredweight and ton are fixed by statute at 100 lbs. and 2,000 lbs. respectively.

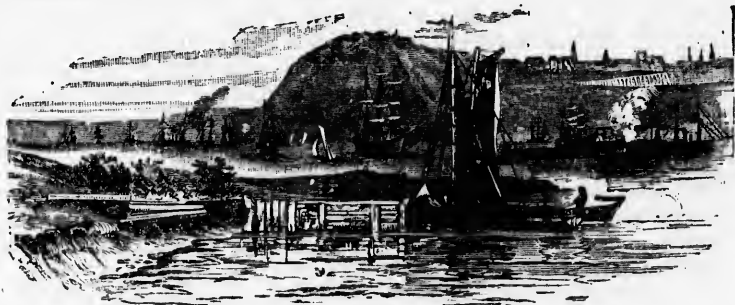
It is not necessary to extend this preface, or to summarise the various reports; they must be allowed to speak for themselves. They deal with Canada as it was seen by practical agriculturists, and refer not only to its advantages, but to its disadvantages, for no country is without the latter in some shape or form. It may safely be said, however, that Canada has fewer drawbacks than many other parts of the world; and this is borne out by the favourable opinions that are generally expressed by the delegation. Those who read the reports of the farmers who visited Canada in 1879 and 1880, will realise that immense progress has been made since that time—when the vast region west of Winnipeg was only accessible by railway for a short distance, and direct communication with Eastern Canada, through British territory, was not complete.

The Canadian Government, in inviting the delegation, wished to place before the public, information of a reliable and independent character as to the prospects the Dominion offers for the settlement of persons desiring to engage in agricultural pursuits, and it is believed that its efforts will be as much appreciated now as they were ten years ago. In Great Britain and Ireland the area of available land is limited, and there is a large and ever-increasing population; while at the same time Canada has only a population of about 5,000,000, and hundreds of millions of acres of the most fertile land in the world, simply waiting for population to cultivate it, capable of yielding in abundance all the products of a temperate climate for the good of mankind. It only remains to be said that any persons, of the classes to whom Canada presents so many opportunities, who decide to remove their homes to the Dominion, will receive a warm welcome in any part of the country, and will at once realise that they are not strangers in a strange land, but among fellow British subjects, with the same language, customs, and loyalty to the Sovereign, that are the characteristics of the old country.

THE REPORT OF MAJOR STEVENSON,

Knockbrack, Goshaden, Londonderry.

I HAVE the honor to report that, having been appointed representative for the northern half of Ireland on the Commission empowered to investigate and report on the resources of the Dominion of Canada, I sailed on the 5th September from Belfast Lough, on the Royal Mail Steamship "Sarnia," of the Dominion Line. Captain Gibson accorded me every facility in his power that I might make myself conversant with the system pursued in every detail on board the vessels of the Company. I from time to time on the passage out went the rounds with the captain, or other officers of the ship, visiting the intermediate and steerage quarters. I am glad to be able to bear testimony to the uniform courtesy and attention shown to all on board, without distinction of class, by the officials of the Company. The intermediate and steerage quarters were commodious, well ventilated, and scrupulously clean; the food of excellent quality, varied and well-cooked; neatness and order were conspicuous throughout. We had on board 58 saloon, 54 intermediate, and 143 steerage passengers. The majority of our intermediate and steerage passengers, and a few of our saloon passengers, were for Manitoba and the Far West. I did not hear a single complaint from anyone on board, and I frequently asked among the steerage passengers if they had any complaints. I was invariably told that everything was done for their comfort that could possibly be done, and those who suffered from sea-sickness spoke of the exceeding kindness of the doctor and chief steward in providing little delicacies for them. With vessels such as now traverse the great Atlantic, and with the facilities and comforts accorded, no one need hesitate to cross to Canada on account of the sea voyage.



VIEW OF QUEBEC.

I landed at Quebec on the 15th of September, having had a most enjoyable passage out. The majority of our passengers went on to Montreal. After landing, the emigrant will find his interests carefully looked after by the officials of the Dominion Government. Necessary

arrangements are made for the comfort and protection of female emigrants; and these remarks apply not only to the port of arrival, but to all places of any importance throughout the Dominion. Wherever the emigrant may direct his, or her, course throughout the broad Dominion, they will find the eye of the paternal government upon them, and their interests carefully protected and preserved. I noted with pleasure the sleeping arrangements on the colonists' cars, and it is hard to conceive in what way more could be done to render travelling easy, and, as far as possible, comfortable.

It will be interesting to those I represent to have a brief outline of the Dominion, and, for their information, I give a few details here that may aid them in considering what is to follow. The Dominion of Canada includes all the land lying north of the United States, with the exception of Alaska, Newfoundland, and part of Labrador. On the north this immense territory is bounded by the Arctic Ocean; on the east by Baffin's Bay, Davis Strait, Labrador, and the North Atlantic Ocean; on the south by the United States; and on the west by Alaska and the North Pacific Ocean. The Dominion has an area of almost 3,500,000 square miles, with a population of about 5,000,000. There is no State church, and all Christian forms of worship may be said to exist—religious toleration being extended to all, from the churchman to the "heathen Chinee." The government is in the hands of the people—executive authority vested in the Queen, and exercised in her name by a Governor-General, aided by a Privy Council; and Legislative, vested in the Parliament composed of the Senate and the House of Commons. Each of the Provinces has its own Lieutenant-Governor and a local Parliament. The military system may be described as voluntary. Besides a small Imperial garrison at Halifax, there is an active militia of almost 40,000 strong. The educational system leaves nothing to be desired. There are a large number of high-class colleges, possessing world-wide reputation; hundreds of private and high schools, and thousands of public and elementary schools. The railway system in Canada is being rapidly developed: hundreds, almost thousands, of miles of railways are being laid down annually. The Atlantic and the Pacific are now united by a band of steel—the Canadian Pacific Railway, one of the largest undertakings of its kind; a well-managed corporation and the greatest civiliser of the age. In addition to the Canadian Pacific Railway there are several other extensive railway systems—notably the Grand Trunk of Canada, the Inter-Colonial, and the Manitoba and North-Western Railways, all of which lines are managed in the interests of the community. The postal system, together with telegraph and telephone arrangements, has received great attention, and no settlement, however small, can be said to be out of communication with the world.

Leaving Quebec, I proceeded to Ottawa, and thence to Toronto, that I might visit the exhibition before proceeding West. I will merely deal with the agricultural exhibition held at Toronto, which contained exhibits from all parts of the Dominion, in this place, as I will refer to the city of Toronto later on, when speaking of the Province of Ontario. As far as possible throughout this Report, I

confine myself to my notes made on the spot, at the time or immediately afterwards, but, of course, to bring it within reasonable limits, they are much abridged, numerous interesting facts being left out, and only a few typical examples and illustrations being used, to show the development and resources of the several Provinces. I was much pleased with the exhibition; it was one of the finest I have ever attended, and more extensive than I could have imagined possible. The exhibits of garden and farm produce were excellent and varied; I saw pumpkins from Manitoba of great size, and fine melons, turnips, potatoes, and mangolds. As for cabbages, I never saw better grown anywhere. The exhibit in grapes, both purple and green, was very fine; and the grain, both threshed and in the ear, were very fine samples. I was somewhat disappointed in the show of horses; nevertheless, they were very serviceable, but the Shorthorns and Polled Angus were a good lot. I have rarely seen finer cattle, and they would do credit to the Mother Country. Sheep and pigs were well up to the mark, and the show of poultry was very creditable. There was a Wild West Show, which attracted no small amount of attention, and added considerably to the variety and entertainment of the exhibition. One of the most striking features of the exhibition was the implement department; here lightness and strength were admirably combined, and it would not be possible to get together such an exhibit of agricultural machinery in this country. Farm implements of all descriptions are not only better made, but very much lighter and considerably cheaper than in the United Kingdom. In the ladies' department, needlework, embroidery, crewells, and quite a variety of all that pertains to the gentler sex was to be seen; even the school children were not forgotten, and many of their sketches and memory maps were deserving of great praise. I left the exhibition regretting that I had not more time to bestow upon it, and feeling that perhaps, after all, the Dominion of Canada was not far behind us in matters pertaining to material development and the comfort of the human race.

MANITOBA,

formerly the Red River Settlement, was formed into a distinct Province in 1870, and admitted into the Confederation in the same year. It is situated in the centre of the Continent, is bounded on the south by the United States, on the south-east by the Province of Ontario, and on all other sides by the territories of the North-West. It has an area of 60,500 square miles, and a population of over 150,000. Government is administered by a Lieutenant-Governor, assisted by an Executive Council and a Legislative Assembly. As to the educational system, there are a number of high schools, and upwards of 400 elementary schools. Railways are being rapidly developed, and the settlement of the country is progressing in a manner highly satisfactory. The Province of Manitoba as a rule is flat, or gently undulating, with groves of small timber in many places. Water is readily obtainable by sinking wells. The soil of Manitoba is a rich vegetable loam, black in colour and full of organic matter; in some places it is of great depth, and its

wealth of plant food cannot easily be exhausted. On arrival at Winnipeg I experienced the greatest kindness at the hands of a number of representative citizens, all of whom were anxious to do me honor as the representative of old Ireland. I had a lengthened conversation with a gentleman from Scotland, who settled near Winnipeg some three years ago; he spoke in the highest possible praise of the country. He pursues mixed farming and butter-making. Before coming here he had little or no knowledge of agriculture. This season his wheat and oat crops have been very fine, and he looks for a good return. Winnipeg, a city of only a few years' growth, now the capital of the Province of Manitoba, and with a population of about 30,000 inhabitants, in 1871, but 20 years ago, had only a population of about 100. The city is advantageously situated, and commands the trade of the vast region to the north and west, is lighted with electric lights, has a fine hospital, great flour mills and grain elevators, and many notable public buildings. The principal land offices of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company are here, as also the chief land offices of several other companies. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company owns the odd-numbered sections in the belt of land extending 24 miles on either side of the track between Winnipeg and the Rocky Mountains. Sectional maps, pamphlets, and all information respecting these lands can be had from any of the company's agents, free of cost, at all points along the line.

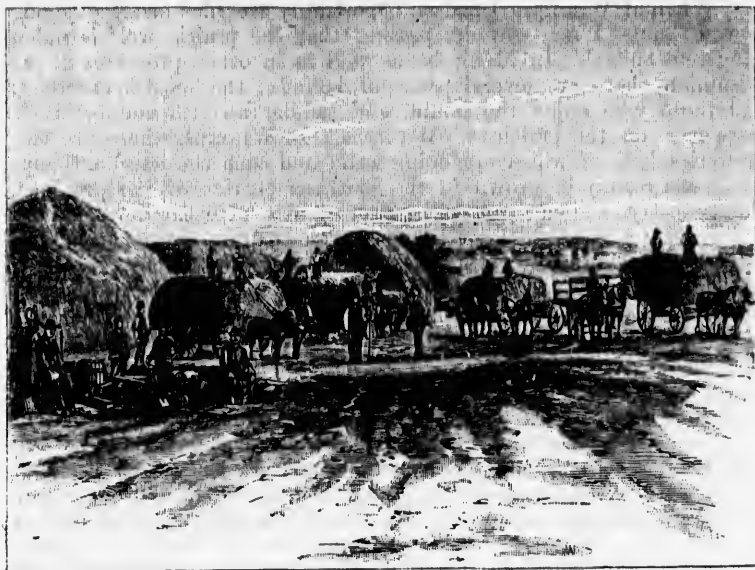
On Sunday, the 21st September, I drove out to Mr. Eden's. His residence is situated on the bank of the Assiniboine, and is in all respects a charming English residence, with suitable grounds and tennis courts. The land in the vicinity of Winnipeg is exceedingly rich, and bears heavy crops of grain and roots. On Monday I visited one of the principal public schools in Winnipeg; the buildings are very good, the class rooms airy and well-arranged, and the children very neat and intelligent looking. Education is perfectly free, even school books, where necessary, being in many instances supplied free of cost.

At the Dominion Land Offices I saw a number of samples of all descriptions of agricultural produce from the several portions of the province. The roots, grain, vegetables, flax seed, and some samples of hops were exceptionally good. I visited the city markets and inspected the beef, mutton, poultry, and vegetables offered there; all were of good quality and sold at reasonable rates. I went over the premises of Messrs. Galt, wholesale traders; their establishment is certainly quite a wonder—extensive and complete. I compared prices with those at home, and I find that most necessaries of life compare favourably, and many are cheaper. I drove out to Sir Donald Smith's place, "Silver Heights"; it is very nicely situated, and the land surrounding it is very good. We were shown his herd of West Highland cattle, Herefords, and Buffalo. On our way out we passed some excellent fields of potatoes, and also saw large quantities of good cabbage and beet; celery seems to do particularly well. I waited on His Grace the Roman Catholic Archbishop for the Province of Manitoba, and had a long conversation with him. He spoke warmly in favor of the province as a field for Irish emigration, and referred to the rapid progress that is being made; and instanced that

when he first visited Winnipeg it took him 43 days to travel from Quebec, while it can now be done in three days. I visited the nunnery and was taken through the schools, which are certainly very nice and well conducted. I had the pleasure of being introduced to the Mother Superior and several of the Sisters, was taken over the premises, and left much pleased with all I saw.

When at Winnipeg I had an opportunity accorded me of enjoying a wolf hunt—I may say in passing that the prairie wolf is not a dangerous animal. In Manitoba, as well as in other provinces of the Dominion, there are several packs of hounds; the sport is excellent, and those who enjoy the hound and saddle can still indulge their taste even on the prairies of Manitoba. In Winnipeg there are two breweries, both of which are doing well; and with the excellent hops which can readily be grown in the southern portion of the province, this industry, I doubt not, will prove capable of great development, and provide a large field for labour in the future. On Saturday, the 1st November, 1890, I drove to Oakdale Farm, situated 15 miles south of Winnipeg, on the west bank of the Red River. We passed through the French settlement of St. Norbert; the land all the way out is of deep, rich, vegetable loam. The country is interesting, and fairly well timbered. After passing St. Norbert, one gets into a very nice wheat and grazing district, timber, and rolling lands. Here there are thousands of acres available at prices from \$4 to \$6 per acre, in many cases with houses on the lands. Oakdale Farm contains 400 acres, and is managed on the share system, *i.e.*, the owner finds all capital and the manager works the place; on grain and farm produce they halve the profits, and on stock the manager gets one-third. Mr. Davidson the manager, informed me that grain-growing has been chiefly followed as yet, but that they purpose to pursue mixed farming, for which the lands seem well adapted. This year 140 acres were under grain, 75 of wheat, 45 of oats, and 20 of barley. The yield all round will be good, and no injury was done by frost. Wheat, he calculated, would produce nearly 30 bushels per acre, oats 50, and barley about 35. Roots do very well, and there is a good supply of water all through the neighbourhood. Mr. Davidson moved west from the Province of Ontario, where he farmed previously. He seems well satisfied with results, and both he, his wife, and their children stated that they suffered no inconvenience from the winter cold. Spring ploughing, he stated, did as well as autumn ploughing. A part of the crop sown last spring had been thrashed when I was there; it graded No. 1 hard, sold for 85 cents per bushel, and he expected it to yield 30 bushels per acre. There is a cheese factory in the neighbourhood which gives satisfaction to the farmers; it was only recently erected, and it is expected that next year it will develop considerably. I drove to and visited the Indian Industrial School at St. Paul's. Here I was pleased with all I saw; there are at present 58 children in the school, which is a new institution, about 31 of these being girls, and all are bright, intelligent, and happy looking. There are 380 acres attached to the school. The boys are educated and receive technical training in agriculture, gardening, and various trades; the girls

are similarly trained to suitable avocations. The land in this district is also of excellent quality, and I was informed by a lady whose farm I visited, that she had recently been offered \$50 per acre. This farm contains about 100 acres and has excellent housing on it; it is about five miles from Winnipeg.



FARM SCENE, MANITOBA.

On Friday, 23rd September, I left Winnipeg for Glenboro', stopping for a short time at the interesting little village of Carman; this line of rail has only recently been laid down, and the village and district is as yet very infantile. Here I saw the formation of a new town which, doubtless, in the near future will become a place of some importance. Carman is the centre of an excellent wheat-growing district and is situated on a little creek called the "Boyne." A few stations from Glenboro' we were shown a calf eight months old weighing 950 lbs.; certainly very practical evidence of what the country can do. Glenboro' is a growing township, and is the centre of a very rich grass and wheat district. The town has already made considerable progress and wears a contented prosperous air. I drove through the district south-west of Glenboro', through Stockton, and on to Pelican Lake, visiting several crofter and other settlements on my way, the land throughout being of prime quality, bearing excellent natural grass, and, where cultivated, heavy crops. Near Hilton Station, on the Northern Pacific Railway, I found some crofters from the Island of Harris who came out in the summer of 1888. There are 12 families from that island settled there, and 18 from the Lewis, who are settled on the other side of Pelican

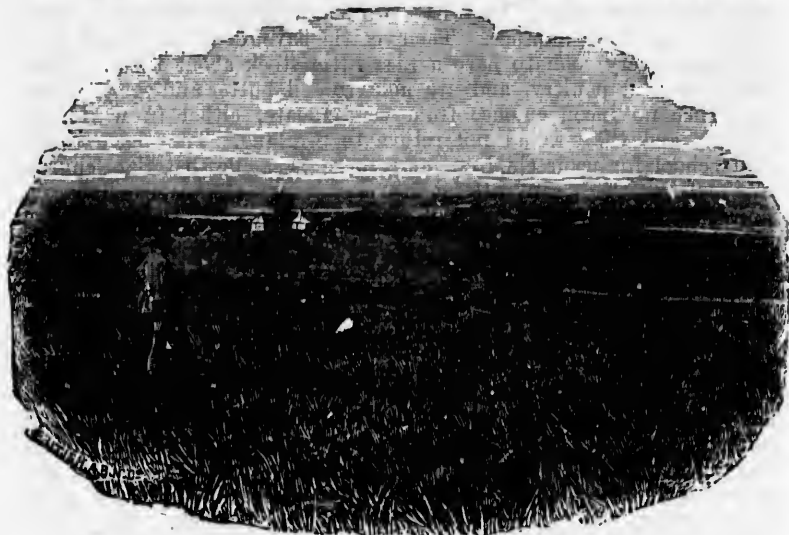
Lake. Donald McKenzie, a good hardy specimen of a Harris crofter, stated:—Each family began with one yoke of oxen and one cow with calf. Each head of a family received 160 acres of land. The first summer they succeeded in making ready about 8 acres for wheat the following year. This season they average about 40 acres under crop, and hope for a yield of wheat of about 20 bushels per acre. The McKenzies, of whom there are two families, expressed themselves as more than satisfied with the country, and grateful to the Government for what had been done for them. They expected to have 70 acres under wheat next year. They have worked together since they came out, assisting one another. Their cattle have done very well, and they expect very soon to have a nice little stock about them. They have pigs and poultry, and are able to sell butter and eggs. They experience no inconvenience from the climate, either in winter or summer, and they would not return to Scotland. They have a very good school for their children, and there is a Presbyterian church near where they can attend service every Sunday. Roderick McKay stated that he likes the country well. It is grand for potatoes, oats, and wheat. He has a wife and six of a family. He is well pleased with the school system. He has 11 head of cattle, including his oxen, two pigs, and a lot of poultry. Donald Stewart, from Harris, near Fort Augustus, stated he was in the service of Lord Dunmore. He came out in 1883. Mrs. Stewart says they did not at first like the country a bit: it was so lonely and no neighbours to speak to. She now likes it well. She has four children—two boys and two girls. The girls I saw; the boys were in the wheatfields at a distance. When asked if they would like to go back to "bonnie Scotland," they replied they liked Canada better. Mrs. Stewart says their hopes for the future are good. They have this season more than 70 acres under wheat, some potatoes, and a very nice stock. They have eight cows with calf for next spring (six now giving milk). She showed me six very nice calves, fully up to the average in Ireland. She rears pigs and had just sold a litter at \$1½ each, when a month old. She did not consider the winter so bad, and had not worn more clothes than she did at home. She laughed heartily when she told me that Donald had a spot of frostbite on his nose, but that it in no way injured his capacity. She sold her eggs for 10 cents per dozen, but in autumn and winter got as much as 18 for them; for butter she got from 12½ to 18 cents per lb. I dug some potatoes in the field and never saw finer. These cases are typical of the crofters as I found them. I visited a large number, and everywhere heard the same story—prosperity, peace, content. This I consider very satisfactory, as the crofters, by early training and lack of agricultural experience, are by no means the best calculated to make good settlers on prairie farms. Leaving the crofter settlement, I drove across the prairie to Burnett's Lake. Here we halted. The natural grass here is very nutritious; cattle and horses do remarkably well and are most prolific, bearing young at a very early age, cattle as young as 1½, horses 2½. In general the water supply is from wells, the water good, and obtained at a depth of from 20 to 50 feet.

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On the shores of the Pelican Lake I visited the farm of a young Englishman, named Houghton, from near Birkenhead, Lancashire. He told me he had been for a time in Parr's Bank, Warrington, but did not care for office life; he came here five years ago, and owns three quarter sections or 480 acres. He recently bought a farm of two quarter sections for his brother, and is well pleased with the country, although he had some bad luck, his first crop being destroyed by a prairie fire, together with his house, barn, and some of his stock; he married about 16 months since, and of course would not change places with anyone.



A PRAIRIE SCENE.

Leaving Glenboro', I struck across the plains in a north-westerly direction; here the country is well settled, and as far as the eye could reach there is wheat! wheat!! wheat!!! In some places the wheat had been cut and stood in stooks, in other places it was in stack. Everywhere, however, it gives proofs of the exceeding fertility of the soil, and the prosperity of the settler. We drove to Souris by way of Wawanesa; the country throughout is well adapted for settlement, and a few years hence I have no doubt this district will be found thickly peopled, having large and prosperous towns and busy manufactories. On the way from Glenboro' to Brandon, I interviewed many farmers with always the same result: I found them prosperous, contented, and happy.

Arriving in Brandon I found it a prosperous little city, with a population of 5,000, the capital of the Western district of Manitoba. Brandon is the largest grain market in Manitoba, and the distributing market for an extensive and well-settled country; the town is beautifully situated on high ground, and although only six years old has well laid down streets, and very substantial buildings. There are fine grain elevators, a flour mill, and a powerful saw mill. I was surprised

at the superiority of the machinery in use, and noted with pleasure that most of the machinery was Canadian-made. Brandon, from its geographical situation, must become a place of very considerable importance in a few years. I visited the farm of Mr. Sandison, situated near Brandon; he farms about 1,000 acres, of which he has 1,600 under crop. He goes in for grain-growing exclusively; he expects to market this



THRESHING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

season about 45,000 bushels of wheat, and 60,000 bushels of oats; he has been in this neighbourhood since 1887, and has been in Canada altogether six years. He came from Scotland, and had no capital. I saw two steam threshers at work on his farm threshing from the stook, each thresher doing from 1,500 bushels to 2,000 bushels per day. There were a number of hands supplied by the machine, and the cost of threshing was four cents per bushel. I was informed that he had been offered 70 cents per bushel for his entire wheat crop delivered in Brandon. This he declined, and I have since heard on good authority that he was getting as much as 85 to 90 cents.

I visited the Government experimental farm at Brandon. This farm has only been in existence for two years, and under the able management of Mr. Bedford it is surprising what has already been accomplished. The progress reflects the greatest credit on the Government, the management, and all connected with the undertaking. Here I had an opportunity of seeing a most interesting exhibition of agricultural produce from the province, and examined the experimental plots. The system pursued by the Department of Agriculture in connection with these farms must prove of immense advantage to the agricultural community in the very near future. After leaving the experimental farm I drove through some of the wheat-growing districts.

Amongst other places I visited was the farm of the Rev. G. Roddie; this was one of the first settlements in the district, and dates back ten years. Mr. Boddie came from Nova Scotia; his farm is situated at the foot of the Brandon Hills. The lands are undulating and picturesque, being studded with well-timbered bluffs. At Brandon I met a large number of Irish settlers, all of whom stated that they had done well and liked the country. In the evening I met Mr. Sandison, the large grain producer before referred to, and he informed me in conversation that while six years ago on coming to Canada he was not worth 5 cents, he would not now take \$50,000 for his farm, stock, &c., and that he might say he was free from debt. I saw a very nice herd of cattle, about 200, on their way from the North-West to Montreal for shipment; they consisted chiefly of two and three-year-old bullocks, and were for store purposes. In Ireland they would readily fetch at present rates from £11 to £15 each.

From Brandon I proceeded to Rapid City. The district between Brandon and Rapid City is well adapted for mixed farming, and in the vicinity of the latter place sheep should succeed. Here I again met a considerable number of my countrymen, and was glad to learn from them that they liked the country, and were doing well. I visited very interesting flour and woollen mills, which, although not long in existence, are flourishing. The woollen mill already turns out over 1,000 lbs. of woollen yarns per week. They were engaged putting up power-looms, and expected to have four at work by the beginning of January. They have more orders booked than they can supply for some time to come. Here also all the machinery used was Canadian-made, and the owner of the mills informed me that not only was the machinery as good, but quite as cheap as what could be procured in England. At Rapid City I took the train for Minnedosa, where I spent a short time. This also seems a favourable district for settlement; the little town is prosperous; there is a flour mill, but I had no time to visit it.

I was called upon by the editor of the local paper, a very warm Irishman. He spoke in the highest terms of the progress being made by the country under the national policy, and hopes one day to see Great Britain and her Colonies federated on commercial lines, each standing by the other, and the police of the world. I stopped for a short time at Binscarth Station, on the Manitoba and North-Western Railway. I priced a large number of articles at the store, and consider that the prices compare favorably with those at home — some articles, notably tea and tobacco, being considerably cheaper. I met several young fellows who had homesteaded, some from Ireland, more from Scotland, and all stated that they were satisfied with what they were doing, and that a man had only to work to succeed. Salt-coats is a very interesting township, and, whilst only of a few years existence, has made very considerable progress. The country surrounding this place is particularly well adapted for mixed farming. The natural grasses are excellent, and where the land is rolling there is some timber, which affords shelter for cattle and horses. In the town they have promoted a creamery, which promises to do well, and be of no small

benefit to the settlers in the neighbourhood. I visited a large number of families in this district, but a few examples must suffice:—

Wilson and his wife and family state they have been in the country for two years; his start, he said, was poor enough. He landed with 13 of a family, and only 75 cents in his pocket; he has now 60 acres under crop. I saw seven acres of wheat grown on stubble land without ploughing; this wheat will, I should say, yield upwards of 30 bushels. He has 20 head of cattle, and is taking eight milch cows from the creamery: he is getting a thoroughbred bull; he will, he states, have cash when he sells his grain to purchase machinery and develop more quickly; he purposes breeding horses; some of his family are in employment, and they help him; he received a loan from the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company to start on.

Mr. Moore, from the Tweed, N.B., has a very nice place in the prairie about eight miles south of Saltcoats; has been two years in the country, and has 100 acres under crop (he will have 150 under crop next year). Here I found flowers and vegetables in great perfection. He has four sons, and he and his sons each received 160 acres, making in all 800 acres. I saw some excellent turnips; one I measured was 30 inches in circumference. At one top of potatoes I found 20 excellent tubers, some as large as any I have ever seen. Mr. Moore owns a steam-thrasher—an excellent machine—for which he pays \$1,800; he has four years allowed him in which to pay for the machine.

Knott, a settler from Norfolk, was a gardener; he came here two years ago; has only his wife and young children; had no capital; he worked for the railway company the first year, also hauled timber for some other settlers. He has 27 acres under crop this season. He says he has now found his feet, as he has two cows, two oxen, and two pigs; his wife reared 140 chickens from a stock of ten hens. They are greatly pleased with the country, and are confident of doing very well. Their neighbours, they state, are very kind, and they consider this the finest place that can be for those who have little or no money, but who are willing to work.

Michael Farrel's farm is situated four miles east-by-south from Saltcoats. He is from the west of Ireland, but came here direct from Northumberland, where he was a herd some three years ago. He and his family were assisted emigrants; they received a loan from the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company, and had to be supported for the first year. The family, which consists of the father, six sons, and four daughters, received four homesteads, or 640 acres in all; they will receive more lands as the other sons reach the age of eighteen. They have 30 head of cattle. This season they had 75 acres under crop, and they expect to have much more next year. They showed me a very nice Shorthorn bull, for which they paid 60 dollars last year, a good native pony in foal, two yokes of oxen, for one of which they paid \$120 and for the other \$130. They have two waggons, a binder, and a reaper, in addition to other machinery. They told me that they would not take a present of the best farm of 200 acres in Ireland, and go back. They think the country very

healthy, and stated that no Irishman need dread coming out, as there would be plenty to take him by the hand when he arrived.

Mr. G. Bolton represents a totally different class, one of those who was not accustomed to do much at home. I found him hard at work building wheat stacks, a thing he would never have dreamt of doing in the old country. He has already succeeded in making a very nice place. His house is situated on a knoll overlooking a nice little lake. He took me into his house and introduced me to his wife and daughters. The eldest was educated in Belfast. They like the country well, and told me that they were very happy, and had become quite reconciled to the life, and would not, if they could, change it for life under the old conditions.

