

three feet over a rich clay loam. The intervals, where the numerous streams run, have no black mould on top; there you find nothing but clay loam; but the crops are equally as fine as on the top of the high benches.

All the streams are as clear as possible, and very cold, owing to the melting snows from the Rockies

There could not possibly be a finer country for dairy and cheese making. For mixed farming we were satisfied it was the best could be seen, such heavy crops of all sorts of grain can be raised at such little expense when carried on by a farmer and his family. The great return of grain and vegetables would give feed for the raising of large stocks of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry, more especially as it is not necessary to winter-feed stock, except now and again in the case of weak or sickly ones, and cows calving in the spring.

In the September number of Harper's new monthly, the "Wheat Fields of Columbia," by Ernest Ingersoll, page 502, referring to the district near Wala Wala, where the Snake River falls into the Columbia River, about six degrees due south of where the C. P. R. crosses the Selkirk range in British Columbia, we read the following:—"The first settlers took the bottom lands " because they held their greenness longest and were easiest of cultivation. " * * * Before long, however, adventurous spirits, finding that irrigation " was unnecessary, made experiments in planting upon the tops of the hills " whose yellow backs lay hot under the sun between the river copses and " the mountain woods. The tufaceous soil turned up by the plough was " dark and rich, and the yield outranked the best acres along the creek side."

This description agrees with what we saw in Alberta, near Calgary, this summer.

The clouds from the Pacific Ocean being robbed of their moisture while crossing the several ranges of mountains reach the rolling lands of Alberta warm and dry, and there is not snow enough in the winter to prevent cattle from grazing.

Besides the advantage in mixed farming, the settler will be in a country abounding in coal; and as for lumber, we went out to the end of the C. P. R. track past the summit, and remained a couple of days. The timber we saw was very dense, of somewhat smaller growth than we have in the Province of Quebec, consisting of spruce, tamarac and a species of pine. A glance at a good map will show that there is an inexhaustible supply. We subsequently travelled from the southern branch of High River to the northern extremity of the Bow River, where it taps the head waters of the North Saskatchewan and the Red Deer River, an extent of 150 miles by about 100 miles in breadth. These rivers have numerous tributaries branching in every direction through the Rockies, whose slopes to a great height and the valleys between are heavily covered with timber.