

FARMING AND RANCHING
IN

WESTERN

CANADA

Manitoba,

Assiniboia,

Alberta,

Saskatchewan.



CALGARY, ALBERTA.

M. N. Co

at
1-11-11

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MAP

OF

WESTERN CANADA

INCLUDING

OF MANITOBA

AND

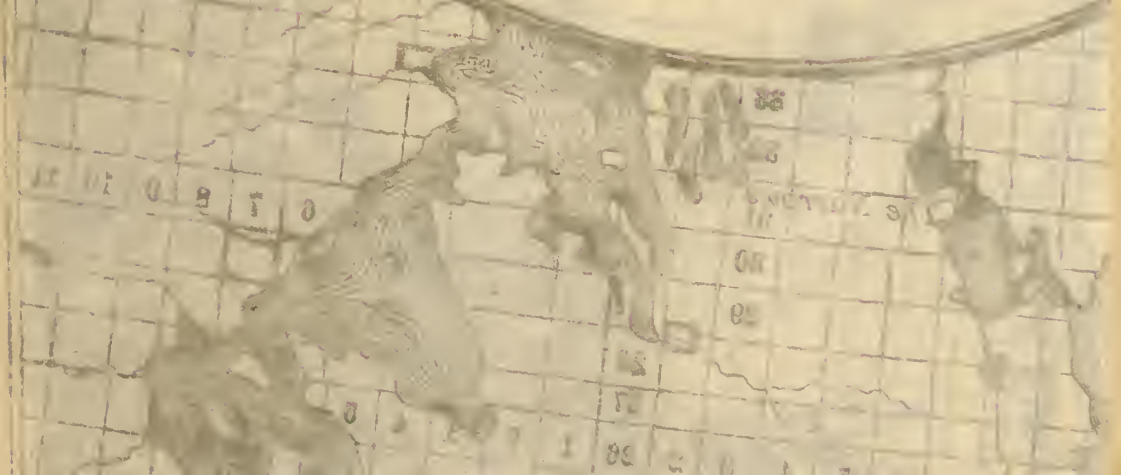
Saskatchewan and Manitoba

Showing System of Land Survey
and the Lines of the

PACIFIC RAILWAY
COMPANY

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OTTAWA

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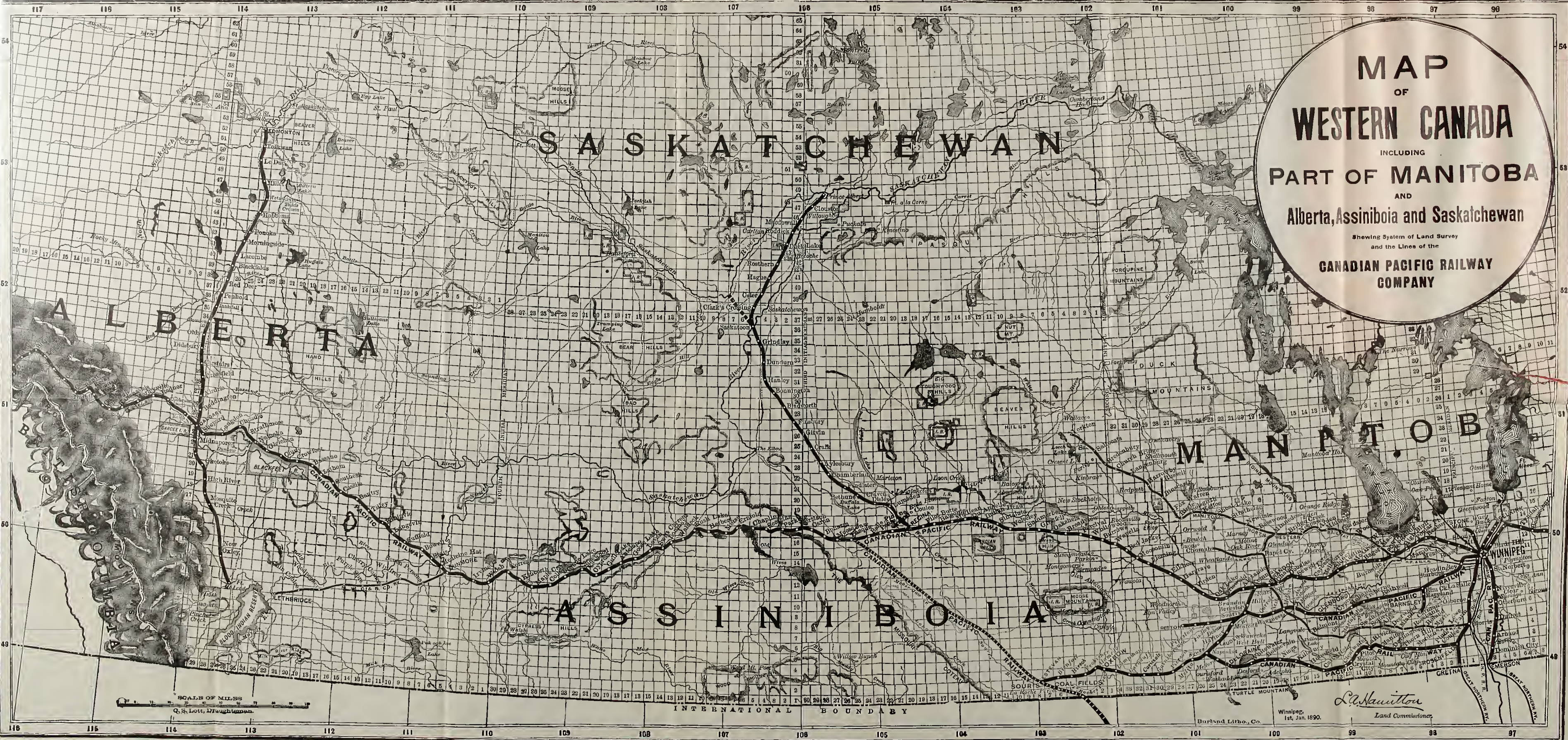
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MAP
OF
WESTERN CANADA
INCLUDING
PART OF MANITOBA
AND
Alberta, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan
Showing System of Land Survey
and the Lines of the
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
COMPANY



SCALE OF MILES
Q. S. Lott, Draughtsman.

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY

Burland Litho. Co.
Winnipeg, 1st Jan. 1890.
L. A. Hamilton
Land Commissioner.

20

Western Canada



MANITOBA,



ASSINIBOIA,

ALBERTA AND



SASKATCHEWAN



4P
F212
K92
C213

How to Get There.

How to Select Lands.

How to Begin.

How to Make Money.

1892



SHEEP RANCHING, ALBERTA.

WESTERN CANADA

IS COMPOSED OF

✦ MANITOBA ✦

Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan.



THE COUNTRY TO SETTLE IN.

THOSE who doubted, and those who wished the public to disbelieve the reports concerning the fertility of the Canadian Northwest have ceased to be heard ; the first have been converted into warm advocates of the country's merits, the others are silent for very shame sake, and because no one will now believe them.

The superior quality of the wheat and other cereals grown upon these lands and the greater yield per acre, when compared with any other portions of the continent, is now universally acknowledged, and, while the crops obtained are greater, the amount of labor required to produce them owing to the nature of the soil is less than in any other country. The climate and natural pasturage are both highly favorable to stock-raising, and as a result no finer cattle are to-day shipped across the Atlantic to the English market, than those which have matured upon the plains of Manitoba and the North-West territories.

It is no longer a question whether it is a good thing to go to the Canadian North-West, but simply in what part of that great country it will be best to make a home.

The following pages if carefully read will impart a sufficiently accurate knowledge of the vast territory that is comprised in the words Western Canada. The reader will learn what the general features of the several divisions are, which localities are preferable for grain raising, for mixed farming, and for ranching. He will learn from this book where to seek that kind of land he thinks the best, which are the chief towns, markets, etc., for each division, and will find general information concerning the best way of getting to the west, and full particulars of government and railway lands regulations, with other information bearing on the subject of settling in Western Canada.

HOW TO REACH THE WEST.

COLONISTS having arrived in Canada at Quebec or Montreal in summer or Halifax in winter, travel to new homes in Ontario, Manitoba, the North-West, or British Columbia by the Canadian Pacific Railway in colonist sleeping cars which are taken upon the same fast train with the first-class cars. These cars are convertible into sleeping cars at night, having upper and lower berths constructed on the same principle as those of the first-class sleeping cars, and equally as comfortable as to ventilation, etc. *They are taken through, without change, all the way from Montreal to Manitoba. No other railway can do this.* No extra charge is made for the sleeping accommodation. Second-class passengers, however, must provide their own bedding. If they do not bring it with them, a complete outfit of mattress, pillow, blanket and curtains will be supplied by the agent of the Company at the point of starting, at a cost of \$2.50—ten shillings. The curtains may be hung around a berth, turning it into a little private room. In addition to this, men travelling alone are cut off from families by a partition across the car near the middle; and smoking is not permitted in that part of the car where the women and children are.

The train stops at stations where meals are served in refreshment rooms, and where hot coffee and tea, and well-cooked food may be bought at very reasonable prices. The cars are not allowed to become over-crowded, and the safety and welfare of passengers are carefully attended to. Every possible care is taken that the colonist does not go astray, lose his property or suffer imposition. Where a large number of colonists are going to the west together, special fast trains of colonist sleeping cars are dispatched.

No other railway in America offers such good accommodation to colonist passengers, as does the Canadian Pacific.

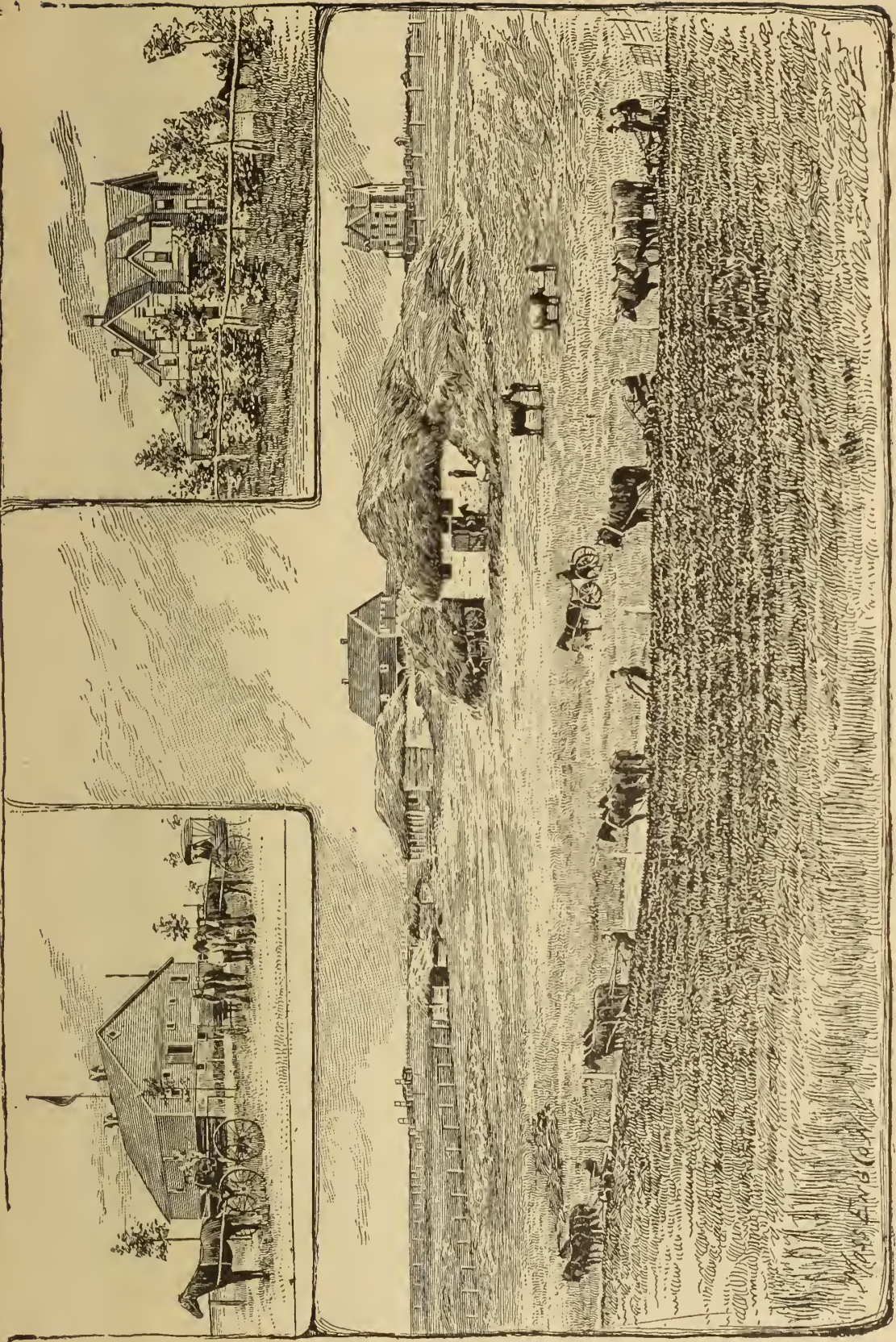
The train is met upon its arrival at Winnipeg or before reaching that city, by the agents of the Government and of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, who give colonists all the assistance and advice they require in regard to their new home.

