

Livingston is manager; the latter is owned by Mr. T. B. Braden. The *Herald* is the pioneer journal of the district, having been established in 1883 by Messrs. Armour & Braden. The Herald Printing and Publishing Company was organized in the fall of 1884. Calgary has a well equipped fire department. The streets and business houses are lighted by electricity, and a company has been chartered to build and operate a street railway during the present year.

The old staging system will soon be a thing of the past, not only in the vicinity of Calgary, but throughout the whole of Alberta. Contracts have just been completed for the construction of the railway from Calgary to Edmonton, and from the same centre to Fort McLeod. In addition to a land grant of 6,400 acres a mile, the Government makes a money grant of \$80,000 a year, to be paid in transport out of the cash subsidy, in the carriage of mails, Indian, Mounted Police and other supplies—the Government retaining as security one-third of the land grant. Mr. James Ross, who has undertaken the work, has succeeded in placing the bonds of the company and completed all preliminary arrangements with the Dominion Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, which is to operate the new road for the first six years. Work will be begun without delay, and it is expected that before the end of the year the rails will be laid to Red Deer on the northerly line and to a point fifty miles from Calgary on the southern line. The whole distance to be covered is 330 miles, and by the fall of next year it is hoped that the crops of the Edmonton district can be carried south by rail. This will give a fresh impulse to the development of a country unsurpassed for the richness and variety of its resources.

"The situation of Calgary," writes the local historian whom we have already quoted, "on the main line of the Pacific Railway, its central position in the district, and its proximity to the mining district of the Rockies, and to the great stock district stretching north and south, indicate it as the great distributing centre for a vast extent of country." The waters of the Bow and Elbow cannot easily be excelled, and for manufacturing facilities Calgary has no peer in the North-West. Much of the town overlies a bed of gravel varying from extreme fineness to the coarseness of cobblestones—material which has proved of use in street and drain building. In the beginning of 1885 Calgary had a population of about a thousand—the number of buildings of all kinds being about two hundred and fifty. The old town site, though temporarily abandoned, was ere long utilized for suburban residences, and at present the east side of the Elbow is one of the prettiest parts of the young city. The scenery in the immediate neighbourhood is extremely picturesque. Away westward stretches the valley of the Bow till it blends with the foot hills, or is lost in the shadows of the great granite cones beyond, while to the south are seen dome-shaped hills as far as the eye can gaze, sometimes rearing up between the spectator and the mountains in the further distance.

The exceptionally mild climate of Alberta has often been noted by meteorologists. It is said to be mainly due to the vapour-laden winds that, at certain intervals during the winter months, blow through the passes of the mountains and shed their benign influence to some distance east of the 109th meridian west from Greenwich. "These winds,

which are termed 'Chinooks' or 'Sou'-westers, are even more marked in their effect south of the Bow River valley than in it or north of it. In the latitude of Fort McLeod, which is situated a hundred miles from Calgary, the effects of the Chinooks are more distinct, and consequently more felt than they are in any other part of the district. The temperature during the prevalence of these winds, even in midwinter, will ascend to fifty or even seventy degrees above zero, and the snow will disappear with great rapidity while they last. These warm winds are not experienced, except rarely, in Saskatchewan, Central or Eastern Assiniboia, and in Manitoba they are unknown. In the district of Athabasca they are frequently felt in the southwestern portion, near the 58th parallel, but in no portion of the North-West are they more marked and certain in their visitations than in the valley of the Bow and in the great stock raising country lying south of the Canadian Pacific Railway and extending to the international boundary line on the south, and comprising within their scope of influence an extent of country varying from two hundred to two hundred and fifty miles in width east of the mountains." These winds are naturally welcome, as they disarm the winter of its severity, and are a boon of no slight value to man and beast alike. "Cattle and horses," writes Professor Fream, "can graze all through the year almost anywhere south of latitude 52 degrees and longitude 110 degrees." This would indicate that Calgary is on or near the line of the northern limit.

