

with its pretty lake and fine town hall—a busy little town. Then on to Minnedosa. There a branch of the railway runs down into Rapid City. I found some frost here in the valley of the Little Saskatchewan. Although the land is rich and fertile, up those valleys there are currents of cold, and there seems to be greater danger of frost. At Rapid City is a fine roller mill, run by Mr. R. S. Armstrong and belonging to Mr. McCulloch. This mill is of modern construction and machinery, and turns out an excellent quality of flour of 150 barrels per day. There is also a woollen mill, all doing well. The country round here is high and somewhat hilly and broken, although there is a great amount of fine land. The water is good, which is of great consequence here in this country.

Leaving these towns, I go northwest through some nice country, although somewhat more broken and more sparsely settled till I reach Shoal Lake, a pretty place and fairly good country, which is well supplied with wood, till we reach the metropolis of this part of the Province—Birtle. This was for a long time the centre from which all the settlers moved north and west, as the land office was here located. It is a brisk town and a good country round, a fine rolling prairie, with considerable small timber. Close to here, Mr. Farrow, of Guelph, has a fine section of land, and who may yet go out there and teach the natives practical husbandry. From here I go due north till I reach Binscarth, famed all over the world for its fine herd of Shorthorn cattle, with Mr. George Smellie, of Fergus, as manager. This may be said to be the model farm of this part of the country—fine buildings and beautiful grounds—having care and neatness in arrangement—with a nice spring creek running just below the buildings. Mr. Smellie kindly showed me over the place. He had a fine crop of turnips, which do well here; wheat 42 bushels per acre and a good sample.