In cases where they have already fixed upon some locality for settlement, where friends are awaiting them, they are shown how to proceed directly to that point. If they have not decided upon such a locality, but intend to seek a home somewhere further west, every information can be obtained at the Land Office in Winnipeg.

Most men wish to examine for themselves the section which seems to them most suitable, and this is strongly recommended in every case. They are assisted in doing this by officials appointed by the Government for the purpose.

Meanwhile, the family and baggage can remain at the Government immigrant house in safety and comfort. Providing themselves with food in the city markets, they can cook their own meals upon the stoves in the house; and, with the bedding which has served them during their journey, they can sleep in comfort in the bunk bedsteads with which the rooms are fitted. Should they prefer, however, to stop at an hotel, they will find in Winnipeg public houses of all grades, where the total cost for each person varies from \$1 (4s.) to \$3 (12s.) a day, according to circumstances.

It sometimes happens that the intending settler has not much more than sufficient money to carry him as far as Winnipeg. In that case he will be anxious to begin immediately to earn some money. The Dominion and Provincial Governments have each an agency in Winnipeg whose business it is to be informed where labour is needed. Societies repre-



FARM NEAR GRISWOLD, MANITOBA.

senting almost all the nationalities of Europe have been formed in Winnipeg, and will welcome and see to the welfare of their respective countrymen.

The arrival of a party of settlers is always announced in advance, so that contractors who are employing men in building, railway construction, or in some other work in the city of Winnipeg or neighbourhood, may take as many of the newcomers as choose to go to work with them. Farmers are generally on the lookout for able men and pay good wages. The average wages paid are \$20 (£5) per month and board. The girls of a family can always find employment in Winnipeg and other towns, in domestic service, in hotels, shops, factories and establishments, employing female labour. Good wages are paid to capable girls, and little time is lost in getting a situation.

CAPITAL REQUIRED.

THE question "How much is necessary?" is a difficult one to answer. It depends upon circumstances. Very many men have gone into the North-West without any capital and have prospered. A little capital, however, makes the start easier and saves valuable time. Some statements of what can be done upon a certain capital, say 500 dollars (£100) or 1,000 dollars (£200) or 3,000 dollars (£600) may, nevertheless be advantageous.

This information has been given by many writers, in tables of various kinds and for various localities; but all amount to about the same conclusion, namely:—

The 500 dollars (£100) will set a man down upon some western quarter-section, (160 acres) obtained as a free homestead or one chosen among the cheaper lands belonging to the Railway Company, and enable him to build a house and stay there until his farm becomes productive and self-supporting.

In this connection a practical farmer of some years residence in Manitoba speaks as follows:

"Land can be purchased cheaply here, or it can be had for nothing by homesteading. A single man can start on an outlay of \$385, made up as follows: One yoke of oxen and harness, \$115; plow, harrow, etc., \$40; stove and kitchen furnishings, \$40; bedding, etc., \$20; lumber, doors, windows, etc., for log house, \$50; provisions, \$90; seed, \$30. A farmer with a family of five would have to lay out \$240 more, bringing his outlay up to \$625.

A farmer can come in about the middle of March, select his land and build his shanty; he can commence to plough about the fifth of April; he can break ten acres and put it under crop on the sod; he can continue breaking for two months after he puts the ten acres under crop, and can break thirty acres, and backset the forty acres in the fall ready for crop in the spring. He can raise enough on the ten acres to give him a start; he can cut hay enough for his oxen and a cow in July, and it will cost him about \$60 additional to seed the forty acres in the spring.

Suppose he puts in 30 acres of wheat, and raises only 25 bushels to the acre, at 80 cents per bushel, it will be worth \$600; say 5 acres of oats at 40 bushels per acre at 35 cents per bushel, \$70; say 1 acre of potatoes, 200 bushels at 40 cents, \$80; 3 acres of barley, 40 bushels per acre, worth 40 cents, \$48; and 1 acre of garden stuff at \$120; total \$918. After deducting expenses of harvesting and the whole original outlay the farmer will still have something to the good to start with next year."

It must not be forgotten, however, that hundreds have arrived in

HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

All even-numbered sections of Dominion Lands in Manitoba or the North-West Territories, excepting 8 and 26, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or other purposes, may be homesteaded by any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over eighteen years of age, to the extent of one quarter-section of 160 acres, more or less.

ENTRY.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office in which the land to be taken is situate, or if the homesteader desires he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, receive authority for some one to make the entry for him. A fee of \$10 is charged for an ordinary homestead entry; but for lands which have been occupied an additional fee of \$10 is chargeable to meet inspection and cancellation expenses.

HOMESTEAD DUTIES.

Under the present law homestead duties may be performed in three ways, and on making application for entry the settler must declare under which of the following conditions he elects to hold his land:—

1. Three year's cultivation and residence, during which period the settler may not be absent for more than six months in any one year without forfeiting the entry.

2. Residence for two years and nine months anywhere within two miles of the homestead quarter-section, and afterwards actual residence in a habitable house upon the homestead for three months at any time prior to application for patent. Under this system 10 acres must be broken the first year after entry; 15 additional in the second, and 15 in the third year; 10 acres to be in crop the second year, and 25 acres the third year.

3. The 5 years' system under which a settler may reside anywhere for the first two years, (but must perfect his entry by commencing cultivation within six months after the date thereof) breaking 5 acres the first year, cropping these 5 acres and breaking 10 acres additional the second year and also building a habitable house before the end of the second year. The settler must commence actual residence on the homestead at the expiration of two years from date of entry, and thereafter reside upon and cultivate his homestead for at least six months in each of the three next succeeding years.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT

may be made before the local agent, or any homestead inspector. Before making application for patent the settler must give six months' notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands of his intention to do so. When, for convenience of the settler, application for patent is made before a homestead inspector, a fee of \$5 is chargeable.

A SECOND HOMESTEAD

may be taken by anyone who on the second day of June, 1889, had received a homestead patent or a certificate of recommendation counter-

signed by the Commissioner of Dominion Lands upon application for patent made by him, or who had earned title to his first homestead on, or prior to, that date.

INFORMATION.

Newly arrived immigrants will receive at any Dominion Lands Office in Manitoba or the North-West Territories information as to the lands that are open for entry, and from the officers in charge, free of expense advice and assistance in securing lands to suit them; and full information respecting the land, timber, coal and mineral laws, and copies of these Regulations, as well as those respecting Dominion Lands in the Railway Belt in British Columbia, may be obtained upon application to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa; the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Lands Agents in Manitoba or the North-West Territories.

For disposal of the public lands by free-grant, or sale, the Dominion has established the following agencies, at which all the business in relation to lands within the district of each must be transacted:—

DOMINION LANDS OFFICES.

(Figures are Inclusive).

MANITOBA.

Winnipeg and Dufferin Districts Combined.—Includes all surveyed townships, Nos. 1 to 25 north; ranges—all east of 1st meridian, and ranges 1 to 8 west; also townships 1 to 4, ranges 9 to 14, and townships 5 to 7, ranges 9 to 12 west. Agent, Winnipeg.

Souris District.—Township 5, ranges 13 to 18, townships 6 and 7 ranges 13 to 2nd meridian, townships 8 to 12, ranges 9 to 2nd meridian Agent, Brandon.

Turtle Mountain District.—Townships 1 to 4, ranges 15 to 2nd meridian, township 5, ranges 19 to 2nd meridian. Agent, Deloraine,

Little Saskatchewan District.—Townships north of and including 13, ranges 9 to 22 west. Agent, Minnedosa.

Birtle District.—Townships north of and including 13, ranges 23 to 2nd meridian. Agent, Birtle.

ASSINIBOIA.

Coteau District.—Townships 1 to 9, ranges 1 to 30 west 2nd meridian. Agent, Estevan.

Qu'Appelle District.—Townships 10 to 23, ranges 1 to 30 west 2nd meridian. Agent, Regina.

Touchwood District.—Townships 24 to 31, ranges 1 to 30 west 2nd meridian, townships 32 to 36, range 1 west 2nd meridian to range 6 west 3rd meridian, townships 37 and 38, 2nd meridian, to range 5 west 3rd meridian. Agent, Saltcoats.

Swift Current District.—Townships 1 to 30, ranges 1 to 30 west 3rd meridian, township 31, ranges 1 to 6 west 3rd meridian. All business transacted at Regina.

ALBERTA.

Calgary District.—Townships 13 to 18, range 24 west 4th to B. C., and townships 19 to 30, range 1 west 4th; townships 31 to 42, range 8 west 4th meridian to B. C. Agent, Calgary. A sub-agent is located at Red Deer Station, who receives entries for lands in that district.

Edmonton District.—Township north and including 43, range 8 west 4th to B. C. Agent, Edmonton.

Battleford District.—Townships 31 to 36, range 7 west 3rd meridian to 7 west 4th meridian; townships 37 to 38, range 6 west 3rd meridian to range 7 west 4th meridian; township 34 northwards, range 11 west 3rd meridian to 7 west 4th meridian. Agent, Battleford.

Prince Albert District.—Township 39 northwards, range 13 west 2nd meridian to 10 west 3rd meridian. Agent, Prince Albert.

Lethbridge District.—Townships 1 to 18, ranges 1 to 24 west 4th meridian, and townships 1 to 12 between westerly limit of range 24 and boundary B. C. Agent, Lethbridge, N. W. T.

From time to time the boundaries of the different agencies are liable to alteration as the progress of settlement renders advisable. In every case, however, ample notice is given to the public of any changes made in the land districts, and in the case of colonists newly arriving in Manitoba they can obtain the fullest possible information in regard to all land matters by inquiring at the office of the Commissioner of Dominion Lands in Winnipeg.

At the offices in the districts, detailed maps will be found, showing the exact homestead lands vacant. The agents are always ready to give every assistance and information in their power. For the convenience of applicants, information as to prices and terms of purchase of Railway lands may be obtained from all station agents along the Company's main line and branches. In no case is an agent entitled to receive money in payment for lands. All payments must be remitted directly to the Land Commissioner at Winnipeg.



ON THE BOW RIVER—ALBERTA.

RAILWAY LAND REGULATIONS.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Lands consist of the odd numbered sections along the Main Line and Branches, and in the Saskatchewan, Battle and Red Deer River Districts. The Railway Lands are for sale at the various Agencies of the Company in the United Kingdom, Eastern Canada and the North-West Territories, at the following prices :—

PRICES.

Lands in the Province of Manitoba average \$3 to \$6 an acre (12s. to £1.4).

Lands in the Province of Assiniboia, east of the 3rd Meridian, average \$3 to \$4 an acre.

Lands West of the 3rd Meridian, including most of the valuable lands in the Calgary District, \$3 per acre.

Lands in the Saskatchewan, Battle and Red Deer River Districts, \$3 per acre.

For the convenience of investors the following maps, showing in detail the lands and price, have been prepared and will be sent free to applicants :

A.....	Central Manitoba.
B.....	Western Manitoba.
C.....	Southern Manitoba.
D.....	Coal Fields and Oxbow.
E.....	Between 2nd and 3rd Meridian.
F.....	Cypress Hills District.
G.....	Calgary District.
H.....	The Saskatchewan Valley.

The Lands shown on Maps A, F, G, H, are sold at the uniform price of \$3 an acre.

TERMS OF PAYMENT.

If paid in full at time of purchase, a Deed of conveyance will be given; but the purchaser may pay one-tenth in cash, and the balance in payments spread over nine years, with interest at six per cent. per annum, payable at the end of the year with each instalment.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

All sales are subject to the following general conditions :

1. All improvements placed upon land purchased to be maintained thereon until final payment has been made.

2. All taxes and assessments lawfully imposed upon the land or improvements to be paid by the purchaser.

3. The Company reserves from sale, under the regulations, all mineral and coal lands; and lands containing timber in quantities, stone, slate and marble quarries, lands with water-power thereon, and tracts for town sites and railway purposes.

4. Mineral, coal and timber lands and quarries, and lands controlling water-power, will be disposed of on very moderate terms to persons giving satisfactory evidence of their intention and ability to utilize the same.

Liberal rates for settlers and their effects will be granted by the Company over its Railway.

L. A. HAMILTON,
Land Commissioner, C. P. Ry. Co., Winnipeg.

MANITOBA.