On returning to Saltcoats I met two Scotch crofters settled in this district; they both expressed themselves as highly satisfied with the country, and told me that they could not be dragged out of their homesteads with ropes. They never knew what comfort was before; their wives and families were well satisfied, and there was a glorious field for their children as they grew up. When I asked them what they thought of the action of some of the crofters who had thrown up their homesteads (of whom there were in all about 18 families), they stated that they believed they had made a mistake they would regret all their lives, that they had been misled, and that they were now about to apply to be permitted to return. I may add that all the settlers I met in this neighbourhood with the exception of one, were prosperous, and very well-to-do. The one exception, on the authority of his neighbours, had but himself to blame for his want of success. This district is rich in lime which makes an excellent cement, and with which it will be possible to erect excellent concrete buildings at a minimum cost.

I visited the Barnardo Homes, situated about three miles from Russell. The buildings are better than I had expected to see; there is altogether some 8,000 acres in the property, part homesteaded, part presented by the Dominion Government, part presented by the Railway Company, and part purchased. It has been the means of doing much good, and should only one-half of the inmates be reclaimed to a good and useful life, Dr. Barnardo is deserving of all praise. There are at present 60 boys in the home, but there is accommodation for twice that number. They have this year 120 acres under wheat, 100 under oats, and 20 under barley. I saw in the garden, which is partly laid out, and which contains over 20 acres, some exceedingly fine vegetables. There is a fine milk stock on the farm, consisting of over 50 milch cows; calves are reared, and butter made. I saw some nice store stock on the grass, and there is a nice herd of sheep; both cattle and sheep do well. The boys are carefully looked after, and seemed bright and intelligent. They are educated, instructed in agriculture, and fitted to make their own way in the world. After remaining a sufficient time at the home to become acquainted with methods of husbandry and acquire habits of industry, the boys are hired out to local farmers. From Russell I proceeded to the Binscarth Stock Farm, which is excellently situated. The heifer calves and the two-year-old heifers were alike good, and in excellent condition. There are also some fine

Shropshire sheep on this farm. Leaving Binscarth, I proceeded to Birtle. This is a growing township; new flour mills have just begun work; these I visited; they are very complete, as usual, the machinery being all Canadian-made. The capacity of the mills is about 600 bushels per day. I visited the fair, as it is called, or agricultural show. The produce, both garden and farm, was most creditable. Here, as everywhere else, I met numbers of my countrymen and women, all of whom are doing well. At Birtle there are a number of good stores and two comfortable hotels. I went for a drive through the surrounding country. The land is good, but not by any means so strong as at Brandon or Glenboro', and mixed farming is more the rule. I next visited Neepawa. Here I was shown over new flour mills being erected by a company, of which my informant was the principal shareholder and manager. He gave me his experiences of the country, stating that when he came to the district 10 years ago he had just \$26 in the world; that there were then but few settlers; that he worked for a time in a small flour mill until he made sufficient to purchase a yoke of oxen; then he worked with his team; rented a little land for cropping; that he next homesteaded; then traded in land; that he now farms 320 acres, and has another 320 acres; that the mills are being built at a cost of \$15,000, and that the capital of the company is \$30,000 for the mills and elevators; that he has \$15,000 in the undertaking, and would not take \$30,000 for what he is worth. I drove out for some 12 miles through the country, visiting a number of settlers; the land is good, and the settlers prosperous. Wheat is the principal crop grown, but the land is well adapted for all general farm produce.

Portage-la-Prairie was visited by me on the 2nd October. It is an interesting town, situated on the Assiniboine River, with a population of about 4,000. It is the market town of a rich and populous district, but it is not depending solely on agriculture, for there are numerous youthful but robust industries, flouring mills, grain elevators, a brewery, paper mill, biscuit factory, and others. The lands in the vicinity of Portage are amongst the richest in the world. I drove with Mr. Bâby, a French-Canadian settler from one of the older provinces, to his place, 11 miles from town; this is almost entirely a wheat-growing country and well settled; all the people are prosperous and contented. Mr. Bâby farms extensively, and is making considerable improvements on his farm. Mr. Sanbry, who lives in the town, goes in for wheat raising extensively; he has 1,280 acres about 12 miles from Portage, and had this season 800 acres under crop; he calculates on an average yield of 25 bushels per acre, and estimates that he will clear, after paying all expenses, upwards of £1,200 sterling. He works about one-half of the land himself, and contracts for the preparation of the remainder; he can have his land ploughed and left ready for the seed for \$1.75 per acre (7 shillings), and back-set and left ready for from \$2.75 to \$3.50 per acre (11 to 14 shillings); he considers this cheaper than maintaining an additional number of horses; he stated that he had been offered 93 cents per bushel for all the wheat he had grown this season, at the elevators.

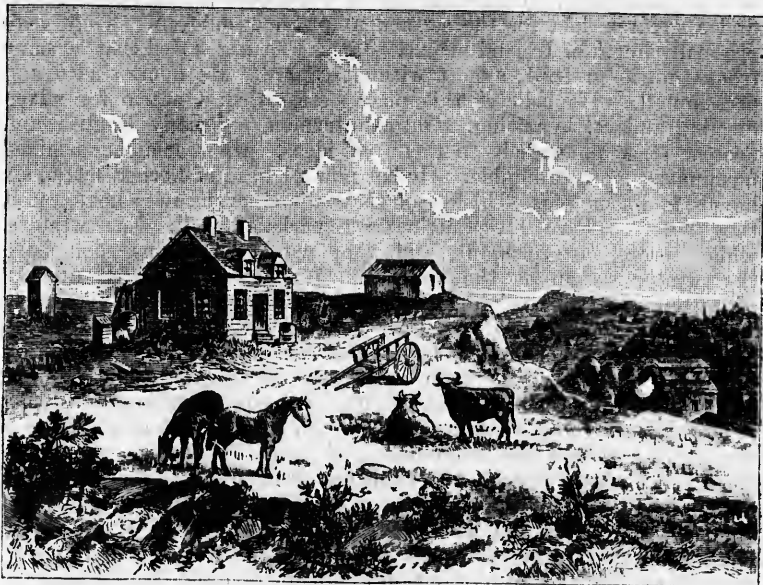
The great features of Manitoba are excellent lands, free for homesteading, or at a reasonable price, very moderate taxes—I may say almost none. This province is peculiarly well adapted for young men with but small (or no) capital, strong hearts, and willing hands, even though they have been reared amidst the comforts of an English home. They must, however, be steady and industrious. Men of the small farmer class, with large families, some of whom have reached years of maturity will, if they have a little capital, and they are ready to take advice from older settlers, do very well here; they can either homestead, or, if they desire, purchase a quarter section with a house and stable on it, get to work there, and homestead or purchase for their sons as they reach a proper age. Young men of the agricultural labouring class can easily procure homesteads, and by working out part of their time, and on their homesteads when possible, can readily make themselves independent. About all the towns there is abundance of employment for female labour, and domestic servants receive excellent wages and are well-treated. The winter is long and cold, but owing to the “exceeding dryness of the air,” it is not “wretchedly” cold, but rather “pleasant and bracing.” The winter is enjoyed by all the young people; I had an experience of 35° below zero (it is only rarely that such a temperature is recorded), but it caused me no inconvenience.

THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

Beyond the Province of Manitoba, nearer the setting sun, extends the region known as the North-West Territories. Much that I have said referring to the soil, climate, and productions of Manitoba, apply equally to the Territories. Out of this vast territory, in 1882, the Dominion Government formed four provisional districts, named: Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Athabasca. This territory comprises a large portion of British North America, and has a total area of 2,500,000 square miles and upwards, with a population estimated at about 90,000.

At Moosomin—the first point on the westward route visited by me in the Territories—I inspected the schools. The children are advanced for their age; the average attendance is very good, although several of the children come a distance of five miles. I drove out and visited the farm of Mr. Gilliman, who came out from co. Cork, Ireland, in 1883; he homesteaded and pre-empted. He has had the experience of six years' crops, and expressed himself as more than well pleased with the country; he pursues mixed farming; his grain has never been injured by frost, so as to affect the price; he considers 18 bushels a fair average yield of wheat; oats yield from 40 to 50 bushels, and sometimes 60 per acre; he uses all his straw for forage. This year he milked 12 cows, and hopes to milk 18 next season. A cheese factory is being promoted in this neighbourhood on the co-operative principle; 300 cows have been already entered; each cow yielding a certain quantity of milk will represent a share. The cheese season will extend from May to October,

and it is hoped that the system will greatly benefit the farmer. Referring to the local fairs or shows, Mr. Gilliman said they did much good, not only from an agricultural point of view, but from an industrial standpoint; at recent shows several prizes fell to the active and industrious fingers of Mrs. Gilliman for Irish lace and fancy work. He has 31 head of cattle, 10 horses, 30 sheep; he keeps no pigs; he prefers Shropshire sheep, but Southdown do equally well on these lands. Mrs. Gilliman stated that she likes the country well, it is very healthy; they have five children the pictures of health, and they do not know what it is to be ill. I got several very fine specimens of native flax from the prairie; the fibre of this flax is rich, but is rather coarse in nature. I have no



A FARMHOUSE IN THE NORTH WEST TERRITORIES.

(Drawn by Colonel Fane).

doubt but that cultivated flax from Riga, Dutch, or English seed would be productive of fibre of fine quality and large yield. I was given a nest of the golden oriol, made entirely of the fibre from the wild flax, the bird proving, beyond contradiction, the fibre-producing qualities of the soil and climate. Some of the land within a mile or two of the railway in this district, as in some other places in Manitoba and the Territories, is held by speculators. The prices asked are not unreasonable, but they retard progress, and are at the present time cumberers of the ground. The lands in the vicinity of Moosomin are good and well adapted for mixed farming. Wolsley is a neat little village in the district of Assiniboia; the land is rolling and level prairie, bearing a good close grass, and is well adapted for mixed farming; there is an abundance of good hay readily obtain-

able. In this neighbourhood there is a considerable quantity of land for homesteading. The water supply is drawn from wells, and there is a good supply, as a rule, readily obtainable. There is an abundant supply of timber for fuel and fencing purposes. Mixed farming is, as a rule, pursued. Wheat produces from 17 to 35 bushels per acre; the average this season might be taken as 25 bushels. Much of this season's wheat shows symptoms of frosting. Oats do well, producing from 40 to 80 bushels per acre. Potatoes are grown for home consumption only, and produce from 300 to 400 bushels per acre. Cattle of all descriptions do well, and contagious disease is unknown. I visited the Fleming settlement. There are a large number of families of this name here. They came direct from Ontario that they might find a greater field for the settlement of their children. They were originally north of Ireland people. James Fleming stated that he came from Ontario in 1881, almost without capital. He homesteaded and pre-empted. He believes this place better than Ontario for mixed farming and cattle raising. Old countrymen, especially English and Scotch, stick too closely to their old ideas. He recommends mixed farming as most profitable. He has now 21 head of horned cattle, six horses, and some pigs. (This season they milked seven cows; next season they hope to have 11. Cattle do remarkably well. The winters, while severe, are pleasant, and they would almost as soon have the winter season as the summer. I called on a large number of settlers in this neighbourhood; Mr. James Fleming is fairly representative of those I saw. All were contented. At Indian Head, I visited the experimental farm, and was shown every attention by Mr. Mackay. This farm will prove of great benefit to the agriculturists of the North-West Territories; the principal is a thoroughly practical man, whose whole heart is devoted to the work in which he is engaged. I visited the celebrated Bell farm. This farm is entirely given up to wheat-raising; the fields are of immense size—some being four miles in length—the buildings on the farm are very good, the land of excellent quality, and well cultivated. After leaving Major Bell's, I visited what is known as the Brassey Farm. This is a property recently taken up by a Colonisation Company, of which Lord Brassey is chairman. They have acquired some 60 sections, or upwards of 38,000 acres, and considerable preparations are being made for the reception of emigrants. I arrived at Prince Albert on Sunday, 5th October. The town is situated on the bank of the Saskatchewan (or Swift-running River); it is a place of some importance, and, considering that until recently it was 260 miles from the nearest rail communication, it is surprising that it should have developed as it has done. The town contains about 1,000 inhabitants, and the district about 4,000. In the neighbourhood of Prince Albert there is abundance of good timber. The Saskatchewan is said to be navigable for several hundred miles between Edmonton and Lake Winnipeg, the only break being at Grand Rapids, near its mouth. The country is undulating, bearing excellent grass, well wooded, and admirably adapted for mixed farming and cattle raising. I have been given to understand that coal and iron exist in abundance in the immediate vicinity

of Prince Albert; the town contains several saw mills, a good flour mill, and, now that it has rail communication, it is I believe destined to go rapidly ahead; there is abundance of good limestone in the neighbourhood, and the subsoil makes excellent bricks. I was shown some roots which were of excellent quality, and one turnip I weighed scaled 18 lbs. I visited the district of Duck Lake, which is about 50 miles south of Prince Albert. The country round this centre is exceedingly bluffy, full of glens, and bearing close grass well adapted for cattle and sheep; the district is but thinly settled; now, however, with railway communication it will fill up rapidly.

Regina, the capital of the North-West Territories, contains a population of about 2,800; the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor is here, and also the headquarters of the North-West mounted police. The land is of good quality, level prairie, and practically ready for the plough; the district about Regina does not appear to suffer much from early frosts, and is well-adapted for wheat-growing, mixed farming, and cattle raising. This district is well deserving of the favourable consideration of intending emigrants from Ireland. I visited the agricultural exhibition; the exhibits were uniformly good, particularly the exhibit of school children's work, maps, writing, &c.; there was also an exhibit of ladies' needle and fancy work; in the fine arts section, some of the paintings in oil and water-colours, were very creditable. Between Regina and Calgary much of the land through which the line runs is of a poor nature, containing alkali; and much of the water is, I am informed, saline. At Medicine Hat I was taken charge of by a north of Ireland man, and visited the agricultural exhibition. There was a very creditable show of roots and vegetables. The first prize cabbage weighed 28 lbs., and measured 5 feet in circumference. I saw a very nice sample of hops. There are several coal mines in the vicinity, and the river is navigable for steamboats. Natural gas is also found in this region. Calgary has a population of 3,500; it is the most important town between Brandon and Vancouver. It is charmingly situated on a hill-girt plateau, overlooked by the Rockies. It is the centre of trade of the great ranching country, and the chief source of supply for the mining districts in the mountains beyond. The town is well-built, and has a very substantial air. I drove out on the McLeod trail, and from the table-lands I got a magnificent view.—Calgary in the foreground, and the snow-clad peaks of the Rockies in the distance. The country is rolling, and covered with a close, rich pasture. On what is known as the Old Government Farm I saw a number of fine cattle. In returning, I followed the Fish Creek trail until it struck the McLeod trail. I had an opportunity of visiting the first woollen mills established in the district, and I procured some very creditable samples of the goods produced. I visited what is known as High River Horse Ranch, situated some 42 miles south of Calgary. On this ranch they have about 900 horses; 225 mares foaled; they lost ten foals and three mares from various causes; four stud horses are kept (they usually keep five), but one died last autumn. This ranche seems well-adapted for the raising of horses, no

shelter or hay as a rule is used, and the foals run on mares until self-weaned. No cattle are raised on this ranche. About 800 tons of hay are stored in case of emergency. When here, I learned from Sir Lister Kaye's manager that flax is grown on the Manaka Farm, about 40 miles east of Calgary, for fibre; it grows about 2 ft. 6 in. long, and is moderately fine. I visited what is known as the Quorn Ranche; on this ranche both cattle and horses are raised, and I was much pleased with the quality and condition of both. I saw some very fine Shorthorn and Polled cattle; they keep 12 stud horses, 4 of which are imported English thorough-breds, the remainder good coaching horses. This ranche is well-watered, and there is very fair stabling and housing on it.

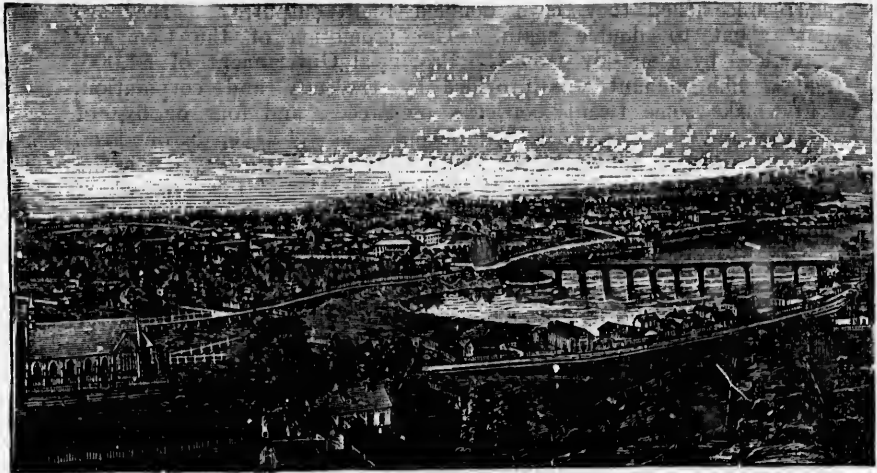
BRITISH COLUMBIA

is that portion of the Dominion which looks out on the Pacific Ocean, and is the only British territory on the Western or Pacific Ocean side of the North American continent. Area 341,805 square miles; population about 90,000. This province is rich in minerals; probably there is no country on the world's surface of similar extent containing greater variety of and equal mineral wealth. Nor are the agricultural resources of the province by any means so limited as many would suppose. There is a great extent of rich valley and river deposit land capable of producing almost anything. The climate of British Columbia is genial, and corresponds closely with that of the best portions of the British Isles. Passing through the cañons in the Rockies a glorious scene unfolds before one: nature is discovered in all her grandeur, and one experiences a sense of awe and a feeling of man's insignificance. New Westminster was the first town of any importance in the province visited by me; it is beautifully situated on the Fraser River, and has a population of some 6,000. The town has many handsome buildings, and is the head-quarters of the salmon canning industry. It has also large saw mills. The city is situated some 17 miles from the Gulf of Georgia, and vessels of the largest size can lie at the quays. I visited a large lumber mill, and there measured a log 74 inches across the face, and 30 feet in length. Here, as elsewhere, the machinery is all Canadian-made, and logs are frequently handled squaring 36 inches 60 feet long. One log was turned out for a special purpose 115 feet long and 54 inches square. Their chief market for timber is Australia, India, and the East Coast of South America. The home market is rapidly increasing, and is the best market they possess. I visited the exhibition buildings, which are nicely situated, and the buildings very commodious. Above the town I saw a portion of the forest in course of being cleared off; it is certainly hardwork, and one could not but feel sorry to see such magnificent timber removed. I visited one of the several large salmon and fruit canneries; the output is enormous, and a large amount of employment is afforded by this important industry. I visited the salmon hatcheries, where about 7,000,000 young salmon are annually produced. The roe is deposited about the second week in October, and the young fishes are released before the end of April. The importance of the fishery industry in this one department will be gathered from the following figures, dealing

merely with the canneries on the Fraser River. Mr. Ewan, the proprietor of the cannery visited, informed me that he alone during the fishing season employs from 600 to 700 hands; the season extends from April to October, the busy part being from the middle of July to the end of August. There are seventeen canneries on the river, and the output last year was 325,000 cases, containing 48 tins each. Chinamen earn from \$30 to \$45 per month, white labour from \$40 to \$100. There are woollen mills which were established some three years ago; since then they have doubled their output, and they are now about to double again. The promotion of the Company was aided by a subsidy from the Provincial Government of \$1,000, and a like amount was provided by the city and corporation. They make some twenty varieties of tweeds, and four or five of flannels and blankets. All their output is as yet taken by one firm. I visited what is known as the Delta, situated a little way down the river. Here we saw magnificent land. The value of this land, which is chiefly either farmed or held by speculators, is high, from \$100 to \$200 per acre being asked. All fruits do well here, growing to a great size and yielding enormous crops. I drove from New Westminster to Vancouver. The road passed through the primeval forest; as usual, I saw traces of great forest fires, and the weird and blackened skeletons of giant trees stood naked and grand amid fresh young verdure. Vancouver, the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, contains a population of between 15,000 and 16,000. Until 1886 its site was covered with a dense forest. From May to July of that year its progress was most rapid, but in July a fire spreading from the surrounding forest swept away every house but one in the place. The situation is perfect as regards picturesqueness, natural drainage, harbour facilities, and commercial advantages. There are extensive wharves, warehouses, numerous hotels, churches, schools, &c. Many of its buildings are of cut stone, brick, and granite, and some of its private residences would do credit to a city of a century's growth. The streets are well-laid. There is an excellent water supply. Regular steamship services ply to and from China and Japan, San Francisco, Yokohama, and Hong Kong, and many other important places. Vancouver holds the point of vantage on the route to the East *via* the West, and is destined to occupy an important position in the future. The country south towards the Fraser has fine farms and is splendidly adapted for fruit-growing; trout and salmon abound, and the deep-sea fishing resources are illimitable. The timber in the Stanley Park gives one an idea of what the soil and climate, "given time," can produce. I measured one tree, a Douglas pine, which girthed almost 60 feet. The park is well laid out and possesses many natural advantages which, when utilised, will make it one of the finest pleasure grounds in the world. Vancouver is lighted with electric light, and possesses an electric street car system. There is a large demand for male and female labour at a very high rate of remuneration. At present almost all unskilled labour and domestic work is performed by Chinamen.

I proceeded from Vancouver to Nanaimo. This is a mining

town, wearing a prosperous air. I visited the mines and descended a shaft 630 feet deep. The output of coal from the three mines worked by the company is from 1,500 to 2,000 tons per day. The condition of the miners is good; white miners earn from \$70 to \$150 per month, and Chinamen \$1.25 per day. Not many Chinamen are employed in the mines. The majority of the miners own their own houses.



CITY OF VICTORIA.

Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, contains a population of some 20,000, and is charmingly situated at the southern extremity of Vancouver Island. It looks westward, towards the Pacific. The climate may be said to be that of the south of England "improved," and the town is English in its characteristics. Besides the Government offices, the city has many fine public and private buildings, among them, a large and well-appointed opera house. The city has many large commercial houses. A railway extends 70 miles north-easterly to Nanaimo. Steamships depart every few days for San Francisco, where connections are made for the Sandwich Islands, Australia, Southern California, and other places. The city is well-built, well-lighted—perhaps, the best lighted city in the Dominion—and has an electric tram service. I drove out in a northerly direction, about 12 miles, to a place called Newton Hill. The country through which I drove was very beautiful, with splendid timber, and here and there a little clearing and a farm house. There are fruit gardens attached to each house, and the crop of fruit and vegetables raised is marvellous. Some pheasants have been turned loose in these woods, and are increasing rapidly. I next visited the district of Chilliwack, on the Fraser River. Here I was surprised at the extent of available land for agriculture. These lands, as well as all the low level lands

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on either bank of the Fraser, are of excellent quality, and will produce crops of almost any description. At this place I saw an admirable exhibit of fruit, especially apples and peaches. I drove from there to Popcum, a distance of 14 miles, chiefly through a low-lying flat marshy district; the land is wet but rich, and when drained will become most valuable. From Popcum I crossed to Agassiz, where I visited the Government Experimental Farm. This farm was established some three years ago; it is situated at the foot of high hills, by which it is almost surrounded; the soil is varied, and it is well adapted to fulfil the objects for which designed.

The Province of British Columbia offers many advantages to those desirous to seek a new country. The capitalist can find the scope for safe and remunerative investment, yielding a large return, and the manufacturer an ample field for his ability, and a local market. And the labourer will readily find employment at wages which, if he lives prudently, will, in a few years, ensure independence. Unless possessed of considerable capital it is not the place for the agriculturist, as lands are relatively dear; a farm might, however, be rented at a reasonable rate, or worked on the share system.

ONTARIO

has an area of about 182,000 square miles, and a population exceeding 2,000,000. This province is rich in agricultural lands, of excellent quality, has an abundant supply of timber, and vast mineral resources. In the southern districts, near Lake Huron, are the famous Oil Springs, from which petroleum is obtained in immense quantities. Its rivers and lakes are well supplied with fish and its forests with game. Toronto, the seat of the Provincial Government, has a population of 180,000. It is a city that any country might well be proud of. It is growing very rapidly both in wealth and manufactures. It is beautifully situated on Lake Ontario, which affords it water communication with the other great lakes westward, and with the St. Lawrence River eastward. The city has an unusual number of imposing public and private buildings. Its people are nearly all British, of English, Irish, or Scotch descent. I visited numerous agricultural centres in the province, all of which I found prosperous and interesting. Good agricultural lands, in most places, may be purchased at from \$40 to \$70 per acre; those in exceptionally favoured districts command as high a price as \$80 to \$100; and stocked fruit lands are very valuable. These prices include farm buildings, which, as a rule, are comfortable and serviceable. Taxation, as everywhere throughout the Dominion, is very light; and numerous farmers, borne down by rents and taxes in England, Ireland, and Scotland, would find things much easier in Ontario; but capital is needed.

I visited the Agricultural College at Guelph. The buildings are excellent, and well-adapted to the requirements of the establishment; the young agriculturist is taught practical and theoretical farming. In the farm there are some 550 acres; there are 85 students, the great majority of whom belong to the Province of Ontario; several are from other provinces of the Dominion, and some 13 from the old country.

The establishment is maintained by the Provincial Government; \$20 are charged each student from Ontario for fees, and a moderate sum for board; \$100 for those from other provinces or the old country. Agricultural land in the neighbourhood of Guelph sells for from \$50 to \$80 per acre, and can be rented for from \$2 to \$5; this of course including houses and buildings. The country in the vicinity of Guelph is picturesque, undulating, and well wooded. There are a large number of Irish settlers in the Guelph district, and all spoke in the highest terms of the locality. I visited Brantford and drove through the district, going round by Cookstown and thence to Guilford; this is a beautiful district and well adapted for old country people possessed of capital; land, with good houses and stables, sells for from \$50 to \$100 per acre.

I visited Grimsby, which is a fruit-growing centre; grapes, apples, peaches, pears, plums, and small fruit are grown. Strawberries are very productive, yielding from 2,000 to 3,000 quarts per acre. The principal grape grown is the Concord; Niagaras are also largely grown; these varieties produce large crops, from three to six tons per acre. Wine is made, but not in any considerable quantity; it is, however, likely to develop into an important industry. I visited Niagara, and was much impressed by the grandeur of the falls. Fruit is largely grown in this district also. A company for the production of wine has recently been promoted here. I was informed by one of the shareholders that in one day, within a radius of five miles, 300 tons of grapes were purchased, sufficient for the season's manufacture; they look for an output of from 80,000 to 100,000 gallons per season. The wine is of excellent quality, and it can be sold at from 80 cents to \$1 per gallon wholesale.

Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion, is most picturesquely situated at the junction of the Rideau and the Ottawa rivers. The Chaudiere Falls, which interrupt the navigation of the Ottawa River, afford water power for a number of saw-mills and other manufactories. The city stands on high ground, overlooking a wide valley, and contains the stately Government Buildings, and many other fine buildings, both public and private. Ottawa has a population of about 40,000. I visited the works of Messrs. Eddy & Co., which, while situated in Hull, on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River, may be said to be in the suburbs of Ottawa. They are lumber merchants, match manufacturers, pulp makers, and manufacturers of sashes, tubs, buckets, &c. Their works are most extensive, and during the summer months give employment to upwards of 4,000 hands. I visited the experimental farm; there I met Professor Saunders, and was greatly interested in all he told me about the farm and the system pursued there. This farm was purchased in 1886 by the Government, and in the spring of 1887 operations began; it consisted of a number of small lots, some of which were partially cleared, others not at all. There are 460 acres in the farm, all of which is now brought under cultivation. The farm is well adapted for experimental purposes, containing as it does a variety of soils. The buildings are excellent, and the experimental plots are well arranged. The system of

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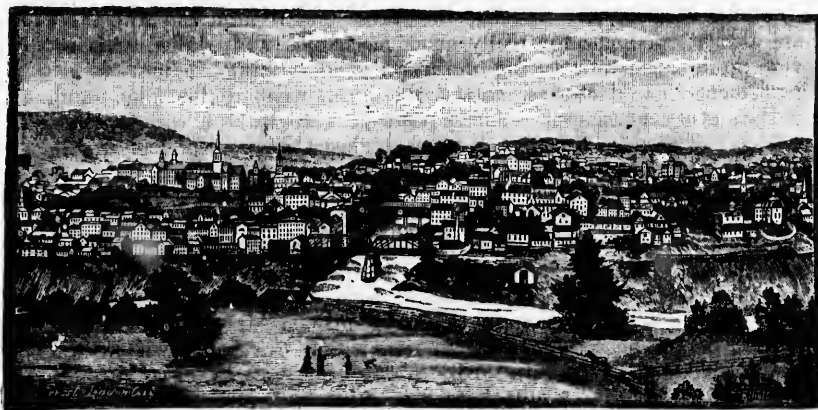
sending farmers 3-lb. samples of selected grain for seed purposes is admirable, and must be attended by the best possible results. The experiments in connection with forestry are most interesting, and every effort is being made to collect reliable information. Respecting the better classes of fruits, I noticed with great interest the system followed to test the germinating properties of grain; and farmers in localities where the grain may have been injured by frost, or rain during harvest, are asked by the Government to submit samples to be tested before being sown. There is a small stock of very nice cattle, and an excellent collection of poultry. The experiments tried in connection with the several varieties of grasses is very interesting, and will prove of great benefit in securing the grasses best adapted to the varied climate and soils of the Dominion. Men to work and develop the agricultural and mineral resources are the kind of immigrants wanted in Ontario. Agriculturists, from the fact that agriculture is the leading industry, stand in the first place. But as well as wanting men to clear the forest and reclaim the soil, there are always openings for really good mechanics and skilled artisans. Ontario is a manufacturing country: the leading industries are implement manufactories, cotton factories, woollen factories, and, indeed, every branch of industry that goes to make a country self-reliant. The rate of wages is much higher than can be had in the United Kingdom, and the cost of living is very little greater.

THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

has an area of 189,000 square miles, and a population of about 1,500,000. The inhabitants of the British Islands and France will both find themselves at home there, both languages being spoken. The soil of a large portion of this great province is very fertile, and capable of producing almost any crop which can be grown in the temperate zone. Tomatoes grow in profusion and ripen, as do also many varieties of grapes. It is rich in minerals—gold, silver, copper, iron, plumbago, &c.—and has immense deposits of phosphate of lime. Its fisheries are of immense extent. I visited the Buckingham district, near Ottawa, and proceeded up the Lievre River by boat to the phosphate mines. I was much surprised at the wealth of phosphate, mica, and plumbago in this district, as shown by the mines already developed. Here will be found a large and profitable field for both capital and labour.

Montreal, the chief city of Canada, is situated on an island formed by the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers, and on the site of an ancient Indian village called Hochelaga. The city has a far-reaching trade and great manufacturing establishments, has fine wharves, warehouses, and grain elevators, public buildings, handsome residences, and good hotels. I visited the Canadian Rubber Company's works; there I found upwards of 800 hands employed, earning weekly from \$5,000 to \$6,000, with a daily output of from 8,000 to 9,000 rubber shoes; in addition to their shoe trade, belting, hose, and many other things are made. I visited and inquired into a large number of industries in Montreal and neighbourhood: paper-making, iron rolling, cotton manufactories, boot and shoe factories, flour milling, sugar refining, silk manufactory, ready-made

clothing, &c., &c., and found that all were in a satisfactory state. There is a good demand for labor at fair wages. I cannot pass from Montreal without saying a word respecting the admirable fire brigade the city possesses. Through the kindness of Colonel Stevenson I had an opportunity accorded me of inspecting the brigade. On an alarm being given, the horses were hitched-up, the engine, fire-escape, and waggons in the street in eight seconds, and within seven minutes from the alarm being given, the engine, hose, fire-escape, and detachment were in action on a Baptist Church, a quarter of a mile distant. I inspected the abbatoirs, stock-yards, stabling arrangements, and meat-packing works of the Union Abattoir Company. I found all the arrangements in detail admirable; and I was surprised to hear of the growth of the cattle trade. There passed through the stock-yards of this company for export during the past season, I was informed by



SHERBROOKE, EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

Mr. Acer, 134,000 cattle and 60,000 sheep. Ten years ago this trade was almost unknown. During the past year there also passed through the stables of the company upwards of 10,000 horses. I had an interesting conversation with Mr. Hart, who is engaged in the export of apples. He informed me that his people usually ship from 30,000 to 50,000 barrels of apples to the United Kingdom. He spoke of the Merchandise Marks Act (English) as being highly approved of by both growers and shippers in Canada. I visited Sherbrooke, and was much pleased with the country between it and Montreal, as well as in the neighbourhood of Sherbrooke. This town possesses great water-power, which is utilised to drive numerous factories. I cannot pass without referring to one—a woollen manufactory—the Paton Manufacturing Company. They run 22 sets of cards, make tweeds of all sorts, and general clothing, shawls, rags, &c., &c. When fully occupied, the Company employs from 550 to 600 hands. Their output is valued at from \$600,000 to

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\$700,000 per annum, and the wages paid amount to \$130,000 to \$140,000 a year. This Company also owns the Quebec Worsted Company's works, and there employs 200 hands. I visited several farms in the vicinity of Sherbrooke; the land is good and well cultivated, and the farmers successful. From Sherbrooke I proceeded to Cookshire; the village is very nicely situated, and the lands are of excellent quality; the country is rolling, well-wooded, and well-watered, resembling many places in England and Ireland. I saw some very fine polled Angus cattle on the farm of Mr. Pope, M.P. Land can be purchased on very reasonable terms, from \$20 to \$30 per acre, with buildings. This applies to the whole of the eastern townships. I drove from Cookshire to Compton; the country along the route is very nice, the farm-houses good, and the lands well cultivated. At Compton, Mr. Cochrane has a beautiful place. The pedigree cattle have a reputation extending far beyond the limits of Canada. There are 100 polled Angus, 65 Herefords, and 60 horses. Certainly a visit to Canada would be incomplete without seeing this farm. Mr. Cochrane justly deserves the title of the "Pioneer stock-raiser of the Dominion." I visited the farm of Mr. Vernon; he has exceedingly nice buildings, and very good stock, and although a young hand at cattle raising, he has succeeded in getting as much as \$5,000 for a Hereford bull.

Quebec: This old city occupies the base and summit of a lofty craig, projecting into the St. Lawrence. It has a population of 65,000. As the settlement grew and the fortifications were enlarged, Quebec became the stronghold of Canada, remaining so until captured by Wolfe in 1759. No city in America is so grandly situated. Enormous quantities of lumber are annually shipped from this port. The lower valley of the St. Lawrence, and the northern lumbering regions draw their merchandise from this centre. The town is rich in churches, convents, schools, business blocks, and hotels. The transatlantic steamers of the Allan and Dominion lines call here in summer, and local steamers leave daily for the Lower St. Lawrence. Quebec has a number of thriving industries, several of which I visited. The boot and shoe trade furnishes a considerable amount of employment; so do the tanneries. I visited the engine, machine, and general iron foundry of Messrs Carrier, Laine, & Co., Point Levis; I found 200 hands employed, and the weekly wages amounted to \$1,200. The pig iron used in these works is Canadian, chiefly Nova Scotian, and is of excellent quality. I visited the graving dock and ship repairing yard; there I found 100 hands employed. I drove down to Montmorency; this district is thickly peopled, the land of good quality and well cultivated. In the cotton manufactory at the falls I found some 300 hands employed.

NEW BRUNSWICK

has an area of 27,174 square miles, and a population of about 340,000. It is possessed of an excellent climate different from that of Great Britain in two respects, the one is much drier, and the range of the thermometer much greater. There is a considerable difference between the climate on the coast of the Bay of Fundy and that of

the interior, the former being milder and less subject to the extremes of heat and cold. New Brunswick is possessed of great agricultural resources; valuable fishing interests give employment to a large number of men; and there are also considerable manufacturing interests. Owing to cheap coal and proximity to the markets of the world, it has many advantages as a manufacturing country. Its manufactories are constantly being added to, and increasing as the field for their products becomes wider. St. John may be designated a new city, having been built since 1877, in which year the old St. John was destroyed by fire. This is a busy modern centre; a maritime city with a good harbour and fine wharves. It contains a population of about 40,000, and there are the names of 5,000 children on the public school books. Education is on the national system, purely unsectarian. The school buildings are large and airy. Education free. The system is found to work well, and gives great satisfaction. I visited several of the schools in the Province, and was much pleased with all I saw. I visited cotton mills, sash and door manufactories, and a large railway rolling stock constructing establishment. Here a fully equipped railway train, including locomotive and snow plough, can be turned out. There are 300 hands employed in the rolling mills, foundries, car, and other workshops of this company. As many as 800 cars are turned out annually in St. John. I found a considerable number of Irish friends—first a senator, who hails from within a few miles of my own place, next a Doherty, foreman in the foundry referred to, from Malen, Co. Donegal. The Irish settler who may go to New Brunswick will find himself surrounded by old country associations.

Fredericton, the capital of the province, sometimes called "the Celestial City," has a population of about 10,000; it is situated on the St. John River, and surrounded by a beautiful country of excellent land, well wooded and watered. I visited the village of Marysville and the cotton and timber mills there, the property of Mr. Gibson, whose people originally came from near Belfast. In the cotton mills there are 500 hands employed. These mills have been only some six years in existence. The buildings are of an extent to permit an enormous development of the industry. In connection with his lumber trade, Mr. Gibson employs upwards of 1,500 hands, thus having in his employment over 2,000 men and women. The premises are lighted by electricity throughout; the employees comfortable and contented, and the female hands in the cotton mills particularly bright, healthy, and contented looking. In the village a church has been erected by the proprietor; it contains an excellent organ, and the pastor and organist are maintained by Mr. Gibson, not as much as a collection being taken up in the church. I visited the Government Buildings, the Normal Schools, and the Government Stock Farm. A great deal of attention has been paid, both by the Government and by private breeders, to the improvement of horses in the province; this has been attended with good results, and the horses of New Brunswick will compare favorably with those of any country. I cannot, however, say the same with regard to the horned cattle of the province, in which there is room for improvement.

From Fredericton I proceeded to Woodstock; the land along the railway and on the banks of the St. John River is, where cleared, of good quality and fertile; there is a considerable extent of timber land. The country in the vicinity of Woodstock is undulating and nicely wooded, the houses and farm buildings substantial, and the condition of the people prosperous and contented. Woodstock contains a population of about 4,000, and has several industries. I visited the foundry and machine manufactory of a Mr. Connell; 50 hands were employed, and almost everything from a steam engine down to a garden rake made. I drove into the agricultural districts surrounding the town.

From Woodstock I proceeded to Kent, on the St. John River, a prosperous and exceedingly picturesque village—the country rolling, wooded, and intersected by the Chickatyhock River, which is said to be a good trout stream. I drove out about eight miles to the village of Glasville; the road is through a charming country, wooded—the timber being chiefly spruce and maple, with a variety of hard woods. At Glasville I found an interesting Scotch settlement, some 29 years in existence. About 50 families came out originally—there are now in the settlement about 160 families, and a population of 1,500. From Glasville I drove to Johnville, another prosperous settlement. While Glasville is Scotch and Presbyterian, and was settled by a Presbyterian minister, Johnville is Irish, Roman Catholic, and was settled by a Catholic father. The settlements date from about the same time, and about the same number of families settled in each. Johnville has now about 165 families and 1,600 inhabitants.

New Brunswick offers many advantages to the immigrant: it is easy of access; lands are good and cheap; there is an abundant field for labour; life there can be lived much under old country conditions; and there is a wide field for the settlement of a family as they come forward.

NOVA SCOTIA

is a peninsula; it is connected on the north-west with New Brunswick by an isthmus some 14 miles across, and separated from Prince Edward Island on the north by Northumberland Strait. It contains some 21,000 square miles, and has a population of about 460,000. There is no finer scenery to be found on the continent of America than in many parts of Nova Scotia. The climate of the province is well suited to the European constitution, and the temperature is more equable than in any other portion of the Dominion save British Columbia. The climate varies in different parts of the country. In Annapolis Valley, the spring opens about two or three weeks earlier than in Halifax, and the weather is drier, clearer, and more exempt from fog. The soil in many of the agricultural districts is very rich, and the fruit produced from the orchards of Annapolis and other districts brings the highest prices in the British markets; the live stock in the province is good and shows that attention has been bestowed on this important department of agriculture. The fisheries of Nova Scotia are celebrated. It is perhaps in minerals that this province excels—the mineral resources of Nova Scotia have but to be developed to make it one of the

wealthiest portions of the world. The resources in connection with manufactures are very great: unlimited water-power, inexhaustible supplies of coal and iron, and an advantageous geographical situation; as a consequence there are numerous prosperous manufactories.

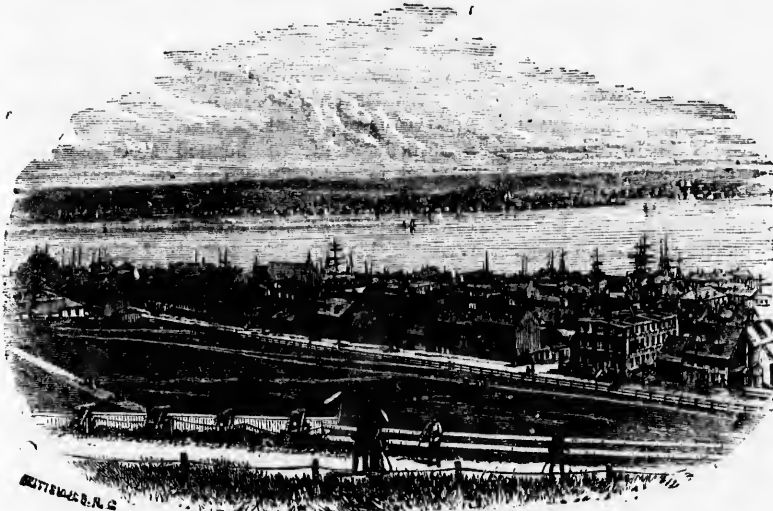
Great tracts of forest land exist in the province, producing millions of feet of pine, spruce, hemlock, fir, &c. This province is a sportsman's paradise; there is excellent hunting, shooting, and fishing, in every county. Nova Scotia owns more shipping, in proportion to population, than any other country, and her vessels are to be found all over the world. The exports consist of fish, coal and other minerals, lumber, and general produce.

The first point in the province I visited was Amherst; this town has a population of some 7,000, and possesses several industries. A boot and shoe factory gives employment to some 200 hands, and there is a large iron foundry, and several minor industries. The town is very prosperous looking. Mixed farming is pursued by the agriculturists in the neighbourhood, and a great quantity of hay is grown on what are called the marsh lands. These lands are not what would be understood as marsh lands with us; they are lands of very superior quality—deep river deposit land—almost inexhaustible in plant-food producing properties, and resembling our best slob or fen lands. I visited the new ship railway, and was taken over it by Mr. Ketchum, the engineer. The works are well forward, and it is calculated that the line will be opened before the autumn of 1891. The Agricultural Experimental Farm at Nappan contains 300 acres, 200 of which are arable, the remainder under timber. The farm was purchased by the Government in 1887. The buildings erected by the Government are very good; the soil is of several varieties, and well adapted for the purpose required. I was shown fine samples of grain, and I believe this farm will prove of great benefit to the inhabitants of the province.

Halifax, the capital and seat of government, is situated on a bay. The city is beautifully laid out, the streets running at right angles. The Provincial Parliament Buildings, the Post Office, and Custom House are fine structures. The city is the seat of Dalhousie College. There are numerous shops, and prices are very reasonable. I visited the Government Buildings, the Municipal Buildings, the High Schools, the Dalhousie College, a sugar refinery, and a number of other interesting places and industries. The dried and pickled fish trade has developed to great dimensions.

I visited Wolfville, and was there entertained by the King's County Agricultural Society, established more than 100 years ago. I had the honour of being their guest at their 101st anniversary dinner. I drove through fruit-growing regions of the Annapolis and the Gasperaux Valleys. Between Halifax and Truro the land seems good, and judging from the dwelling houses and farm steadings, the people are well-off. Truro has a population of about 5,500, and has some 13 or 14 industries, conspicuous among which are a milk-condensing establishment and a hat manufactory. I visited the Normal Schools at Truro, and inspected the system of training pursued. I drove out to the agricultural school, which is being promoted by the Provincial Govern-

ment, and which is calculated to be of immense service in the practical training of agriculturists. The land in the vicinity of Truro is of exceptionally good quality, and commands reasonable prices.



CITY OF HALIFAX.

In Nova Scotia there is a large field for immigration. There are always large numbers of desirable farms for sale at prices from £200 to £1,000, so that persons with a little capital are sure to find openings. Lands may, in many places, be had to rent; and then, uncleared lands are readily obtainable. There is a good demand for labor, and poverty does not exist.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

is the smallest and the most densely peopled of the Provinces of the Dominion, with an area of 2,133 square miles. It has a population of about 112,000. As seen from the water the appearance of the island is exceedingly prepossessing; on approaching the coast, the country affords a charming picture of well-cultivated and wooded land. The general surface of the island is level, but in some places it rises to a height of nearly 500 feet above the level of the sea. The scenery is very English; and prosperous homesteads are scattered all over the country. The climate is very healthy; the cold is more severe and lasts for a longer time than in England, but the atmosphere is dry and salubrious, and the summer is of such brightness and beauty as to amply compensate for the winter. Charlottetown, the seat of Government, is pleasantly situated upon a point of rising ground, and contains about 13,000 inhabitants. It is well laid out in wide and well-built streets. The harbour is large, deep, and convenient. Agriculture and fishing may be said to be the staple industries of the island. Mixed farming is pursued. The farm

buildings are good, and the farms contain from 100 to 1,000 acres. The soil is rich and very productive; and the cattle and horses, judging from those I saw, are particularly good; the dressed mutton and beef I saw in the market could not be surpassed. Lobsters are taken in large quantities and canned, and mackerel and herrings are cured for export. I visited a farm, the property of Mr. Blake, M.P.P., and saw some excellent cattle. One heifer, a Shorthorn, four years old, fully sixteen hands high, and weighing 2,200 lbs. I also visited the Government Stock Farm, where great care is bestowed upon the improvement of horned stock by the authorities. The system pursued is admirable, and the results are readily seen on looking at the class of stock possessed by the islanders. Island horses are justly celebrated. I do not care so much for the American trotting variety recently introduced; nor do I think they ever will be a horse for export to Europe. Land on the island can be procured on reasonable terms, and this province is well deserving of the consideration of intending emigrants who, while possessed of a little capital are desirous of following agriculture and fishing.

In concluding this incomplete report of the resources, I can but add that nowhere can there be a grander field found where the immigrant, no matter what his class, creed, or condition of life may be, in which to employ his or her energies than in the Dominion of Canada. I have tried as briefly and as concisely as possible to place my views with all candour before those whom they mostly concern, and I say it without fear of contradiction, that Canada is the place for British capital and British labour to find a fair field and no favour. The Canadian people love their flag, are loyal to the crown, and the future I hope will find the Mother Country and her eldest daughter, "the fair Dominion of Canada," drawn more closely together in commercial relations than has been the case in the past.

Permit me, on behalf of those I represent, to thank the Dominion Government, the several provincial governments, and the people of Canada for the exceeding great kindness shown to me, and for the facilities accorded me in prosecuting my inquiries as to the resources of the country. I sailed from Halifax with feelings of regret at leaving so magnificent a country, and so generous a people. I tried to console myself with the hope that I might be again spared to visit the Dominion at no very distant period, and I found my thoughts well expressed in the concluding lines of Canada's national air:—

"On merry England's far-famed shore
 May kind Heaven sweetly smile;
 God bless Old Scotland ever more,
 And Erin's Emerald Isle.
 Then swell the song, both loud and long,
 Till rock and forest quiver—
 God save the Queen,
 And Heaven bless the Maple leaf for ever."

THE REPORT OF MR. GEORGE BROWN,

Watten Mains, Caithness, N.B.

DURING the past ten years the number of reports, pamphlets, &c., which have been written upon the resources of Canada by "all sorts and conditions of men," leave little of an original character to be said upon the subject. Keeping in view this fact, my Report shall be chiefly confined to the experiences of Scotch settlers who have emigrated from the North of Scotland, as there can be no doubt the success or non-success of these men, given in a concise form, will have greater effect in the localities from which they emigrated than any amount of a general description of the country.

At the outset it may be as well to explain that any views set forth in this Report are not to be held as beyond dispute, but as the impressions of one who has only been a short time in the country.

Since the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which spans the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the Government of the Dominion has become aware that there are immense tracts of fertile lands, excellently fitted for the growth of all kinds of grain and the rearing of stock of every description. These lands are situated in Manitoba, the North-West, and British Columbia, nearly all of which are suitable for settlement by all classes likely to emigrate, be they capitalists, tenant farmers with some means, small farmers, or labourers who have a knowledge of farming. In order to obtain a share of the tide of emigration which is ever flowing from the older European countries, the Canadian Government some time ago resolved to invite a number of representative farmers from England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and France to visit the Dominion, whose reports upon the present condition and future prospects of the Dominion would be received with greater confidence by intending emigrants than the somewhat highly coloured statements of emigration agents and other interested parties. Every member of the delegation is therefore fully aware of the responsibility attached to the issue of his report, if such prove misleading or overdrawn. Emigrants who have been induced to leave this country upon the strength of any report, and find Canada a different land from that represented, are not likely to hide their light under a bushel, but will soon make known in somewhat forcible language their opinions of the authors.

Until lately Canada was believed by the majority of people in this country to be a land covered for nearly two-thirds of the year by snow and frost, with few and brief glimpses of sunshine during the remaining third, which was followed again by a covering of eternal snow; a land of ice and Indians, bears and blizzards, unfit for the abode of the Anglo-Saxon race, except upon the seaboard and in the vicinity of the Great Lakes.

The exact opposite is, I fancy, nearer the truth, as the winter often does not set in until late in November, and the thaw generally

takes place towards the end of March. In a country so vast in extent the climate must of necessity be varied: for this reason, as the various provinces come under notice this most essential matter, upon which all successful agriculture depends, will receive attention.

The immense area of Canada can hardly be realised. During the ten weeks' travel accomplished by the delegation, in which time they went over 12,000 miles per rail and over 1,000 miles by road, they began to comprehend the vastness of the country, as they could but touch the fringe at various points of the "Great Lone Land" of Butler.

The route followed by the majority of the delegation will be fully set forth in the other reports; so, to avoid repetition, I shall pass over this part with the remark that the distance which was gone over by the delegation could never have been accomplished were it not for the shrewdness of the Hon. John Carling, Minister of Agriculture, in arranging to have a special sleeping car placed at our disposal, and the admirable plan of the journey suggested by him; the courtesy of the railway companies, notably the Manitoba and North-Western, in placing special trains at our command wherever time could be saved; and the energy and thorough knowledge of the country displayed by Mr. G. H. Campbell, Winnipeg, who acted as pilot throughout the trip. These very circumstances have, however, been the subject of remark both in this country and in some parts of the Dominion, the general criticisms being—that we were in the hands of the Dominion officials, who would take very good care to show us only the better parts of the country; that the season being too far advanced before going out, the crops being all harvested, we would have to content ourselves with a general view of the country, which would afford insufficient data to form correct conclusions as to the agricultural resources of the country. In the first place, the delegation had an absolutely free hand to go where or when they pleased, we having only to intimate a day or two before the route agreed upon by us, or the locality we wished to visit. In the second place, I must remind the readers of this Report that the delegation were all practical farmers, the great bulk of them being excellent judges of land of all qualities. We also saw the crop in stook or stack, and the green crops growing upon the ground. We also took advantage in a general way of the well-known jealousy, or, rather, of the idea held by nearly every man that his own particular location is situated in the very best part of the Dominion. We had, in consequence, only to ask an Ontarian what he thought of Manitoba and the North-West, or *vice versa*, and the shortcomings of either province would at once be depicted in most fluent and graphic language. By striking an average between the two, we could arrive at a pretty accurate estimate of the locality under discussion.

Ontario.—The Eastern provinces have been visited by another section of the delegation, as our time was very limited on our return from the North-West. This Report shall therefore be confined to the Western provinces of the Dominion. The Province of Ontario embraces within its bounds an area of something like 182,000 square

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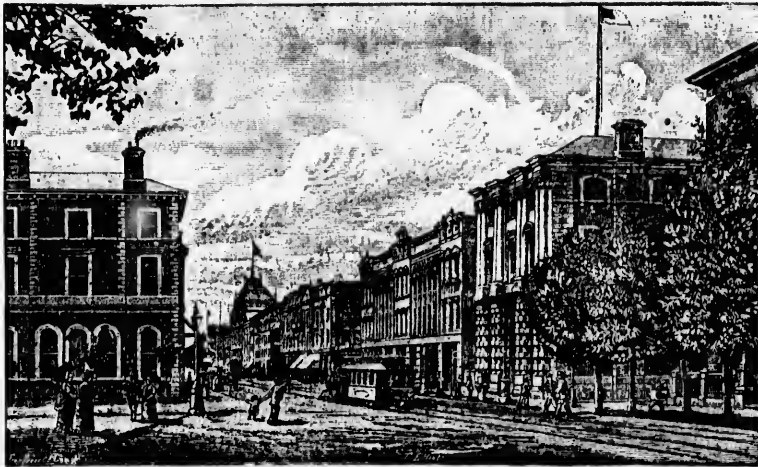
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miles, and is situated along the margin of the Great Lakes. The northern portion of the province is wild and broken, and, from an agricultural standpoint, comparatively worthless at present. It is, however, covered with timber, which, in the near future, will become an invaluable possession, as it appears to be simply a question of time when the exhaustion of the forests of the United States will create a demand for lumber for the States lying upon the eastern seaboard. The fertile land lies towards the south and east of the province, between the track of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the lakes; the veritable garden of Ontario being situated in the peninsula formed by Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Huron. Here we have well-cleared farms, excellently situated, and cultivated more in accordance with the ideas of Old Country farmers.



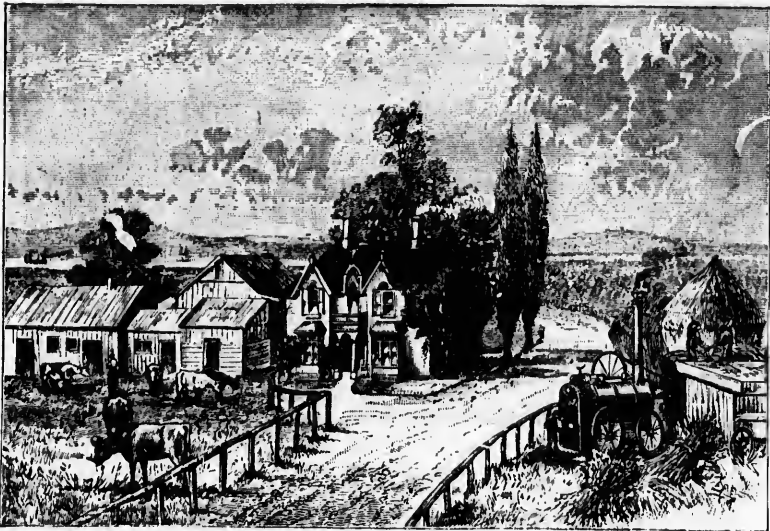
A VIEW IN LONDON, ONTARIO.
(Richmond Street, looking south.)

There can be no doubt, Southern and Western Ontario offer great inducements for old country farmers with some means to settle there instead of moving further west. By so doing they obviate the necessity of "roughing it," and settle down in the midst of a community far advanced in the comforts and luxuries of life. Life is too short for a man of middle age to go into the bush and chop his way to a farm of a couple of hundred acres—all the more when he can buy an improved farm at a reasonable figure: this can be readily done just now, as many of the pioneers whose families are now grown up are inclined to move west "for the sake of the boys."

There are also farms vacant through the financial embarrassments of the owners, who could not, or would not, adapt themselves to the changed circumstances which affected farming all over the Dominion since the opening up of the North-West and the lowered prices of wheat. Many farms have also become exhausted by the ruthless and

slovenly mode of cultivation adopted by the occupiers in the continuous growth of wheat. Such land would soon respond to a different system, such as mixed farming. Farms vary in size, running from 100 to 200 acres and more.

Land partially cleared and improved can be bought at from £4 to £10 an acre, the price depending upon locality and value of improvements. Near towns it often runs up to over double these figures. There are no free grants of land in this district, but such may be had in the uncleared parts of the province. It is rather a serious matter for a new-comer to begin and clear land, as it would cost from £4 to £6 an acre. This outlay in a district where the climate might prove unsuitable for the particular branch of farming the settler wished to take up would be too much of a risk, when good land can be bought ready cleared in a good locality and better climate.



