

friends who also settled in the district. My father and mother, aged respectively 77 and 76, both liked the country well and often expressed their favorable opinion of it.

I think the country is a good one for emigration in every way, especially as regards the free grant lands which should be a welcome change to a people who have been hampered with land laws and tyrannized over by landlords, as so many in the Old Country have been, to my own personal knowledge. This district which was comparatively unknown when I first arrived, is now well settled up and the Canadian Pacific Railway is extended right through to the Pacific Coast, thus affording every facility for settlers getting into the country. I may say in conclusion that I have never had cause to regret the step I took in choosing the North-West as a home. I remain,

Yours respectfully,

W. R. JAMIESON.

P.S.—When I started I had five head of cattle, I have 40 head of cattle. In the year '87, I had over 30 bushels wheat to the acre, this year 27 bushels of No. 1 wheat, much superior to Old Country wheat.

W.R.J.

OPINION OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF "THE EMPIRE."

The great Regina plain, which we enter from the east at McLean station, 24 miles distant from the capital, and at an elevation of 2,250 above sea level, extends westward as far as the Dirt Hills—the name given to the northern extension of the great Missouri Coteau. It dips gradually downward towards Regina, which stands at an altitude of 1,875 feet, and still lower at Moose Jaw, 44 miles westward, where it reaches a mean level of 1,725 feet; after which it rises steadily along the eastern slope of the coteau, whose crest may be regarded as its western boundary. On account of this peculiar formation I ventured in my last letter to apply the epithet "saucer-shaped" to this immense plain, and probably to this formation are due some of its special characteristics and physical advantages. The constant washing down of rich soil from the surrounding slopes, though it has not by any means impoverished them, has doubtless increased the amount of soil in the plain; and the consequence is that throughout its wide expanse it offers to the farmer one of the richest agricultural districts to be met with in one of the most fertile regions of the earth.