

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

From Winnipeg to Moosemin.

How the Country Looks

SOME SPLENDID RETURNS.

The Moosomin Exhibition.

More Successful Islanders.

Winnipeg is too vast to be described in a letter. It has been called the Magic City. A few years ago the people numbered three or four hundred; now it has a population of twenty-five or thirty thousand.

Its principal street—one hundred and thirty-five feet wide—following the curved course of the Indian trail to the Red River—is paved throughout from end to end; and many other streets are paved. Some of its churches and public buildings and a great many of its stores and private dwellings would adorn any city on this continent.

At the kind invitation of the Hon. Dr. Hession, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, the representative of the Patriot and the Montreal Gazette, with the writer, were driven a short distance into the country—accompanied by Mr. Johnston, a genial official of the Land Department. The appearance of the soil and the fruits of the soil fully bear out the glowing accounts which have been written respecting it.

Many of the residences on the further bank of the Assiniboine are elegant as well as large and comfortable. One of the most tasteful was pointed out to us as the residence of Mont. Aldous, formerly of Charlottetown. Another very fine residence, pointed out, was that of Mr. Hugh Sutherland, once a resident of Summerside—now one of the leading men of this great country. I called upon Mr. W. McLeod at his office in the new Dominion Building—and, with Mr. Warburton, spent several pleasant hours in his company and at his home. I am indebted to Mr. Stronach for an introduction to the wonders of railway works here—in which from four hundred and fifty to six hundred men receive employment—as well as for a meeting with Mr. James McKechnie, at one time Superintendent of the P. E. Island Railway.

There are eight or nine railways running into Winnipeg—and yet she is not entirely happy. But we must leave Winnipeg—nor stay to consider her hopes and ambitions, or her trials and difficulties.

The wide Western prairie is before us. The impression conveyed by the fringe or border we have passed through in coming to Moosomin is much more favorable than I anticipated. The prairie, to this extent, is by no means flat—by no means treeless; while there are thousands, millions, of acres of beautiful level, fertile fields, such as our farmers would rejoice to have as a result of years of careful cultivation.

Of the character of the great prairie, as a whole, I will not speak until I have seen more of it.

We drove several miles into the prairie this (Wednesday, Sept. 28) forenoon. The party consisted of representatives of the Halifax Herald, Halifax Chronicle, Fredericton Reporter, Chizeceto Post, Montreal Gazette, Farmers' Advocate, Charlottetown Patriot, Mr. Bedford, member of the Northwest Council, Mr. Perley, M. P., Professor Saunders, of the Government Experimental Farms, several of the leading farmers of the neighborhood, and your own correspondent. The weather was like that of a July day in Prince Edward Island—a hot day.

We followed a prairie road on which a shovel had never been used, and jogged smoothly and easily along unimpeded by rut or stone or any such thing. We found the country undulating like our own Island—more undulating than the Island is in many parts. In one of the hollows there is undoubted evidence of the presence of alkali, and in the others there grew a coarse grass not unlike that which appears on our marshes. The sides and tops of the elevations (they could not properly be called hills) are covered thickly with short hay of different kinds, upon which, we are told, the cattle feed until late in December—they are, of course, housed upon cold nights.

The autumn weather is so dry in this region that the wild grasses of the country are cured without being cut; and so cured makes excellent hay for horses and cattle and sheep. This hay can be cut and stacked at any time before the snow comes; or left standing, the Indian ponies feed upon it throughout the entire winter and, (I was assured) grow fat for the spring's work. The soil upon which it grows wild is a fine dark fertile grayish loam.

We called at the homestead of Mr. Thos. Bobier, who came hither from Ontario four years ago with very little means. He has now, I think, 360 acres; a comfortable house, with cellar walls of stone four feet thick, a granary, a large stable for his stock, some small outbuildings and a very large and fine garden.

I was greatly interested in the stable, the walls of which, five or six feet thick, are of peat— dug from a neighboring swamp—with sawdust to let in the air and light. Across the tops of the walls are rough beams of poplar wood (which can easily be obtained) and on these are placed a stack of straw. This stable was erected by Mr. Bobier himself, and cost nothing but the labor he put upon it. Practically it is as comfortable for horses and cattle as the most costly that could have been erected.

Professor Saunders was interested in the results obtained from some seed wheat which Mr. Bobier had obtained in the spring from the experimental farm. This wheat had been planted in rows in Mr. Bobier's garden. I pulled, at a venture, the root of one seed, and examined thereon

thirty-nine stalks from the single seed. Professor Saunders plucked up another root, and we counted upon it no less than fifty-six stalks. Afterwards, when we went to the granary we counted the wheat in two heads and found in one thirty-seven grains and in the other thirty-nine.