FARM SCENE, ONTARIO

The average yield of cereals throughout the province is—Autumn or fall wheat, 18 to 20 bushels; spring, 16; barley, 25; oats, 32 to 35 bushels per acre. Soils are made up of, or may be classed as, the various loams, ranging from sandy to clay. Many are very rich in vegetable matter, notably those overlying the limestone. Wheat cultivation has become relatively unprofitable in Ontario since Manitoba and the North-West became wheat-producers. Ontario has, in consequence, adapted herself to the change, the outcome of which has been a more systematic style of procedure, many having gone into mixed and dairy farming. Rotation cropping, as a result, is being practised, the lines generally being a modification of the well-known Norfolk system—wheat, turnips, barley, clover. By allowing the grass—timothy and red clover—to lie down

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a year or more, and thus by introducing oats, beans, or peas into the rotation, it may be extended indefinitely. While at Ottawa we visited the Experimental Farm (which will be further referred to). We were informed by Mr. Carling that a crop of Indian corn then being cut would weigh 20 tons an acre. The corn was in the green stage, and was intended for ensilage, equal quantities of hay and it being chaffed and put into the silo. By experiment Professor Saunders has found that the feeding quality of corn in this state is equal to one-half that of good hay. If this be so, it will have a very marked effect upon the agriculture of the districts in which this crop can be grown, Ontario being one. It will diminish, if not put an end to, the cultivating of that most expensive crop, turnips, as here we can obtain 10 tons of good feeding stuff off an acre of land at a nominal outlay—a considerable difference from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 tons of hay, this being the average produce per acre of this crop. Stock is now being shipped to England from Canada, which places the Ontario farmer in a better position than his Western brethren, as the cost of transport is much less, and his cattle are saved the deterioration incidental to conveyance by railway. Cattle are fairly well bred on the farms, thanks to the excellent blood introduced by the late Hon. Geo. Brown at Bow Park, and many others. It is a matter of regret that many of the best bulls from the Bow Park herd find their way across the line to the States. Judging from what the delegation have seen of Canadian cattle generally, they must be classed as "rough," and want breeding. I am aware that a gradual improvement has been effected during the past 12 or 15 years by many farmers, who have expended large sums in the importation of pedigree stock. Still there is room for further improvement in this direction, as it would surely pay breeders to select their sires more carefully, as quality on this side of the Atlantic means money: a beast well bred will at least fetch £2 to £4 more money when sold either as fat or store. Many rough, lanky brutes seen by us could not be cashed in the English markets. Here is an opening for a level-headed breeder from the old country. Not only in this province, but in the North-West, there is room for any number of men of this kind. I am quite aware of the difficulties farmers have to contend with in a new, unfenced country; but I cannot agree with the idea prevalent in many parts of the Dominion that the country is unsuitable for the breeding of higher grade cattle. Let those croakers visit Bow Park, Cochrane Ranch, or Binscarth Farm, and it may open their eyes to the fact that the very bluest Shorthorn blood thrives and improves in its new environments.

Dairy farming is another branch of agriculture recently started in Ontario. There are now over 700 cheese factories and from 30 to 40 creameries. This is a considerable advance on old country practice, and is well adapted for the manufacture of cheese and butter of that uniform quality so necessary for exportation. These factories are established at various centres throughout the province. The farmers in each district send their milk daily, and a balance is struck at the end of the season, every man getting his returns in proportion to the milk sent to the factory. It is evidently found to be remunerative, as milch cows are on the increase in the province.

Fruit-growing is a special industry near Hamilton, and down by Niagara River; there being extensive orchards and vineries in those districts. Grapes, peaches, &c., can be seen growing and ripening in the open air. Vegetables are also seen of every description, large in size, and excellent in quality. Throughout all the province potatoes are a most prolific crop; they grow to a big size, are sound, and extra good quality. Sheep are reared in considerable numbers, there being about 1,400,000 last year within the province. This number might be increased with advantage, especially on the partially exhausted farms, as there is no kind of stock that increases the fertility of land so quickly, especially if fed with corn during winter and summer. In general, the flocks seen by us were South Down or cross-bred. They wanted uniformity of type—a pretty sure indication that they were badly bred. A little attention in this direction would be amply repaid by the production of better-class mutton, and wool of a superior kind. Pigs and poultry are most prolific, and find a ready market at home and in the States. Undernoted are the current prices of produce, taken from the *Toronto Globe*, 1890:—

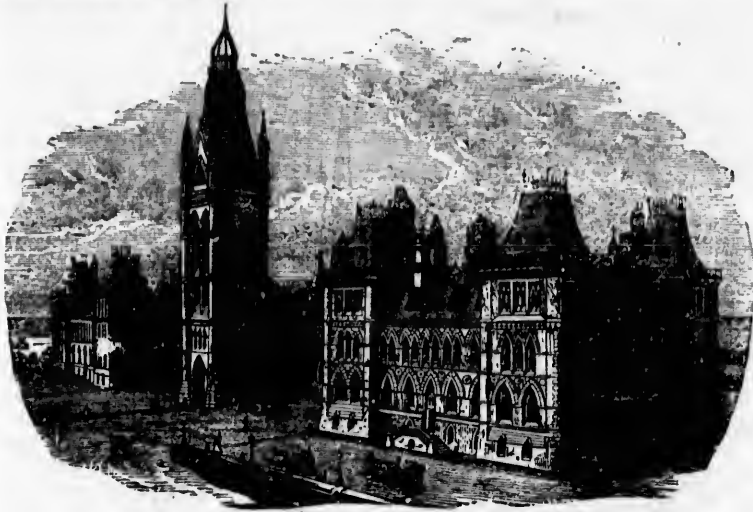
Wheat, 31s. 4d. per 8 bushels.	Beef, 4d. to 6d. per lb.
Barley, 20s. 8d. " "	Mutton, 4d. to 7d. per lb.
Oats, 13s. 4d. " "	Pork, 4d. to 6d. per lb.
Peas, 20s. " "	Chickens, 2s. per pair
Butter, 7d. to 9d. per lb.	Ducks, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per pair.
Cheese, 4½d. to 5d. "	Turkeys, 4s. each
Carrots, 1s. 3d. per basket.	Hides, 2½ per lb.
Potatoes, 2s. 6d. per bag.	Tallow, 2d. "
Eggs, 9d. to 10d. per dozen.	Wool, 9d. "

These prices ought to leave a good margin for profit, when the cost of production is considered.

Ottawa is the chief seat of the lumber trade of the province. While there we visited the saw-mills, said to be the largest in Canada. These mills work day and night during the open season; when the river from which the motive power is derived becomes frozen up, many of the hands go up country and take a turn at log-chopping. The timber is floated down the rivers during summer, so that every little stream during this season is literally covered with floating logs. When these arrive in the vicinity of the mills, they are floated into specially prepared enclosures, from which they are taken as required to the saw-mills. Logs of considerable dimensions are drawn up the slide by means of an endless chain to the floor of the mill. In a very short time the logs are next seen as planks, &c. The labour-saving devices adopted in those mills are simply astounding to visitors from the old country. An idea may be formed of the systematic way the work is gone about when one is told that these mills cut up on an average 600,000 cubic feet of timber daily.

In the vicinity of the town another important industry is carried on, viz., phosphate mining. Canadian phosphates have been for some time known in the English market as "apatite." This substance is crystalline in form, and consequently hard, brittle, and glassy when pulverised. For a considerable time this form of phosphate was comparatively neglected, owing to the difficulty of grinding; improved

appliances have overcome this, and now a steady demand has set in for this valuable manure, which, when treated with sulphuric acid, makes a high-class superphosphate.

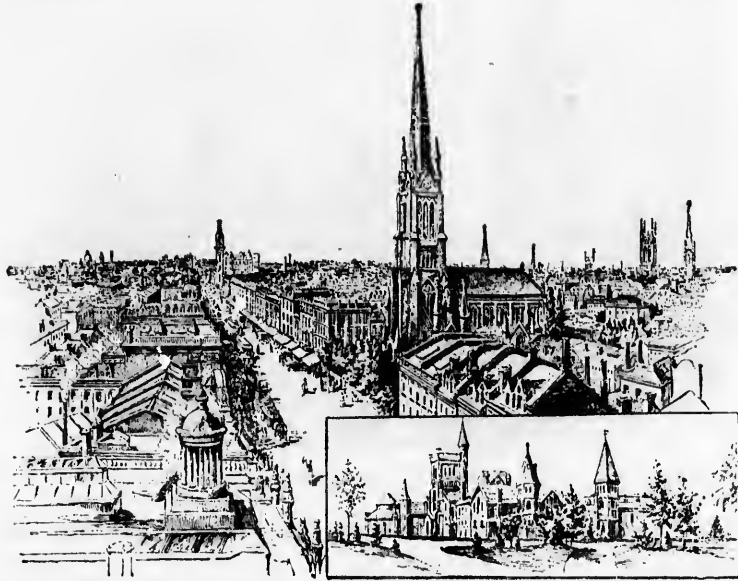


PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS OTTAWA.

The Toronto Fair was next visited by us. Here we had an opportunity of comparing the products of all the different provinces of the Dominion. These were, upon the whole, a most excellent display, and far exceeded anything of the kind seen in this country.

In the stock sections, horses were of their kind a good show, but to our ideas light and a bit weedy. Driving horses are undoubtedly above the average, and are extremely hardy, and excellent goers, showing little sign of fatigue after covering long distances. Still the great bulk seen by us were unfit for farm work. The mares are now being crossed with the Clyde and Shire, in order to breed heavier animals, for which there will soon be a demand in Canada, as the ploughing with oxen will yearly fall into disrepute after the country becomes more settled. This style of locomotion may be steady, but it is much too slow. The land also being all broken will be more easily cultivated, so that all farm work will be done by horses. Shorthorn, Angus, Hereford, and Holstein cattle were excellent, but rather few specimens in some of the classes. Sheep were represented by South Down, Leicester, Lincoln, &c., and were but a middling turn-out. In the implement department the Canadians are a long way ahead of us. The most improved appliances are seen here in nearly a perfect state, the construction of every machine being most carefully done; the materials, generally steel, produce a light machine, easy to draw, doing its work well, with little or no breakage. The delegation were very much indebted to Vice-President MacMaster and the directors for their kind-

ness while visiting Toronto Fair. Before leaving this city we were invited by Chairman Somers, of the School Board, to visit the schools and Veterinary College. This we were enabled to accomplish, under the guidance of the chairman, Mr. Herbert Kent, solicitor, and Inspector Hughes.



TORONTO.

The Toronto schools are perhaps the best and most complete in the Dominion. The system of education adopted is admitted to be the best in the world. Every branch of education is here taught, and thoroughly well done. During our visit the fire alarm was sounded, and in a few minutes every man, woman, and child was in the courtyard: there was no confusion, the children, headed by their respective teachers, coming out in divisions. We also saw the map of Europe drawn in outline by a whole class in five minutes. The financial arrangements are similar to those adopted in this country. We next saw the Veterinary College, and were taken round by Dr. Smith, the proprietor and principal. This is an institution which must have a considerable effect for good in a country where horses, cattle, and sheep will in time be counted by the million.

The question is frequently asked: Should a young man going out to Canada with capital, pay a premium to a farmer in order to learn farming? The payment of any premium is, in my opinion, unnecessary, and a waste of money, as any young man who is not afraid to work and to "rough it" a bit can readily obtain employment with some good farmer; thereby not only will he gain experience, but will be able to earn and save money. There are some, however, who may prefer to

take things more easy, and who can afford to expend money in acquiring a knowledge of agriculture: let those take a session or two at the Agricultural College of Guelph, where they will obtain a thorough grounding in the science and practice of agriculture. This institution is deserving of more than a passing notice, as its influence is widespread not only in the Dominion, but wherever agriculture is looked upon as something more than following in the "rut" of centuries, and where scientific knowledge, allied with sound practice, has placed agriculture as a chief factor in the weal of a nation. The College is supported by the Ontario Government, and its fees are so graduated, that a resident in the Province can obtain a first-class agricultural education at a nominal cost. There is a farm of 550 acres attached to the College, where a whole army of professors and superintendents daily, while in session, give practical lessons to the students.

The climate of Ontario is variable. In the vicinity of the lakes all kinds of fruit can be grown in the open air. The winter sets in later and lasts shorter than further north. During summer the extremes of heat and cold are less felt, as the proximity of such an immense volume of water tends to modify it. When the lakes are frozen the air becomes dry, and has an invigorating effect upon all animal life. The average duration of the winter is from four to five months.

Before leaving Ontario, I have to record my sincere thanks to Mr. Blue, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, for much valuable information and books relative to the province.

Manitoba and the North-West.—It is to the men who conceived the plan and executed the work of building the Canadian Pacific Railway that is due the credit of opening up and placing at the disposal of the Dominion those immense plains of fertile land known as Manitoba and the North-West.

Before the advent of the railway these vast regions were comparatively unknown, and squatted upon here and there by those hardy pioneers who transformed the unbroken forests of Ontario into fertile fields and comfortable homesteads. Without the means of transport afforded by the railway, those vast regions must have still remained the haunt of the buffalo, and the happy hunting ground of the Indian.

Instead of this, a wide area upon each side of the railway line has been brought under cultivation. Towns have sprung up in a marvelously short time all along the route until the foot of the Rocky Mountains is reached, and the whole aspect of the country has become so changed that to me it appears, in this land of surprises, to be the greatest wonder of all. As an example, when visiting the show at Regina, we were shown Indian exhibits which compared favourably with those of neighbouring farmers in wheat and vegetables, as well as in female industries, such as embroidery, knitting, &c. Yet we were told that eight years ago these Indians were uncivilised, wandering about the prairies more often in their war paint than in the garments of peace. Yet in this short time these same Indians have settled down, and are now competing with the white settlers in the markets of the country.

Physical Aspects.—From Winnipeg to the foot of the Rocky Mountains there lies an immense plain, broken here and there with rising ground which can hardly be looked upon as mountains. This land is divided naturally into three areas, all of which lie at different altitudes. West from Winnipeg we have the Red River Plain, extending out until it reaches a point about half-way between Winnipeg and Brandon. This is the first area, the average height above the sea level being about 800 feet. From this point west until near Moosejaw the second table-land occurs, attaining an average height of about 1,600 feet. From this point until near the foot of the Rocky Mountains is occupied by the third table-land, whose average altitude is nearly 3,000 feet. The soils upon these plateaus, as they are termed, are to a large extent of a similar character, being composed of decayed vegetable matter, drift, and alluvial deposit. Deep black vegetable mould predominates on the lower table-land, which embraces within its area the best wheat lands in the Dominion. The eastern part of the second plain has soil of a similar character until Brandon is reached, the western portion being largely made up of the disintegration of the underlying formation. This area is admirably adapted for mixed farming. The third plateau, chiefly made up of *debris* transported from the Rocky Mountains, is more broken and rolling, largely interspersed with brooks and creeks, making it the home for ranching.

Climate.—The climate of Manitoba and the North-West is in great part one of extremes, summer heat being intense and winter cold severe. In Manitoba and the eastern part of the North-West, during the spring months the weather is dry, which enables spring work to be done quickly and the seed put into a dry seed bed. The rains of June give the needed moisture, to be followed by the warm summer sunshine of the succeeding months, hastening the growth of crops until maturity is reached, towards the middle of August. Winter generally lasts about five months, and during this time, there can be no doubt, is very severe. There are redeeming points, however, which are apt to be overlooked, as the degree of cold cannot be judged by the rise and fall of the thermometer, as much depends on the state of the atmosphere, which in this locality is very dry and bracing. When snow descends the weather generally remains without change until the thaw sets in, so that the settler can clothe himself once for all to meet the cold season, as there is no necessity to change his clothing, as he would require to do in a more variable climate. This is the chief reason why many prefer the winters of Manitoba and the North-West (as seen by the interviews) to those of this country. Blizzards occasionally occur, but so seldom as to be outside serious consideration.

Summer frosts, however, do sometimes occur, and are the chief difficulty wheat-growers have to contend with. To me it appears that the very dryness of the atmosphere during the period in which they happen is one of the causes. These frosts generally occur from the 15th to 26th August in some of the districts—that is, after the long-continued sunshine of the preceding months, which evaporates the sap out of every green thing on these broad prairies. This being followed by a cold, dry, moisture-absorbing wind from the North, must evaporate

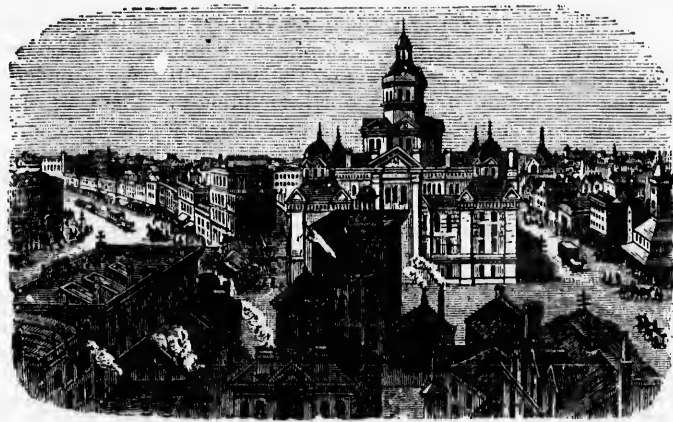
moisture wherever such is present. It is a well-known law that where evaporation occurs a lowering of the surrounding temperature at once takes place: for this reason, the greater the amount of moisture present in the wheat during the occurrence of the frost, the worse the wheat will be frozen, and naturally wet lands are the first to suffer. Again, altitude has a great effect upon the climate of a district, 700 feet altitude being equal to one degree of latitude. This fact seems to be overlooked in some of the higher parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan, where wheat is sown at much too high an elevation to leave it a chance of escaping the vicissitudes of climate.

These considerations have made me arrive at the conclusion that the damage, on the average of years, sustained by summer frosts is immaterial in districts suitable for wheat-growing; this view being further confirmed by visiting perhaps the largest flour mill in the world, situate in Minneapolis, where we were told that summer frost did little damage to wheat when near maturity, it being only in the milk, or soft, stage of growth when frost could seriously affect its quality for milling purposes, and that the cry of frosted grain was mostly due to proprietors of elevators and millers who wanted to beat down prices. Summer frosts will yet become a thing of the past, when earlier sowing is carried on, and earlier varieties of corn are sown as a rule and not as an exception; when the country is cultivated under a regular rotation of cropping, as sown grasses, which draw their supplies of moisture from the deeper layers of the soil, will have a tendency to modify the dry nature of these northern breezes. Planting of trees would also have a marked effect in this direction, as well as in diminishing droughts and affording excellent shelter, when the Manitoban and North-Western farmers become alive to the fact that continuous wheat-growing will only pay so long as the supply of nitrogen is present to produce a paying crop. There is also another reason, and an important one, for this cry of summer frost—viz., farmers have too much land under wheat for the labour they can provide to harvest the crop. In consequence of this, when the wheat is ready for cutting, it all coming about the same time, the farmer works away, getting the first portion done in good time—in fact, getting about half through when he ought to have finished cutting, and thereby escaped damage. I have perhaps devoted too much time to this “summer frost” business, but as it was the only point anent which we received so contradictory evidence, I consider it better to go somewhat into detail as to this matter. The climate of the western portion of the third plateau, which lies near the Rocky Mountains, is modified to a very considerable extent by the chinook, or warm wind of the Pacific, which, after passing over the Rockies, strikes down to the adjacent plain. This district being entirely devoted to ranching, the benefit derived is very great, as horses, cattle, and sheep are allowed to run out on the prairies all the winter, often appearing in spring in excellent condition; while in the eastern portion food and shelter have to be provided to tide the stock over the winter.

Kind of Farming.—From the preceding may be inferred what is likely to prove the most suitable kind of farming in the various

districts. Manitoba, Eastern Assiniboia, and South-Eastern Saskatchewan are the great wheat-producing areas. Western Assiniboia, part of Alberta, and part of Saskatchewan are well adapted for dairy and mixed farming. These districts are well suited for settlement by small farmers, farmers with some means, and capitalists, provided their undertakings are conducted within reasonable limits.

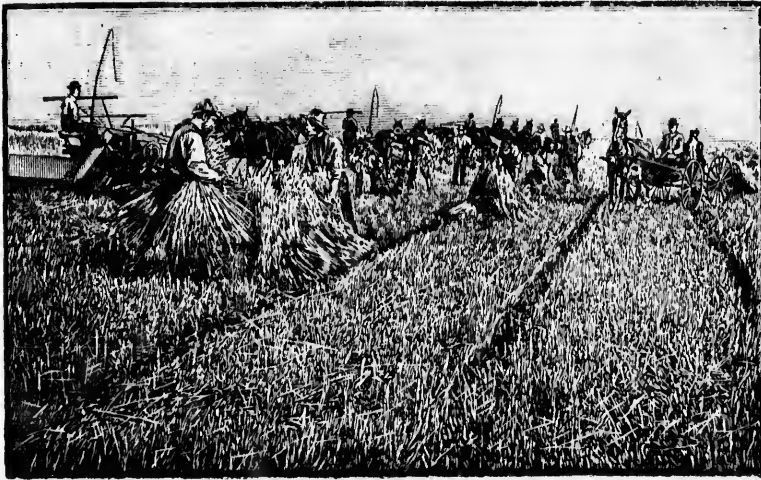
The country for the capitalist, however, lies further west, where ranching prevails, as this entire district is, in general, well watered and well sheltered, and a supply of hay can readily be obtained from off the prairies or low-lying lands with which the country is to a considerable extent interspersed. In our journey through Manitoba we had every opportunity afforded us of acquiring information, as Mr. Searth, M.P., Winnipeg, Land Commissioner of the Canadian and North-West Land Company, and Mr. Eden, Land Commissioner of the Manitoba and North-Western Railroad, did their level best to bring us into contact with all kinds of farmers in each district, and by their unwearied exertions brought under our notice a much greater extent of country than could possibly have been seen by us if left to our own efforts.



WINNIPEG.

Taking the Canadian Pacific line, which is the most central of the province, we proceed to Portage-la-Prairie, and arrive at the centre of the wheat-growing district. Our first visit was to that veteran, Mr. Kenneth McKenzie, M.P.P., Burnside; and we were all the more cordially received as the two of us were Scotchmen. After examining Mr. McKenzie's barns, &c., we inspected his cattle, numbering about 80, mostly made up of cows and heifers. The heifers were a good lot, and showed marks of being carefully bred. A fair, useful bull was also amongst the lot. Stretching away as far as the eye could reach we saw wheat lands in the stubble or ploughed; this being in

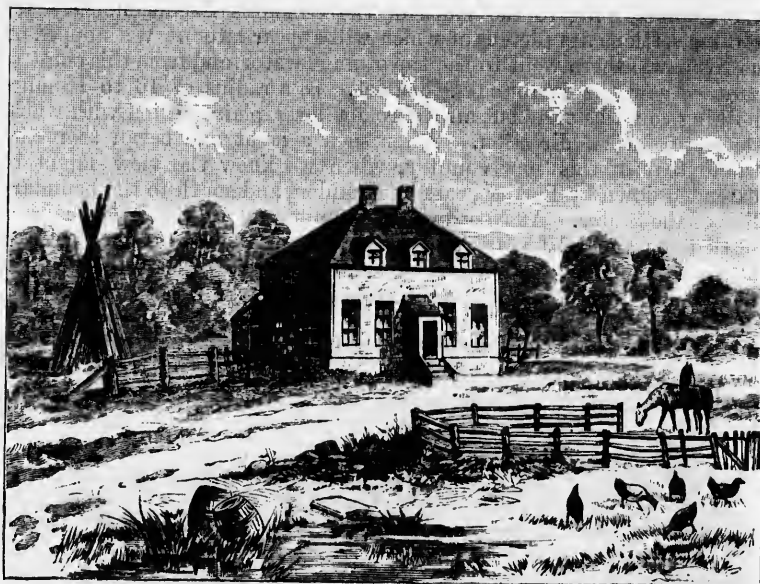
keeping with what was seen in our eight miles' drive from Portage. Mr. McKenzie came to his present holding 22 years ago, and simply squatted upon the land, borrowing his neighbour's team to put up his landmarks. He now, with his two sons, farms 2,240 acres of land, which he expects to have under crop this year. He has let his present holding at Burnside at what he considers a fair rent, and is altogether about the shrewdest man I have met in the Dominion. From Portage we struck up the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, after seeing all the country lying to the south of the Canadian Pacific, notably the crofter settlements (details of which will appear later). We stopped off at Neepawa, there went to the top of an elevator, and from this point of vantage saw the surrounding district. In a radius of 16 to 18 miles nothing could be seen but an unbroken level plain, dotted with wheat stacks in every direction. After such a sight one began to realise the extent of this new country, when we knew the view might be extended down by Portage, east by Brandon, and south to the boundary line of the States. At Neepawa the greater part of the land has been settled for about 10 years, and judging from the crops, the character of the soil, and the great energy displayed by the settlers during that time, no one can doubt of the future possibilities of this province.



HARVESTING AT SANDISON'S FARM, BRANDON.

I had the good fortune to meet Mr. Donald Fraser, late of Kintore, Aberdeenshire, who has been in this locality during the past eight years, two years of which he worked teaming about Winnipeg. Six years ago he took up his present homestead, and began life with two teams and \$10. Since then he has reclaimed 240 acres, with 80 acres pasture, which makes up his half-section. He now possesses 15 cows and 11 teams of horses, and would not take \$8,000 for his stock

and homestead. He has also started his son in another half-section, with 100 acres under crop, 12 cows, and 2 teams of horses. The second son has taken up a quarter-section—160 acres—and is joint owner of a portable steam threshing mill. I saw his grain, which was just threshed, and would estimate it as follows:—Wheat, 5,000 bushels; barley, 400 bushels; with about 200 bushels of oats. A pretty tidy affair this for five years' work.



A FARMHOUSE IN MANITOBA.
(Drawn by Colonel Fane.)

We next arrived at Birtle, where we visited the annual show, and saw some fair samples of grain, excellent vegetables, and fair cattle; but sheep were a poor show. Horses were very good. After seeing the show, we drove to General Wilkinson's farm (Birtleside). The farm is 2,000 acres in extent, and was bought three years ago. Cultivation was begun two years since, and 300 acres are now under crop. The Birtle River runs through the farm, which makes it, owing to shelter from scrub and knoll, admirably adapted for breeding stock. After dinner, we adjourned to the Town Hall, when, after the customary speeches were gone through, it was suggested that some of the farmers in the district would come forward and give their experiences. A Mr. Cook first stood up, and said he came there 11 years ago with \$10 in his pocket, and chopped his way to a homestead, and that during all the time he had farmed he had only two crops which were touched by frost. He had done well because he had not put all his eggs in one basket, but went in for stock-raising

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as well as corn-growing. The next speaker was James Murray, who came to the country along with his father in the year 1880; his native place is the parish of Dunnett, Caithness, Scotland.

The following is the substance of his remarks:—"I am a North country man, and began life there as a herd boy. I then was made 'cadger,' or 'loon,' and worked at that job for some years, until I got a chance of coming out here under a three years' engagement—my passage, &c., being paid for me if I stuck to the man for three years. Well, I got here, and went to the homestead and began work. The place was called Raeburn, and I got from \$8 to \$10 a month. I started the first morning to plough with oxen along with the others; some of us got on fairly, but others got all round the houses, and landed at the stable door instead of the end rig. After a time the 'boss' and I quarrelled, owing to another man. The 'boss' started and cursed me all round, same as if I was a 'nigger.' Well, I went away, and walked 25 miles; landed at Birtle with 25 cents in my pocket, which I spent on my supper. I could get no work, so started away other 25 miles without any breakfast, and got to near Saltcoats, where I got work at \$8 a month for a year. At the end of the year the 'boys' offered me \$25 a month for another year. Meantime, my father took up his homestead, and sold it in 1884. When my father joined me, and we took up our present homestead, in 1885, I bought a team for \$83. My brother, who had been working in the country, came and took up the quarter-section next me, and joined us, we having 320 acres between us. My father lived at the homestead, and my brother and I worked out when not needed, getting \$2 to \$2½ a day. I went down country to meet a brother and sister who were coming out, and for which I sent them \$60 to help. On getting there I had to wait a week or two, so went to a man and asked for a job. He offered me \$2 a day, but if I worked without putting my foot to the shovel he would give me \$2½. When I got back, there was a job at \$25. My homestead was after this entered upon, and we got 15 acres broken the first year; next year 25 acres more; and this year 70 acres; so that next spring I will have, with my brother, 110 acres under crop. We have also 12 horses, 30 cattle, and 50 sheep, with pigs and poultry. I have also a good house, 20 feet by 18 feet, stable and sheds, with self-binder, and all the other implements required for the homestead. I am also clear of debt, except a few things which I can pay out of my crop this year."

To me it appears that Mr. Murray deserves his good fortune, and is the right sort of settler for any new country—ready to take a turn at whatever comes his way, showing pluck, energy, and perseverance at every turn, and, upon the whole, "bad to beat."

Binscarth Farm.—We next proceed to Binscarth, where I was driven to the farm by Mr. Wm. Scarth, from whom I received much information as to Murray. Mr. Scarth came to the country a year or two ago, and has begun farming; he is quite sanguine as to his ultimate success, and from what I could learn as to his plans, is on the fair way to make money. We drove to the Binscarth Farm—a name well known in the North of Scotland, being of great interest to Orkney men,

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The farm is well managed, there being 300 acres under cultivation. Labour being scarce forbids further progress in this direction. The crops were excellent, more especially oats and turnips. Taking the whole farm, it is an ideal location for the breeding of cattle, as it lies well, is sheltered from all points, having streams and valleys running through it in all directions, deep bottom lands where abundance of hay can be cut, and the soil under cultivation strong black loam.

The principal object for which the farm is carried on by the Scottish Ontario and Manitoba Land Company is the breeding of high-class stock, and for this purpose a Shorthorn herd has been established. The nucleus of the herd was obtained from Ontario some six years ago, and during that time a great advance has been made, both in numbers and breeding. The older cows inspected by us seemed to be patchy, and wanted the symmetry, which always is such a characteristic of the Shorthorn; many were also a little rough about the head and horns. This, however, only applies to the older cows. Those younger show improvement, and this continues in all the different ages until the calves of this year are reached. These are about the best I have seen anywhere, showing Shorthorn blood at every point; indeed, the heifer calves would be difficult to beat by the best herds in this country. There can be no doubt that these stages of progression are due to the care and judgment of Mr. Smellie, the manager, who appears to be an enthusiast in Shorthorn breeding. The herd now numbers over 300. The young bulls are sold annually, at from £20 to £35. The feeding is hay and straw, bruised oats, and bran for cows and young bulls. Young cows and heifers are turned out to the prairie during summer, getting no extra feed.