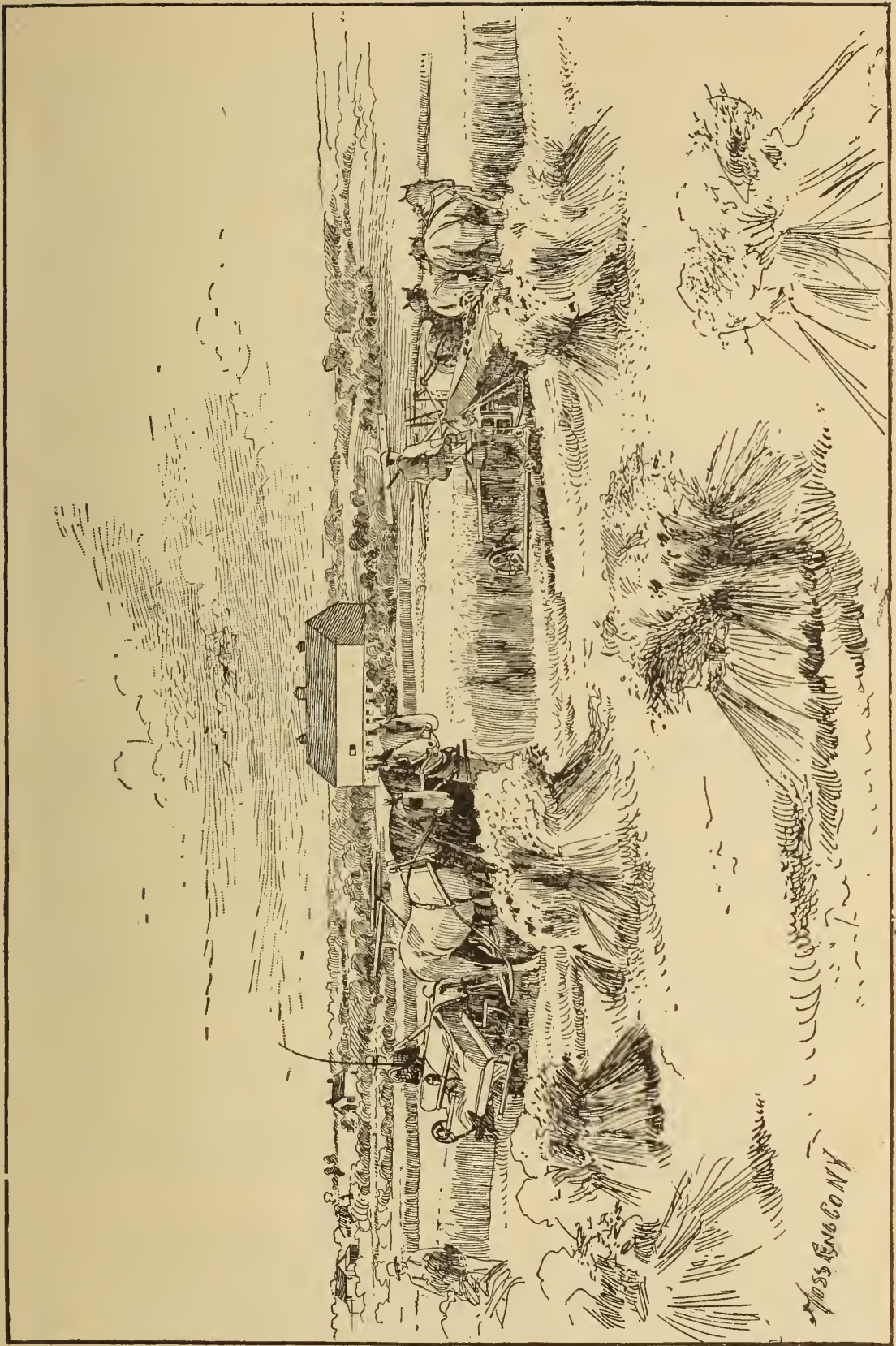
MANITOBA, one of the seven Provinces of the Dominion of Canada, contains 116,021 square miles, equal to about 74,000,000 acres. It is the easternmost portion of the great prairie country of Canada and extends about 300 miles from East to West, and the Southern boundary is determined by the 49° parallel of latitude, the boundary line between Canada and the United States. It will be observed that Manitoba lies further south than England.

The general feature of the country is that of a broad rolling prairie, relieved at intervals, by gently rising hills, and numerous bluffs and lakelets.

For purposes of description it may be divided into the Red River and Assiniboine River Valleys, and Southern Manitoba.

RED RIVER AND ASSINIBOINE VALLEYS.

The Valleys of the Red and the Assiniboine Rivers are noted throughout the American Continent for their fertility. In them is raised the highest grade of wheat, that which fetches the best price in all markets, and a greater average yield of hard wheat than is produced in any other country. Oats and barley, grow in equal profusion, roots generally grow to the largest attainable size and have carried off prize after prize at agricultural exhibitions, and the native grasses of Manitoba are equalled by those of few places in the world, and excelled by none. It is a healthy country for stock of all kinds, and mixed farming, as distinguished from wheat growing, is found to be the most paying method. The Red River and Assiniboine Valleys are served by the main line and branches of the Canadian Pacific, the Manitoba and Northwestern and other railways. Grain is marketed at every station, and at most of them there is a grain elevator for storing wheat, and at many of them a flour mill. Few stations are without an adjoining town or village where churches of various denominations have been established, where the public school is open free to all, and where the several stores supply all the requisites of an ordinary household or farm. In these two main valleys are, for the present purpose, included those of smaller streams falling into the two rivers and the lakes north of the Canadian Pacific Railway. There is now very little free land left in the best agricultural sections of Manitoba, but there is some excellent grazing country intermixed with farming land in the neighbourhood of Manitoba, Winnipeg and Shoal Lakes, and a large quantity of railway land for sale at prices ranging from three dollars (about 12s) to five dollars (£1). The country is much diversified, some parts being open prairie, and others well wooded and watered, having the appearance of English parks.



FARM NEAR BRANDON, MANITOBA.

J. S. B. 60 N.Y.

SOUTHERN MANITOBA.

This district is penetrated by four branches of the Canadian Pacific Railway, so that at no point is the farmer remote from markets. Excepting the wooded hills and hollows of the plateau called the Pembina Mountain, through which the Pembina River has cut a ravine, which the railway crosses, and some other limited spots, the whole of this vast region is undulating prairie. There are many streams, and in the southern part several large lakes; one of which, Pelican, is the largest of a chain of half-a-dozen or more strung together. This lake is thirteen miles long, and bordered by steep and lofty cliffs, well wooded, and the resort of deer and game birds. The lake contains fish and is a resort of large quantities of wild fowl. In many spots, dry during all the summer months, moisture enough gathers to promote a plentiful growth of forage, so that the sowing of hay or other fodder is never thought of. Two tons of this wild hay per acre is not an unusual amount to cut. There are numerous towns and villages interspersed through this part of Manitoba with the accompanying grain elevators, mills, schools, churches, etc. Most of the free land in Southern Manitoba, desirable for wheat raising has been taken up, but there is a large acreage of the best land still open for purchase at from three to six dollars, and some tracts of free land suitable for grazing. Improved land can be bought near the railway at \$5 to \$15 (£1 to £3) per acre. The soil is rich and deep, and water is reached at a moderate depth. New coal mines on the Souris branch have recently been opened and settlers in Southern Manitoba will be supplied with coal at a cost not exceeding \$4 (16s) per ton.

CITIES AND TOWNS OF MANITOBA.

WINNIPEG, at the junction of the Red River and the Assiniboine, is the capital of Manitoba and the chief distributing city of the whole North-West of Canada. It is situated about midway between Montreal, the Atlantic Ocean summer terminus, and Vancouver the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Pacific. The *American Land and Title Register* says of it:—

“It is the great mart of a country of nearly 2,000,000,000 acres of rich territory; the seat of government of the keystone province of the Dominion of Canada; the centre of the political, social, literary, monetary and manufacturing world of the Dominion of the Canadian West, with its suburb, St. Boniface, the fountain head of the educational institutions of not only Manitoba, but the whole North-West.

Its positive pre-eminence is yearly becoming more pronounced and commanding. Twenty years ago a small isolated settlement, then a struggling village, then a town; when, on the advent of the first railway, it rose, within a few years, to the proud position of one of the leading trade centres of the continent. Ten railways, branching like spokes in a wheel in all directions, gather the wealth of an inland empire to empty it at her feet.

The navigation of the Red River, Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba, the great Saskatchewan and other navigable streams, make tributary to its thousands of miles of important coast line. Seventy-five per cent. of the wheat land of North America is directly tributary to it, while untold wealth of iron, coal, salt, petroleum, gold, silver, lumber, fish, timber, furs, horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, etc., go to swell resources and backing more vast and varied than are possessed by any other city in the world.

To-day no other city in America is attracting so much the attention

of capitalists, and no other city can offer such inducements to investors. The most competent judges pronounce its real estate the cheapest on the continent, while we look in vain elsewhere for a city of such natural advantages or such a bright and dazzling future."

The population of Winnipeg is about 29,000.

The next in importance are Portage La Prairie and BRANDON, both on the Assiniboine, the one 56 and the other 133 miles by rail west of Winnipeg. These are bright and progressive towns, each being a centre for a considerable area of farming country, and a railway junction point. Killarney, Morris, Deloraine and others including the new town of Estevan at the Souris coal fields, are market towns for the business of Southern Manitoba.

CLIMATE OF MANITOBA.

The seasons in Manitoba are well marked. The summer months have bright, clear, and often very warm weather; but the nights are cool. The days are very long on account of the high latitude, and grain has some hours more each day for ripening than in southerly latitudes, thus making up for the comparatively shorter season. Harvesting begins about the middle of August and ends early in September, all the grain coming pretty well together. The autumn months are considered the finest of the year. The atmosphere is serene and free from moisture, frequently for periods of several weeks.

That the winter is cold, there is no doubt, but the atmosphere is buoyant, the sun shines almost every day, and when it is very cold there is seldom any wind; the air is extremely bracing and health-giving.

The dryness of the air is the secret of the degree of comfort experienced even when the mercury is very low, for that sensation of penetrating chill which makes the cold weather of coast regions so severe, is not felt. Snow never falls to a great depth, and the railway trains across the plains have never been seriously impeded by it. As this snow is perfectly dry, a person never has wet feet or soaked clothing by it. Men travel with teams everywhere, taking their grain to market, hauling fuel, building and fencing material, and doing all their work. Stock will live out of doors, so far as the cold is concerned, but require to be fed with hay. They should, however, be housed at night. Every one unites in testifying to the healthfulness of the country. Ploughing is generally in the early part of April, though much of the land is usually ploughed in the preceding autumn. The snow disappears rapidly and the ground dries quickly. Winter closes promptly and decisively. Sowing is done during almost the whole of April, and is finished early in May.

SETTLERS' TESTIMONY.

The following are a few extracts from a great number of letters received, speaking of Western Canada and the several writers' experiences in it:

WELLAND, Man., Oct. 2, 1892.

I am a native of Kincardineshire, Scotland, and earned my living there by working on a farm, and the wages were so small I was hardly able to earn a bare living for myself and family, and having ambition to better my condition I made up my mind to go to Manitoba. I left Glasgow on June 2nd, 1888, and went to Carberry, in Manitoba. I worked on a farm the first year, and earned three hundred dollars. I went to Wellwood,

twelve miles north of Carberry, where water and wood were handy and the soil good, and bought a farm of 160 acres, I paid \$100 down and the balance in annual instalments. I paid \$150 for two oxen and a cow, leaving \$50 to keep house till the crops grew. All the farming implements I needed were willingly lent to me by kind neighbors. I have now a good stock of farming implements of my own. I have also three good horses and twelve good cattle, besides a good stock of poultry and pigs, all of which are paid for. I have never had a failure in crops, nor have I suffered damage from any cause.

There are a few farmers in this country who have not been very successful. There are always people in every country who are unsuccessful—some for the want of economy and others who are too lazy to work,—but my experience is that any man who works hard and attends to his business can soon make a good, comfortable home.

There are still homesteads to be got in some parts of the country, but land can be bought from the C.P.R. or from private parties on so easy terms that in most cases it is cheaper to buy land in a good and well-settled district. I can, with confidence, recommend Manitoba to those who intend to farm. It has good soil, it has good schools, it has a good self-government and good churches.

Although the winters are cold they are clear and dry. I find them far more agreeable and healthier than that of the Old Country. To the young man I would say: Go to Manitoba, where work is plentiful and wages good, and to those who wish to make a free and independent living, if you are able and willing to work, go to Manitoba.

1 am,

(Signed) ALEX. R. LANGMUIR.

HENSALL FARM, Oct. 29th, 1892.

DEAR SIR,—I came to this province from the province of Ontario in the spring of 1884, and during the last eight and a half years I find that my family and myself have enjoyed the best of health; our children have had the benefit of school privileges equal to those of the older province of Ontario, and we are better financially than we were there.

We have not hitherto done much in the way of stock-raising, ours being especially an arable farm. We are now, however, going into mixed farming, believing it to be a more satisfactory system.

During the past nine seasons our wheat has averaged 27 bushels per acre and oats 53.

