

This southwest corner of the Great Lone Land is one of the best watered countries in the world. An infinitude of perennial streams flow from an inexhaustible supply in the mountains. Fresh water springs and pebbly-bottomed brooks abound, and the resources of the Bow river district with regard to timber are not small; the valleys of the mountains to the west are more or less full of timber, and as most of the streams run from a long distance in the mountains, these streams will be the means of transport down through the immense eastern slopes which comprise the prairie sections. In connection with the timber, coal is to be found on all the principal rivers, thus insuring an immediate home supply of fuel. The quantity and quality of this have been described by experts as "immense and excellent."

Then as to the agricultural capabilities of this district. These we may really say are as yet untested. The only man we know of who has for the last five years attempted farming and attended to his business (we speak of John Glenn, of Fish Creek) has as a result made money rapidly. No doubt in the near future thousands with like effort will reach like results. At any rate we have, on every hand, a luxuriant natural growth, which speaks volumes for the soil from which it springs.

But it is in the capacity of a great stock range that the Bow river country excels. In many localities, westerly or "Chinook" winds from the Pacific so moderate and affect the climate that snow does not lie on the ground any time. "But," says some one, "what about those fearfully cold snaps when the temperature runs down to 40 below zero and further? How can cattle, in such times, live out and gather their own fodder?" Well, let us try and explain how this actually takes place. The atmosphere is dryer than in the eastern provinces, and the cold is not nearly so penetrating. Forty below zero further east would be something terrible, while out here men travel across treeless plains and camp out in the open air at such times without any great inconvenience. And as it is with men, so with cattle and horses. During the most severe cold these feed in the valleys and roam out on the plains and do not seem to mind it. But the chief reason is the wonderfully nutritious properties of the grass upon which they feed. While the long grasses of the eastern plains and provinces, as winter approaches, dry up and wither, those of the western plains and mountain region, being shorter and denser in growth, seem to be preserved as hay, and as winter comes on, and all through it, there is a second growth of green grass which forces its way up through the old, and thus this prairie fodder is prepared and seasoned by its own growth, so that the animal feeding thereon, even in the depth of winter, and during severe cold, is warmed and strengthened. And though Providence has specially favored some localities with a combina-