The company owns 30,000 acres of land in this vicinity, all of a similar character. The establishing of this farm is therefore a wise and far-reaching policy, as it not only gives the settlers who have taken up homesteads the opportunity of obtaining good sires to use in their herds, but many experiments are conducted on the home farm, which, when successful, are adopted by these settlers. The latter are in consequence prosperous, which gives the locality an excellent character, and results in settlement and enhanced prices for land in the district.

Barnardo Home.—We afterwards visited Russell, and drove to Dr. Barnardo's Home and Farm for Boys. The farm consists of 8,000 acres, 5,000 being purchased, and 3,000 presented by the Manitoba and North-Western Railway Company. The object is the reclamation of the waifs of London and other large cities. There is room for 60 boys in the Home: these are generally from 15 to 17 years of age, and are kept here for a year or so, and during that time are instructed in all kinds of farm work; afterwards they are drafted out amongst the farmers in the district. There is a demand for the Barnardo boys, so that the institution is of real benefit to the neighbourhood. Some 300 acres are at present under crop, and a garden of 25 acres, in which all kinds of vegetables are cultivated. There is also a fair stock of cattle and sheep, and the best Shorthorn bull I have seen in the country. A

creamery has been set agoing, in which 30 lbs. of butter are made daily..

Saltcoats—Crofters.—We next visited Saltcoats, in which district the crofters sent out under the auspices of the Imperial Government are settled. The district is a wide one, and consists of great tracts of prairie land, covered here and there with scrub. The soil is good, being a deep fertile loam; water being obtained anywhere by sinking wells from 10 to 12 feet.

This settlement consists of 49 families, who were sent out in 1889; other 30 families being located near Pelican Lake, in Southern Manitoba, in 1888. The Imperial Government provided means (£120) for each family, which was expended on their transport and homestead, rations being given them until their first crops arrived at maturity. The money advanced is to be repaid in instalments spread over a number of years.

D. Grahame, an old Hudson Bay man, who came out to the country one and a half years ago, for the second time, as a Government emigration crofter, says:—

“I have to complain of great hardship the first year, because the crops did not grow for the want of rain, and I could not get work at all. I wrote home to my friends that no one should leave there and come to this country. When the harvest of this year—which is a good one—was over, I was better pleased with the place, and would not return home on any condition. I have to complain of the charges the people of this country make for their goods. I have also to complain that the rations were stopped too soon.”

NOTE.—In cross-examination, find that this man had been offered work on the railway and refused it, preferring to occupy his spare time drawing firewood to Saltcoats.

Robert McKay, Stornoway:—

“I have 11 acres under crop this year, and will have other 20 acres broken for 1891. I worked on the railway in the winter time, and got 5s. per day. I think my land not fit for cattle, as the water is scarce. I did not like the country last year, as we had no crop owing to drought, but this year I think a great deal better of it. I am quite satisfied with everything done by the people or Government at home. When we got to Halifax we began to get trouble. I think I was charged \$20 too much for things bought, and I am not satisfied with having only the half of a waggon, as my neighbour and I often want it the same day. I would rather have a cow less and get a whole waggon. I would have no hesitation in telling my friends to come to this country, and would not now leave it for anything.”

Charles Docherty, North Uist:—

“I have 12 acres under crop this year, and planted 10 bushels potatoes, and have a return of 160 bushels of potatoes and a good crop of wheat. My family also ate potatoes from June till September. I have 12 head of cattle, including my work oxen. I expect to have 20 acres under crop next year. I would not leave the country unless they dragged me away with ropes. I was not pleased at first.”

Alex. McDonald, Uist:—

"I have 12 acres under crop, and expect to put 10 acres more next year. I have nine head of cattle and nine of a family. My family are all healthy. There is a school near us being built. We have a sermon every other week. I am very well pleased with the country, and would not leave it, as I think it the best place in the world for a man with a family."

NOTE.—When asked what he thought of the action of the 18 families who left their holdings and took to lumbering instead, he replied, "I believe they made a mistake, owing to the bad crop the first year, which they will regret all their lives. I think they were misled by a man named Murray."

Martin Macdonald:—

"I have 8 acres under crop this year, and 4 acres broken for next year. I did not like the country last year, but am very well pleased with it this year. I worked for the railway, and made \$83 in three months. This money kept us all the winter. I wish all my friends to come out. I could not go back to live in the old country. I have written for my mother, brother, and two sisters to come here, and I think they will come; anyway, I wish no better place."

Kenneth McIvor:—

"I have 12 acres under crop this year, and expect to have 20 acres more next year. I have 11 of a family; one girl, aged 16, is nearly blind, and in the hospital at Winnipeg. I have to complain of things being dear here, and of the doctor who inspected us at Greenock for keeping us long on deck on a very cold night. I like the country, and think all my friends ought to come out here, as it is a grand place. I was much displeased with the country last year, because the crop was a failure; but now I am writing home telling them to come, and to Winnipeg for my brother."

Pelican Lake and Killarney.—This settlement consists of 12 families from Harris and 18 from Lewis, the latter being settled on the opposite side of the lake. These emigrated in 1888.

D. McKenzie, Harris, began life with a team, cow and calf, and settled on 160 acres of land. During the first year he broke 8 acres, and in 1890 had 40 acres under crop. His cattle have done well, and he sells enough butter and eggs to keep the house. The winter is not so bad as in the old country, because when the snow comes on it never changes; so that one day one does not get wet, and the next dry, the same as in the old country. Would not leave the country for the same quantity of land in the old place. There is a good school and a church near the homestead.

Roderick McKay, Harris, has put in 44 acres wheat, also 5 acres for his father, who is an old man, and resides on a neighbouring homestead. The potatoes were an excellent crop, and first-rate quality. He has also broken 10 acres more this season for his father. He has six of a family, who are all well pleased with the country. He has 11 cattle, 2 pigs, and lots of poultry.

D. Stewart, Fort Augustus:—

Interviewed Mrs. Stewart. "I did not like the country at first, feeling it very lonesome, as there were no neighbours about; but I got

over that in time, and would not now like to leave the place. I have four of a family, and we hope to do well by them in the time to come. We have 70 acres this year under crop, beside potato ground. We have eight cows in calf, five cows giving milk, and a litter of young pigs, which we sell when they are a month old. I do not find the winter colder than in the old country. I get 9d. per lb. for butter, and 5d. per dozen for eggs. This is the grandest country in the world for rearing stock and poultry, as heifers will have a calf when 18 months old."

The next is the report of an interview Lord Aberdeen had some time after with one of these crofters, and as it is representative, I here reproduce it. The Earl called upon John McLeod, who is the leading crofter of the settlement, who replied as follows:—

"Well, my Lord, I can tell you it was a lucky day for myself and family when we went on board the steamer that took us out of Scotland and landed us in this fine country. I have three sons, and they own 160 acres of land each. I own 160 acres myself; making a total of 640 acres. I and my sons work together on the land, and we have about 90 acres under crop. We have three yoke of oxen, several cows, and young stock.

"We have about 900 bushels of wheat this season, and plenty oats, barley, potatoes, and vegetables. We will have 150 acres under crop next year. We are only three miles from timber at Pelican Lake. There is any amount of fish in the lake, and a large quantity of ducky and geese, and turkeys and prairie chickens on the wheat fields; when the season for shooting comes in, we can blaze away at them. We have no landlords, no old country gamekeepers to arrest us for shooting game. Our carriages, horses, &c., are free from taxation; we only pay \$30 a year taxes for the whole section of 640 acres. We all like this country. The soil is black vegetable loam from 18 to 24 inches deep, and a rich marly subsoil several feet deep, and a blue clay bottom. Several farmers have raised crops here of wheat for 10 years in succession without manure. I often think of our people in Scotland who are working all their lives for the landlords for just enough to keep soul and body together. Let them come to this country, where they can be free from the grasp of landlordism, and become the owners of an estate of 160 acres of good land as long as grass grows and water runs. We have plenty of room for them in this great North-West country, and I can now with confidence invite them all to come where they can make comfortable homes for themselves and their families."

The Earl at this point wished to hear of any drawbacks to the country.

"Very well, my son," said McLeod. "If I would tell you anything about the dark side, I would be telling you something I know nothing about, because it has been all the bright side with me since I came here. I am authorised to make this statement by the whole of the crofters in this settlement. When I first arrived at Killarney, I was offered \$2.50 a day for doing mason work, and the first job of mason work I did I got \$2.50 a day; I can now get \$3 a day, but I cannot leave my farm. There is plenty of work here for masons and man labourers, but I prefer to stick to my farm; and I can say that any

who will work and till his farm properly can make a good living here."

Moosomin Settlement.—The crofters who make up this settlement are from the estates of Lady Gordon Cathcart. In the year 1883, owing to the congested state of some parts of these estates, there was an offer made of £100 to the head of each family who desired to emigrate to the North-West. This sum was to be expended, along with the amount obtained by the sale of their farm stock, in their transport, and to enable them to begin life with some hope of success in their new homes. Fifty-six families availed themselves of the offer, 11 going out the first year, and 45 following the succeeding one. The money advanced was secured under the 39th clause of the Dominion Land Act. The location selected is near the town of Moosomin; the country around being rolling, or undulating, with gullies and creeks scattered about in its area. The soil is a good loam, and in many parts covered with scrub. Good bottom land, as well as water, is abundant. A country well adapted for mixed farming.

D. McDonald, South Uist :—

Has been fairly successful, but had a bad crop last year owing to drought. Has no complaint to make against the country. "I had 18 acres under crop last year, and will put in three more this season. I have two cows, four other cattle, and one team of oxen, and have got all the implements I require, self-binder included. I might go back to the old country, but would not stay there, as this is a healthy place, and a man is more independent. Besides, I have got a very good crop this year."

Farquhar Beaton, South Uist :—

Had very little money when he came to the country. Has now 100 acres under wheat, 30 head of cattle, 1 horse, all the implements, and a team of oxen. Has a tidy house and offices, and farms his land well. Would go back to the old country if he got a very good situation, but would not go back to farm.

J. Campbell, South Uist :—

"I have seven cattle, and 40 acres under wheat. I like the country, but would like to visit the old place." "Would you stay?" "Och! no, no." "Then you would not farm at home?" "Na, faith. I did not sow all my land this year. If I had done so, I would be rich."

McKinnon, South Uist, located at Red Jacket :—

"I sold 18 to 20 cattle this year, and have on hand 40 head more. I bought a pair of horses for 250 dollars. Seasons are changeable. I have about 80 acres under crop, and have a return of about 2,000 bushels wheat."

Any comment from me is unnecessary, as the preceding interviews, selected haphazard from my note-book, are sufficient evidence as to the present position and future prospects of the crofters. I may add that on inquiry I found that of the 18 families who left their homesteads, 13 would not take the locations selected for them by the officials in the vicinity of the others, but went in a body to the Leech Lake district and selected the land for themselves. Some of the lands are odd-numbered sections, and in consequence belonged to the Manitoba and North-Western Railway. The company at once gave

the sections to the Government, so that the crofters might homestead. These 13 families left this land of their own selection before they had occupied it 18 months. One of the 18 is dead; one works on the railway, but is to take up his homestead; the others have moved west.

On our way back from the North-West I met a delegate from Dakota who travelled over Manitoba with us. He informed me that he had just completed the purchase of 60 homesteads at Saltcoats, where settlers from Dakota were to migrate; this district being, he considered, the best selection he could make.

We now return *via* Portage-la-Prairie and join the Canadian Pacific. Passing on toward the west, we come to Brandon, the most important wheat market in the province. It has five grain elevators, one flour mill, and a saw-mill. The town lies up from the railway on a high bank, and, although only about six years old, is of a fair size, with a good many substantial buildings, containing a population of about 5,400. Near Brandon is the Government Experimental Farm. The farms in the district are excellent, and the soil well suited for wheat-growing. Leaving Brandon, we come to Wolseley, where we stopped on our return journey. We were driven out to Qu'Appelle Valley. The scenery is a considerable deal better than the land, as the latter is low-lying, and seems to have been the bottom of a recent river. Cultivation is tried here and there, with fair results. The land lying on the higher lands is fair loam, and suited for dairy and mixed farming.

Our next stop is at Regina, the capital of the North-West, visiting Indian Head on our way. Here is situated the North-West Experimental Farm, as also the famous Bell and Brassey Farms. The Bell Farm is a big undertaking—much too big for one man to carry out the work with economy. It is 13,000 acres in extent, and takes a ride of 27 miles to go round it. There are 1,600 acres under wheat this year, and Major Bell expects to put in 3,000 acres next year. The produce is about 25 bushels per acre, and the cost of production from \$4 to \$5 per acre. There is frequently 40 per cent. lost by frost, which might be saved to a considerable extent if the farm was divided into holdings of one-twentieth the size. One furrow outwards and another homewards is the half-day's work for a man and pair of horses. The climate is unsuitable; that is, it is too big a risk to have a grain farm pure and simple so far west and north, although mixed farming would leave money.

The Brassey Farm has just been started, and consists of 40,000 acres. A commencement has been made by establishing a fair lot of Clydesdale mares, the intention being to breed horses of greater bone and substance, which will soon be required for farm purposes. There is also a fair herd of cattle. The land is fair. Grain-growing is also to be taken up as time goes on.

Regina is situated on a level plain, the surrounding country being flat, and suitable for grazing sheep. We visited the exhibition there and saw some extra good roots, potatoes being a very good show. There was also an excellent exhibit of butter, which would make it appear that dairy farming might be taken up with success. This is the

headquarters of the Mounted Police, many of whom were seen by us; they appear to be an efficient body of men.

We next make our way up the new line of railway to Prince Albert, which lies on the Saskatchewan River. We have here a great country, extending west by Battleford to Edmonton, well adapted for mixed farming, the land being very much similar to that in the vicinity of Indian Head, but rolling, with valleys and knolls covered with scrub, which affords good shelter for stock. Water is plentiful in most parts. While there, I visited a few farmers in the neighbourhood, and was well pleased with the general appearance of the country. Sheep are reared in this district, and considering the great extent of some of the prairie lands (200 miles), thousands might well take the place of the hundreds at present in the hands of a few ranchers. These run out on the prairie during summer, and feed on hay during winter. While visiting Mr. Plaxton I was shown some two-rowed barley grown by him, the best sample I have seen anywhere, either at home or in Canada. There can be no doubt this variety can be grown here. To make sure, I examined his stacks and found the sample obtained by rubbing out a few heads to be equally as good—fine, plump grain, well coloured, and fit for brewers. Until lately four-rowed barley—the “bere,” or “bigg,” of the North of Scotland—has been grown almost exclusively in Canada, there being a good market in the United States for this variety. Barley of a better quality can, however, be grown, and will find a ready sale in the markets of Great Britain. It is, therefore, simply a question of time when two-rowed barley will take the place of the inferior variety, as there can be no fear of it attaining full maturity in a climate where wheat can be grown.

All this district is as yet almost untouched in the way of settlement, so that there are great opportunities for farmers with some means to take up locations in the district. On our return we passed through a great extent of very diversified country; plain, valley, mountain, and timber following in succession until we again arrive at Regina, and away west towards Moosejaw, when we enter upon the great alkali plain, which is the northern portion of the American desert, or “bad lands” of the States. How these plains are to be economised has often been the subject of discussion amongst the members of the delegation. The grazing of sheep has been suggested; but it must be kept in view that sheep grazing upon alkaline lands are subject to a disease known as “pining,” or “vanquish.” This we know to be the fact in this country, as seen where sheep are kept on the granite formation, especially during drought. The disease is said to be due to alkaline poisoning (potash or soda), and the only remedy seems to be a change to a district lying over a different formation.

Sheep might be grazed during a part of the year on these plains, but care and judgment would be necessary, so that a change of ground would be given at the proper time. As to cultivation, there can be no great prospect until all the best lands are taken up, and the margin for cultivation thereby increased.

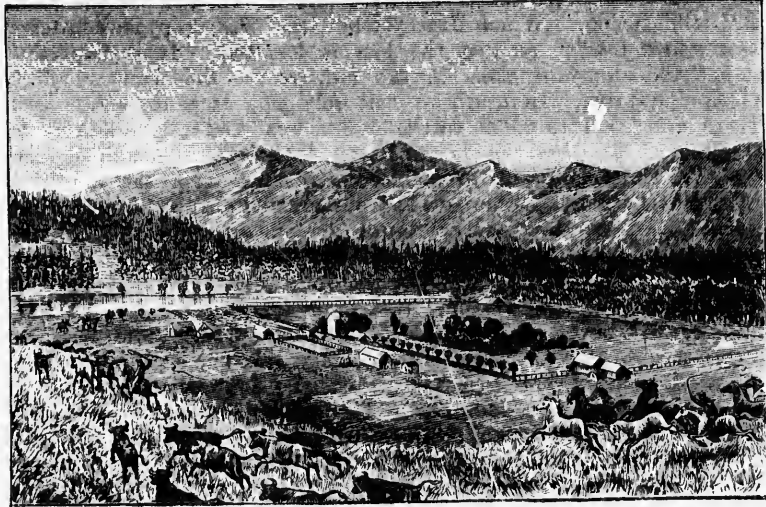
Proceeding along the line, we arrive at Dunmore, the centre of the 11 farms of 10,000 acres each belonging to the Canadian Colonisation

and Coal Company, formerly Sir John Kaye Lister's farms. These extend along the line from the vicinity of Regina until Calgary is reached. "There are 10,000 acres under crop this year, the greater bulk being oats and barley. Oats are sown in May. Hot winds and drought did a deal of damage. Where wheat was sown the produce was 25 bushels per acre. Oats sell at 2s. 6d. per bushel if kept till spring. When damaged by frost the crop is converted into winter fodder, so that the loss is lessened. It is important to get the ploughing done in the fall, as the dry weather affects the land in spring. In future we shall only grow crops for winter feed. There are 7,000 to 8,000 cattle, 400 mares, and 23,000 sheep on the farms. The best mares are heavy draught ones, obtained from Ontario, which are put to stallions imported from the South of Scotland (Clydes). The horses which did best last year were those which were allowed to run out all winter on the prairie. These were found in spring to be shaggy in the coat and quite fat. Have sold lately mare and foal for £60, and can get £60 for a team of horses. Farmers here grudge the fees for imported stallions, and use scrub horses instead. We have imported a large number of Cheviot and Leicester rams; the ewes are Merino. Cheviot rams take the lead for crossing, Shropshire second, and Leicester the third place. Black-faced sheep would do well here, as they are hardy, and would not require winter shelter. We have sheep-sheds or other shelter for the winter. 90 per cent. of lambs are dropped; and we have killed them when weaned 40 lbs., dressed. We kill 60 steers and 150 sheep per month to supply our customers and the dining cars of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Last winter we did not use any hay. Sheep do well on the prairies up till September, when they are taken to winter quarters; one man can manage 2,000, with assistance at lambing and during storms. Vermin and scab do not appear amongst the flock here. Merino ewes cost 11s. each, and the wool pays all costs of production. We use Shorthorn and Polled Angus bulls, and have plenty of calves, which are doing well. Use Galloway and Angus bulls to cross with the scrub cow." Such is the outline given us by Mr. Stone, the manager of the company, and it gives a fair idea of farming on a large scale in the North-West. He arranged a round-up of horses near the railway line, and from what we saw we were of opinion that the great bulk of the young horses were just those needed for the country.

At last Calgary is reached—a nice town, lying at the junction of the Bow and Elbow Rivers. It lies in a hollow, and is surrounded on three sides by high-lying lands. Five of the delegates arranged with Messrs. Stone and Alexander to drive out south and see some of the ranches in that direction.

In our drive, some 40 miles out, we passed through perhaps the best ranching country in North America; the various requirements necessary for this branch being present at every turn—good water, good shelter, good hay lands, and the whole climate of the district tempered during the season by the warm breezes of the chinook winds. But not only to the large rancher is this district suitable, but the smaller capitalists can make a larger return for their money than even

those with more capital can obtain. 500 head being more readily managed than 5,000, the loss is diminished; and this loss often means a large profit if it can be averted or mitigated. We passed a good



RANCH SCENE, ALBERTA.

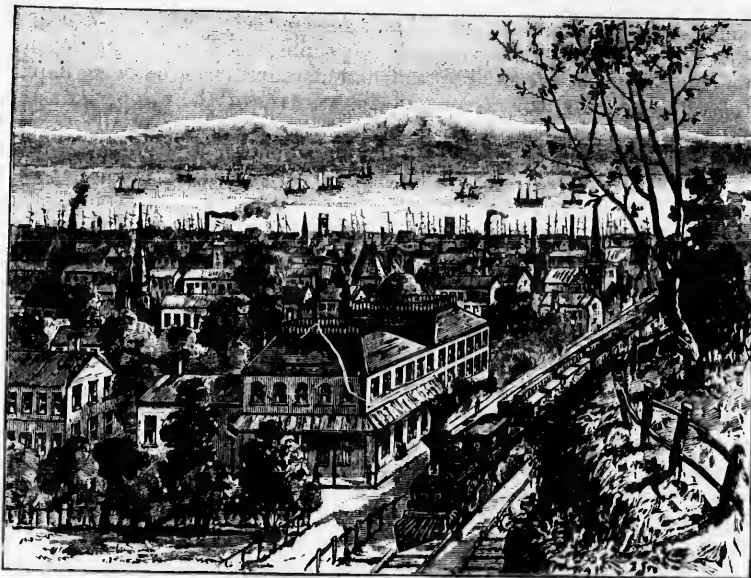
many houses of these settlers on the way, all of whom seemed to be prospering. Coming to High River Ranch, we stayed the night, returning to Calgary next day. There are 900 horses on this ranch. On the average of seasons 250 foals are dropped, being 90 per cent. The loss last year was 10 foals and 3 mares. On another ranch 300 horses were kept, the mares being crossed with Clyde and Percheron stallions. 85 per cent. foals dropped. No hay given during winter; no loss, and horses look as well in spring as in the fall. A neighbour had eight steers which ran in the open all winter and came in during spring fit for the butcher. Another told us 80 head of cattle ran out all winter, and were found in good condition in spring. These experiences are sufficient evidence as to the character of the district.

Leaving Calgary, we now approach the Rocky Mountains, and come into contact with one of nature's greatest and grandest works. Hour after hour is passed in which the most magnificent scenery meets the eye, now abrupt, then undulating, again opening up in a vast vista, in which are seen mountain overreaching mountain, until the mighty Selkirks are seen overtopping the lower ranges. It would require the pen of the poet or the pencil of the artist to even faintly depict it, and it is therefore outside the province of the rustic pen, so let us resume. Looking at these freaks of nature from an agricultural standpoint, they

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are not in it; so we shall pass Banff, with its springs, and pass on to British Columbia, which has been compared to a "sea of mountains."



VANCOUVER.

British Columbia.—The main feature of the province is the immense forests it contains. So great are these that it has been said, "Scotland might be buried in one of them and never be seen." This is, indeed, a land of great trees, rivers teeming with fish, and mountains containing vast mineral deposits. How to develop these are the problems which are being daily brought under the notice of the Canadian public. The climate of the province in the south is mild and humid; further north the summer is shorter, and winter longer and more variable. All kinds of fruit are grown to near perfection in the open air. Agricultural land is not so plentiful as in the provinces east of the Rocky Mountains, the country being nearly all covered with heavy timber. We were told of great stretches of lands, lying between the Cascade and the Rocky Mountains, at Spallumcheen, Okanagan Valley, and Kootenay; but the difficulties of transport will affect their development for some time. While at New Westminster we visited the "Delta," and from Vancouver City, Lulu Island. These are made up of alluvial deposits, and lie low, dyking having to be done in many parts of Lulu Island. As the canning of fruit (a beginning being already made) becomes developed, all this land will be converted into fruit gardens. The clearing of the forests for the purpose of growing

wheat or other farm produce would not pay at present prices, as the cost would be very heavy. When, however, the price for lumber increases, so that the settler can sell his trees instead of burning them, the clearance of the forest will become universal, as the climate and soil would simply warm the heart of every good farmer. When on a visit to New Westminster, we inspected the saw-mills, which are very extensive, the chief markets for lumber and manufactured articles being Japan, Australia, &c. As this is one of the centres of the fishing industry, and as this subject is of great interest to the fishermen all over the North of Scotland, I here add a few notes obtained from Mr. Mowat, Inspector of Fisheries. Canned salmon can be landed in London with a profit at $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Each fish weighs on an average 10 lbs. to 20 lbs., and costs on an average 6d. on the Fraser River. Men are engaged at from \$2 to \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per day. A few of the fishermen, who own their boats and nets, get from $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 6d. per fish they land; others work on the half system—that is, the cannery supplies the boat and nets, and get half the fish caught, and pay $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. per fish for the other half. Fishing commences during the first week of July, and continues for six weeks.

The varieties taken are the quinnat, or spring fish, the saw-quai, or redfish, and the coho, silver or fall fish. When the fishermen are through with the salmon fishing, white or deep-sea fishing is taken up. The creeks and rivers along the coast and the deep sea are teeming with every kind of fish. Fishermen make from £200 to £250 during the season. The salmon fishing commenced in the Columbia River in 1865, and reached in 1873 to a take of 60,000,000 lbs. of salmon; afterwards this take fell off to about half, the river being over-fished. The Fraser, the Naas, and the 'Skeena' are, however, the chief salmon fishing rivers in British Columbia, and, to obviate the possibility of their being over-fished, the Dominion Government have established a hatchery near the Fraser River, out of which 7,000,000 salmon fry are sent yearly into those rivers.

There is a most valuable fish, called the cole, or skil, caught off the coast of Vancouver and Queen Charlotte's Island, in from 150 to 200 fathoms, which is of great value on account of the oil obtained from it, and the fine flavour of the fish.

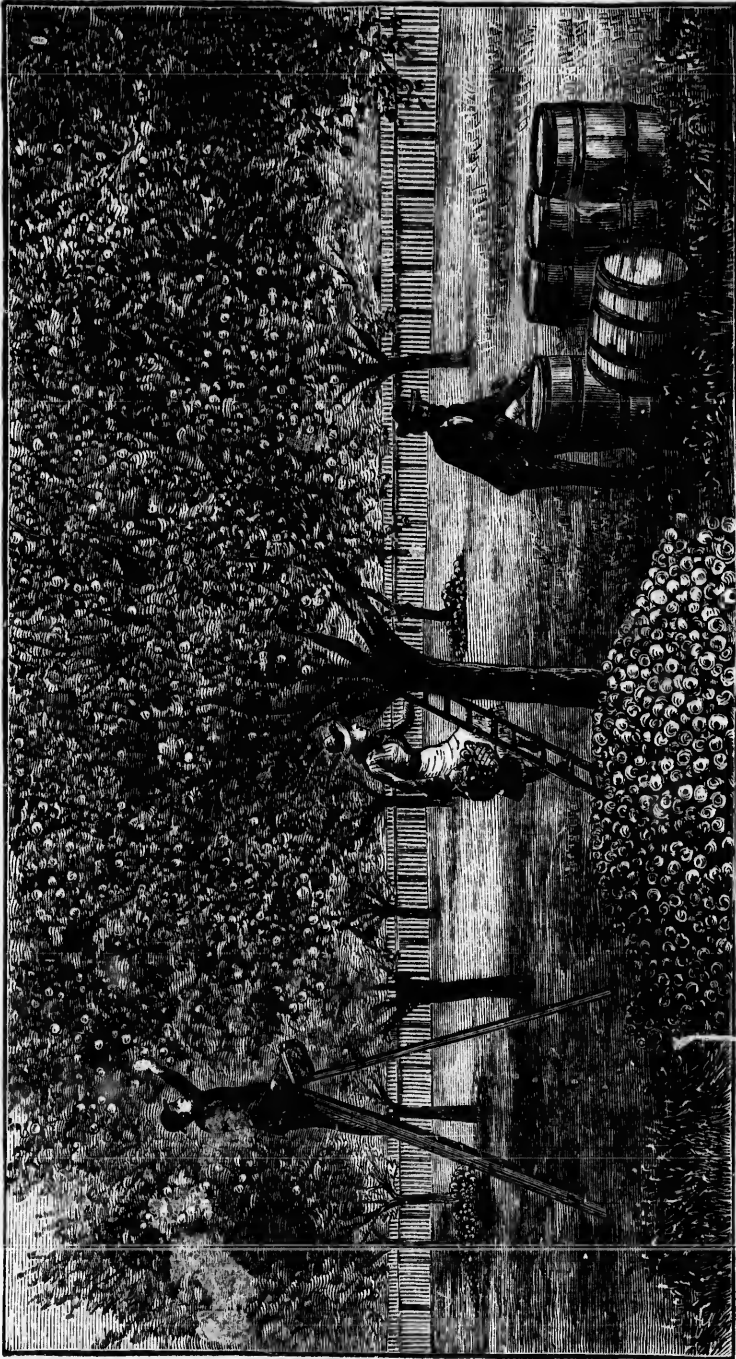
These fish are caught by line and hooks in great numbers, and are likely to take the place of mackerel in the American markets. But these are not by any means the only kind, as the whole coast away towards the North literally swarms with all kinds of white fish. This industry only awaits development. To me it appears that British Columbia offers great inducements to our Northern and West Coast fishermen to settle, as fishing and farming could be combined here with some hope of success. New markets will be opened up when the mining industry is begun in earnest. There can be no doubt in the mind of anyone who is acquainted with the circumstances at home and those in British Columbia, that our fishing population in great numbers would find a congenial home in this province, and by ordinary care and industry place themselves in a very short time in an infinitely better position than ever they could do at home.

