

The farms seemed large and the prosperity of the country was indicated by the numerous substantial frame and brick houses, with outbuildings correspondingly good. Harvest was in full operation; reapers everywhere at work, sometimes two or three in the field. The stooks were very thick on the ground, and there was grain, grain, everywhere grain. Manitoba is evidently a grain province.

On westward we went, across Manitoba and through Eastern Assiniboia, the character of this country being much the same. The evening found us at Moose Jaw, with its splendid station constructed of brick and stone. Part of the night and next morning we passed over a long stretch of unsettled country, where the soil seemed very light and poor, but nearing Calgary we came into the ranching country and began to see herds of cattle. On reaching Calgary we found it had been just as wet as in Manitoba, and the weather there unsettled. There was some good grain about Calgary, but the country there was mostly devoted to ranching. It is one of the most substantial towns, for its size, that I have seen. It might be called the city of grey sandstone, as the business part is almost wholly built of that material, which is found in abundance near by; as is also coal, a little way west on the C.P.R.

Going north from Calgary, through North Alberta, we soon entered the best agricultural region I had yet seen. A deep, rich, black vegetable loam, with a clay subsoil. Here I saw the finest wheat and oats I had ever seen; great, strong stalks with fine heads and no lodging. Having lived in one of the finest agricultural States of the Union, I was surprised to see it surpassed, in the grain product, by North Alberta, but as I went northward the weather was still wet and the grain immature, although needing only a short period of continuous sunshine. Another product of this region was its cattle. All along the road to Edmonton we saw splendid herds of shorthorn cattle, the best I had seen anywhere, stall fed or otherwise. I venture to say that no part of North America can surpass North Alberta in its wheat, oats and cattle. These are at present the three great products. Other kinds of grain are produced and other stock raised; so also are fine vegetables. I stopped a couple of days at Lacombe and about nine days at Edmonton. I visited the market gardens at Edmonton and saw fine celery, parsnips, cauliflowers, cabbage, carrots, beets, etc. The potatoes, owing to the wet weather, were rather watery.

The visitors who were inspecting the country received prompt and courteous attention from the Dominion Government Agent, Mr. Sutter, who spared no effort, when the weather would permit, to enable us to see the country. We drove over the country about the