Mr. Bobier said he felt ashamed to say that the turkeys had in some way obtained entrance into the garden and destroyed some of the experimental wheat; but he had, nevertheless, obtained from three pounds some one hundred pounds of clean wheat! The main point, however, was that it had grown and ripened in about fourteen days less time than the red fife wheat which formed the bulk of his crop.

With the assistance of two men and two boys Mr. Bobier had, he said, obtained this year about five thousand bushels of grain and one hundred and ten tons of hay.

In his garden tomatoes had, he informed us, ripened on the ground. He took us to his dining room and distributed to the party a crock of wild black currant jam. It was delicious. The trees which produced the fruit had been transplanted from the prairie and yielded prodigiously.

After partaking of a glass of milk from the dairy of this enthusiastic and successful pioneer of the Northwest, the party proceeded to the farm of Mr. Neff.

Mr. Neff had threshed the grain which grew upon seventy-seven acres—measured by the surveyor—and had obtained 2,800 bushels, or about 37½ bushels per acre. He showed us the barn in which the wheat was stored. It was splendid wheat.

Mr. Neff informed us that he expected to thresh 20,000 bushels of wheat this year.

As an example of success in the Northwest, I may cite the evidence of a Mr. McKinnon whom I met near here. His father had been a crofter on eight acres in Uist and, with two sons and his wife he came out to the Northwest three years ago—penniless—and took up 960 acres. This year the family harvested (Mr. McKinnon said) about two thousand bushels of wheat, besides several hundreds of bushels of oats, and they expected to dig upwards of four hundred bushels of potatoes.

Islanders are continually appearing all along the line. At Cartier Junction I had a few minutes conversation with a son of Mr. McTague, the station master at Tignish; but did not meet Mr. Gaudet who is stationed at Salsbury, or Richard White, who has a C. P. R. office at Biscotasing. Nor was I fortunate enough to meet either Mr. D. A. McDonald or Mr. Albert McLellan, who are practising the profession of the law at Portage La Prairie. I was delighted, however, when Mr. J. J. Arsenault, lately of Tignish, walked into the car in which we were riding—a picture of good health, and an equally unexpected pleasure awaited me at Moosomin when the familiar face of Mr. J. K. McInnis appeared, and when he grasped me by the hand. Mr. McInnis is now the principal of the school here—a highly popular and respected member of this community.

THE MOOSOMIN EXHIBITION. Moosomin is the Gateway City of the great Northwest, the first town in the territories. Three years ago it was nowhere, but it has now three hotels, several churches, a local newspaper, a grain elevator, a new flouring mill (patent process) a railway station and a people full of the ideas of the greatness of the country. Moosomin is en fete to-day, for it is the day of the annual exhibition, and people of all sorts and descriptions crowd its streets. A Hungarian Count, several English swells, a large number of farmers from England, Ireland, Scotland, Ontario and the Maritime Provinces with their sisters, and their cousins and their aunts make up the motley multitude.

For a four years' old community the show is wonderfully large and fine. On entering the Exhibition Building the visitor is at once attracted by the pictures, maps, etc., which adorn the walls. The pictures are by local amateurs—all ladies, I am told—and exhibit good artistic taste, if not great artistic skill. The exhibitor of the best picture is Mrs. F. J. Carman, the wife of one who was, some time ago, a clerk in Des-Brisay's Drugstore. The educational exhibit by the pupils of Mr. J. K. McInnis is creditable in the highest degree. Examples of book-keeping, drawing, etc., are just as good as one sees at the exhibitions in the older Provinces. Mr. McInnis brings to bear upon intelligent boys and girls of the pioneers the skill he acquired in his Island home; and the results are in the highest degree satisfactory. As an evidence at once of the estimation in which his services are held, and the importance attached to education by the people of Moosomin, it may be mentioned that a new schoolhouse was erected only last year, and that an additional schoolhouse four times as large is in course of erection now. In order that all the children may have educational advantages, Mr. McInnis is to have two assistants as soon as the new schoolhouse—a large and well-proportioned building—is erected.

Some very nice fancy work by the ladies was shown, and a most interesting collection of nature's products, viz., thirty-three distinct varieties of grass plucked from the prairie—all of which, with one exception, are said to be eaten by the cattle and good for food.

A pot of beautifully clear honey was one of the exhibits of this four-year-old community; and there were thirty-two exhibits of butter—all well put up. The quality of the butter was pronounced by Professor Saunders to be very superior.