We have always kept from twenty-five to forty hogs, and have found them to pay well. I think it is desirable for a settler to have about \$3,000 (£600) to make a satisfactory start in this country. Of course, more would be better, but if he is possessed of a good constitution, energy, perseverance and common sense he will succeed.

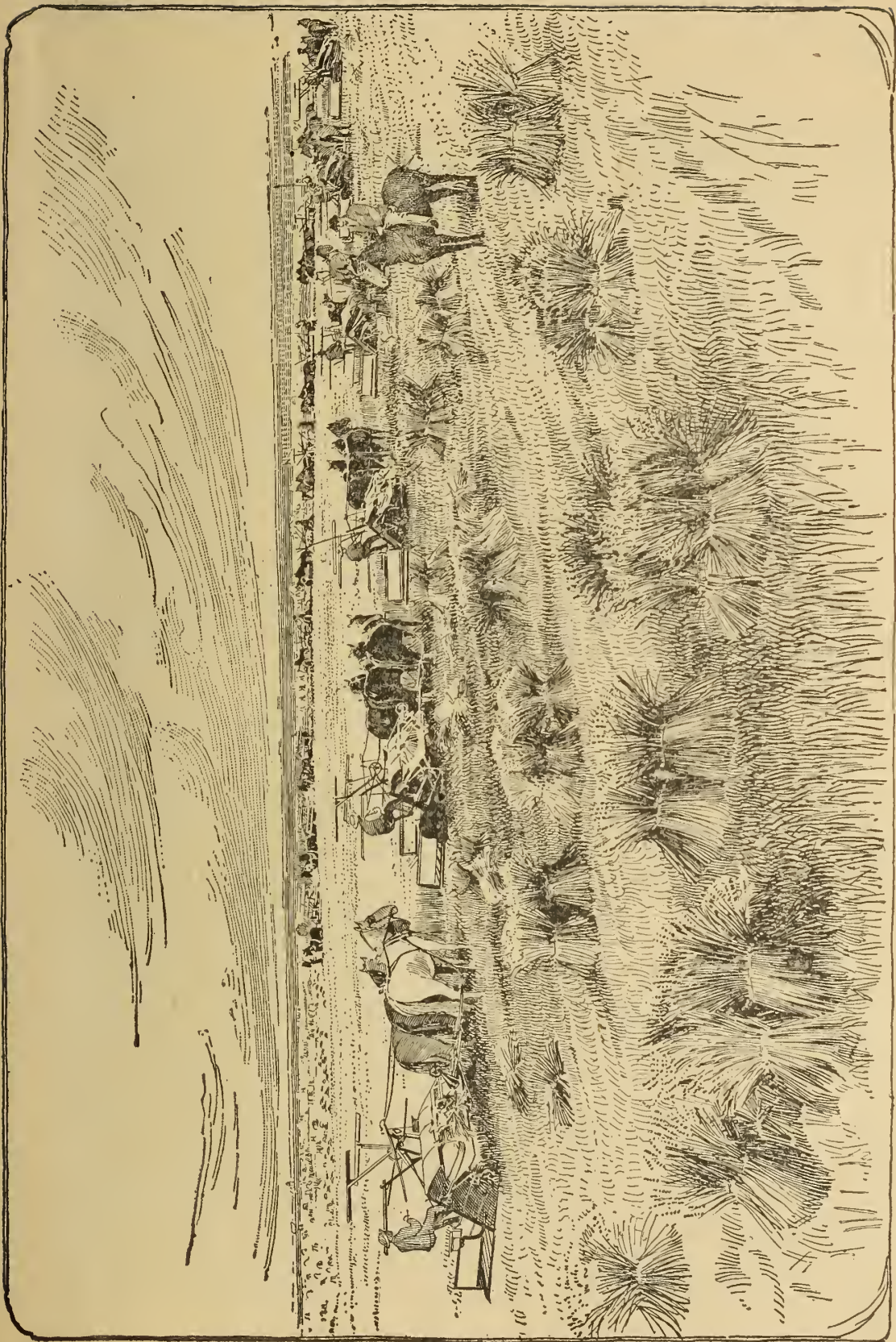
I would advise any young man who is not an experienced farmer to engage for a year or two, at moderate wages, with a thoroughly practical farmer, and make up his mind to take hold of everything as it comes, and thus learn not only the principles but also the practice of farming.

Yours truly,

(Signed) JAMES ELDER,

Hensall Farm, Virden, Man., Canada.

P.S.—Whilst I say \$3,000 to make a satisfactory start, of course a man can get along with a good deal less, but would have drawbacks to contend with.



REAPING ON SANDISON FARM NEAR BRANDON, MANITOBA.

In a letter to the Hon. Mr. Greenway, Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Manitoba, Mr. H. C. Simpson, a farmer in the vicinity of Virden, says :

"I will give the results of a venture I made in growing wheat, which I think you will agree was very successful. I bought a quarter section of land, sandy soil, seven miles from Virden, during the spring of 1889, and broke and backset 120 acres of it. It is very smooth and level, so it was as easy to break as ploughing ordinary stubble. I sowed it with Eureka wheat, and started cutting on the 7th of August last year. I threshed 2,375 bushels off it. I have sold it now at 95 cents per bushel, which comes to \$2,256 (£451.4s) I paid \$3.50 (14s) per acre for the land, or say \$560 (£112); my expenses, including seeding, threshing, etc., amounted to \$485; so that I have the land for nothing, and a net profit of \$1,200. These figures are correct, because I have taken great care to keep an accurate account of my expenses."

BRANDON SUN: "As an instance of what can be done by pluck and perseverance, together with careful management, the case of Mr. E. Cleveland, of Routhwaite, Manitoba, is interesting. Last year Mr. Cleveland had 4,500 bushels of the very best grade of grain. The whole of this crop was sown and harvested by himself with the aid of three small horses. The only outlay for wages was about \$37.50 (£7.10), during harvest. He has sold 1,500 bushels and from this realized enough to pay all his debts, leaving him a snug balance to pay current expenses. The balance of his crop he is storing and will not sell until spring. Mr. Cleveland started in 1881 with \$14 (£2.16s.)"

MELITA December 14th, 1891.

SIR,—I obtained an entry for a homestead, S. West $\frac{1}{4}$ 16-4-26 homestead, N. West $\frac{1}{4}$ 16-4-26 purchased in 1888, and in the spring of 1889 rented sixty acres ready for crop, and seeded it to wheat. My capital amounted to \$800 (£160), which I invested as follows: team and harness \$300, cow \$25, rent \$180, seed and feed \$125, wagon \$50, plow \$20, house \$75, store \$25, which was the limit of my capital; however, by obtaining a small amount of credit I managed to make both ends meet until fall. The first season was occupied in building a sod stable and breaking and backsetting fifty acres. The first season's crop when threshed and marketed realized enough to pay all my bills, finish and paint my house and make some additions to stock. The following year I seeded the fifty acres to wheat, and rented some additional ground for oats. During this season I broke and backset sixty acres more. When threshed and marketed my second crop paid all expenses and paid a third payment on another quarter section. In 1891 I seeded ninety-seven acres of wheat, fourteen of oats and six of barley, besides half an acre each of flax and millet, which I sowed on breaking from the above. I threshed 3,420 bushels of wheat, 900 bushels of oats, 600 bushels of barley, and ten bushels each of flax and millet. The wheat I sold at 77c. per bushel, hauling it from the separator direct to the elevator. My total outlay for wages was \$80, which leaves a snug sum to invest in more land and pure bred stock, besides having 1,100 bushels of grain left for seed and feed.

This is the result of three years on a homestead, and it has not been accomplished by slavery or drudgery in any way, but like results may

be accomplished by anyone who has the energy to do a fair day's work and the courage to stick to it.

Yours truly,

J. B. CLAPP, Melita.

To L. A. HAMILTON, Winnipeg.

Messrs. Blasson & Johnston are two young Englishmen who came out to Manitoba in 1888. Mr. Blasson came out in May and worked out first on Messrs. Bouverie & Routledge's farm at Virden and then on their own ranche in the Riding Mountain.

After working out and gaining some colonial experience they bought a farm of 320 acres one mile from Virden on the C. P. R. They bought land from the Hudson's Bay Company without any improvements on it and in the fall we find them with house, stable, wells, pasture fenced in, and one hundred acres ready for the next years crop. Fortune favored them and they made \$1400.00 (£280) their first year's attempt at wheat growing doing all their own work and employing no hired help at all. Besides the \$1400.00 wheat money they made \$500.00 doing contract work with their teams for neighboring farmers. Success encouraged them to run a bigger crop and the following year they had 160 acres, 100 acres in wheat and 60 in oats. This year again success crowned their efforts and we saw in the papers in the fall "Messrs Blasson and Johnston shipped the first three car loads of No. 1 hard Manitoba wheat into Winnipeg from the west" and at the Fall show they took first prize for brood mare and colt in the saddle and driving classes.

They are raising horses both Clydesdales and blood stock.

This year they bought another 160 acres and have broken up one hundred acres. They now have over three hundred acres under cultivation and one hundred fenced in for pasture with Gopher Creek running through it. The whole of the work on this farm has been done by these two young fellows themselves without any hired help at all except at harvest time.

These are the sort of men wanted in a new country; men with a little capital who know how and are willing to work and increase it. They started with a capital of three thousand dollars each and made \$1,900.00 their first crop and \$2,200.00 the second. Next year they will run 200 acres in wheat 50 oats and 40 timothy grass for hay. At a fair valuation of their land buildings, horses and farm implements as they stand today they are worth \$11,000.00 a very fair increase on their capital outlay \$6000.00 three years ago.

They are thorough believers in working out for a while before starting and would strongly advise any intending purchasers to gain some practical experience before investing their capital. They say that if a young man is ever going to succeed in any colony he must work and learn to do things himself and not pay a premium as a pupil to sit and watch other men do them.

In addition to the foregoing I may say that I know both the parties mentioned. That they are now considered by practical competent Judges 1st class farmers and the work done on their farm has been admired by the very best of Canadian farmers.

(Signed) T. ROUTLEDGE.

Virden, Manitoba.

WELLWOOD, 11th Nov. 1892.

In complying with a request from resident farmers in this Province I cheerfully give the following. I have lived in Manitoba for the last

twenty-one years constantly on the farm, viz; nine years in Burnside and twelve on my present farm in Wellwood and have no hesitation in saying that any energetic pushing man would do well farming here.

So far as I am concerned I have no reason to regret coming nor yet staying so long, as I do not know of any part of the Dominion or in fact of America that I could of done any better.

To any intending settler I would just say if he is willing to use a reasonable amount of labor, skill and patience he will be sure to succeed.

ROBT. FERGUSON.

Reeve of North Cypress.

Man.

DELORAINÉ TIMES: "M. B. Wilson & Son raised from 400 acres of land 14,470 bushels of No. 1 wheat, and from 75 acres of land 4,620 bushels of oats, and off 12 acres of land 483 bushels of barley, making in all 19,573 bushels of grain from 547 acres of land this year. Mitchell Bros. threshed for Mr. N. Haggert, and turned out an average of 38 bushels an acre on 90 acres of wheat, 50 acres of which was threshed from the stook."