The best known of the Alberta ranches (at least in the Province of Quebec) is that of the Hon. M. Cochrane. A few years ago, Mr. Colmer, C.M.G., secretary to the High Commissioner, furnished Prof. Fream with a list of the leading ranches, some thirty in all, existing at that time, with a statement of the cattle and horses maintained on each of them. The Walrond ranch, at Pincher Creek, had 8,000 head of cattle and 173 horses; the Cochrane ranch, 6,000 cattle; the North-West Cattle Company (founded by the late Sir Hugh Allan), 4,500 cattle and 420 horses; the Oxley ranch (in which Mr. Staveley Hill, Q.C., M.P., is interested), 7,000 and 500 horses; Messrs. J. G. Baker & Co.'s ranch, 2,300 cattle and 300 horses; Lord Castletown's ranch, 1,500 cattle and 600 horses; the Stewart Ranch Company's ranch, 2,400 cattle and 400 horses; Messrs. Jones & Inderwick's ranch, 1,450 cattle and 80 horses; F. Stimson's ranch, 1,450 cattle and 100 horses; and Sir F. de Winton's ranch, 900 cattle and 100 horses. A good cattle ranch, according to the same authority, should cover an area of from 20,000 to 30,000 acres. Many of the cattle are of the old Spanish breed, but on the Cochrane ranch thoroughbred bulls—Shorthorns, Hereford, and especially Polled Angus—are used. The Polled Angus stood the long journey by rail, by boat and on foot admirably well, and were in excellent condition on arriving at their destination, and also showed their hardiness during the severe winters of 1882 and 1883. Thoroughbred bulls are also employed on the Walrond, Oxley and other ranches.

The method of working the Canadian ranches is the same as in the Western States. The life of the cowboy (some features of which have already been depicted in this journal), is rough and arduous, necessitating the spending of much time in the saddle. The articles in a cowboy's

outfit are a California saddle, with fittings complete, a rifle, a pair of leather leggings, Mexican spurs, an overcoat and a sombrero or soft hat of large size. "The stockmen of Alberta," says a contributor to the *Week*, "have formed a powerful association known as the 'South-Western Stock Association,' for the protection and advancement of their interests. This association has the management of the annual 'general round-up,' which usually begins in May and lasts for about six weeks. All the stockmen in the country send representatives in proportion to the number of their herd, and each cowboy brings with him from four to six horses. It can be imagined that, with sixty men in camp, and a band of over three hundred horses, the scenes that occur are often lively and sometimes exciting. In the autumn local 'round-ups' in the different stock districts are held for the purpose of branding the summer calves, which by the following spring would probably have left their mothers, becoming 'no man's cattle,' or, as they are technically termed, *mavericks*. The life of the cow boy is sometimes a hard one—but withal picturesque and somewhat romantic. It is true he almost lives in the saddle, but he rides over a splendid country and enjoys (if he has the faculty) magnificent scenery. The numerous streams and rivers abound in trout, and prairie chicken, grouse, ducks and geese afford abundance of game for the gun."

The following pictures of scenes not infrequent in a cowboy's career, are not without animation:—"There are few more interesting sights than the cowboys at work on their well-trained, sagacious ponies, 'cutting out' cattle from an immense herd, frightened and bellowing, and only kept from a general stampede by men continually riding round them. Again a herd crossing one of our large rapid rivers is a grand spectacle. One or two old steers, perhaps, wade up to their knees and then, becoming suspicious, attempt to break back. But the main body of the herd presses on them, driven by a dozen cowboys, yelling and cracking their whips, in a cloud of dust behind and at their sides. The leaders are forced into deep water and soon have to swim, striking out boldly for the further shore; the others follow, while the cowboys ride into the current to 'keep them agoin'." Last of all come the calves, with the rest of the cowboys riding behind. But by this time the leaders are climbing up the opposite bank and the main body is drifting down stream in a confused mass. A couple of men gallop down the bank, plunge into the river, and head them up stream again, and in a few minutes the whole band, calves and all are crossed in safety."

OUR ENGRAVINGS.

Most of the engravings in this number are from photographs taken by Messrs. Boorne & May, of Calgary, our special artists in that centre and throughout the North-West. This enterprising firm of artists have made a specialty for some years past of the noble scenery of the prairie, the foothills, the mountains and the diversified Pacific slopes. No description in writing can convey so vivid an impression of the scenery, resources and general characteristics of Western Canada as these illustrations from life and nature. The region on the hither side of the Rockies, especially that which is comprised within the limits of Alberta, offers rare features of interest to the capitalist.