The quality of the wheat shown was, without doubt, splendid; and there were excellent samples of barley, oats, peas, flax, etc. A sample of Russian wheat was shown, of which it was stated that three pounds had been sown on the 26th April and 143 pounds reaped on the 16th August. As to potatoes: an exhibit of seventeen were said to weigh twenty-two pounds; and another exhibit of eighty-five potatoes, eighty-five pounds. A good many varieties were shown.

The vegetables were, on the whole, very fine, and an enormous mushroom was shown as a specimen of the spontaneous productions of the country. The exhibit of cattle was small; but the writer never (well hardly ever) saw finer Durhams than those of the herd of Mr. Finn.

Considering the age of Moosomin, its exhibition was (in my opinion), on the whole, wonderfully good.

DINNER TO THE VISITING PRESSMEN. A public dinner in honor of the visiting pressmen was held at the Queen's Hotel in

the evening. About a hundred gentlemen sat down. It may be mentioned that among those who were present was Mr. Fenyson—a nephew of the poet laureate. The toast to the guests of the evening was very heartily honored, and the following address was read by our Mr. J. K. McInnis:—

TO THE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EASTERN PROVINCES: GENTLEMEN.—The Agricultural Society of the Gateway City of the Northwest, extends to you a hearty welcome to the "loose land."

You behold around this festive board, representatives of your different provinces and of the transatlantic mother countries; who, while they cherish fond memories of the lands they left, are proud of the land they live in, and of the heritage that is theirs. Through you we will bid adieu to our seeking homes, and are endowed with energy and perseverance, come and assist us to reclaim these, the gardens of the desert. The northern fields, boundless and beautiful. For which the speech of England has no name—The Prairies!

We fully recognize the importance of your honorable presence and the part you fill in our education, and in directing the attention of the world to the natural advantages of our common country. May you ever

"The peoples' rights maintain, Unshaken by influence and unbrided by gain."

We are proud to honor you as you have honored us by this visit. We trust your sojourn in the land of our adoption will be pleasing and agreeable to you, and beneficial to all, including the readers of the valuable journals of which you are the distinguished representatives.

Signed in behalf of Moosomin Agricultural Society, J. HEWILL, Secretary.

Some of the speeches delivered during the evening were excellent. Professor Saunders gave a capital address on the agricultural interests of the Northwest; and as an evidence of the development of those interests, Mr. Scarth, M. P. (of Winnipeg) stated that in 1881 the export of wheat amounted to only 100,000 bushels, while they would this year be about 6,000,000 bushels; and Mr. Neff, (a leading man in the locality) said that Moosomin had marketed about 90,000 bushels in 1885, and this year would export upwards of 250,000 bushels. W. L. C.

The Teachers' Provincial Association.

The eighth annual meeting of the Teachers' Provincial Association commenced yesterday morning at 10 o'clock. Mr. J. D. Seaman, President, in the chair.

After a few opening remarks from the chair and the appointment of the usual committees, Mr. Cain was called upon to read his paper on "Elementary Arithmetic." He said the taste of the child for arithmetic is often spoiled in the primary grades through his not being taught to do work mentally. The child uses his fingers or counts strokes in addition and subtraction. A great deal of time is spent in learning the multiplication table, and justly so. But there should be an equally long time spent on the addition and the subtraction tables. Children should be taught to add and subtract expertly. A great deal of time would be saved in after work if those simple operations could be performed quickly.

Pupils are fit to be advanced from the third grade to the fourth in all subjects much sooner than in Arithmetic, and the reason of this is that mental arithmetic is neglected.

Although Arithmetic is one of the most important subjects on the school curriculum, twenty-five per cent. of farmers leave school without having mastered the Rule of Three, to be explained chiefly by the want of suitable text-books.

A great deal of unnecessary time is spent on Reduction and Compound Rules, many of the tables never being in actual business operations. There are not enough of practical questions asked.

We have now a new Arithmetic, "The Prince Edward Island Arithmetic." It is just what is wanted. No rules; all practice.

These practical times demand practical work, and as a large number of pupils leave school very early, special attention should be paid to this part of our work.

The paper was an interesting one, and elicited a lively discussion. Miss McPhail, of Summerside, then read a paper on her methods of conducting a Primary Department. Discussion on the same was postponed till the afternoon session. The paper will probably be published.

At the afternoon session, the matter of the Educational Review was taken up. The convention passed a vote approving of it as their organ, and subscriptions were called for among the teachers.

Mr. LePage then gave a short lesson in English to some pupils of Miss Snaddon's department.

