

### The Michigan Delegates Report.

One of the features in connection with immigration to Manitoba and the territories of Western Canada this season, is the large number of parties of delegates who have come from the United States, with a view to looking over our country as a possible future home for themselves and their friends. A few parties came on this errand last year, but this year one party after another has arrived and made tours of the country. These parties have numbered from half a dozen or so up to as many as forty persons in a single party. They come from the far eastern and border western states, principally, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, etc., being represented. In every case the delegates have declared themselves thoroughly pleased with the country, and many of them have taken up land at once. Others have gone home, declaring their intention to return as soon as they can straighten up their affairs and arrange to move here.

A large party of delegates from the State of Michigan travelled through Western Canada during the latter part and the early part of August. At Winnipeg the party was split up into two sections, one section going west over the main line of the C.P.R. to Edmonton, and the other up the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway. In another column we give the report of the latter section, and the following is the report of those who went to Edmonton.

"We arrived at Winnipeg on July 26th, at which place we laid over until the 28th. The Manitoba provincial exhibition was then open and was visited by us. The cattle and horses were beyond our expectations, the former fattened on prairie grass were superior to much stall-fed stock that we have seen. The other exhibits were a credit to the new province. We arrived at Calgary on July 30th. The crop, west of Winnipeg 325 miles were very good. The Portage district, which we passed through, was one of the best we have ever seen, the wheat, barley and oats all apparently perfect as to quality and quantity. The Brandon district was also very good; on our passage we saw many fields of grain of 50 and 100 acres, many miles of grain as far as the eye could reach, which to us was quite an encouraging and hopeful sight. The district west of Qu'Appelle was not equal to the country east of that point owing to the lack of rain. Although the crops seemed short and sparse owing to lack of rain the herbage seemed everywhere plentiful and to afford abundant nourishment to fatten cattle, of which we saw many, all in prime condition.

We visited the city of Calgary with its population of 4,500 at the foot of the Rockies where the snow peaks can be seen. A number of its buildings are built of stone quarried about two miles from the centre of the city. The country about this place is known as the ranching country and in some years has not sufficient rain for mixed farming. We were driven about the country by the mounted police under the guidance of Amos Rowe, the Dominion land agent. We visited the Chapman ranch which has 1,000 head of cattle and 600 horses; both the cattle and horses looked in prime condition; though the grass was very short, it was plentiful and succulent. We also saw in one flock 2,000 sheep, and were informed of another of 3,000; stock of all kinds thrive in Alberta.

On Monday, August the 2nd, we took the Edmonton and Calgary railroad for Edmonton, a distance of 192 miles in a northerly direction. We found appearance of the country improve as we travelled north; 50 miles from Calgary all the growth commenced to be very luxuriant,

the grass being especially good. We found that many settlers were already in the country, and every station filled with anxious land hunters. At Edmonton and points south and east of it settlers can procure at the stores all requirements at a fair price. There are two coal mines at Edmonton. Coal is sold at \$2.40 or \$2.75 per ton delivered. Gold is being produced by many placer miners on the sand banks of the North Saskatchewan. We were informed that each man averaged from \$2 to \$3 per day. They are testing for oil west of Edmonton, with fair prospects of success. The game through the country is very plentiful. We saw a great many flocks of prairie chickens, ducks and geese, and in our opinion it is the sportsman's paradise. The shooting season for prairie chicken commences on August 15th, and ducks, geese, etc., on September 1st. It would be difficult to conceive more favorable conditions for settlement than are to be met with in the country we traversed. Good soil, water, timber, hay, coal easily and cheaply mined on the Saskatchewan river. It seems to crop out everywhere. The opinions of the delegates as regards the opportunities of the Northwest for settlement, would be this: That whilst the entire country seems well adapted for stock raising, the district around Edmonton so far as we saw, was beyond our expectation suitable for mixed farming. Wheat was especially good, also oats and barley, and as eastern farmers we would say of the timothy grass, it was as fine as can be produced in any country, and we believe it can be raised with profit to the farmer as the country becomes more improved by settlers, from our observation. In going east about thirty-six or forty miles vegetation was growing nicely and looking well; in our opinion it is to be the future country of the Northwest. We can say from evidence within our knowledge that any man who will endeavor to make a home can do so in this district. It certainly has the best depth of soil. In this country hay is abundant and all kinds of the small wild fruits such as strawberries, gooseberries, wild currants and wild blackberries abound.

The Edmonton district surpassed our expectations, we found a country that is well adapted for mixed farming, with an inexhaustible black, loamy soil, well watered and well timbered. The conditions in that respect would compare favorably to the state of Illinois; wheat, oats, barley and hay will grow in abundance. We saw timothy and potatoes as good as ever we saw in the east, and we see no reason why any person who is burdened with taxes and interest should not go at once and make a home in the beautiful Northwest if he can. There he has a good healthy climate, no taxes to speak of, good land, no mortgages, no interest, and where with a little energy and perseverance he could make himself a comfortable and happy home.