TESTIMONY FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. Noble, the Secretary of the Interior Department of the United States, travelled through the Canadian Western Territories and on being asked for his opinion of the country said:—

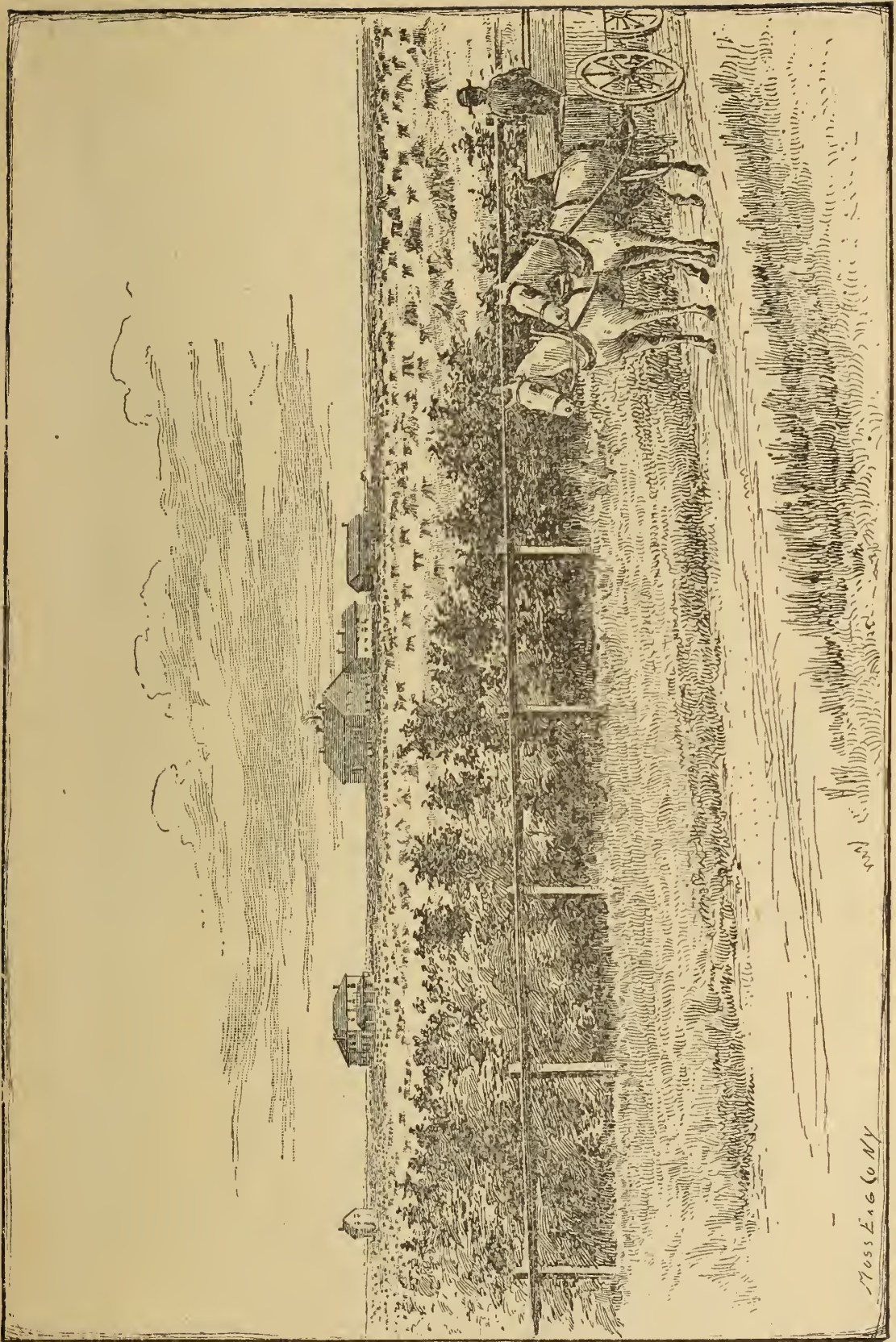
"It is not necessary for me to give you a panegyric, the world is beginning to recognize what a country you have. As I travelled through your grain fields to-day, two epithets kept recurring to my mind, 'beautiful, magnificent.' You have the best material here for a country that will make itself felt in the history of the world. The freedom of your life has an irresistible charm, and in your great railway you have the facilities for rapid and startling developments."

Messrs. C. M. Barnes, N. B. Blair, and other visiting farmers from the State of Vermont, say in their report:—"We also visited and met Mr. Sandison, the wheat king of Manitoba, who came here nine years ago as a farm laborer, without capital, and now owns a farm of 7,000 acres, 3,000 of which is under a high state of cultivation, the crop being principally wheat.

After bidding adieu to Brandon we next visited Regina, where teams were kindly furnished the party by the land agent, who drove us through a fine farming country, and we were highly pleased with the splendid crop and the fertility of the soil.

Mr. Knechtel, of the State Michigan, went to examine Western Canada in the interest of a number of Michigan farmers, desiring to improve their condition, and said in his report:

"I arrived in Winnipeg June 29, and on the following day proceeded to Southern Manitoba. The country is very suitable for mixed farming. The soil is a black, sandy loam, with clay subsoil, and gives evidence of great fertility in the wonderful crops it produces. Many of the farmers I visited expected the wheat to yield 35 bushels to the acre. Oats, barley and all kinds of garden vegetables were showing an excellent growth.



Moss Eng Co NY

FARM SCENE, INDIAN HEAD, ASSINIBOIA.

I visited the Turtle Mountains along the South of Manitoba. They are covered with timber, (poplar, scrub oak and ash), which yields a good supply of firewood. A great many creeks run out of the mountains and numerous marshes in the vicinity give abundance of hay. There is a beautiful lake of pure clear water at Killarney, and a larger one at White-water. Generally speaking the well-water is excellent. Near Deloraine quite a productive coal mine has been opened up, and cheap coal is expected in the near future.

"I visited the Portage Plains and the Brandon district, and went as far west as Regina. I venture to say that along the main line of the Canadian Pacific, from High Bluff to Virden, there is one of the most productive cereal-growing districts of the world. Some idea of the crops can be gained from the fact that it was found necessary, this year, to import 1,700 farm laborers to assist the farmers to harvest their grain, and a great many more are still required. A noticeable feature of the grain fields is the evenness of surface showing the soil to be of uniform strength. There are fields of hundreds of acres, in which the grain all stands about the same height. I was informed that there was no midge, weavel, rust or blight of any kind to injure the grain."

GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

The Department of Agriculture in the Manitoba Government publishes annual reports showing the acreage under cultivation in the Province, and the harvest yielded. These reports show the following figures :—

AVERAGE YIELD.			
	1890.	1891.	1892.
	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.
Wheat.....	20.1	25.3	22.7
Oats.....	41.3	48.3	43.16
Barley.....	32.1	35.6	32.19
Potatoes.....	235.0	180.4	
Produce of—			
Wheat.....	14,665,799	23,191,595	Peas 23.00
Oats.....	9,513,433	14,762,605	
Barley.....	2,069,415	3,179,879	Flax 17.00
Potatoes.....	2,540,820	2,291,982	

ASSINIBOIA.

EASTERN ASSINIBOIA.

The District of Assiniboia lies between the Province of Manitoba and the District of Alberta, and extends north from the International boundary to the 52nd parallel of latitude, and contains an area of thirty-four million acres. It is divided into two great areas, Eastern Assiniboia and Western Assiniboia. Each of these divisions has its own peculiar characteristics; the eastern portion being essentially a wheat-growing country, and the western better fitted for mixed farming and ranching. In Eastern Assiniboia the great plain lying south of the Qu'Appelle river and stretching south to the International boundary, is considered to have the largest acreage of wheat land, possessing a uniform character of soil, found in any one tract of fertile prairie land in the North-West. The eastern part of the District is known as the Park Country of the Canadian North-West. At Regina is the junction of the Prince Albert branch with

the main line of the C. P. R. This branch running north-west through the Qu'Appelle District affords a large choice of land for mixed farming.

The Qu'Appelle District contains a large tract of excellent farming country, watered by the Qu'Appelle River and the fishing lakes, a chain of six lakes, in all about twenty miles long with an average breadth of a little over a mile. The land is rolling prairie dotted with bluffs, the soil is black loam and clay subsoil. The water of the lakes and river is excellent and stocked with fish. It is a country renowned for wild fowl and other game, of which settlers obtain an abundant supply for the table. As in Manitoba, there are convenient markets for grain and farm produce at the railway stations, with schools, churches and stores at the several towns and settlements.

WESTERN ASSINIBOIA.

This division of Assiniboia, extending to Kininvie, about forty miles west, of Medicine Hat, a town on the south branch of the Saskatchewan river, is at present more occupied by ranchers raising cattle and sheep than by farmers. It is everywhere thickly covered with a good growth of nutritious grasses (the grass is usually the short, crisp variety, known as "Buffaloe Grass," which becomes to all appearance dry about midsummer, but is still green and growing at the roots, and forms excellent pasture both in winter and summer. A heavy growth of grass suitable for hay is found in many of the river bottoms and surrounding the numerous lakes and sloughs. Professor Macoun, in his exploration of these hills, found that the grasses of the Plateau were of the real pasturage species, and produced abundance of leaves, and were so tall that for miles at a time he had great difficulty in forcing his way through them. Although their seeds were all ripe, August 14th their leaves were quite green. It is amazing the rapidity with which poor emaciated animals brought from the East get sleek and fat on the buffaloe grass of the plains.

The supply of timber on the hills is considerable. There is also an abundance of fuel of a different kind in the coal seams that are exposed in many of the valleys.

Settlers in this section of the Company's lands have thus at hand an abundant supply of timber suitable for house logs and fencing, and both coal and wood for fuel.

The principal settlements are in the district south of Maple Creek, Dunmore and Medicine Hat. Parties in search of land, either for mixed farming or stock-raising, might with advantage examine the country south-west of Swift Current Station, a long the Swift Current Creek, south and west of Gull Lake, south of Maple Creek, the valley of Mackay Creek that flows north from the hills crossing the track at Walsh, and south of Irvine and Dunmore.

CITIES AND TOWNS OF ASSINIBOIA.

The principal town of Eastern Assiniboia is Regina, the Capital of the Northwest Territories. This is a railway centre and an active business place. The Legislature meets at Regina, and it is the headquarters of the Mounted Police, the Indian Department in the Territories and other public offices. A branch line runs north through the Qu'Appelle district and on to Prince Albert, on the north branch of the Saskatchewan. Moosejaw is another town, a hundred miles west. Medicine Hat, on the south branch of the Saskatchewan, is the chief town of the Western Assiniboine, and Dunmore is the junction of the Alberta Railway and Coal Company, whose line runs southwest to the mines at Lethbridge.

CLIMATE.

The climate of Eastern Assiniboia is much the same as that of Manitoba, but Western Assiniboia feels the effects of the Chinook winds, which come from the Pacific Ocean and remove much of the snow that falls during two or three months of the year. This circumstance, together with the rich growth of grass, has of late brought parts of Assiniboia into favor with cattle, sheep and horse raisers.

TESTIMONY OF SETTLERS.

Of 22-18-27 W. 2, one of the Directors of the Moosejaw Agricultural Society :—

“I came to the Moosejaw District in 1883 from the town of Clinton, in the County of Huron, Ont., and then settled on the said land upon which I have since resided. I am more than satisfied with my change. The soil is first-class for farming and the prairie grass cannot be beaten for stock raising. I have raised good crops except in 1886 when there was a failure, and this year my crop will be over four thousand bushels of grain, chiefly wheat. It is exceedingly good soil for garden produce, all roots grow to an amazing size out here. Any one that is not afraid of work and who is prudent and has some capital to start with is sure to succeed out here.

JOHN B. BEESLEY.

Marlborough P.O., Assiniboia.

I came to the North-West Territories of Canada in 1883 from Chester in England, and bought a half section of C. P. R. land and since that time (in 1890) I bought another half section adjoining the land first purchased by me. It requires energy, perseverance and prudence to make a success of farming in this country. But possessed of these and a little capital, one can scarcely fail to do well. I have this year threshed out 10,500 bushels of grain, about 8,000 bushels of which are wheat. The soil is excellent for agricultural purposes. It could not be better. The country is wonderful for grazing. My stock run out nearly the whole of the winter and thrive well doing so. If I can make farming pay in this country after paying for all the labor required in it (as I do), surely an active, energetic, persevering prudent man need not fail of success in this North-West.

MARIA LATHAM.

Moosejaw, Assiniboia.

Mr. Charles Dodd, of Broadview, Assiniboia, said on October 20th, 1890:—

“I came from County Durham, England, in 1882. When I reached Winnipeg I had just \$200 in my pocket. To-day I am worth \$3,000. This year I had forty acres under oats and got a fine crop of extra good grain, which averaged 45 bushels to the acre. I had ten acres of wheat which averaged 22 bushels per acre of first-class grain. I have done well myself, much better than I could have done in England, and anyone willing to work can do the same.

CHARLES DODD.”

Asked concerning this letter Mr Dodd replied :—

“Say I arrived in Winnipeg with \$2 instead of \$200 and you will be nearer the right thing. Our crops this year are beyond our highest

expectations. Wheat to 45 bushels per acre, oats to 75 bushels per acre, and other yields in proportion. Our district is especially adapted to mixed farming, having plenty of good hay land, wood and water, the only thing we lack being settlers."

"I came from the Parish of Holt, Worcestershire, England, and in the spring of 1883 settled upon my present location, where I have since that remained. I am well satisfied with my change from the Old Country to this. The soil here is unquestionably A1. Any farm laborer, or farmer, whatever be his means, will greatly benefit himself by coming to this country from Great Britain or Eastern Canada if he is an energetic and thrifty man. I myself began life here with one yoke of oxen and a plough. I have now 480 acres of land, eight horses, fourteen head of cattle, a complete outfit of agricultural machinery, and about 7,000 bushels of grain, (chiefly wheat), raised during the past season. I am well satisfied with the progress made by me in the past and with my prospects for the future.

H. DORRELL.

President of the Moosejaw Agricultural Society.

Moosejaw, Assiniboia.

MR. DELGATTY'S STATEMENT.

In the spring of 1889 we came to the Moosejaw District from the county of Huron, Ont., (that is, my wife and seven children and myself), with the following outfit: A team of horses, one cow, some implements and household goods, and about \$50 cash, and all willing to work. We rented a piece of land with a house, put in about 20 acres crop, which furnished seed for the next year. We then entered for a section of land (640 acres). We have now a very comfortable house (frame), also a granary 16 x 24, good stabling, although rude, three horses, four oxen, two cows and some young stock, and all the implements necessary to work our farm. Our second boy has also taken a half section, so that in all we have 900 acres of land, the finest soil I ever saw under the sun. We are situated near the Moosejaw creek, about two miles from Pasqua station, surrounded by all the conveniences known to eastern life. If you desire to write me for pointers, address

ALEX. DELGATTY,
Pasqua, N.W.T.

