

"Wheat will vary in quality from the best quality of No. 1 hard to pig feed, and in yield from 8 to 50 bushels to the acre. About 50 acres of my wheat will run about 40 bushels to the acre. There will be in the neighbourhood about 15,000 bushels of grain here, about half wheat.

"Potatoes are of very good quality and yield about 250 to 300 bushels to the acre. Garden stuff gave poor returns; the cold spring killed the seed to a large extent."

Farms at  
Vermilion.

The largest farm at Vermilion is that owned by Mr. Sheridan Lawrence, about ten miles above the Hudson's Bay post, but on the north side of the river. At this place and at Prairie point, he has about 240 acres under cultivation, wheat and barley being the chief crops. Mr. Lawrence has about 100 cattle, 80 hogs, 30 horses and 150 hens. Other settlers, though not so rich in live stock, have ample for their needs. A small stream furnishes power for a grist mill, part of the year, and this mill and a saw-mill are run by a portable engine when water fails. Mr. Lawrence had in his granary more than a thousand bushels of grain, wheat mixed with "volunteer" barley, but most of it had been slightly frozen. His establishment includes a smoke-house for curing hams and bacon, which are sold at from 15 to 17 cents per pound. Mr. Lawrence's brother James was until this year in partnership with him. There are several farms of less extent on the north side of the river. At that owned by Mr. Lizotte, situated about seven miles from the river, I saw the finest wheat in the vicinity. The owner said that he was never troubled by frost, as there was generally a breeze at night from the little lake south of his house.

On the south side of the river the most extensive farm is cultivated by Mr. Fred. Lawrence, a cousin of the brothers referred to above. In addition to the homestead, he has broken forty or fifty acres on the prairie south of Vermilion and has rented the Anglican mission farm. His crop in 1903 was almost exclusively wheat. On the higher prairie land, the soil is lighter than nearer the river, but grain ripens sooner on the lighter soil; growth is not so luxuriant, the straw is shorter and the heads form sooner. On the heavy lands near the river, such long rank straw is produced the first year or two, that it is somewhat later in ripening, but this land will of course stand cropping for a greater number of years than the lighter soil of the higher levels.

Though not so large as some others, the finest farm at Vermilion is that of the Hudson's Bay Company. Careful cultivation is evident everywhere; the fields are free from weeds and "volunteer" grain, and nothing that will go to ensure a good crop is left undone. At the