The soil is from one and one half to three feet deep, a rich black loam similar to the soil of our Michigan river flats only heavier, and rests upon a clay subsoil which is in itself most black and rich. The climate is mild, many farmers telling us that horses get a good living running out all winter, and that last season there was very little or no sleighing there being so little snow. It was the same the winter before and we believe is generally so. The crops of wheat were fine and stand very even about as high as the fence tops, about four and a half to five feet, and indicating a yield of 25 to 30 bushels per acre. They will be ready to harvest about August 20th. Oats were heavy and good; we would think them good for 60 to 70 bushels and we were told of exceptional yields of 100 bushels per acre. Barley, the largest we ever saw, and much larger and more plentiful than is ever raised in any part of Michigan. Potatoes and a variety of garden vegetables are grown most successfully, there being no potatoe bugs, cabbage worms or any vegetable or grain pest.

Regarding storage facilities for grain, this is the best equipped of any new country that we have knowledge of. Beginning at Port Arthur

and Port William on Lake Superior and thence along the line of the C.P.R. for 1,200 miles, the elevators are most numerous and commodious, even at the small towns they seem to have storage capacity enough for one half the state of Michigan.

The milling industry of this country is immense, there are a good many small mills in the smaller towns and in Winnipeg, Keewatin (or Lake of the Woods) and Portage la Prairie the mills are very fine, ranging in capacity from 500 to 2,000 barrels per day. These larger mills are all roller and built on the plan known as the long system. The spring wheat is very hard and flinty and mills better on the long than the short system. The flour made from this wheat makes excellent bread and is especially valuable for baker's purposes. Though it may not look nearly as well as Marshall's Legal Tender, the flour from Manitoba wheat brings the best price and is always quoted at the top of the market.

We cannot conclude our report without thanking the C.P.R. and its officials for its kindness and attention to us. We had a colonization sleeper from Winnipeg to Edmonton and return. Mr. Niblock, assistant superintendent, Medicine Hat, was very kind and attentive to us. The Manitoba, one of the C.P.R. steamers that run into Port William, on which we travelled, is one of the best we ever saw; in short we may say that the Canadian people and officials wherever we met them were very attentive and accommodating to us.

### List of Principal Canadian Fairs, 1892.

PLACE OF FAIR.	DATE.
Toronto .....	Sept 5th to 17th.
Winnipeg, Man. ....	July 25th to 30th.
Kingston .....	Sept. 1st to 9th.
Sherbrooke, Que. ....	Sept. 5th to 9th.
Pictou .....	Sept. 7th and 8th.
Montreal, Quo. ....	Sept. 15th to 23rd.
London .....	Sept. 15th to 24th.
St. Catharines .....	Sept. 19th to 21st.
Wellesley .....	Sept. 20 and 21st.
Renfrew .....	Sept 20th and 21st.
Guelph .....	Sept. 20th to 22nd.
Whitby .....	Sept. 20th to 22nd.
Perth .....	Sept. 20th to 22nd.
Stayner .....	Sept. 21st to 23rd.
Paisley .....	Sept. 22nd and 23rd.
Ottawa .....	Sept. 22nd to Oct. 1st.
Alymer .....	Sept 26th to Sept 28th
Tilsenburg .....	Sept. 27th and 28th.
Durham .....	Sept. 27th and 28th.
Milverton .....	Sept. 27th and 28th.
Brampton .....	Sept. 27th and 28th.
Wallerton .....	Sept. 27th to 30th.
Brantford .....	Sept. 27th to 29th.
Peterboro .....	Sept. 27th to 29th.
Almonte .....	Sept. 27th to 29th.
Collingwood .....	Sept. 27th to 30th.
Woodstock .....	Sept. 28th and 29th.
Stratford .....	Sept. 29th and 30th.
Cayuga .....	Oct. 4th and 5th.
Bowmanville .....	Oct. 4th and 5th.
Paris .....	Oct. 4th and 5th.
Markham .....	Oct. 5th to 7th.
E'ora .....	Oct. 6th and 7th.
Beachburg .....	Oct. 6th and 7th.
Otterville .....	Oct. 7th and 8th.
Ridgetown .....	Oct. 11th to 13th.
Simcoe .....	Oct. 17th to 19th.
Woodbridge .....	Oct. 18th and 19th.

A meeting of the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions will be held in the Directors' Room, at the offices on the Toronto Exhibition grounds, on Monday afternoon, Sept. 12th. All Exhibition Associations are invited to send delegates.

The government has been advised that Canadian cheese carried off all the prizes against all competitors at the agricultural show at Liverpool last month.