

This does not necessarily imply a permanent reduction in the value of English lands, but merely a change of products. In the colonial times, over a hundred years ago, wheat was extensively grown in the valley of the Connecticut River, in New England; and less than 50 years ago the Genesee Valley, in the State of New York, was celebrated for its wheat. Now its cultivation is almost abandoned in these districts, for they cannot compete with the western prairies. Still the lands are more valuable than ever, for tobacco, fruit, and other products are now profitably cultivated on the former wheat fields. In England similar changes must occur with the growth of population. She is likely to become a *gardening* rather than a farming or stock-raising country. Thus the decline of wheat culture is more likely to increase the value of British lands rather than to lessen it.

Some discussion has taken place concerning the adaptation of the North-West for stock-raising; it is claimed by many that cattle may be wintered in the shelter of the wooded streams in the severest weather, and that, like the Indian pony, they will scrape the dry snow from the grass. I think that no reliance can be placed on such statements as applied to cattle-raising on any important scale. In all the northern and eastern sections of the territory, cattle would require winter housing; yet, as during the winter months farming operations proper are suspended, abundant labour would be available for profitable employment in attending to stock. The true test is the cost of food. At present hay can be obtained from the natural meadows without limit. I have heard the value of the saving estimated at two dollars (8s.) per ton, but I consider this too low. It can, however, be safely estimated at not more than four dollars (16s.) per ton, delivered at reasonable distances from where it is cut. Root crops are grown in great perfection, averaging, it is said a thousand bushels to the acre. Coarse grain can also be grown, producing the highest yield. There is, therefore, no room for doubt that fat cattle could be raised at a low expenditure on the very territory chiefly devoted to wheat growing.

Beyond this, however, the plains of the South-West are specially