The desirability of holding an inter-provincial convention next year, and not holding a regular session of this convention, was then discussed. The majority of the teachers seemed unwilling to give up their own convention, but all approved of the inter-provincial one. The matter was allowed to stand thus.

Meeting then adjourned.

A crowded audience assembled in the hall of the Upper Prince Street School last evening on the occasion of the public meeting of the Teachers' Convention. Mr. W. E. Dawson occupied the chair. About three hundred pupils of the school filled the raised seats, and under Miss Barr's leadership, sang a number of choruses. A solo sung by Miss Scott, of the Model School, showed a good voice well trained. Mr. Domitian Gallant roused the audience with a French song, to which the Marcellaise was appended, as an encore. Mr. Gabriel McDougall delighted everybody with his violin playing.

Remarks were made by Prof. Anderson on the desirability of increased knowledge of the geography of places of current historical and commercial interest.

Mr. Domitian Gallant spoke on the moral bearings of Education. Rev. Mr. Whitman spoke words of appreciation and encouragement. Mr. Montgomery, Superintendent of Education, gave an account of the beginning of our school system.

Mr. LePage read a paper on "The School as a Centre of Culture," and Mr. L. H. Davies, at the close of the meeting, spoke of the need of the reading of good books on the part of teachers, and would like to see short-hand taught to the higher grades.

Readings were given by Miss Gunn, Miss Wade and Miss Nellie Lawson, and were perhaps the best exhibition of local reading ever given in Charlottetown.

The Chairman, in bringing the meeting to a close, pronounced it the best of the kind he had yet attended in the history of the Institute.

Exhibition Notes.

The following stock from the Government Stock Farm, was sold at auction by Mr. A McNeill:—

- Shorthorn Calf—Geo Mutch, East River, \$20. Shorthorn Bull-calf—Jas G McCallum, Brackley Point, \$16. Shorthorn Bull-calf—John Hughes, (County Line, \$31.50. Ayrshire Bull-calf—Jas McKinnon, Long Creek, \$17.50. Leicester Ram Lamb—A Boswall, Lot 49, \$8. Leicester Ewe Lamb—F L Hazard, city, \$4. Leicester Ram Lamb—John Stewart, Norocro, \$5.50. Oxford Shropshire Ram Lamb—James Duffy, County Line, \$5. Oxford Shropshire Ram Lamb—Murdoch Ross, North Bedouque, \$5. Oxford Shropshire Ewe Lamb—Jas Doyle, Lot 48, \$5.

Among the stock exhibited yesterday was a very fine mare and foal owned by Mr. Henry M. McLeod, Dunstaffnage. The foal, which was a Barrister, weighed 710 lbs., and was a splendid specimen. He was purchased by Mr. John Horne, Winsloe Road, for \$105, said to be the largest sum ever paid on the Island for a foal of his age. We congratulate Mr. McLeod on his success as a stock-raiser and Mr. Horne upon his excellent judgment in purchasing.

We are informed that H. Longworth, Esq., Glenwood, took more prizes in cattle and sheep together than any other exhibitor showing 12 head of cattle, for which he was awarded 11 prizes: 8 first, 2 second and 1 third.

For the best graded shorthorn cow in milk, any age, the 1st prize was taken by J. Henry, Royalty; 2nd, Charles Palmer, city; 3rd, Henry Rackem, do; instead of by Messrs. Hurry Palmer and Hurry as stated yesterday.

The following was omitted from the prize list yesterday: Pure bred Shorthorn Heifer Calf, calved in 1887, 1st prize, H. Longworth; 2nd do, F. G. Boyver; 3rd do, none.

Mr. C. A. Hyndman took 1st prize for white grapes grown under glass, showing a splendid collection.

Police-Marshall Thibideau, of Moncton, was among those present at our exhibition.

We are indebted to Mr. McNeill and his assistants for courtesies extended.

The Women's Missionary Society

The second annual convention of the New Brunswick and P. E. Island Branch of the Women's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church began on Wednesday morning last in the school room of the Centenary Methodist Church, St. John, N. B. The delegates from the Island were Mrs. Job Shenton and Mrs. Johnson of Charlottetown, and Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Nickerson, of Bedouque.

Mrs. Johnson replied to the address of welcome, and Mrs. Shenton read a paper on the subject of Missionary work and women's increasing interest and activity in it.

The general report showed that in nearly all the localities where auxiliaries were established the outlook was gratifying and encouraging.