PASQUA Assiniboia.

FORRES, Assa., May 10, 1892.

L. A. Hamilton, Esq., Winnipeg :

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your enquiry I would say that I consider the Cypress Hills to be one of the best cattle ranges in the country, especially the range between Swift Current and Medicine Hat. My experience has been mostly in the part lying between Maple Creek and Forres, and I consider this to be the best part of the range, being situated in the Chinook belt, and sheltered by the Cypress Hills, together with the large number of coulees and ravines, which afford splendid grazing ground and shelter, and the large number of creeks and lakes that are in the district, and the rich grazing lands, all tend toward the advantages possessed by this district as a cattle range.

This district is also suitable for horse raising as the many large bands will show, and after running at large all winter they come out in the spring fat and in fine condition. I would advise anyone coming to this country to start raising horses and cattle, and to settle somewhere in this district, for as I said before I firmly believe we have the best range in the country.

Yours truly,
G. E. NUGENT.

Mr. McNeil, manager of the coal mines at Canmore and Anthracite, Alberta, writing to the *Oskaloosa Herald* says:—

“My drive over this wheat belt was a revelation. Nowhere else in any country on earth is there such an unbroken expanse of soil adapted to wheat raising as this territory from Winnipeg to the foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains. The crops uniformly grade No. 1 hard. They yield 30 to 50 bushels to the acre. The price of land from \$2 to \$5 an acre. The cost of production, liberally figured, 20 cents per bushel. The value this year at the station is 75 to 80 cents. Young men pay for a quarter section of ground and improvements in one season with the crop they raise. Single owners with little or no starting capital cropped last year as high as 50,000 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat, and own the property they raised it on. Thirty million bushels of grain went out of this stretch of country to the market last year. Canada, which has more area than all Europe, could beyond any doubt, absorb the entire population of Europe and feed it out of this granary.

SASKATCHEWAN.

This division of Western Canada, comprising 114,000 square miles, extends from the northern boundary of Assiniboia for several hundred miles northwest, and contains large districts of excellent land for grain culture and mixed farming. The principal town is Prince Albert, on the north branch of the Saskatchewan River, which rises in the Rocky Mountains and flows eastward in two branches through Alberta and the Saskatchewan territory into Lake Winnipeg, in Manitoba. It is the present terminus of the Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is watered by innumerable lakes and small streams, and is of a very diversified topographical character. There are extensive grazing plains through which the railway passes in the southern portion, but the greater part of it is rolling prairie diversified by wood and lake. In these parts, which are well adapted for mixed farming, the soil is generally a rich loam with clay subsoil, in which grass grows luxuriantly and grain ripens well. Settlement is at present chiefly in the Prince Albert and the Battleford districts, in both of which there is a great quantity of the best land open for selection free to Homesteaders, *i. e.* settlers who take up Government land to cultivate and live upon it. In great measure that which may be said of one district applies equally to the other. The crops consist of wheat, oats, barley and potatoes. Turnips and all kinds of vegetables are raised successfully. Normal yield of wheat (Red Fyfe), about 30 bushels to the acre in favorable seasons; 1 to 1½ bushels sown to the acre. Oats about 60 bushels, from three sown to



FARM SCENE NEAR PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATCHEWAN.

the acre. Barley has not been grown extensively, there being no demand for any quantity of this cereal in the district, but it has always given a good yield in favorable seasons.

TOWNS.

Prince Albert is the chief town of this territorial division. It is beautifully situated on the south bank of the North Saskatchewan, and is in the centre of an extensive farming district. A branch line runs between it and Regina and another line from Portage La Prairie is in course of construction. It is well supplied with stores, churches, schools, mills, etc. Battleford is another well-situated town on the delta of the Battle River, or a little west of Prince Albert; and there is a town destined to be an important centre near the Qu'Appelle lakes.

CLIMATE.

The climate is healthy, and free from endemic or epidemic disease. It is bracing and salubrious, and is undoubtedly the finest climate on earth for constitutionally healthy people. Average summer temperature, about 60°. The reason of the equability of the temperature in summer has not yet been thoroughly investigated, but the water stretches may be found to account for it. Spring opens about the beginning of April. Seeding is generally completed in May. Third week in August is usually the time when harvest begins. During winter settlers are generally employed in getting out rails for fencing, logs for building purposes and fuel, and in attending to cattle and doing work which cannot be undertaken during busy seasons of spring or summer.

STOCK-RAISING, RANCHING, Etc.

The country is well adapted for stock-raising on a moderate scale, such as would be suitable for mixed farming. Cattle must be fed, and should be sheltered three months to four months every winter. For bands of from 300 to 500 it is unsurpassed. Horses winter out well, and can, therefore, be kept in large bands. Sheep require the same care as cattle, and are better in small flocks.

DAIRY FARMING, Etc.

Any portion of this district will answer all the requirements for dairy farming. In and on the slopes of the Eagle Hills or south of the Saskatchewan would be most suitable, owing to the luxuriance of the grass and prevalence of springs. North of the Saskatchewan there is abundance of grass in many places, particularly in the vicinity of Jackfish and Turtle Mountain. Pure water in abundance everywhere. Nights are cool. Home demand has always exceeded the supply, so that dairy products have had to be imported. Fuel consists of wood, which can be had in abundance in all parts of the districts, except in the extreme south.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S VIEWS.

PRINCE ALBERT, N.W.T., Nov. 8, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—In compliance with your request for my opinion of this country generally and the district of Prince Albert in particular, I arrived here from England about four months ago, and since then have made several trips hither and thither for the purpose of seeing the country preparatory to taking up a homestead. I have never seen any country so admirably adapted to the requirements of settlers who wish to "live by

the land," and especially for those who are desirous of engaging in mixed farming or cattle breeding. The country between the rivers, with its brusque undulations, numerous lakes and picturesque bluffs, the broad slopes of the Birch Hills, and beyond the Carrot River, where the wide prairie is studded with timber belts and intersected by rippling brooks, seem to cry aloud for the settler. All are good; wood, water and hay are in abundance. The exceeding fertility of the rich, dark soil is evidenced by the luxuriant growth of the wild pea vine, natural grasses and other beef-producing herbage, while garden vegetables of nearly every description can be brought to perfection. The climate, in my opinion, is without exception the most enjoyable I have ever met with. During the hottest days of summer the heat is less oppressive than in Europe, while the nights are cool and pleasant. Of the winter I cannot yet speak from experience, but no one seems to complain of the low temperature, and some appear actually to consider winter the most pleasurable season of the year.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

S. H. SCROGGS.

TESTIMONY FROM UNITED STATES FARMERS.

Delegates from the State of Vermont visited Western Canada with the view of reporting upon the country for their friends in the Eastern States. The following are extracts from the several reports:

"I will only say that I saw the best wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, cattle and land that I have ever seen. I think it is the place for a poor man."—*S. C. Pollard, Essex, Vt.*

"The best wheat, oats, potatoes and barley I have seen are at Prince Albert and Stony Creek."—*Ezra Rinney, Jericho, Vt.*

"It is the best place for a poor man to make a home for his children."—*W. A. Pollard, Westford, Vt.*

"I can most heartily recommend it to anyone who wants a cheap home with a good living and money laid up for the future."—*Arthur Ellis.*

"The soil is wonderfully rich, producing a variety of luxuriant grasses that make the finest hay in the world. There is no place in America where a man can create a comfortable home in so short a time, and my advice to every young and middle-aged man is not to allow this land to be taken or given to railways without making a selection first, as no doubt these fine farming lands that are given by the Canadian Government to those who wish to become settlers will be very soon taken and made 'homes plenty.'"—*A. F. Goff, Richford, Vt.*

"I consider the country well adapted for mixed farming, and the pioneers have little to contend with in making a home for themselves and families compared to what the old pioneers of the New England States had."—*E. J. Wilder, Sheldon, Vt.*

"I should say that the country would make a fine home for a young or middle-aged man. The lands are so very low in price or free to homestead that those who go there with the intention of getting a home in earnest must succeed."—*M. W. Rounds, Enosburgh Falls, Vt.*

"After thorough inspection of the country between Prince Albert and Stony Creek District, I think it one of the finest countries for stock raising I ever saw, also grain raising, and am convinced that any industrious man can make a comfortable home inside of three years."—*F. S. Ransom, Jericho, Vt.*

All the other delegates made similar reports.

A party of Delegates from the State of Maine, reporting upon Western Canada as a field for settlement, say :—

“We started out to inspect the Carrot River and Stony Creek districts, and we believe that this is without doubt one of the finest, if not the finest, country on the continent of America, as all the requisites for successful farming are found here in great abundance and of a very fine class; the water is first-class, and there is just enough timber for building purposes and fuel, without it being in the way for farming operations. We spent four days looking over this country and stopped one night at Mr. Myers’ place. We saw his cattle, and would not believe our own eyes when he informed us that they had not had a roof over their heads all winter, and had been fed on the hay made from natural grass of the prairie; the cattle were all in first-class condition, and most of them even fat. Everything bore evidence to prosperity in this country. Mr. Myers grew 35 bushels of No. 1 hard to the acre, and oats weighing 45 lbs. per bushel, with 90 bushels to the acre, and barley with a yield of 60 bushels an acre. We then visited the Stony Creek district, and had a look at Mr. Campbell’s farm there. He raised 432 bushels of oats on $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres, weighing 42 pounds per bushel, and as fine a lot of oats as was ever grown.

“We noticed that the prices paid for farm produce were such that, with reasonable care and good management, a poor farmer in the Canadian Northwest ought to become independent in a few years. The climate is a very agreeable one, and although it certainly is cold here in the winter time, still anybody does not seem to feel it as much as in the eastern countries, it being extremely dry. During the most severe storm of the season we drove all day, the driver without gloves of any kind, and not even an overcoat on, while some of our party were very thinly dressed and had no cover for our hands whatever, and we cannot say that we suffered from the cold very much.

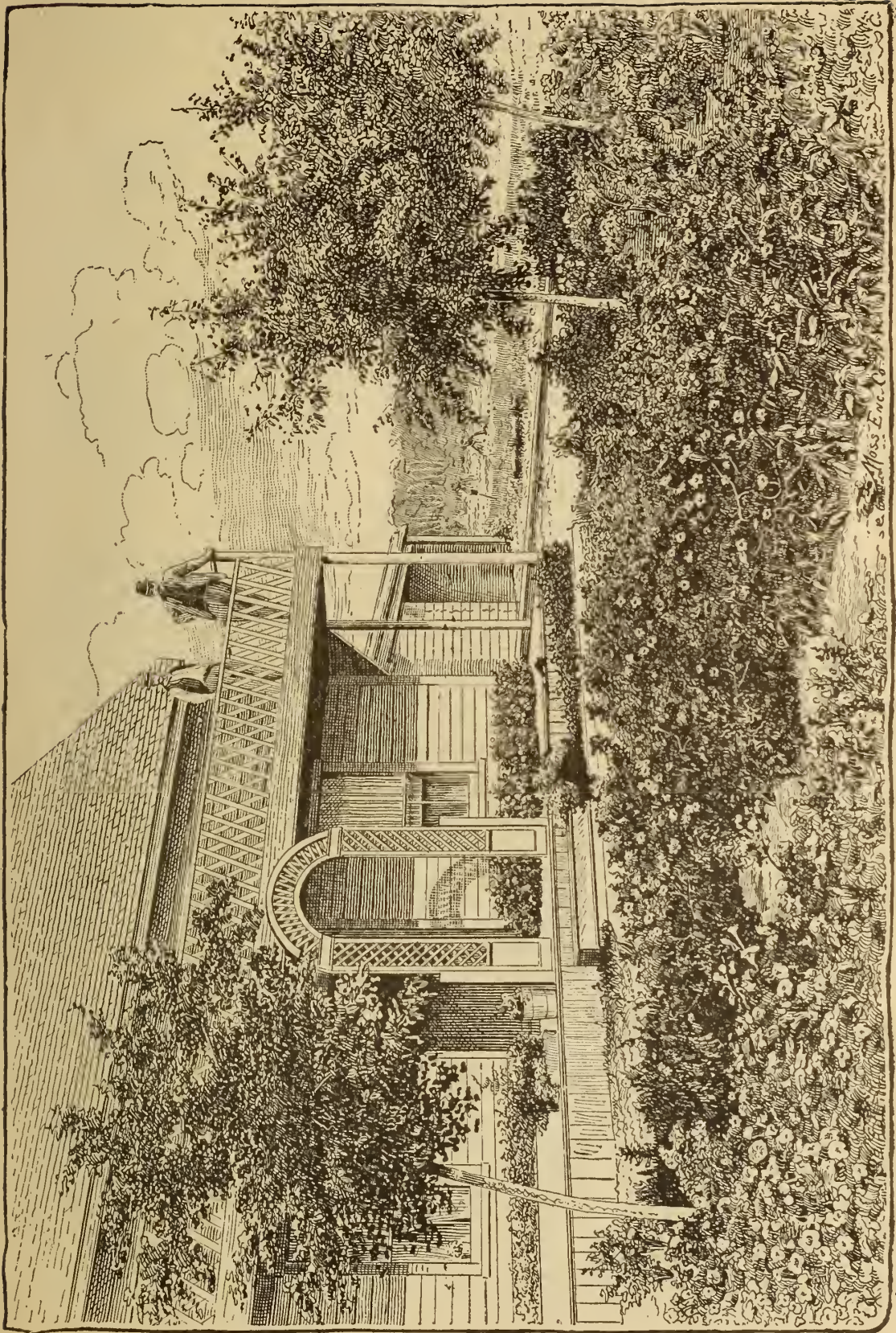
“In conclusion we wish to state that the best evidence we can give of our entire satisfaction with the country is this: that as soon as we possibly can we are going to sell out our property in the State of Maine and move to the great Canadian Northwest, where we intend to take up land and make our future home, and our advice to every man, woman and child in the State of Maine particularly, and the United States generally, is: ‘Go and do likewise.’

