

CARBERRY.

As we approach Carberry (106 miles west of Winnipeg) we again enter the real prairie country. This part is locally known as the "Big Plains," and for many miles both north and south, especially north, is a magnificent stretch of rolling prairie almost every portion of which is first-class grain growing land. Abundance of timber for fence and building purposes can be obtained from the "Spruce Woods" south of this tract along the Assiniboine River. Carberry is the central town of this district, and is growing rapidly. It contains a good flouring mill, elevators, warehouses, and a large number of well stocked stores.

BRANDON.

Twenty-six miles from Carberry (and 132 from Winnipeg) brings us to Brandon, next to Winnipeg the largest and most important city in Manitoba. Brandon is charmingly situated on a gentle slope on the south side of the Assiniboine River. It is a divisional point on the main line of the C. P. R. The Northwest Central Railway is graded for some 50 miles northwest from the city, and the promoters say it will be ironed and operated in 1889. The Northern Pacific & Manitoba Railway Company is under contract to build from Morris (Southern Manitoba) to Brandon in 1889, and it is reported a line will within that time be built from Brandon southwesterly to the Souris coal fields. Brandon is destined ere long to be an important railroad centre. The country for many miles in every direction is tributary to its market. There are no less than nine grain elevators and warehouses, and about 1,300,000 bushels of wheat were marketed here last season. Brandon is doubtless the largest wheat market (that is for delivery from the farmers' wagons) in the world. There is a large flouring mill with a capacity of 200 barrels per day. It is also an important horse and cattle market. There is also a saw mill, planing mill, several machine shops and other manufactories. The Brandon City Council and Board of Trade some time since appointed an immigration committee to look after the interests of newly arrived settlers in the district. Those wishing for disinterested information, either as investors or settlers, should communicate with the secretary of that committee—Mr. W. E. Flummerfelt.

From Brandon to the western boundary of the Province near Fleming Station (211 miles west of Winnipeg) the general features of the country are much the same as just described. It is one vast tract of rich, rolling prairie, with, however, sufficient pasture and hay land to be capable of supporting great herds of cattle. In fact, though Manitoba wheat is universally conceded the best in the world, yet Manitoba is essentially a mixed farming country.

Alexander, Griswold, Oak Lake, Virden and Elkhorn are thriving centres of good farming districts.

VIRDEN.

Virden (180 miles from Winnipeg) is growing rapidly, and many of the settlers in the vicinity have made astonishing progress during the past few years. The local authorities have taken steps to make known the requirements of their particular district, and those wishing to settle there can obtain information by writing to Mr. W. H. McDougall, clerk of the municipality.