When one considers the great mineral resources of British Columbia, we may say that, except gold and coal, this great source of wealth is practically untouched. The iron, copper, silver, lead, &c., which the mountain ranges and river basins are known to contain will yet be explored and opened up. When this occurs, British Columbia will be looked upon as one of the wealthiest provinces in the Dominion. Capital has already begun to flow in this direction, and judging from what the Columbians have already done, a very few years will mark the rise and progress of this most pleasant province.

Vancouver Island lies about 80 miles from the mainland, and contains the capital city. The chief agricultural part lies south-east—of no great extent. Although good tracts of land are scattered throughout the island, still the whole place is heavily timbered, and would require money to clear it. At Nanaimo coal-mining is extensively carried on, much of it finding its way across the Pacific, down to California, &c.

In a big country like Canada, where soil, climate, and surroundings are so varied, it is often a most difficult matter for the ordinary farmer to choose a location, and, when chosen, to decide what kind of crops will be suitable for the climate and soil. In a new country, where the population is thinly spread over the land, experiments to find out the proper kind of crop to sow can hardly be undertaken by a new settler. The Dominion Government, keeping in view these circumstances, have come to the relief of the farmers of the country by the establishment of an Experimental Farm in each province—Nappan for the Maritime Provinces, Ottawa for Quebec and Ontario, Brandon for Manitoba, Indian Head for the North-West, and Agassiz for British Columbia. From the central farm at Ottawa, in charge of Professor Saunders, the others take the cue. Here crops, flocks and herds, pigs and poultry, all undergo a most crucial test as to their various qualities, and adaptability for the country. When a success has been made at Ottawa, it is further tested at each of the farms, and adopted in the locality where it attains its greatest maturity.

From what has been written, it may be inferred which parts I consider the most favoured and suitable for the various degrees of the tillers of the soil. I can only add that no man will regret going to Canada to begin life there, provided he makes up his mind to work, and exercises ordinary caution. And I conclude by giving it the highest praise a man can give—viz., were it possible for me to break all the ties and change the responsibilities which surround me here, I would go to Canada and stay there.



APPLE ORCHARD, EAST HAMILTON, ONTARIO.

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THE REPORT OF MR. HENRY SIMMONS,

Bearwood Farm, Wokingham.

HAVING accepted the appointment under Sir Charles Tupper as one of the English delegates to visit and report on the Dominion of Canada, I left Liverpool on the 4th of September, on board the Allan Line steamship "Sardinian," for Quebec.

In the course of my remarks I shall have to try and remove from the minds of intending emigrants some very commonly entertained prejudices. Let me then first start with my experience of the sea voyage.

To cross the Atlantic does, I know, appear to many a terrible undertaking, but I can truthfully say the time spent by me on the ocean, both on the outward and homeward passage, was most enjoyable. I am an excellent sailor, which, of course, added materially to my pleasure, but I noticed—although on both journeys we had a fair experience of our ship rolling and pitching—the passengers who were ill gained their usual health and spirits after the second day, and entered heartily into any amusement going on. With an excellent bill of fare served at 8.30 a.m., 1, and 6 p.m., and supper or tea from 9 to 10 p.m. to any one requiring it, it left nothing to be desired as regards our creature comforts. Then by the aid of shuffle-board, deck quoits, speculation on the ship's log, auction sale of tickets daily, tug of war, music, dancing, concerts both in the first saloon and also by invitation from and to the intermediate and steerage passengers, card parties, the use of a small library, and much pleasant interchange of ideas one with another, the day sped on, and we found ourselves ready to turn into our comfortable cabins for the night when the lights were put out at eleven o'clock. Sunday is strictly observed on board, service being held in the morning, and in the evening we joined the steerage passengers singing hymns, &c. These remarks hold good as regards the intermediate and steerage passengers, according to their degree, as equal care is taken for their enjoyment and comfort. On the outward passage we landed at Moville, while our ship lay in that beautiful bay awaiting the arrival of the mails, and drove some few miles along the coast, visiting the old Green Tower and other points of interest. But the most interesting part of the voyage was on getting after five or six days out amongst the icebergs. I had heard and read of icebergs, but had no conception that so many and such vast islands of snow-covered ice could be seen floating away towards the south. Some presented an appearance of one solid block, covering an area of many acres in extent, others of more fantastic shapes, arched and beautiful, and on being told that, high as many of them towered above the water, only about one-fourth of their size was visible, it seemed beyond belief. Our captain was not so enthusiastic, and was heartily glad to be out of their region before nightfall. So we journeyed on, sighting Belle Isle then some two or three days up the Gulf of and the River St. Lawrence,

landing some of our passengers and mails at Rimouski, till we arrived at Quebec on the morning of Sunday, the 14th September. Before leaving this subject of the ocean passage, I may say that one gentleman told me it was his sixty-fifth voyage, and he had never known anything more serious than a boat or two blown away; and a steward on the ship said it was his 150th voyage, and he had never experienced any disaster at sea beyond an occasional rough passage in the winter months. It is said to be proved by statistics that one is safer from accident of all kinds on board a well-appointed steanship than by his own fireside at home, and it may be worthy of remark in passing that no casualty of any kind happened to any one of our party during our long journey of some 17,000 miles, but that within one week after my return, the only uncle I had living was burnt to death in his own house:

Three other delegates having journeyed with me in the ship, we now started together. Our instructions being to present ourselves as quickly as possible to the Hon. Mr. Carling, the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, we made a stay of a few hours only at Quebec; Mr. Stafford, the Government agent, driving us about eight miles round the country, passing through the Indian village of Lorette. The land appeared of good quality, but wet and undrained (we had had a good deal of rain), held in small allotments by peasant proprietors, and the crops of oats, potatoes, and roots were poor, and the land not so well farmed as it might be according to our ideas. The people appeared very orderly and well dressed, it being Sunday; but as regards farming, without much push and enterprise. Of course, we saw but little of the country, and should therefore, perhaps, withhold an opinion. The view of the town from the Citadel is very imposing.

We left by train for Montreal, reaching there at seven o'clock, remaining the night at the Windsor Hotel—said to be one of the best hotels in Canada or the States. In the early morning we drove round Montreal, getting a grand view of the city (the largest and grandest in Canada) from Mount Royal, a most imposing sight, with the St. Lawrence River, Victoria Bridge, and Rapids in the distance. We left for Ottawa after breakfast, reaching the capital about one o'clock. The railway passes through a poor agricultural district, and the crops struck us as if they would have repaid more careful farming. On reaching Ottawa, the seat of the Dominion Government, and containing the Houses of Parliament and departmental buildings, (which are very fine structures), and the centre of the Ontario lumber trade, we presented ourselves to the Hon. Mr. Carling, and arranged to journey with him by the night train to Toronto. In the meantime we had conveyances and drove out to see the central Government Experimental Farm, about two miles from the city, the leading one of five established—here, and in the Maritime Provinces, Manitoba, the North-West Territories, and British Columbia. We were most courteously received by Professor Saunders, the managing director, and conducted over the whole establishment. This farm, comprising 450 acres of mixed soils, was only started in the spring of 1887, its chief object being to carry out many useful experiments in all kinds of farmwork about which

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reliable and positive information is most needed; including the best kinds of seed corn, both as regards yield, quality, and what is of the utmost importance, early maturity, to meet the drawback of the shortness of the season and autumn frost; the growing and testing



EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

of all kinds of grasses and fodder plants, with a view to determine which kinds will answer best in the respective soils and varying climate of the Dominion. This is a subject of much difficulty, as, owing to the severe winter, many of our finest grasses fail, and timothy grass seems the one great favourite at present; we saw, however, many of the finer grasses doing well in the various plots, and rye grass, lucerne, and sainfoin looked promising. The latter would be a most useful plant in the country if once acclimatised. Indian corn was being made into ensilage, producing 20 tons per acre. It was in an advanced stage of ripeness and corned, and when passed through the chaff-cutter and pressed into the silo, formed an excellent fodder for winter consumption. We also examined some good samples of wheat, barley, and oats, just thrashed out. The mangels, swedes, and various kinds of common turnips were all good. Grapes of many kinds, said to comprise 150 different varieties, were growing in the open field, many of them fine fruit; but owing to the backward season and want of sun, scarcely ripe, although we ate many.

The Canadian grapes have a peculiar flavour, rather thick skin, and glutinous inside; but the taste once acquired, you become very fond of them, and one commendable feature throughout Canada is, that the

first thing placed before you on the breakfast table is a dish of grapes and other fruits, and again after dinner. Many acres are planted with fruit trees, and a large belt of forest and ornamental trees and shrubs, obtained from all countries and climes, have been planted around the farm boundaries, serving the double purpose of shelter from cold winds, and also that of testing their growth and adaptation to the different provinces of the Dominion. The houses for the respective managers are excellent, also the buildings generally. The actual farm buildings are the most spacious, conveniently planned, and economically built erections of the kind I have seen in any country. The stock consisted of 12 good working horses and five distinct herds of cattle, of about ten animals in each herd—namely, Shorthorns, Polled Angus, Holstein, Ayrshire, and Alderney—all selected chiefly from the Dominion, at a very moderate outlay, and, as I considered, with good judgment, many very good specimens of the breeds mentioned being secured. All the milk and butter produced is sold in Ottawa. Sheep and pigs are to be added; but, at present, the arrangements in these departments are incomplete. The poultry yard is in itself a great institution, embracing all the best known breeds, and thoroughly understood and cared for by the very intelligent manager of that department. One very commendable practice is that of sending out to hundreds of farmers throughout the Dominion small samples of different grain for them to sow and test for themselves, also the receiving of any samples sent in by farmers for analysis or opinion thereon. Altogether, the whole management and arrangement, not forgetting the chemical department, struck us as good, and well calculated to disseminate most useful and valuable knowledge throughout the Dominion, at a comparatively small cost to the Government.

We left Ottawa by the night mail for Toronto, reaching there early next morning. Having taken up our quarters at the Queen's Hotel, we at once started for the great Toronto Show and Fair then being held about two miles by rail out of the city, returning at night by one of the boats continually running down Lake Ontario to and from the show. Toronto is the seat of the Provincial Government, with a population of over 200,000 inhabitants, and with its important manufactories and fine buildings is a city of which any country might be proud. The agricultural shows here differ from those in England, as they combine pleasure with business; in fact, on seeing it included a Buffalo Bill entertainment in all its entirety—swings, roundabouts, &c., &c., and stalls of all kinds—it reminded one of our old English fairs; at the same time, the show of stock, fruit, roots, and cereals, and more particularly agricultural implements, was hardly second to anything to be seen at our leading English exhibitions. This plan evidently pleases the masses, as the show lasts nearly a fortnight, and is crowded by visitors daily, consequently the gate money must be very large. One very noticeable feature is the absence notwithstanding the crowd of all noise or drunkenness, no intoxicating liquor being allowed to be sold inside the showyard, but every convenience is afforded for refreshments of all kinds and non-intoxicating drinks. Throughout Canada, tea and coffee are served with every meal, which, no

doubt, accounts in a great measure for the general sobriety of the people.

The show is held in permanent buildings erected for the purpose, and they are extensive and very convenient, and the open ground affords abundant room for the pleasure-seekers, horse, cattle, trotting, and other rings necessary for showing the exhibits. The cattle included Shorthorns, Polled Angus, and other breeds that would have been no disgrace to an English "Royal" showyard; and the horses included some very useful Shire and good Clydesdale specimens. The trotting horse is everything in Canada. These showed in great force, and the pace is good, also high jumping—the champion jumper cleared a rail fence 7 ft. 1 in. high. The show of implements was better, and certainly more extensive, than any I have seen in England; every convenience is brought out to reduce labour, and all made light and fairly cheap. The fruit of all kinds was most extensive and of good quality, more particularly grapes, pears, apples, and plums, also a fine assortment of roses and other flowers. Roots, cereals, and grasses of all kinds equal to those grown in England were to be seen in great abundance; the different provinces and Government experimental farms vieing with each other to excel—altogether forming a vast and most interesting exhibition. Dogs are numerous and fine in Canada, and a very good show of these animals was included. We spent two days doing the round of the show, and could well have extended our stay, as we met many farmers and others, from whom we obtained useful information; but not to waste time it was arranged for the delegates, who had now all arrived at Toronto, to start on the evening of the second day for Winnipeg, from which point we hoped to start on our actual North-West tour. Accordingly, we all left on Wednesday evening, in a most comfortable saloon and Pullman sleeping car provided for our special use by the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railway Companies, on the rather long and tedious journey by Port Arthur to Winnipeg, a distance of some 1,200 miles, reaching Winnipeg on Saturday evening about five o'clock. This journey for the most part was through a picturesque country of forests and lakes, but entirely out of court for any purposes of agriculture. Minerals are now being worked on some parts of the line, and should more be found, as in all probability will be the case, a scattered population may spring up; but at present the long ride through apparently deserted forests, all more or less destroyed from time to time by fire, without seeing so much as a bird of any kind, makes one glad when, as you near Winnipeg, passing Rat Passage, and one or two other apparently more thriving and pretty places, you begin to feel once more in the civilised world.

It was on this journey, as we wound our way round the margin of Lake Superior, at a spot rather ominously called the "Jaws of Death," that the accident occurred to our engine and tender, from running into a large mass of stone that had fallen on to the track from the heights above. It fortunately resulted in nothing more serious than giving us all a good shaking as we sat at breakfast, and sending the engine and two other trucks off the line; the line itself being also torn up, causing a

delay of some hours before a start could be again made. Had the accident happened a few yards farther on, the whole train might have gone down a precipice; in that case I am afraid the delegates' mission would have come to an abrupt conclusion. However, "All's well that ends well." On long night and day journeys by train, breakfast, luncheon, and dinner cars are attached at different stations to the trains, and run on till all the passengers are served, then leave at the next station.

On reaching Winnipeg we were very cordially received by the Members of Parliament and citizens generally, and took up our quarters, to remain over Sunday, at the Clarendon Hotel. Winnipeg is a flourishing city of some 27,000 inhabitants, and favoured by its situation, as regards railway and water communication, must go on increasing, although just now suffering from over-speculation at the time the Canadian Pacific Railway was first opened. It contains many very fine public buildings, churches, schools, and private houses; at the same time many wooden houses are to be seen, giving at first sight a somewhat mixed impression, but this feeling leaves you as you become better acquainted with the capabilities of the place and its people. We were made honorary members for the time being of the Manitoba Club, a most enjoyable and well-conducted establishment, and invited on Monday evening to take part in a dinner given to Sir Hector Langevin, the Minister of Public Works of Canada. The health of the delegates was proposed, and we had to return thanks in due course. About 250 dined, and altogether a very jolly evening was spent. We drove out on Sunday afternoon, after attending church, some six miles, crossing the Red River by the ferry, returning on the other side, and crossing by the suspension bridge, which serves alike for railway and passenger traffic. The roads were very bad, owing to the late rains; and the land, although very rich in quality, was very badly farmed, according to the standard of British cultivation. Much of the land round Winnipeg is open prairie, in the hands of speculators, and not being fenced can be fed and used by any one. A large quantity of good land in the Selkirk district, some 18 miles distant, is open to emigrants.

On Monday morning we went over several large warehouses, inspected the provision market, called on and had audience with the governor of the province of Manitoba, and afterwards visited the schools. The schools are entirely free, and open to and used alike by all classes of society. The teachers both male and female appeared very efficient. The Government do not pay, as in England, by results, but 75, 70, or 60 per cent. of their salary, according to the class of certificate the teachers hold. A good system of drill, to call in or dismiss the various classes, or should an outbreak of fire occur, is practised by the children. The school buildings are good, and the sanitary and ventilation arrangements excellent. Winnipeg contains in all ten schools, 500 children and upwards attending each. The children we saw had a particularly intelligent and strong, healthy appearance, very clean in person, and well dressed. These remarks apply generally throughout the whole Dominion, the school system wherever you go

being all good alike, and churches and chapels in every district. No one contemplating emigration need have any misgivings on either of these matters, as they will find the arrangements good and in their own hands. In the afternoon we drove out in an opposite direction to that taken on Sunday, to "Silver Heights," about six miles, a very nice residence and farm belonging to Sir Donald Smith, and were received by the steward, Sir Donald being away. They had about 300 acres of arable land, and planted 240 acres of it with wheat each year. He was satisfied with a yield of 20 bushels per acre; dung was of no use, he had tried it several times, but should do so no more, as it only produced weeds. The same statement has been often made to us since in other districts, and it certainly has puzzled the delegates a good deal when, finding fault with the farmers for burning the straw, as is so much done throughout Manitoba, we were met with this answer, and have not been able to convince them against the practice; as, however, mixed farming becomes more general, this will no doubt be discontinued. We have been told men will remove a building rather than clean out the dung, and in one instance we saw this actually done. A small herd of West Highland cattle and a few Herefords, all running together without much attempt at management, making in all, including calves, about 40 head, comprised the stock on the farm, except horses and a few sheep shut in a yard. The steward said he had only 90 acres of poor-looking prairie pasture, and it was not nearly enough to carry the above herd; he wanted nearly ten acres to a beast to do well. A small herd of seven wild buffaloes are kept in an enclosed ground as a relic of the past.

On our return journey to Winnipeg, we passed some good land used for garden purposes, well cultivated, and very productive. We walked into gardens and talked with the occupiers, who evidently used dung when they could get it, and highly valued it, the result being fine vegetables and potatoes of good quality and quantity. Some very nice private residences on the banks of the Assiniboine River attracted our notice in the distance. The manager of the Manitoba Penitentiary, an Englishman who accompanied Lord Wolseley to Fort Garry in 1870, told me he had held the appointment 20 years, and during that time had only known five convicts convicted a second time after leaving the prison. On leaving, he was allowed to give them a suit of clothes and £2 in money, and generally heard of their doing well by letters from the convicts themselves. He told me that, although he hoped to retire in a few years, he should end his days in Canada, as he loved the country and people. On Tuesday morning we took leave of Winnipeg, accompanied by Mr. Scarth, the Member for Winnipeg, and journeyed on through a large tract of useful open prairie land, much of it broken up and appearing to have good crops of wheat, which all were busy stacking and threshing, and we saw several lots of cattle in the distance as we passed. Our first stop was at Carman, quite a new settlement, in consequence of a branch line being made to it from the junction, the old town of Carman being a short distance away. Already an inn, several stores of various kinds, and an elevator to receive the corn which was being

sent in constantly by the neighbouring farmers, are built, and the place looks thriving. A man had just shot a large white crane, rather larger than our common heron, hundreds of which he said infested the corn-fields during harvest time. They are good eating. After a stay of 40 minutes, we resumed our journey back to the junction, and so on to Glenboro', passing through a useful prairie country with some good corn at intervals, and plenty of wood and water—a great consideration to settlers. At the various stations on our road, hearing of our coming, the farmers brought specimens of grain, roots, &c., for our inspection, and one enthusiastic man brought a Shorthorn calf of his own breeding, said to be only eight months old, and weighing 940 lbs. live weight. It was really a very well bred calf, of good shape, colour, and quality. We remained at Glenboro' for the night, making an early start next morning in conveyances, dividing up our party, some going to the crofters by Pelican Lake, some to the Icelandic settlement, and one to the French settlement, all to return to Glenboro' at night. I joined the crofter party, and we found ourselves passing through the best country for settlement we had yet seen, most of it for some miles out taken up and well farmed, although some, as usual, being held by speculators, was unbroken. The first settlers only started here eight years back, and many of them only two years; all have built themselves fairly good houses and stables, and those who came first have broken all their land up, excepting that required for pasture for their cattle.

Our first stop was among some crofters, formerly fishermen. This was only their first harvest, and we found them busy stacking wheat. As the crofter question will be dealt with specially by our Scotch delegates, I will not dwell on this subject, merely saying we found them fairly well satisfied with the country and climate, not minding the long winter. All had made a good start breaking up their ground, having from 20 to 30 acres in wheat this season, and as much and in some cases more ready for next year's cropping. They have each a team, some two, of working oxen, 10 to 20 head of cattle, pigs, and poultry; and looked well and fit for work, including the wives and children. My own opinion is, considering their former habits and occupation from childhood as fishermen, they are making a fair start, and will in time become masters of their work, and get a fairly good position in the country. We heard from them the same story told us so often since, that the first year is a most trying one, especially to the wives, but that after that is past you become accustomed to the life and Canadian in your ideas, and have no wish to return to the old home. It was pleasing to hear the crofters speak with gratitude of the great attention, kindness, and encouragement they had one and all received from Mr. and Mrs. Scarth, of Winnipeg, who had both visited them in their homes several times. Mr. Scarth undertook on behalf of the Government to carry out the arrangements made for settling these crofters, I believe. We passed on through a very useful, open country by Barnett Lake, and so on to Pelican Lake, getting a fine view of the beautiful scenery all round as far as the eye could reach, and had a long talk with a young farmer busy stacking wheat. His former occupation was in a Liverpool merchant's office. He is married, and his two

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sisters, who came out to Canada with him, have both since married well to neighbouring settlers. A young man, an English clergyman's son, was helping him on the stack. All appeared happy and contented, enjoyed the freedom of the life, and, as they put it, being their own "boss."

We again started over the prairie, occasionally calling on a settler as we passed, and driving through some good hay country down to Belmont, a station on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Here we halted for tea, and then on by moonlight over the prairie, watering our horses on the way at an Icelanders' settlement (these are said to make some of the very best settlers, being thrifty and industrious), and so back, after a run of over 50 miles, to Glenboro'. Some of our party carried guns, and bagged prairie chicken, ducks, and teal during the day's ride, all of which are very plentiful in this district. The following morning we left Glenboro' in four rigs, or spring waggons of the country, our destinations being Plum Creek, and thence by rail to Brandon. The land for some miles was very rich, well farmed, and caused many of us to wish we had a thousand acres of such soil in England. The first man we spoke to was very busy, like the rest, stacking wheat, but quite ready to tell us his experiences. He was formerly a gamekeeper in Lincolnshire; he farmed 160 acres—120 acres in wheat and 20 acres in oats this year, and expected most of the wheat to yield 40 bushels per acre, and, judging from what we saw of it, half will yield it, and the other half over 30 bushels. It was quite refreshing to see the way this man's work was set out and done; he was evidently doing, as he said, well; had bought another quarter-section of land, built a good house and premises, and, with the assistance of his sons and daughters, who all work, will make money. He liked both country and climate, and had lost asthma, from which he suffered a good deal when in England. Another young man near was farming a half-section (320 acres), with a very nice house and buildings on it; he paid for the land, which had been broken up, eight dollars an acre, and was every year paying for more live and dead stock out of his crops, which were, like his neighbour's, fairly good. We then continued our way through good land, all well farmed and in large holdings; here we saw a flock of about 200 South-down ewes and lambs, which the owner said paid him well, although he had to yard them by night from wolves. We halted at a new railway station and very thriving village on the River Souris called Wawanesa; very pretty scenery, and the station and village all built within the last year.

On resuming our journey we crossed the river, and passed through a long stretch of prairie, not of such good quality as that we had left, and mostly unbroken, held by speculators. Badgers and gophers (little animals between our rat and squirrel) abound, the badgers making holes in the trail very dangerous for the horses' legs; but it is curious to notice how very carefully these durable little country horses avoid stepping into them. Evening found us at Plum Creek, after a drive of 56 miles. We calculated that during our drive, looking some two miles in each direction, we had seen something like 3,000,000 bushels

of wheat in stack. We noticed a severe hailstorm had crossed one district early in the season, and the wheat injured by it was just being cut very short and green, and not of much value. It is a rare occurrence in Canada, and no such thing as a hail insurance office exists. Plum Creek is a very pretty place on the Souris River, and a large quantity of good land is available for corn-growing; but here the speculators have been largely at work, and much of the land is in their hands, for which they now ask from eight to ten dollars an acre. We left by train, arriving at Brandon for the night. Friday morning we went, accompanied by Mr. Daly, M.P., and many of the leading men in Brandon, to visit a large farm occupied by a Mr. Sandison, from Scotland, whose land was some of the richest and his management of it, from a mere corn-raising point of view, the most business-like we have seen in Canada. From his own statement, verified by others, about seven years ago he began this farm with borrowed capital. He is to-day undoubtedly a man of very considerable means, say from seven to ten thousand pounds. The system is one of continuous cropping, and this year, after six previous corn crops, he complains he grows too much straw, all of which he burns out of his way immediately after harvest. He has 1,550 acres of Fife wheat (the most favourite wheat produced in Canada), which he expects will yield from 35 to 40 bushels, of 60 lbs. the bushel, per acre; and from the way it came down the spouts of two threshing machines then at work in the fields, being at the rate of three bushels every minute each machine, and the appearance of the crop, all being then in *stock*, it will probably, at any rate, reach the 35 bushels per acre, and most of it of good quality, and no complaint of damage by frost. Of oats he has 550 acres, all after six years' previous corn crops, and he estimates the yield at from eight to ten quarters, of 34 lbs. the bushel, per acre. The black Tartars are really a very fine crop. He took an adjoining section of 640 acres last year for three years, at a rental of half a dollar *per acre* per annum. It is all ready for planting with wheat next season, well cleared, and will only require breaking down with the harrows in the spring of 1891 to produce, after drilling, a fine crop of wheat. The only stock on the farm is 18 pairs of horses, working sulky ploughs on which the ploughmen ride; and we noticed twelve binders standing in the homestead awaiting winter quarters. Wild geese, ducks, and other game are plentiful on the farm, and produce good sport.

On our homeward journey we called at the Brandon Experimental Farm, where luncheon was provided for our party. The same system is carried out here as at Ottawa, and the buildings and management are on the same commendable principle, and under good painstaking managers.

In the afternoon we drove over the country on the east side of Brandon, calling on our way through the city to see a stud of Shire and thoroughbred horses, imported from England. We thought them only second rate, and fear the English sellers take quite enough money, without, at the same time, taking care that the article sold is good. We had a drive of some ten miles out, taking a circle home again through a great country of land available for emigrants, and a good

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deal of it already taken up, at from five to twelve dollars an acre. This country is said to be subject to drought, but as a whole we think it well worthy the attention of intending settlers. A considerable quantity of land for many miles beyond Brandon is available and of good quality, and when in Ontario I heard of several old settlers there having chosen this part of the country for sending their sons into. We saw prairie chicken and ducks in abundance, and heard of wolves and a few bears in the neighbourhood. A supper and smoking concert was given in our honour, to which we were invited in the evening.

On Saturday morning, after seeing the very complete mills owned by the mayor of the city, sawmills, corn elevator, &c., we started in five rigs for Rapid City, distant about 21 miles. The first part of our way led us again by Mr. Sandison's farm, and through for some six or seven miles a very fine farming district. The country was literally covered with wheat and other corn stacks as far as the eye could reach, but as we approached Rapid City the country was more wooded and of inferior quality, but much of it was taken up and settled, and some very good houses built. Rapid City hardly carries out its name, as it appears to have stood still in the race of late, owing to the main line of railway not having passed through it as was expected; however, with the increased railway communication it has recently acquired, it is thought more attention will be directed to that district. We looked over a woollen manufactory, and gathered that a considerable quantity of sheep are kept in the neighbourhood, and we noticed some herds of cattle on the hills around. Complaints of frosted wheat were made, but the yield was said to be about 25 bushels per acre and fairly satisfactory.