“A. H. PRICE, North Fryeling, Maine; C. MURPHY, Maine, F. A. RUSSELL, Andover, Maine; E. MURPHY, Maine.”

A delegate from the State of Michigan, reporting to the farmers in his State, says:

“I was very much pleased with the appearance of the Prince Albert District. The country in the immediate vicinity is admirably adapted for stock raising. It is hilly and contains numerous small lakes and marshes, where the hay grows from two to three feet long. The hills, too, are covered with a very luxuriant growth of grass, pea vine, etc. There is an abundance of timber, (spruce, oak and poplar), for fencing and firewood. About fifty miles from Prince Albert, along the Stony Creek and Carrot River, there is a locality unsurpassed in the Territories for mixed farming. Homesteads (Free) can be had in this locality, or land can be purchased for \$2.50 an acre.”

“People enjoy to live in a country where there is some good scenery. Along this line, though the surface of the country is gently undulating, yet in some places it is sufficiently broken to become delightfully pictur-



FARM HOUSE AND GARDEN NEAR EDMONTON, ALBERTA.

Wm. Ross & Co. Engrs.

esque. For a short distance we ran through a very beautiful valley, and frequently we got glimpses of delectable plains. Many of the villages that are springing up along the line are very pleasantly situated, either in some secluded dell or on a sheltered hillside."

Yours very truly,

(Signed) A. KNECHTEL,

(One of the delegates from Michigan.)

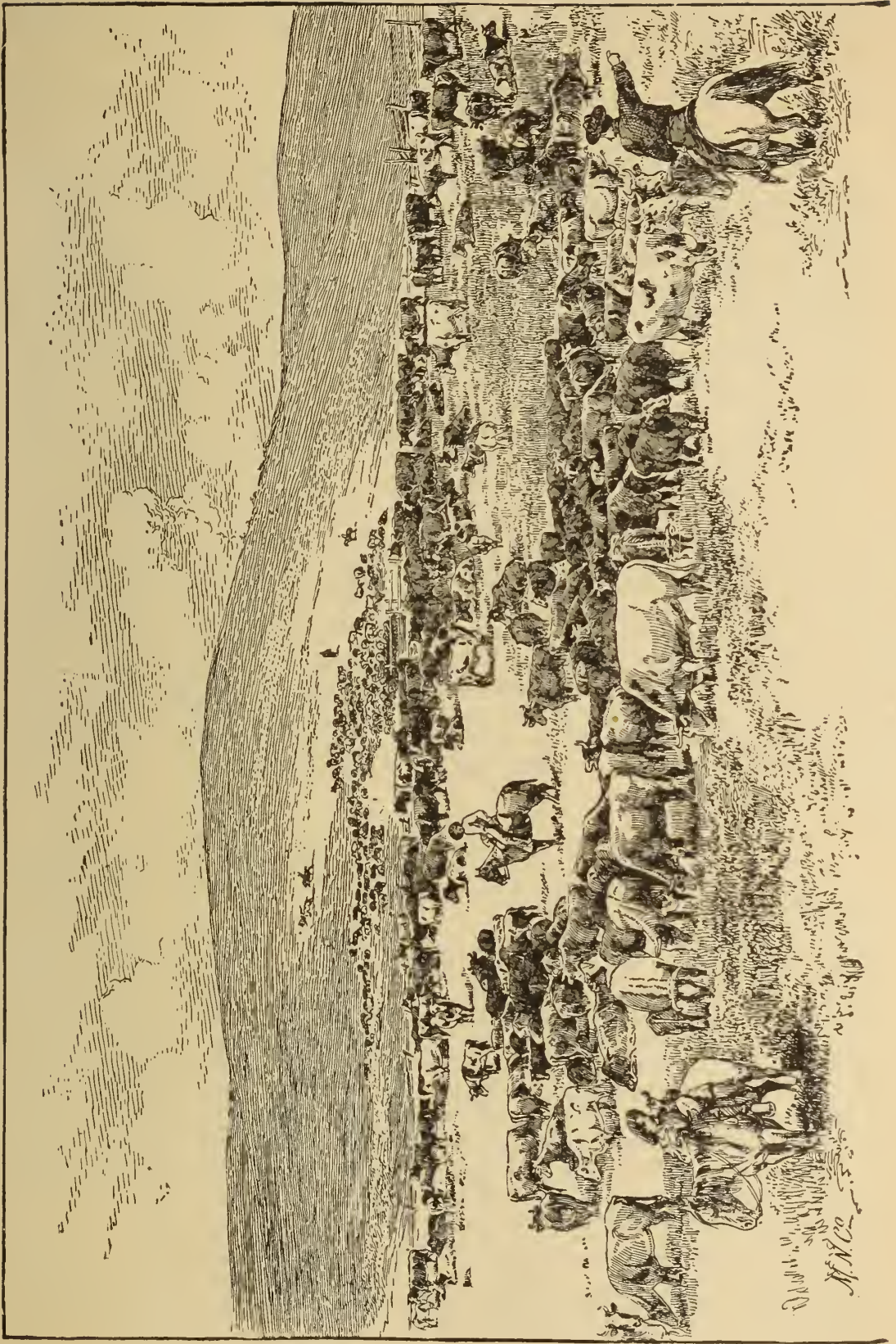
ALBERTA.

The most westerly of the several divisions of the Northwest Territories, which extends from the western limits of Assiniboia to the eastern limits of British Columbia, within the range of the Rocky Mountains, is divided into Northern Alberta and Southern Alberta. They are unlike in essential particulars and are therefore occupied by different classes of settlers.

NORTHERN ALBERTA.

This division of the territory contains a large extent of farming land unexcelled for grain and root crops and vegetables by any on the continent of America. Live stock of all kinds is raised extensively, including horses of all grades, from heavy draught to Indian ponies, horned cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry, including turkeys. Native horses do well without stabling all the year round, but good stock of whatever kind requires good treatment to bring it to its best, when it is most profitable. There is a varied and nutritive pasture during a long season in summer; there is an abundant supply of hay procurable for winter feeding, and an abundant and universally distributed water supply. There are few summer or winter storms. Building timber is easily procured. The winter climate is less severe than that of the districts along the Saskatchewan further east on account of the chinook winds. As a consequence, a better class of cattle can be raised more cheaply and with less danger of loss in this district than in some other parts. The advantages which tell so heavily in favor of the district for cattle raising tell as heavy in favor of dairying. There is a large flow of rich milk for a long season, and the quality of the butter made here is unsurpassed.

The Macleod and Edmonton Railway, operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, passes through the two divisions from Macleod in the south to Edmonton in the north, affording market facilities at a number of convenient points along the whole distance. There is a flourishing town called Edmonton on the north bank of the Saskatchewan in the vicinity of the old Hudson's Bay Company's post, of the same name, and a new town called South Edmonton at the terminus of the railway on the south bank. Land of the very best quality is found on both sides of the river, as well as in the neighborhood of the railway stations, for over a hundred miles south of it. Coal is mined in the banks of the Saskatchewan, and on the bars of the river a small but paying quantity of gold is taken out during the summer months. So good is the reputation that this section of the country enjoys that settlement was made at a number of points before the railway was complete and in 1882, when the road was in full operation, a more regular stream of



CATTLE RANCHING, ALBERTA.

settlement began. There is, however, such ample room for choice of locations that thousands can find room for selection in the free sections. This, however, will not continue to be the case for many years.

SOUTHERN ALBERTA.

To-day Southern Alberta stands unequalled among the cattle countries of the world; and the unknown land of a few years ago is now looked to as one of the greatest future supply depots of the British markets.

Great herds of range cattle roam at will over these seemingly boundless pastures. With proper management the profits to stockmen are large, as can be readily imagined when it is shown that \$42.00 per head was paid for steers on the ranges this year, animals that cost their owners only the interest on the original investment incurred in stocking the ranche, and their share in the cost of the annual round ups. Yearlings are now being sent into this country all the way from Ontario to fatten on the nutritious grasses of these western plains, and it is reckoned that after paying cost of calf and freight for 2,000 miles, the profit will be greater than if these cattle had been fattened by stall feeding in Ontario.

There is now on the ranges of Alberta hundreds of herds of fat cattle, which at any season are neither fed nor sheltered; cattle too, which in point of breeding, size and general condition; are equal, if not superior, to any range cattle in the world. Shorthorns, Herefords and Angus bulls have been imported at great expense; but the interest on the outlay is both satisfactory and encouraging, and the young cattle of the Alberta ranges would compare favourably with the barnyard cattle of Great Britain. The local market annually consumes from eighteen to twenty thousand beeves, with a growing demand, while the great market of the world is within easy access. The number shipped for England is annually increasing.

TOWNS.

The chief towns of Alberta are Calgary, Edmonton, Macleod and Lethbridge.

CALGARY is a bright and busy town of about 4,500 population. It is situated at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers, about sixty miles east of the Rocky Mountains. It is the centre of the ranching districts of Alberta, and supplies many of the smaller mining towns to the West. It is built principally of white stone, and is the junction of the Macleod and Calgary branch with the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is an important station of the Mounted Police, and in a variety of ways does a large and increasing business. It has several excellent hotels, several churches and schools and first-class stores.

EDMONTON, on the north bank of the Saskatchewan, is the present market town for the farmers, traders, miners, etc., on the north side of the Saskatchewan, and is a prosperous and well laid-out town.

SOUTH EDMONTON, on the south bank of the Saskatchewan, and the present terminus of the Macleod and Edmonton Railway, is another rising centre, where good hotel accommodation, stores, etc., are established.

MACLEOD, on the Old Man River, at the present southern terminus of the Macleod and Edmonton Railway, is the chief centre of business for

that section of country. There is also a village with hotels, stores, etc.⁵ at Pinchers' Creek, about thirty miles west of Macleod.

LETHBRIDGE, the terminus of the Alberta Railway and Coal Co. from Dunmore, on the line of the C. P. R., situated about thirty miles east of Macleod, is a progressive town doing a good business.

CLIMATE.

The climate of Northern Alberta is much like that of Manitoba, though not so cold in winter, and the winter is shorter. The Chinook wind reaches the Edmonton country to some extent and tempers the climate. No one finds fault with the winter, and no crops have ever been touched with frost in that district. It is a mistake to suppose that snow is regarded with dislike by settlers, except in the great ranching districts. There is, however, a good deal of complaint on those rare occasions when the snow-fall was very light; and the new-comer should not be anxious on the score of that which older hands all regard as a benefit, facilitating as it does many operations for which there is hardly time in the summer.

In Southern Alberta the conditions are different. The action of the Chinook winds is more direct and stronger than in the north, with the result that the snow-fall is much lighter and does not remain on the ground for any length of time. The country is mainly composed of extensive rolling prairie covered with the most nutritious grass, which, being self-cured in the fall of the year, affords food for cattle and horses during the winter. This endless supply of fodder, coupled with the comparative mildness of the climate, makes Southern Alberta a most valuable grazing country, and has led to the establishment of the ranches already mentioned.

THE COST OF STARTING A RANCHE.

For the benefit of intending settlers an account of the cost of starting a ranche is herewith given: Take as example a person bringing in a band of 500 head of good grade two-year old heifers, at say \$25 (£5); also 20 bulls at \$50 (£10). In the first place, he must locate a suitable site for buildings, etc., in the vicinity of good water; a running stream is, of course, preferable. Then comes the erection of his buildings—a log house, which will cost about \$150 (£30); a horse stable to accommodate eight horses, \$50 (£10); a shed 100x20 feet for weak cows and calves during winter, say \$75 (£15), and a pole corral for branding calves, etc., about \$15 (£3). These buildings will be sufficient for the first year, and can be added to as his band increases. Next comes the purchasing of say fifteen saddle horses at about \$60 (£12) per head; one team of work horses at \$250 (£50); mower and rake, \$125 (£25), and a wagon and harness, \$125 (£25). This will be the principal outlay; in addition there are the smaller tools, furniture, provisions, etc.