The Charlottetown auxiliary, through the report, expressed regret at not being able to report greater progress during the past year, the membership not having increased, except in the addition of life members. Their monthly meetings were well attended. The auxiliary feels a special interest in the Japanese field work as they support a girl at Tokio. The funds come chiefly from membership fees, but \$20 was collected at entertainments. The mite boxes given to members had not been opened in time to be reported. The mission band was doing admirably.

The report of the Bedouque auxiliary showed that both in a financial sense, and in the growth of interest and earnestness, the prospects were very encouraging. Missionary literature was being more widely circulated. The receipts this year by the society were \$63 in excess of those of last year.

After the presentation and adoption of the different reports a very pleasant entertainment of a varied order was proceeded with. A very interesting feature of this portion of the session was the missionary debate which was written by Mrs. Shenton, the subject being a resolution, offered by one young lady, to the effect that missionary work was a mistake and should be discontinued. The young ladies acquitted themselves vigorously and well, throwing much spirit into the discussion, and all deciding against the resolution.

St Joseph's Bazaar.

THE Bazaar which opened in St. Joseph's Convent, Pownal Street, on Tuesday afternoon, closes with the usual auction sale on Saturday evening next. As is customary at the Bazaars held by the ladies of St. Joseph's Sodality, no pains are spared to cater to the tastes of the large number of people who attend each day and evening. There are fancy tables upon which can be seen every description of ladies' handiwork; tea and refreshment tables loaded down with the good things of this life, and also all the other attractions to be found at such affairs. The proceedings throughout are enlivened with choice selections by the Artillery Brigade Band.

There are the usual number of lotteries of useful and fancy articles. Some of these lotteries came off last night with the following result:—

- Silver Butter Cooler—Richard Moran. Fire Screen—Hannah Mullin. Picture of Sir J. A. Macdonald—Mrs. Trainor. Album—Thomas Donahoe. Illuminated Crucifix—Mary Lannon. Painted Plaque—Rev. D. F. McDondald.

PROFESSOR BUELL

WILL GIVE HIS

Grand Spectacular Entertainment

—IN—

St. Dunstan's Cathedral.

—ON—

TUESDAY, 11th OCTOBER.

In aid of the Funds of St. Vincent de Paul's Society. Tickets:—Body of Cathedral (seats numbered) 25 cents; Gallery, 20 cents. To be had at Roidin's Drug Store. Doors open at 7; entertainment commences at 8. Ch'town, Oct. 7, 1887.

EXHIBITION WEEK

AT THE

LONDON HOUSE.

Our Exhibition of Fall and Winter Goods this year is large and attractive.

HARRIS & STEWART

SUCCESSORS TO

GEO. DAVIES & CO.

Ch'town, Oct. 3, 1887.—wky

THE LARGEST EXHIBITION

—OF—

Cheap Dry Goods and Clothing IN THE CITY.

We Take First Prize for Cheapest and Best Goods.

OUR STOCK IS NOW COMPLETE.

See our Wonderful Bargains in DRESS GOODS, S AQUE CLOTHS, WOOLEN GOODS, FUR GOODS, CLOTHS OF ALL KINDS, IN EVERYTHING,

JAMES PATON & CO'S.

Successors to W. A. WEEKS & CO.,

MARKET SQUARE.

Ch'town, Oct. 4, 1887.—dy & wky

THE SCOTT ACT,

The "Star" Tailoring Establishment

Cannot be defeated in turning out the noblest fitting Suits, Overcoats, Reefers, Ulsters, &c., and at prices away down below competitors. Remember this is not a mere blow, but stern facts that cannot be got over by our competitors. Try us and you will be convinced.

Our Fall Stock is now complete. By calling and examining it you will see that we keep as fine a range of goods as any house in the trade.

We also keep a good and select stock of GENTS' FURNISHINGS, which will be sold at prices that for cheapness cannot be beaten.

VISITORS TO THE EXHIBITION,

And all who are in need of Suits, Overcoats, Reefers, Ulsters, &c., you will Save Money by leaving your order at our Establishment. Work done when promised.

We are now prepared to make up, in the Latest Style, Ladies' Newmarkets, Raglans, Dolmans, Wraps, Sacks, Tailor-made Suits, Riding Habits and all Tailor-made garments worn by the Gentle Sex.

MCLEOD & MCKENZIE.

Charlottetown, Oct. 1, 1887.—eod & wky

OPENING AND TO ARRIVE:

ENGLISH AND CANADIAN

DRY GOODS & CLOTHING

—ALL AT—

ROCK BOTTOM PRICES.

GEO. E. FULL,

Sign of the LION, Queen Street.

Ch'town, Sept. 24, 1887.—eod & wky