We took the train for Minnedosa, where I left our party in order to spend two or three days with a gentleman formerly a pupil of mine at Bearwood, England, the rest of our delegates going on meanwhile to Saltcoats to see the crofters, then to Russell, over Dr. Barnardo's home and farm for boys, afterwards to Binscarth, over some cattle ranches, and on to Bartle—all of which, no doubt, will be fully described in their respective reports—and on the following Wednesday morning we all again met at Minnedosa. On reaching Minnedosa on Saturday evening, I at once engaged a rig to drive me out to Clanwilliam, to my friend's house, about 10 miles distant. I arrived there—after an interesting drive, the latter part being through a rather wooded country, and seeing a skunk, wolf, &c., cross our trail—about nine o'clock at night, and found my friend still busy finishing a wheat stack, the letter I had written some days before, telling him of my coming, reaching him about ten minutes after my arrival. This gentleman, the son of a clergyman in Dorsetshire, England, when with me as pupil led quite an easy life, riding round the farms, and merely carrying out my orders to the respective foremen under him. Here I found him with his farm of 320 acres, at a cost of 5 dols. an acre, nearly all cropped, a good house and buildings well placed, but no soul in the house to cook or do any kind of housework save himself and a single manservant. The first thing was to run about a mile to get extra bread to carry us over

Sunday, when we cooked our supper, and to bed on the floor. My object in recording this is simply to show that, in spite of all these apparent drawbacks, Canada has charms. Here you have a man, in every respect by education at Oxford a gentleman, ploughing his own land, cooking his own food, washing up, making beds, &c., with the help of one manservant, making a fairly good living and thoroughly enjoying the life, in spite of all previous experience of comforts in England, as he told me over the smoking of a short pipe, as we talked well-nigh into Sunday morning. In order to save time, I may here just mention that, finding a letter from England awaiting my arrival here from another old pupil, who is engaged to marry one of my daughters, and asking to be allowed to settle in Canada rather than Australia as before arranged, I sent a cablegram for him to come at once to Clauwilliam. He is now there, and from letters received since, delighted with the country and his new life, and in all probability a section of land will be bought for him. This is the real fact which led up to the absurd reports copied from the Canadian into the English papers. On Sunday evening about half a dozen neighbours—all English gentlemen, educated at college—called to see me. They, like my friend, held farms near, followed much the same kind of life, managed to live and improve their position steadily, and were happy and contented with the life.

On the Monday and Tuesday following we drove through the country in my friend's waggon and pair of horses, I paying others to carry on his harvest work in his stead, time being valuable just at this season. We visit first his sister, who has lately left England, from leading a lady's life, hunting in the season, to marry a former acquaintance, a young man, son of a clergyman, also in Dorsetshire, who has 320 acres of land near. I found him, having but a small quantity of land broken for corn this year, gone to assist a neighbour with his harvest, and the wife left at home with one little English servant girl to milk the cows, water the horses, feed the pigs, &c., &c. The house was simply built for a granary, but re-arranged in haste for a temporary house, and a better dinner, better cooked, or in more comfortable quarters, I do not desire than this lady, without any notice, got ready for us.

On the following day we visited another friend, also farming 320 acres, who had married a Canadian lady. Here we had good fare in the greatest comfort, which at once convinced me that Canada without a wife is a very poor place indeed. My earnest advice to a settler is, "Get at once a good wife, and you will have then little to desire."

During the two days we visited many farms, on all of which the owners were busy stacking wheat, and we had to hear tales of much of it being more or less frosted, causing disappointment. I fear, however, that this largely arises from the advantages of early seeding and better farming not being thoroughly appreciated; but I am glad to say that I was afterwards told that on threshing the damage was less than anticipated. The old tale was told from former bankers' clerks, sailors, and gentlemen alike—"We have to rough it, and meet with many

reverses, but prefer farming here with it all to our original occupations." You wonder sometimes, thinking can they really mean what they say, but as you become better acquainted with the country you understand and believe. To prove that this kind of life in no way tends to lower a man's natural tastes and instincts, my friend said to me in the midst of a dense forest, where we had lost our trail, and had just managed to get our waggon and horses over four large trees which had fallen across our way, a wolf passing us the while, "I do miss, Mr. Simmons, very much indeed my music and literature."

This is a very useful part of the country, with good shooting, plenty of wood and water, and land that will produce for some years' successive cropping 25 to 32 bushels of wheat per acre which can be purchased at from 5 to 7 dols. an acre. My friend left me at Minnedosa on Tuesday night, where I again joined the other delegates on Wednesday morning, going on to Neepawa, our next stop.

Neepawa—an Indian word meaning plenty—is well named, as this is one of the most productive districts we have struck. In 1882 only three houses existed, now it is rather a pretty town of some 600 inhabitants. The land for the most part is a deep, rich loam, and bears wheat from 25 to 40 bushels per acre for many successive years. One farmer told us his crop on 173 acres yielded 26 bushels per acre this season, and his oats and some barley turned out remunerative. Last year he was offered for his wheat in the autumn 115 cents, and sold in the spring for 95 cents only. This district leads away to the Riding Mountains, where a big fire was raging. Much good hay land is hereabouts, and altogether it is a good country and the people are prosperous. At night we joined our car, and awoke next morning at Portage la Prairie, an old settlement of some 3,000 people, and a grand tract of corn-producing land, reaching away for many miles on all sides of the town. Here our party divided, taking different sections of the country. Four large corn elevators and extensive mills are here, and it is quite a sight to witness the constant flow of waggons bringing in wheat, and returning with all speed to the various threshing machines at work in every direction as far as the eye can reach. It is said at least one million bushels of wheat are received here each season. We drove out with a Mr. Sorby to see his farm, 17 miles distant, and passed through a large breadth of country, in which wheat has been grown on the bulk of it ten, fifteen, and even twenty years successively. On asking why the crops generally appeared to have been only moderate this year, we were told the season had been unfavourable; but my own impression was that the land looked exhausted, and that some course of mixed farming must be followed if the crops are to keep up their former yields. Mr. Sorby emigrated from Ontario, bought two sections (1,280 acres) of unbroken prairie and half a section of hay land, at a cost of about 20 dollars an acre. This is his second crop only. He had 830 acres of wheat, 23 bushels per acre, allowing for shed corn, owing to not being able to cut in time, and some frosted wheat; and 50 acres of oats, 56 bushels per acre. He intends growing 1,200 acres of wheat and 80 of oats next year, and increasing his reaping machines to ten, in order to cut all in about one week. He has two good houses, good buildings,

and what we had hardly seen in Canada before, a large shed for implements; but he and his family live in Portage la Prairie. His system is to keep few men and horses on the farm, being able to hire any quantity of both in the busy time; only during the winter having a foreman and one other man to pay. He only visits his farm once a fortnight, except during the busy seasons of spring planting, hay-making, harvesting, and autumn ploughing—this lasting about six months from the middle of April. He said he had let 640 acres to a man to plough for 1 dollar 75 cents (7s.) per acre, and the work was being well done. He purposes growing wheat successively for four years, and then planting timothy grass and stocking, rather than having bare fallow. No rick cloths, waggon cloths, thatching, or horse-shoeing being wanted in this country is a consideration. This is, without doubt, the easiest system of farming we have seen, and must pay well for the first few years—the question arises, Will it last? This the present owner cares little about, leaving those who follow him to find it out. My opinion is that the prairie farmers will soon find out that the land will repay better and more careful farming than it now in many cases receives. The land now, including buildings, is worth about 50 dollars an acre; much of it would grow barley, and this will, no doubt, be resorted to as a change of crop.

A paper mill using straw, for which they pay eight shillings per load of 15 cwt. delivered, is in this district, and the company have mills in other parts of Canada. This would appear a rising industry in a country where straw is not valued as a manure. We left Portage on Thursday evening, arriving at Indian Head on Friday morning, and having breakfasted at the Commercial Hotel, went at once over the Government Experimental Farm, carried on here under the management of Mr. Mackay exactly on the same lines as those already described at Ottawa and Brandon, and certainly with equal credit to him as regards skill. The land is of better quality, but the climate more backward. Here an excellent lunch was prepared for our party, and great hospitality shown to us by Mr. and Mrs. Mackay.

We then started to see the world-wide known Bell Farm, formerly consisting of 53,000 acres, but not proving a success, the land was sold, some 13,000 acres being purchased by the then manager, Major Bell, and the remainder by a colonisation society under Lord Brassey. A very heavy storm of rain and hail coming on, we could not do justice to Major Bell's farming, as, unfortunately for him, we entered on the side of his holding on which all his wheat was badly frosted, much standing uncut and horses and cattle feeding on it, and the other cut green and made into stacks for fodder. The storm was so heavy that we turned back, and did not see his finer and better wheats, of which he had grown 1,400 acres, and hoped next year to grow 3,000 acres and 200 acres of oats. We saw at his house, which with the buildings was remarkably good, some good samples of the corn grown this season. The Colonisation Society's Farm comprises 60 sections of 640 acres each, but as it was only started in May last little work has been done beyond the erection of a manager's house, buildings, and cottages. The idea is for English labourers to be assisted

to emigrate, work on the farm for a year, and then settle according to ability on portions of the land unbroken, payments being extended in easy instalments over several years. It will be interesting to see how this experiment answers. We saw some good English Shire horses, and noticed 500 Shorthorn cattle in one field. This neighbourhood is not equal to that we had just left, and as we rejoined our car at three o'clock in the afternoon and travelled towards Regina, we passed through prairie land of rather poor quality, little wood upon it, and very few settlers.

The cost of producing a crop of wheat from sowing to the delivery into the elevator is estimated throughout Manitoba at from 28s. to 30s. an acre.

We reached Regina, but made no stay there this time, going on a 250 miles journey by train to Prince Albert, arriving there on Sunday morning after a somewhat uninteresting travel through a flat prairie country of poor quality and lacking wood and water, but it is said to be better than it looks. A fire was burning for many miles as we passed on over the prairie, the railway track, stations, and the few houses to be seen being protected from the fire by what are called fireguards. This is about six or eight furrows ploughed along each side of the rail and around the houses, which prevents the fire crossing. The effect of the fire gives a very desolate, bleak, barren appearance to the country. At the various stations very large heaps of buffalo bones, collected off the prairie by Indians, and sent, I am told, to England, are to be seen, and the Indians themselves, with horses and quaint-shaped carts, camping very like the old English gipsy a short distance away on the rising ground. A few herds of cattle, flocks of wild geese, ducks, an occasional wolf or fox, startled by our train (the second only, I believe, that has passed up this newly-laid line), completed the picture. Prince Albert contains about 900 inhabitants, and is very pleasantly situated on the River Saskatchewan, the surrounding scenery being very beautiful, and there are some very good houses on the high ground, with the police barracks and nunnery on the hilltop. We were taken in carriages for a circuitous drive through the country of 35 miles, calling at various farms and inspecting the grain. Some of the wheat was frosted, probably owing to late sowing, but the barley was of good quality. So far as we could judge, this district is more calculated for ranching than corn-growing at present, having no market; but the line now open, and should eventually the contemplated line from the Northern Pacific be made, it would grow rapidly into an important settlement. We heard of much good corn land and fine hay country in the opposite direction to the one we took, and the whole is well sheltered, with wood and water, and affords good shooting and sport of all kinds. I fancy this part of the country must wait a few years till more accessible districts are taken up.

We left on Monday morning on our return journey, calling at Duck Lake, and driving out through a wide extent of prairie, with apparently little stock on it. A considerable trade in furs and skins is carried on here. Our next stoppage was at Saskatoon, to see some

very fine samples of corn and specimens of roots. Oats were particularly fine, and here it was that a radish was given us weighing nine pounds, of good quality and flavour. We then continued our way, reaching Regina on Tuesday morning in a downfall of rain. Regina, the capital of the North-West Territories, contains about 2,000 people, and was started ten years since; it boasts of little beauty as to situation, being flat, and surrounded by boundless prairie. It is rightly named "Queen City of the Plains." It is a growing city, with several good hotels, churches, banks, and other public buildings, but owing to the heavy rain, the streets were in a wretched condition. We could see little of the country, the weather being so bad, but attended an agricultural exhibition going on in the city. Unfortunately the cattle did not arrive until after we left, but we saw quite a display of excellent corn, grasses, and roots from the Indian Head Experimental Farm, and also others grown by farmers in the neighbourhood, including butter, cheese, wines, pickles, bread, harness, and many other useful things; also needle-work, fancy articles, writing, maps, and work done by children. A special exhibition of the productions from the Indian Reserve, including most of the things above mentioned, particularly interested us, and we thought the wheat the best in the whole show. We met many farmers, among them a Berkshire and a Lincolnshire man; all reported favourably of their position and prospects. We were entertained at a grand dinner in the evening by the leading citizens, and afterwards rejoined our railway car, starting during the night for Calgary.

We have noticed throughout Canada mares with foals are worked as before, both for driving and farm purposes, the foals running by the side of the dam; this, coupled with the climate, may account in some measure for the powers of endurance the Canadian horses possess. In England our hard roads would make this impracticable.

On our long ride to Calgary of some thousand miles—chiefly through a wide expanse of prairie land, much of it of somewhat barren appearance, with here and there settlers' houses and occasional herds of cattle and horses, several large lakes, but not a tree to be seen—we met several fellow-travellers, who gave us much useful information; one in particular, a Mr. Stone, manager of eleven farms of 10,000 acres each, much of it being land we were then passing through, acquired by Sir John Lister Kaye, and sold by him to the Canadian Coal, Agricultural, and Colonisation Company. Mr. Stone's experience was that, owing to the frequent droughts, he should in future look rather to horse and cattle ranching than corn-growing, only raising corn sufficient for his own use and requirements. He had suffered this season from frost to the wheat and hot winds in July, which had damaged the oat crop, of which we saw 300 acres being cut for fodder. He had grown 25 bushels of wheat per acre. He had 400 mares, and imported Shire and thoroughbred stallions, and endeavoured to keep them out all winter on the prairie, sometimes without any hay being given them. He also had 23,000 merino ewes, crossed with Cheviot, Shropshire, and Leicester rams, which seemed to me must lead to a mixed medley of mongrel sheep, unless the pure strains are imported. Ewes cost 14s. each, and he sold lambs at 11s. each. He clipped this season 50 tons of

wool, which sold at 7½d. per lb. unwashed. Foot-rot is unknown. The sheep have to be housed at night all the winter against the wolves, 500 of these animals being killed annually. One shepherd attends 2,000 sheep. This housing is a drawback to profitable sheep-farming. He had in all 700 horses and over 7,000 cattle of the Shorthorn and Polled Angus breeds on the respective farms and ranches. He prefers the Berkshire breed of pigs to Yorkshire or any other breed yet tried. Water can be got at about 60 feet, and the wells are worked by windmills.

General Grant was another gentleman who, with his son, was seeing the country West. His son was settled at Griswold, 25 miles from Brandon; had lived two years with a farmer, then homesteaded a half-section; had since taken up another half-section and additional hay land; and having now a partner in a young Englishman, they had added a livery stable business, and appeared to be doing well. The General returned with us on the "Parisian" to England, pleased and delighted with his son's success and Canada generally.

We arrived on Thursday morning, 9th October, at Calgary, the capital of the important district of Alberta. It is a thriving town of about 5,000 people, situate at the junction of the Bow and Elbow Rivers, commanding grand views of the Rocky Mountains. We were received at the Alberta Hotel by the mayor and others, and at once started for a long ride to see the country, and called at a large farm held by a gentleman who with his brother combines this with land in British Columbia and a large business as butchers. We saw grazing on the prairie a herd of 120 bullocks of mixed breeds ready for slaughter, and they appeared to be doing well. We also saw a small flock of Merino sheep. Not much corn is grown excepting oats and barley for home consumption. Threshing was then going on with a horse power machine worked by 12 horses, a novel sight to us. The yield was satisfactory, being about 56 bushels per acre.

After luncheon we returned to Calgary by another route, through a good ranching country, fording the rivers, and calling at a woollen manufactory, where we saw good rugs and blankets produced from the wool grown in the district.

The following morning it was arranged to divide our party, some staying to do the Agricultural Show being held in Calgary, while six of us left at eight o'clock in a four-horse rig for a two days tour through the fine ranching district stretching out towards the foot of the Rockies. We passed over more than 100 miles of country, seeing several noted horse and cattle ranches, and returned to Calgary the following day, much pleased with the enormous resources of this vast Alberta Province generally. Without doubt, opened up as it now is by the Canadian Pacific Railway and other lines in formation to the Edmonton, Lethbridge, and other districts containing an untold area of land suitable for corn-growing, dairying, and grazing purposes, together with an abundance of timber, coal, and valuable minerals, this will fast become one of the great centres of Canadian trade and prosperity.

We left for Banff during the night, arriving there on Sunday

morning, where we spent a quiet day, getting our first actual view of the Rockies and visiting the sulphur spring baths. The scenery is simply magnificent, and as we journeyed on at daybreak on Monday morning for our next stopping-place, New Westminster, the views that met our eyes on every side and at every point filled us with awe and admiration. To attempt a description of the ride through the Rockies would fill a volume, and must be made to be thoroughly understood. I can only say we occupied a place in the observation car the greater part of the time, and, although the whole journey strikes you as possessing more than the ordinary elements of danger, you become entranced with the nobleness of the everlasting hills, and almost regret finding yourself once more in the open country beyond.

We reached New Westminster on Tuesday afternoon. It is situated very prettily on the Fraser River, contains about 7,000 people, and from the building and improvements now going on is evidently thriving, and every effort is being made to increase the trade and add to the growing importance of the town. The lumber mills here are extensive, and well repaid us for a visit; also the various salmon canneries on the Fraser. This has become an enormous industry, Messrs. Ewing's establishment alone working 400 hands in the factory and an equal number fishing, and turned out this season 25,000 cases of 48 one lb. tins of salmon in each case. The season lasts from about the 10th of July to the end of August. The Fraser River abounds in salmon; but throughout British Columbia salmon will not rise to a fly, they are all netted. We took a steamboat to Ladner's Landing, some few miles down the Fraser, and had a short drive into the rich delta district. This is an immense tract of land said a few years since to be worth only a dollar an acre, and is now by drainage selling at 50 dollars an acre. It is said to produce 3 tons of timothy grass, 6 to 7 quarters of wheat, and from 10 to 15 quarters of oats per acre, and the samples we saw were of very fine quality. Fruit trees, vegetables, and roots of all kinds simply revel in the rich alluvial soil.

The following Thursday morning we started by road for Vancouver, a distance of 12 miles, through a forest of timber passing belief for multitude and size, many of the Douglas pines being 250 feet high and measuring from 25 to 50 feet in circumference. Fire here, as everywhere else, had ravaged much of it, the whole being in a primeval state, and apparently of little value, as it costs more to clear the land than the timber is worth. This is splendid land cleared of timber, but the labour is appalling. Vancouver is and must become a very important city, from its situation commanding the Pacific trade and commerce. It is only of four years' growth, and already contains 15,000 people. Some very fine hotels, churches, houses, and large shops are in course of erection, but even here the speculator has gone in advance of the demand, and finds he has to wait awhile to realise the large prices paid for the land around.

Lulu Island, distant about ten miles, was visited by us in the afternoon. This ride was through forest as before described, and from its nearness to Vancouver clearing is going on. Lulu Island is another tract of rich land of some twenty-five to thirty thousand acres

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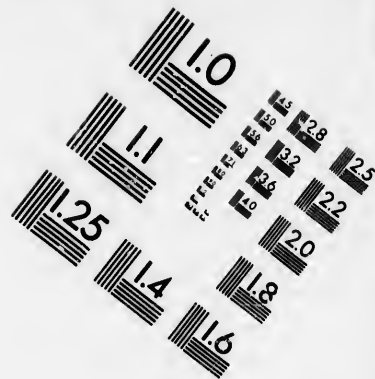
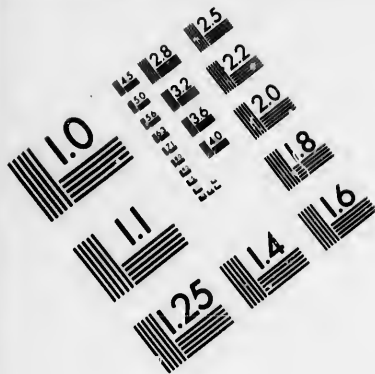
in extent. Like the delta, after drainage, it is rich and most productive, and sells for good prices according to situation. The country struck us as somewhat uninviting, and requiring better railways and other



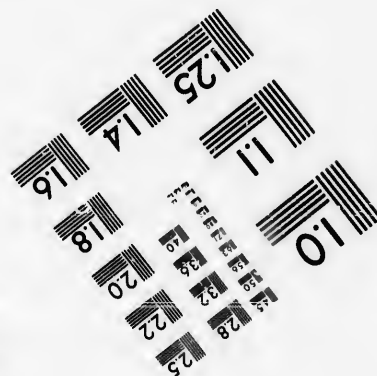
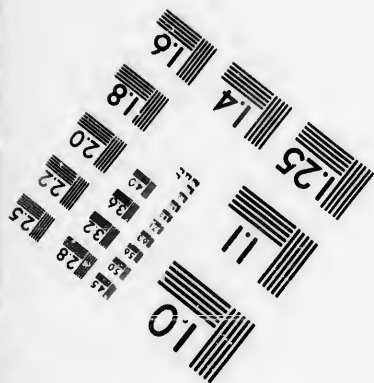
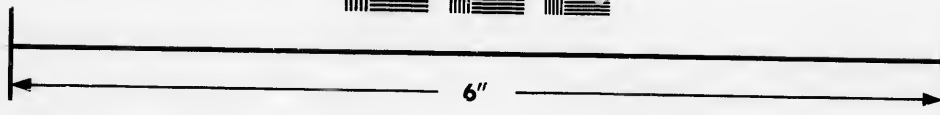
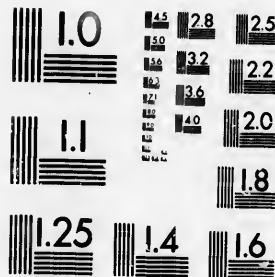
A VIEW IN STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER.

means of access before it can be fully developed. The climate throughout British Columbia is a good deal like that of England, only not so changeable. We left Vancouver on Friday evening by boat, calling for the night at Nanaimo, and seeing the coal mines there (output daily 1,800 tons, price at pit's mouth, 16s. a ton), then on next morning to Vancouver Island, to Victoria, the capital city of British Columbia. The mayor and corporation received us on arrival, and after taking up our quarters at the Driard Hotel, were driven round the city and public park, calling on Lieutenant-Governor Nelson, a very genial, intelligent man, in our round, and visiting the public buildings and museum of the natural productions of the province; afterwards a dinner was given in our honour, and a most enjoyable evening spent. On Sunday we drove out into the country, calling at various farms on our way. The quantity of fruit hanging on the trees, chiefly apples and





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pears, struck us as very wonderful; the trees were literally broken down with the weight of fruit, and little or no demand for it, hardly worth the expense of gathering. Frost had spoilt some of the backward grapes and plums. On Monday, being unable to leave the island owing to an accident to the boat, we rode out about four miles by the electric cars to Esquimalt, and saw the large dry docks and other places of interest there. This island seems more adapted for small occupations; vegetables and poultry, with milk and butter, are always wanted, and command good prices. Butter is two shillings a pound, eggs twopence each, milk fivepence a gallon, and fowls four shillings each just now. The land is rich, but much of it heavily timbered. Victoria contains about 25,000 people, and the houses and buildings are good; the appearance of the whole city denotes wealth and comfort, and is altogether worthy of being the capital.

We left Monday evening for Vancouver, and, rejoining our railway car, commenced our homeward journey, visiting by boat from New Westminster down the Fraser the Sumas Valley, a large district of some 20,000 acres of land available for grazing and corn-growing: the lower lands are alluvial deposits of many feet in depth, and of great richness. Here we saw an extraordinary crop of apples in all quarters, and the land was being cleared of the timber on the higher lands and settlements made. We saw here some very good farm buildings, and went over several cheese dairies apparently doing well. There were good Shorthorn cattle and some well-bred young horses in the pastures. We remained the night at Chilliwack, and then drove through more of the low lands, crossing the river near the Government Experimental Farm at Agassiz; this had not long been started, and the day being wet, after witnessing the system employed to remove the roots of trees, &c., in clearing, we took our railway car, and bid adieu to British Columbia.

We could not for want of time visit the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys, a district not yet opened up by railway, but said to be 300,000 acres of the finest land for mixed farming in Canada. Much of it is already settled, but large quantities are still owned by speculators waiting for their time. We were told that last season 120 tons of twine, for the machines to bind the corn with, was used in this district alone.

Our next stay was for one hour at Medicine Hat, to see the North-Western Territories Hospital, erected by Mr. Niblock, a fine building well arranged, and the comfort and cleanliness of the inmates, 17 in number, cared for in every way. Two wards were furnished by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and are named after them respectively. On Sunday morning we reached Wolseley, a small town of about 200 people, and, under the guidance of Mr. Senator Perley, we drove in different directions through the surrounding country, visiting the settlers as we passed. The good wives of Wolseley were much disturbed by our taking their husbands out on the Sunday morning, but we made a compromise, and all went to church in the evening. There is a very large tract of land here awaiting settlement, and can be bought cheap. The land is much of it of good quality, but lies

exposed and more fit for ranching. Others of our party reported more favourably of the district they saw, and thought it favourable for mixed farming.

The Qu'Appelle Valley, formerly the bed of the river, is very pretty and productive. About 50 German settlers, with their families, had just reached here from Dunmore, near Medicine Hat, where the season had proved too dry for them, and they had exchanged for land near Wolseley. From here we went on to Moosomin, a town of about eight years' standing and 800 people, and one that will continue to increase and improve. I should recommend, from all we saw in a long drive through it, this district to the notice of settlers for mixed farming; the land is of good quality, easily cleared, with plenty of wood and water, and to be had in large or small quantities, at a reasonable cost. We saw some good crops of wheat, but little damage done by frost, and the yield was reported good. We went over the schools, and in the evening were entertained by the mayor and corporation and other friends at a dinner. We left the following morning, making our way to Winnipeg, and thence by a short run into the States by the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railway, returning by Niagara, into the Province of Ontario, being taken in hand at Hamilton (45,000 inhabitants) by Mr. Blue, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and a Mr. Hobson, of Masborough. Niagara, like the Rockies, must be seen to be thoroughly appreciated. I will only now say, after four hours' careful viewing, I was charmed with the whole scene, and on leaving regretted that possibly it was for ever. After visiting an electro-plate manufactory and other places of note, we took train for Brantford, where we remained the night. During the evening we attended a meeting of the Board of Trade, and were introduced to many of the leading men, afterwards going home with the President for a short interview and light refreshment. Starting early the next morning, we went out about three miles to see the Bow Park Farm, occupied by Messrs. Nelson, consisting of 1,000 acres of very productive land, well and highly farmed on the mixed system of husbandry. Here, owing to the milder climate, autumn-sown wheat is practised and was looking very proud, and a better plant of young grass seeds I have seldom seen in any country. The buildings are ample and very extensive, and the herd of Shorthorns is second to none in Canada; in fact, they would compete favourably with many of our best English herds. Unfortunately the manager, Mr. Hope, was from home, acting as judge at the Chicago Horse Show, where we had previously met him. A particularly good lot of young heifers, now being served by a young bull of prime quality bred on the farm, look like maintaining the prestige of the herd. The autumn-sown wheat this year yielded 32 bushels per acre. On our return journey, we visited the Mohawk Church, where Captain Joseph Brant was buried, and afterwards saw a very handsome monument erected to his memory in Brantford. He was an Indian chief, very loyal to the English Crown at the time of the American Rebellion. He died in 1807.

After seeing several agricultural and other manufactories in Brantford and visiting the House of Refuge and an Asylum for the

Blind a few miles out, our party divided, I and one other delegate going on with Mr. Hobson to Paris (5,000 inhabitants), passing through a country of mixed farming very like many parts of England, good houses and homesteads, and land fenced in, fairly well farmed. We were told much of it could be bought at from £10 to £15 an acre. Twenty-five bushels of wheat per acre was about the average yield this season. We called on one or two farmers, and all gave a favourable report of the district.



AN ONTARIO FARM.

We left Paris for Woodstock (9,500 inhabitants), reaching there about 7 o'clock in the evening. The following morning we drove through a fairly good country, making our first stop at Mr. Green's, of Ennerick, a Welsh gentleman. He has a very nice house and good premises, with well-timbered park-like grounds and entrance drive. Purchased by Mr. Green eight years since at 55 dollars an acre, he now would sell with all improvements at 75 dollars an acre (£15). He has two daughters and three sons, and, although quite ladies and gentlemen, they appear to do most of the work, and I have seldom had a better lunch or more comfortably served. Mr. Green has a small herd of pure-bred Shorthorns, a nice flock of Shropshire sheep, a few good Shire-bred horses, and some pedigree pigs. The Yorkshire pigs, said to be of Mr. Sanders Spencer's breed, do little credit to their breeder. We next visited a neighbouring farm, owned by Mr. Donaldson, of about 400 acres, with good house and buildings; a very nice herd of pure-bred Shorthorns, with a good bull in service,

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and a good flock of Shropshire sheep. Mr. Donaldson has three sons who have left Ontario for the West, purchasing 320 acres each in Manitoba, in the Brandon district, and they are doing well. His reason for this is that young men can start cheaper in Manitoba than in an old province like Ontario. We returned to Woodstock, going on by train to London for the night, where a Mr. J. Gibson, of Delaware, joined us. London is a nice town of some 35,000 inhabitants.

