

ALBERTA.

The most westerly of the several divisions of the North-West Territories, which extends from the western limits of Assiniboia to the eastern limits of British Columbia, within the range of the Rocky Mountains, is divided into Northern Alberta and Southern Alberta. They are unlike in essential particulars and are therefore occupied by different classes of settlers.

NORTHERN ALBERTA.

This division of the territory contains a large extent of farming land unexcelled for grain and root crops and vegetables by any on the continent of America. Live stock of all kinds is raised extensively, including horses of all grades, from heavy draught to Indian ponies, horned cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry. Native horses do well without stabling all the year round, but good stock of whatever kind requires good treatment to bring it to its best, when it is most profitable. There is a varied and nutritive pasture during a long season in summer; there is an abundant supply of hay procurable for winter feeding, and an abundant and universally distributed water supply. There are very few summer or winter storms, and no severe ones. Blizzards and windy storms are unknown. The winter climate is less severe than that of the districts along the Saskatchewan further east on account of the Chinook winds. As a consequence, a better class of cattle can be raised more cheaply and with less danger of loss in this district than in some other parts. The advantages which tell so heavily in favor of the district for cattle raising tell as heavily in favor of dairying. There is a large flow of rich milk for a long season, and the quality of the butter made here is unsurpassed. Native fruits—wild strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, saskatoon and cranberries, cherries, and black currants—grow in profusion almost everywhere, and tobacco is successfully cultivated. The best varieties of grain are raised, and vegetables are profitably grown.

The Macleod & Edmonton Railway, operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, passes through the two divisions from Macleod in the south to Edmonton in the north, affording market facilities at a number of convenient points along the whole distance. Land of the very best quality is found on both sides of the river, as well as in the neighborhood of the railway stations, for over a hundred miles south of it. Coal is mined in the banks of the Saskatchewan, and on the bars of the river a small but paying quantity of gold is taken out during the summer and autumn months. A number of settlers after harvest earn from \$2 to \$5 per day washing gold out of the river bottom. Building timber is plentiful and is easily procurable. So good is the reputation that this section of the country enjoys, that settlement was made at a number of points before the railway was complete, and in 1892, when the road was in full operation, a more regular stream of settlement began. There is, however, such ample room for choice of locations that thousands can find room for selection in the free sections. This, however, will not continue to be the case for many years.