HOW TO OBTAIN A RANCHE.

If it is the intention to embark in the business of raising cattle horses or sheep on a large scale, an extent of ground equal to the rancher's requirements can be obtained under lease from the Dominion Government on the following easy terms:

Settlers can obtain leases of public lands not exceeding four sections (2,650 acres) in the vicinity of the settler's residence. The lease shall be for a period not exceeding twenty-one years. The lessee shall pay an annual rental of two cents an acre. The lessee shall within three years place one head of cattle for every twenty acres of land covered by his lease at least one-third of the number of cattle stipulated for, shall be placed on; the range within each of the three years from the date of the order-in-council granting the lease. Whether he be a lessee or not, no person shall be allowed to place sheep upon lands in Manitoba and the Northwest without permission from the Minister of the Interior. Leases of grazing lands to other than settlers, or in larger quantities than that specified above, are granted only after public competition. Full particulars can be obtained on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa..

Maps showing the lands now under lease can be seen at the Land Commissioner's Office in Winnipeg.

Maps can be secured there free of cost, showing the lands open for sale in the ranching districts and their prices.

HORSE RAISING.

As a horse breeding country, Alberta will be to Canada what Kentucky is to the United States. A country where the horse attains the very height of perfection. Its high altitude, its invigorating and dry atmosphere, short winters, with luxuriant grasses and plentiful supply of purest water, combine to make it eminently adapted for breeding horses. Although the industry is still very young, the Alberta horse has become noted for endurance, lung power, and freedom from hereditary or other diseases.

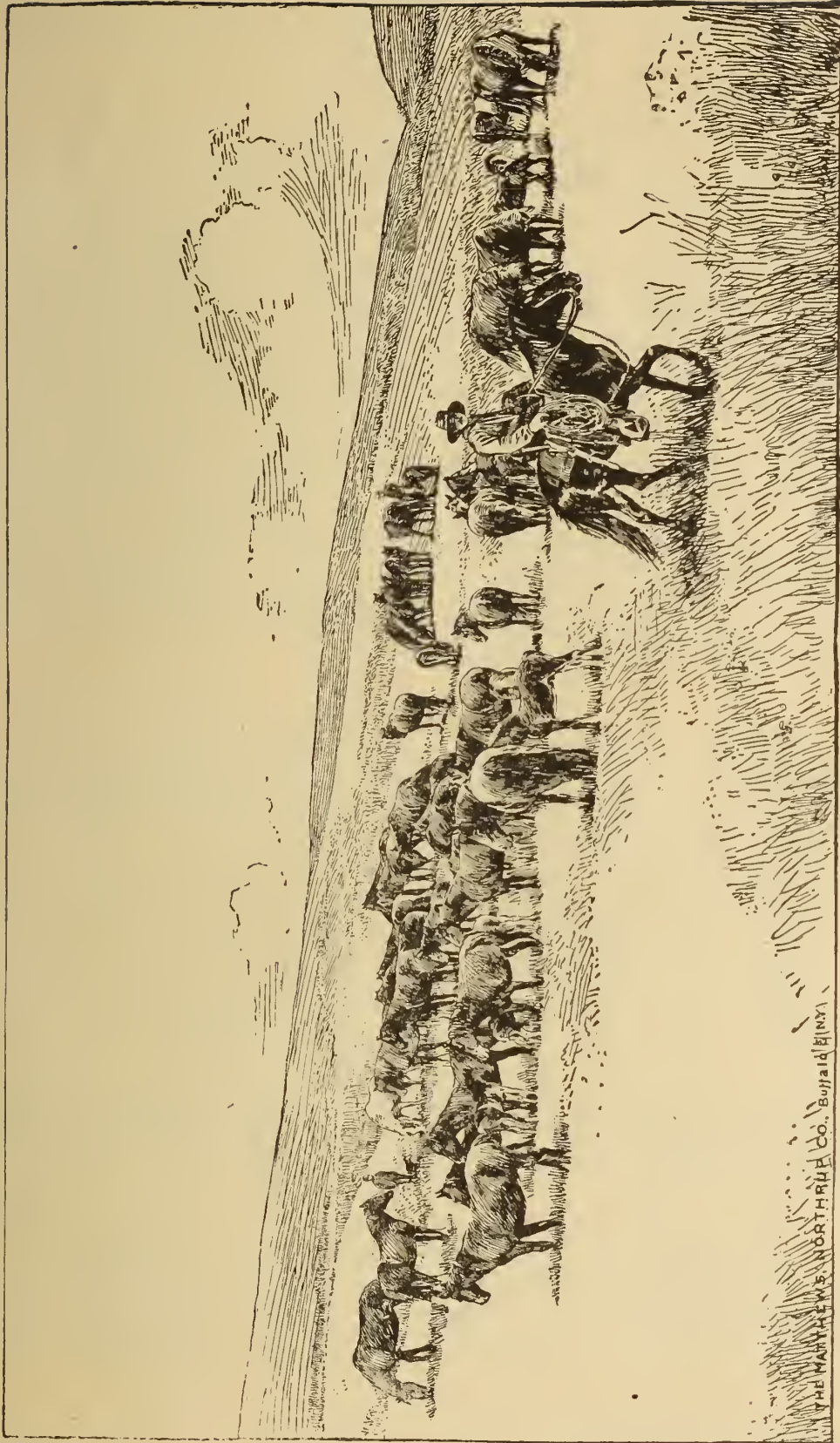
There are at present in Alberta several grades of horses, varying in point of quality from the hardy Indian pony (Cayuse) to the beautiful, well formed thoroughbred. Thoroughbreds from Great Britain and Kentucky, Clydesdales from Scotland, Percherons from France, and trotting stock from the United States, have been imported at great expense, and the result is that the young horse of Alberta will compare with any in Canada.

Capitalists coming to this country and wishing to engage in this business, will find millions of acres of unoccupied meadow lands, possessing every attraction and advantage, from which to choose a location.

During the last five years many thousand cattle, sheep and horses have been raised in the southern half of Alberta on the rich grasses without any feeding or shelter other than the shelter found along the hillsides or in clumps of trees. The cattle and sheep when taken off the pasture are fat and fit for any butcher's shop in the world, and the horses are rolling fat.

SHEEP.

Alberta to-day offers what the Australian colonies had to offer thirty years ago; millions of acres of rich grass lands, well watered and adapted in every respect for first-class mutton and fine wool, where cold rains and dust storms, so injurious to the fleeces, are almost unknown. It also has a railway running through the centre of the grazing lands and



THE MARYLENE & NORTH RIVER CO., Buffalo, N.Y.

HORSE RANCHING, ALBERTA

markets for mutton and wool within easy reach. The clear, dry bracing air of the country suits sheep, which suffer from little or no disease. Sheep mature early owing to the fine quality of the grass. To winter them safely, good warm roomy sheds, plenty of hay, (10 tons to the 100 head) and attention is all that is wanted.

TESTIMONY OF SETTLERS.

CALGARY, 20th January 1892.

My brother and I came from Peterboro' Ont., and settled in Alberta 20 miles south-east of Calgary, in September 1883—we had only sufficient to bring us here—since which time we have been engaged in almost exclusive grain raising, having no means to invest in stock until lately. In 1884 we had no crop, except for potatoes; in 1885 we sowed 4 acres and raised 230 bushels; in 1886 we sowed 15 acres, and raised 1,000 bushels of oats; in 1887 we sowed 30 acres, weighing 42 pounds, and raised 2,500 bushels of wheat; in 1888 we sowed 60 acres, raising 2,500 bushels of wheat; in 1889 we sowed 60 acres, raising 2,400 bushels of wheat; in 1890 we sowed 75 acres, and raised 3,500 bushels of wheat; in 1891 we sowed 110 acres, and raised 3,900 bushels of wheat.

Each year our wheat would grade No. 1 hard, and yielded per acre from 40 to 55 bushels. We have had better success in raising wheat than any other crop. Barley and oats have always done well with us. We have never had a failure in grain-raising.

SHIELD BROTHERS.

I came from Port Hope and settled on Sheep Creek, in Alberta 20th July, 1883. When I landed, all I had was \$70. I paid \$32 to have four acres broken. This I sowed in 1884, and threshed 225 bushels of wheat, part of my crop being spoiled.

In 1885	I sowed	14 acres;	threshed	500 bushels.
1885	do	16 do	do	1,500 do
1887	do	28 do	do	1,800 do
1888	do	40 do	do	2,000 do
1889	do	45 do	do	2,800 do
1890	do	100 do	do	2,000 do (drought).
1891	do	200 do	do	7,065 bushels.

I own 960 acres of land, all of which is fenced. I own 76 head of cattle and 14 horses, 1 binder, 2 mowers, and implements needed for cultivation of my land, and work 5 teams. I estimate the value of my estate as follows —:

960 acres fenced at \$10.....	\$9,600 00
76 cattle.....	2,000 00
14 horses.....	2,000 00
Implements.....	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$14,600 00

27th January, 1892.

(Signed)

JOSEPH PRICE.

TESTIMONY OF UNITED STATES SETTLERS.

BATH, South Dakota, Oct. 26th, 1891.

I left Aberdeen for the purpose of examining the agricultural resources of the Canadian Northwest. We reached Winnipeg, a splendid city, where the agricultural exhibition was then going on. Here we saw the products of the country from Calgary to the Red River. The display of grain, roots and stock was enough to gladden the heart of any farmer. The horned stock was the best I ever saw in any country. From Winnipeg I went west to Qu'Appelle, and I wish to say that for wheat growing that valley is hard to beat. We pushed west to Calgary, a splendid growing town, to the Red Deer, where we stopped two days looking over the country. We pronounce this a first-class stock country. We went to Edmonton over the country for 20 miles around, where every farmer told us they were more than satisfied with the country and their success; good soil, plenty of timber, first-class coal right on the surface, hay and grass in abundance, stock of all kinds rolling fat. At all the points mentioned there is plenty of free homestead land. Any person 18 years old can file on a quarter section.

I tell my friends that I found the country much better than the agents at Aberdeen described it to me. That farmers desiring homes cannot do better than settle in the Canadian Northwest for the above and other reasons too numerous to mention.

B. C. TALBOT.

Nov. 23, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—Having been delegated by a number of my neighboring farmers in Michigan to inspect the western territories of Canada, I left Michigan late in August last, arriving in Edmonton on September 11th. From that time I remained in the Edmonton district to acquaint myself as thoroughly as might be with the different localities until the 18th inst. During these two months I travelled a good deal in every direction from Edmonton, and speaking generally of that district I may say that for the purposes of mixed farming it has no superior and few equals under the sun. The sample of grain is first-class, and the yield far exceeding the farmer's own expectations. Wheat went 40 to 50 bushels to the acre, averaging about 45; barley 45 to 50, and oats 80 to 100 bushels per acre, while vegetables and roots showed a still more remarkable growth. I saw a farmer dig up 100 bushels of potatoes a day with his manure fork, and so did each of his attendants, and I saw many a cabbage weighing 15 to 20 pounds. The soil is rich to an extraordinary degree, as the above mentioned products amply verify. Water is plentiful and of first class quality, small lakes being found in many places, as well as running streams. Timber is plentiful for farm use and building, besides a never failing supply of good coal, which a farmer can take from the banks of the Saskatchewan and load his wagon free of charge. All these properties combined make the district all that can be desired for mixed farming. In conclusion, I may add that as soon as circumstances allow I shall return to the Edmonton district and settle.

H. PAIGE,
Of Spencer Creek, Antrim County,
Michigan, U. S. A.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN, Dec. 7th, 1891.

L. A. HAMILTON, Esq.,

Land Commissioner, C.P.R.,
Winnipeg, Man.

DEAR SIR,—I arrived here on the 18th of April, and found the spring well advanced, and grain that was in early was up and looking fine. I rented land, put in 25 acres of oats and 12 acres of barley, and one of potatoes, threshed 216 sacks of oats, weighed some of the sacks, and they weighed from 106 to 110 lbs. Had 600 bushels barley and 500 bushels potatoes. I consider that I had a good crop all round. I have been threshing all fall and have seen some better and some not so good. I feel sure that we can raise as good wheat as any place in America; as for oats and barley we are away ahead; potatoes, cabbage, turnips, onions, beans, peas, rhubarb are beyond description. No man would believe it till he sees it. I have seen some fine fields of timothy. Have seen the fattest cattle here I ever saw. Sheep do well, and there is lots of money in hogs, as we can grow barley and not half try, and there is a good market north for more pork than will ever be raised here. The growth of grass is something wonderful on the high land; it was three feet high, mixed with pea-vine. Better pasture a man could not ask for.

Any person wishing for more particulars can write me at Fort Saskatchewan. I will answer all questions so far as my experience will carry me.

I remain, yours truly,

JOHN McLELLAN,

Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta.

Formerly of Rollette Co., N. Dakota, U.S.A.

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