We left in the early morning to drive out to Mr. Gibson's farm at Delaware, about 18 miles by the route we took, passing through a fairly good country, with good fences, houses, and buildings. In many places the old original log hut could be seen standing at the rear of the new, substantial, well-built, brick residence. All the houses had gardens and trees planted around, giving them a homelike and English appearance. Some of the land looked light and sandy, but the wheat all showed what we should call at this season gay. Mr. Gibson's is a well-built, good-looking house, approached through well planted and kept grounds, with good buildings, and about 300 acres of productive land, farmed on the English system chiefly. He has a herd of pure Shorthorns of the most fashionable strains of blood, and one cow in particular struck us as really the best we had seen in Canada; a very choice flock of Shropshire sheep, and Berkshire and Yorkshire pedigree pigs. He is himself a Lincolnshire man, and has crossed the Atlantic 33 times, and boasts of having been in every county in England save two. Altogether, he is a successful farmer, and a man of the right stamp all round. Delaware is a very pleasantly situated village on the banks of the River Thames. We returned by another road to London, passing through a poorer district not so well farmed, remaining in London the night, and being again joined by the rest of our party, who had taken an opposite direction through the province, and returned delighted with all they had seen. Shooting in Ontario is claimed by the respective owners as in England. On Saturday morning we all left by train for Guelph, in order to see the Agricultural College there, passing through a useful mixed-farmed district, but much of it apparently wanting draining and capable of better farming, good houses and buildings everywhere, and land fenced. On arriving at Guelph we found it was market day, so we first inspected the market and talked with many of the farmers, and then passed on to the college, being received by the president, Mr. Mills. After luncheon, we were shown over the establishment, and then conducted over the farm, and saw the system of butter-making and the respective small herds of Shorthorn, Hereford, Polled Angus, and Alderney cattle. A very fine Hereford bull, bred by the Queen, took our fancy, but unfortunately he was a bad stock-getter. Experiments are carried out in crossing the various breeds, and in all the Shorthorn sire produced the best results. Some useful lambs bought in the fall, feeding off rape, looked like paying fairly well. All sheep are housed in the winter. The quality of the wheat grown was inferior. This college is conducted on very sound practical and economical principles, and every encouragement is given to the pupils, numbering at this time 80, to do good manual work on the farm, for which payment is made according to ability; and it is



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possible for hard-working young men to clear the fee of £20, paid by those born in Ontario annually, by their own industry during their stay in the college. The whole system is sound and worthy of all encouragement.

We now made our way back to Toronto, from thence to Ottawa, where we were entertained at a dinner given by Mr. Carling, the Minister of Agriculture, the mayor, and corporation, and on the morrow took our leave and journeyed on to Montreal, from thence next day to Quebec, embarking on the good ship "Parisian" for England.

Having thus briefly described our long travels through this vast and interesting country of Canada, I will end my report by a summary of the conclusions I have arrived at as to the capabilities, from an emigration point of view, of the whole country generally.

The first thing to impress on emigrants is, that unless they are prepared to work, and for a time, at any rate, forget the luxuries of life in England, they had far better remain at home. This at first may seem hard and discouraging, but against this stands the fact that throughout our travels, no matter how unfavourable the surroundings appeared, we never heard man or woman regret their coming to Canada, or wish to return to England other than on a visit to see friends. The first year is often trying, but afterwards they become accustomed to the country and people, and everyone is happy, contented, and for the most part fairly prosperous. We met several settlers who had gone home after a short stay disgusted, but finding no place in the old country had returned and were doing well. Very little complaint was made to us about the climate; no one denies its being cold in the winter, but the atmosphere is clear, dry, and bracing, and so different to our variable, moist English climate, that most people prefer it. The seasons, both summer and winter, can be calculated on as to their respective duration, and consequently every care and provision made. The summer, lasting only from about the middle of April to the end of October, is a time of bustle and constant strain; in the time the crops are put in until they are harvested; then follows winter, during which to a great extent labour is suspended, and an immense amount of good fellowship and enjoyment goes on throughout the country.

I would advise intending emigrants to go out and obtain work, which can easily be got in summer, and to look around before deciding as to their future. I say to all, "If you are doing fairly well at home, there remain; but if you happen to be one of the very many for whom no place here seems open, or from some cause or other have missed their mark or been met by misfortune, then take my word for it, a home can be found in Canada." The industrious labourer, skilled or otherwise, can always find remunerative employment. The gardener or small dairyman would have no difficulty in British Columbia. The man with only £100 would find homesteads ready to be entered on in many parts of Manitoba and other parts hereinbefore described; and the man with larger means can find there also any quantity of land, either for corn-growing or ranching, that with industry and good management will soon make him happy and independent. It may be

that many a good man will say, "I should not mind a rough life myself, but could not subject my wife and children to it." To such a one I would say—assuming that he has a fair amount of money—"Take a good section of land, and leave for awhile your family in the nearest town till some of the rough work is done." I found men doing this at 10 and 15 miles distance from the town with success. But after all, the rough life, as it is called, has its own peculiar charm, and I saw mothers and daughters who had lived in the greatest luxury in England perfectly contented in their log hut, while a better house was building, with no domestic help whatever beyond their own family.

Another plan, and to many emigrants with capital at command I would very strongly recommend it, would be to go into the Province of Ontario, which embraces an area of 182,000 square miles—much of it very productive land—and seek out one of the many desirable farms constantly to be bought at from £10 to £20 an acre, with good houses, buildings, and fences, and land all under cultivation, and where every comfort of life can be obtained and enjoyed just as easily and more economically than in England. The Ontario farmers prefer selling their holdings and sending their families, if not going themselves, to the rougher life of the Far West; and these, from their experience of earlier years, make good settlers—so making openings in many parts of Ontario for the class of emigrants described above.

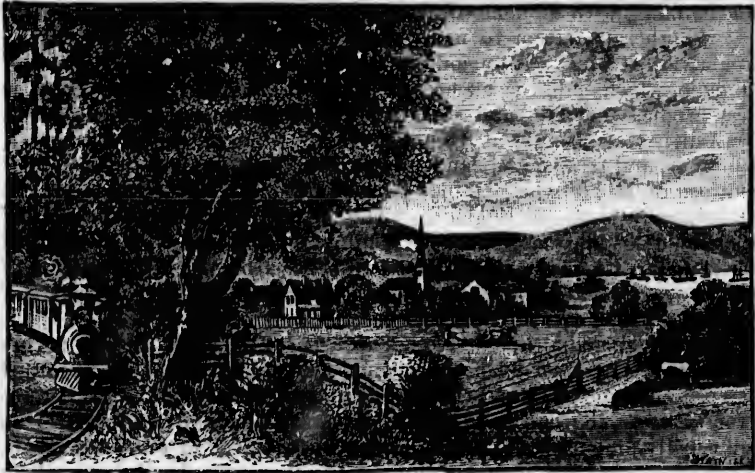
In England, although from sheer necessity a change is taking place in this respect, laborious manual field labour has been regarded as a degradation; in Canada it is really a passport to society. Wheresoever we went, the hardworking well-to-do settler (and the two things are usually found to follow each other) was received by every Canadian, no matter what his own position in life was, as a brother, to whom they were ever ready to give honour and respect. The same remarks apply equally to the wives and children.

To the capitalist Canada offers great advantages, and large percentages can be obtained on good security. The only men not wanted in Canada are the dissolute and idle; any such on getting there will be grievously disappointed. I never saw a beggar or was solicited for alms throughout the country. Another objectionable class is that of sons of gentlemen with any amount of money at command, who neglect their occupations, loaf about town, lose their capital, and so get the country a bad name. Of course, there are many exceptions, and educated gentlemen have succeeded, but you will find they were sent out with little money, and left to find their feet in the new country before money was supplied them from home.

For my own part, I can truthfully say I never met with more civility, hospitality, and kindness than I did throughout Canada at every point and from every class of her people, to all of whom I shall feel ever deeply indebted. To the various railway and steamship companies who so generously studied our comfort and convenience my thanks are gladly rendered, and especially to the Hon. Mr. Carling and the various deputies under him, not forgetting our friend and courier, Mr. Campbell, for attentions and considerations throughout our long and somewhat eventful journey that time can never efface. I left Canada with regret, although naturally glad to make for home

after a three months absence; and as it appears likely that some of my family will settle there, I cannot altogether help cherishing the idea that at some future time I may make a second visit.

May the visit of the delegates prove of mutual advantage to both countries by causing reliable information to be made known and Canada better understood; then, I feel sure, a fair share of our surplus population will go out, to find in that vast, but thinly populated, country, happiness and prosperity.

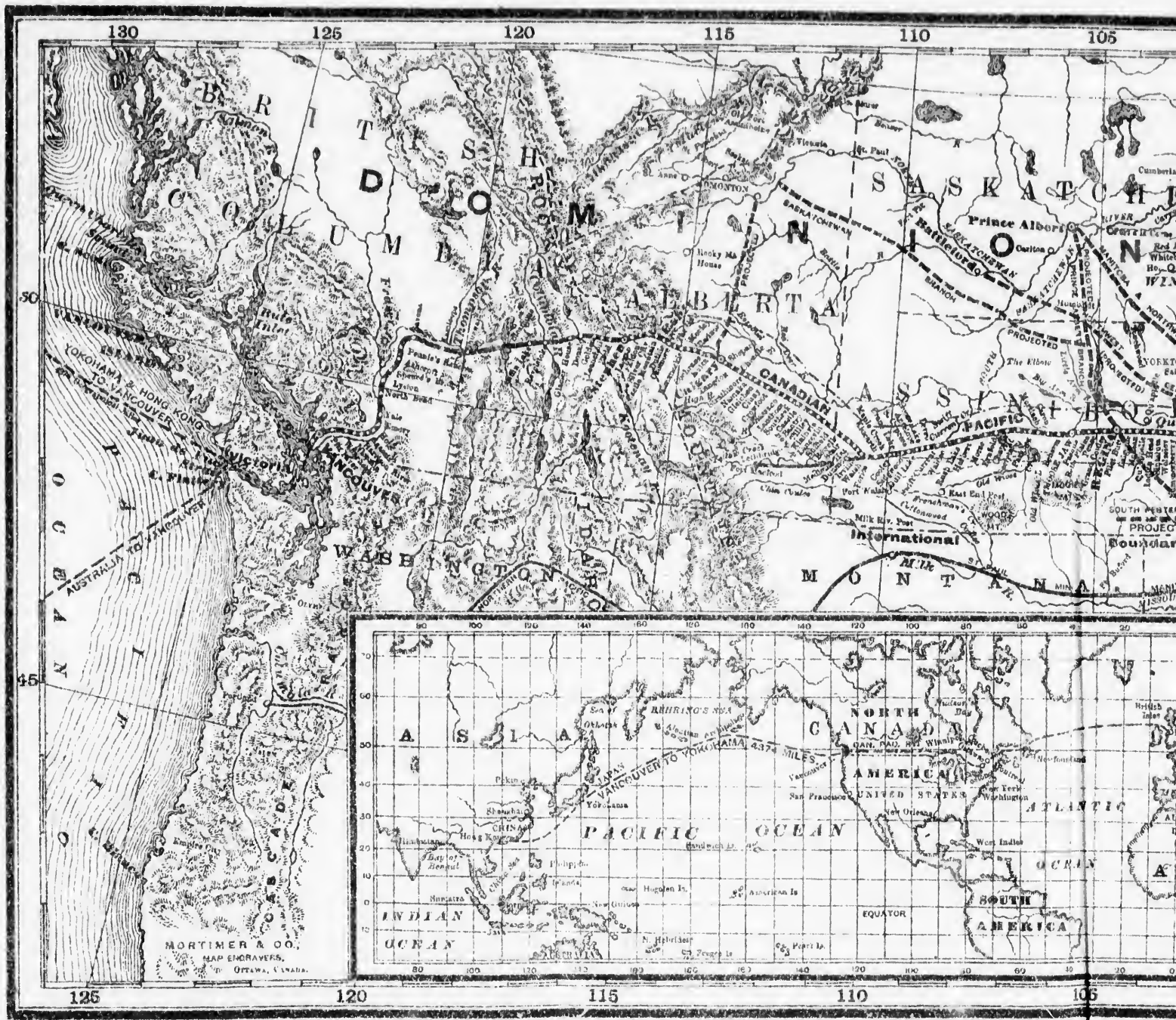


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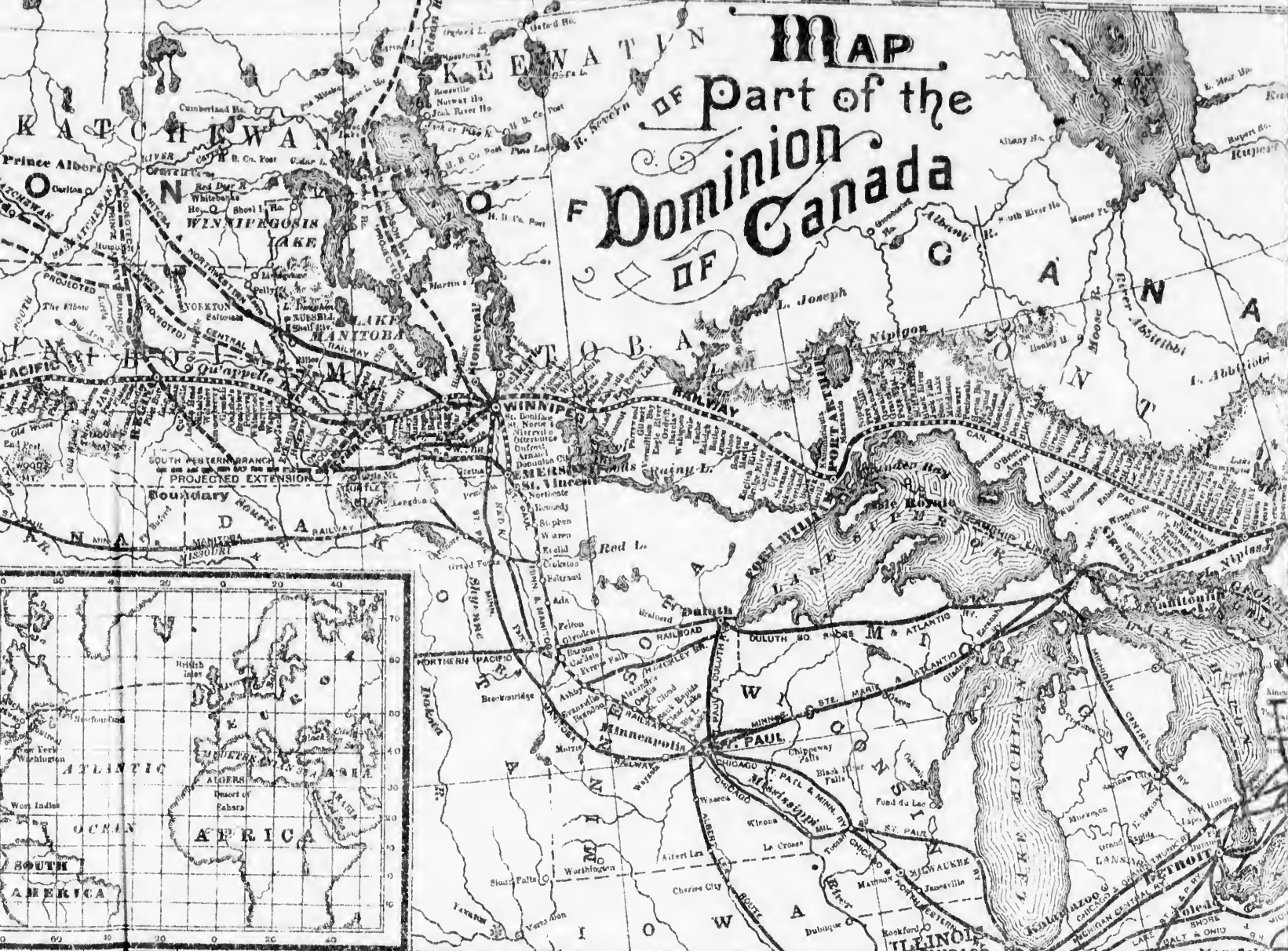
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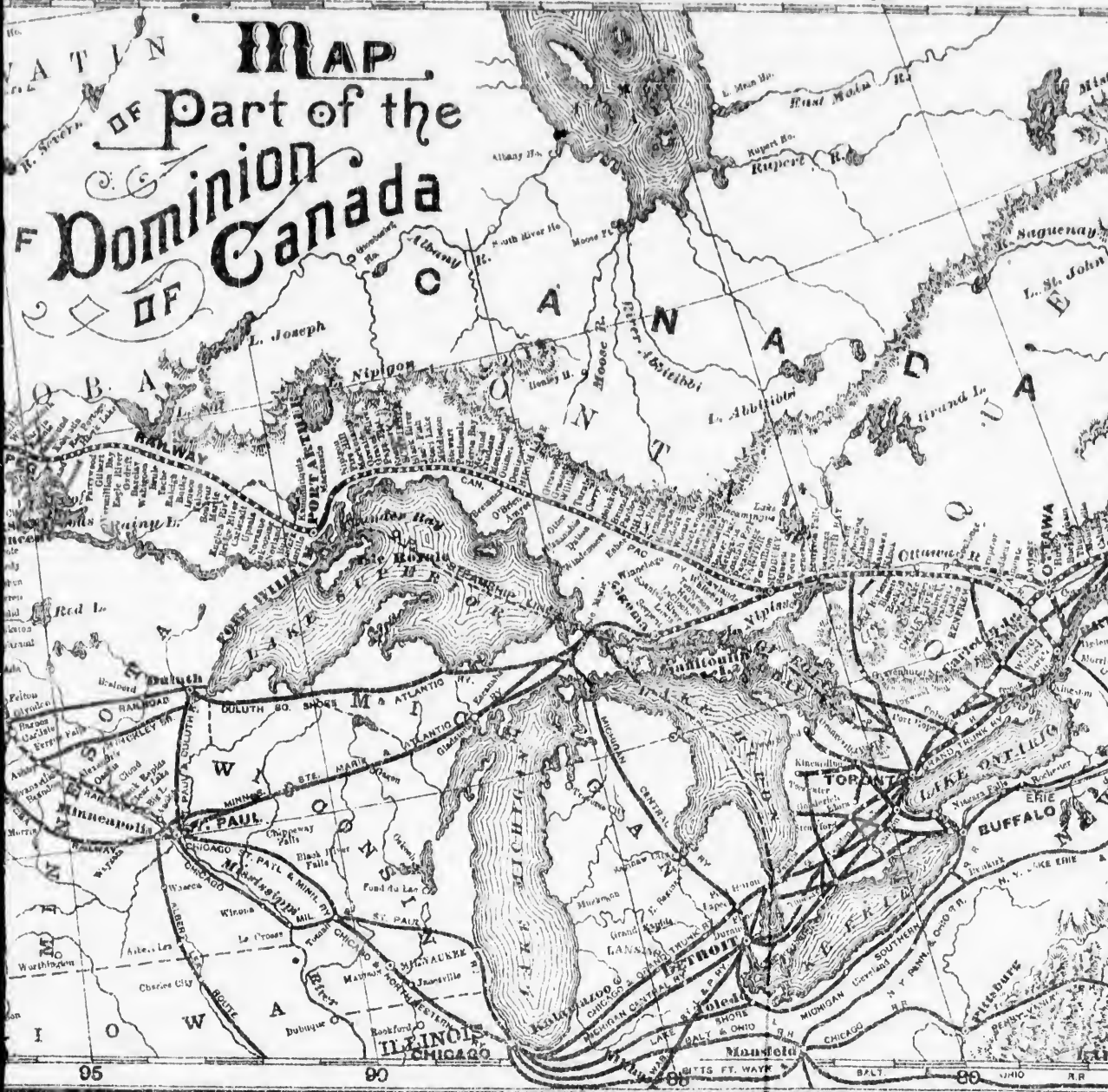
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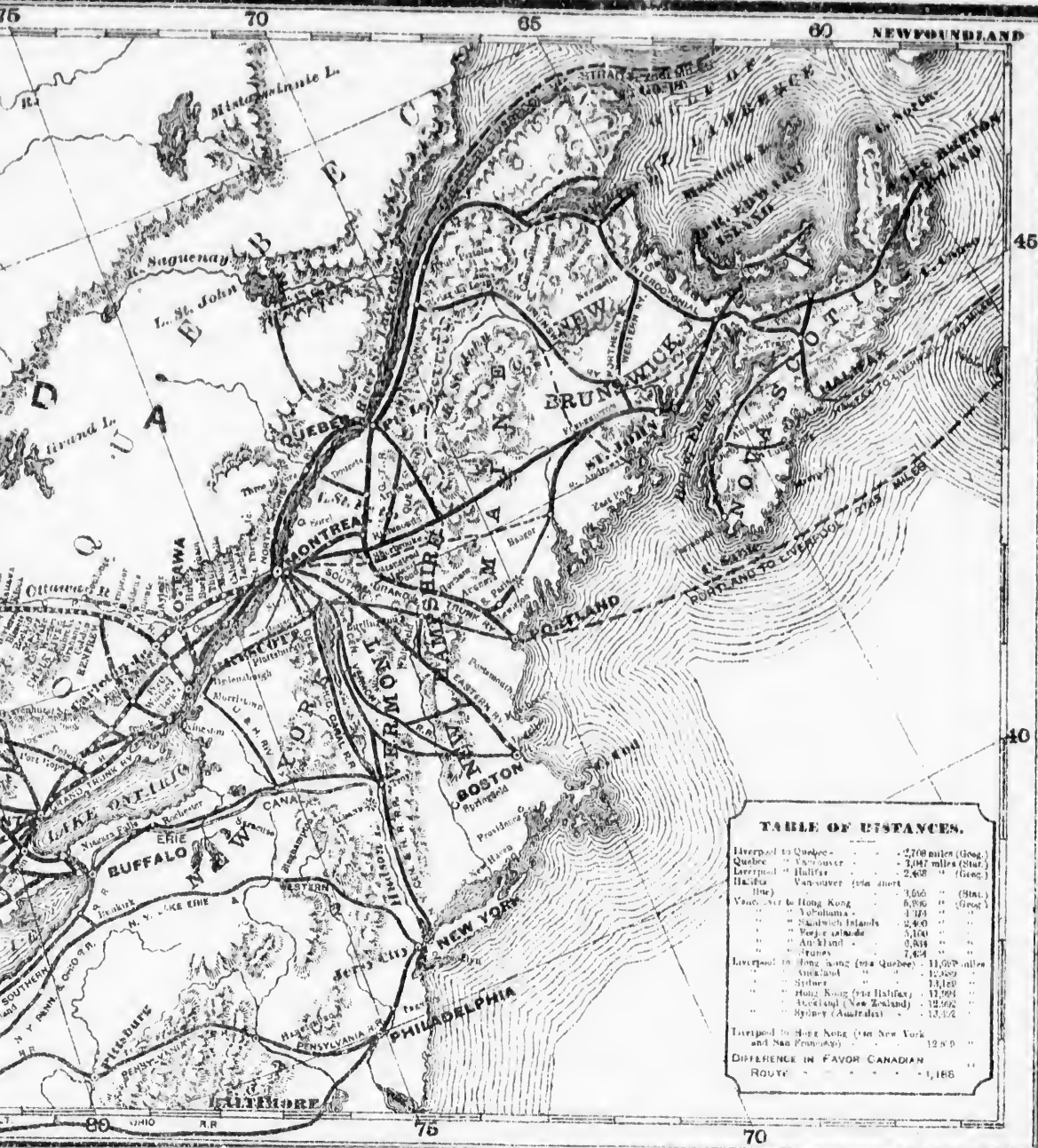


TABLE OF DISTANCES.

Liverpool to Quebec	2,700 miles (Geog.)
Quebec to Vancouver	7,047 miles (Stat.)
Liverpool to Halifax	2,457 " (Geog.)
Halifax to Vancouver (via short line)	3,656 " (Stat.)
Vancouver to Hong Kong	8,896 " (Geog.)
" to Yokohama	1,101 " "
" to Sandwich Islands	2,400 " "
" to Fiji Islands	3,100 " "
" to Auckland	3,818 " "
" to Sydney	7,424 " "
Liverpool to Hong Kong (via Quebec and Vancouver)	11,657 miles
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" to Hong Kong (via Halifax)	13,794 " "
" to Auckland (via New Zealand)	12,562 " "
" to Sydney (via Australia)	13,116 " "
Liverpool to Hong Kong (via New York and Vancouver)	12,819 " "
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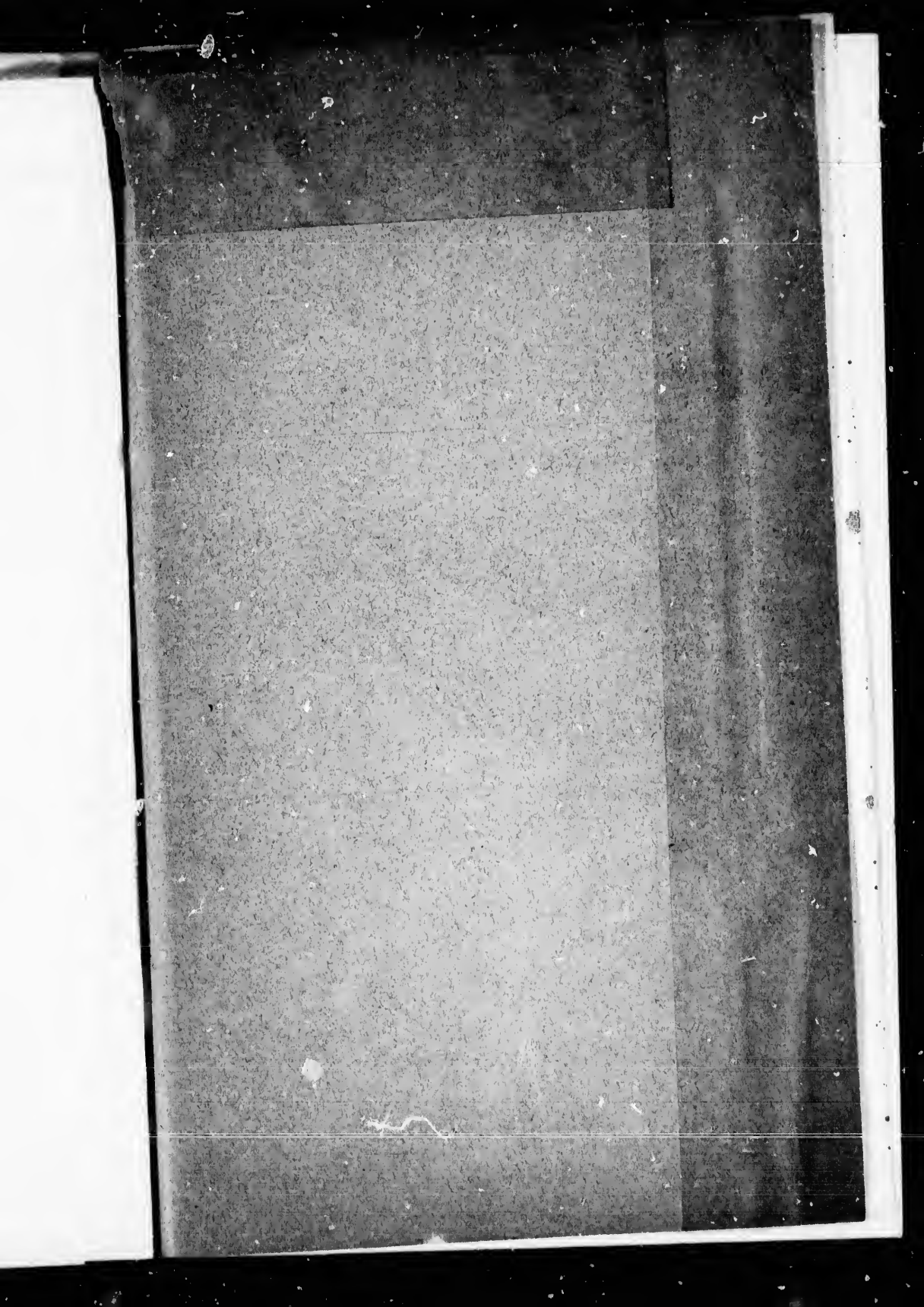
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Sir CHARLES TUPPER, Bart., G.C.M.G., C.B.,
High Commissioner for Canada.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION ARRANGEMENTS. In addition to the free grant of 160 acres of fertile land offered by the Canadian Government to any male adult of the age of 18 years and over in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, and to the land that may be obtained at a moderate price in British Columbia the Minister of Agriculture is now authorised to offer, until further notice, the following bonuses to settlers from the United Kingdom taking up such land within six months of their arrival in the country: Fifteen dollars (241s 8d) to the head of a family, seven dollars fifty cents (£1 10s. 10d.) for the wife and each adult member of the family over twelve years of age, and a further sum of seven dollars fifty cents (£1 10s. 10d.) to any adult member of the family over 18 years taking up land. Forms of application for the bonuses, without which no payments will be made, may be obtained, when passage tickets are issued, from any authorised Agent of the Canadian Steamship Lines in Great Britain and Ireland. Persons desiring further information, and pamphlet issued by the Government (which are sent post free) descriptive of the trade, industries, and agricultural resources of the different provinces of Canada, are requested to communicate with the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W., or with any of the following Canadian Government Agents: Mr. John Dyke, 15, Water Street, Liverpool; Mr. Thomas Grahame, 40, St. Enoch Square Glasgow; Mr. John W. Down, Bath Bridge, Bristol; Mr. T. Connolly, Northumberland House, Dublin; Mr. H. Merrick, Victoria Chamber, Victoria Street, Belfast.

