

MR. A. TRAYNOR GIVES INTERESTING PARTICULARS.

ROSE PLAIN P.O., Sept. 15th, '88.

D. W. BOLE, Pres. of R.B. of T.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of the 13th inst., *re* my impressions of the country, I would say that after travelling through a portion of Manitoba, south-west of Brandon to the vicinity of the U. S. boundary, I located here in preference as I considered it a great advantage to have land to work that you had neither stones, sloughs, bluffs nor any other obstacle in the way of breaking, so that you could plow your furrows the whole length of your section or half section as the case may be, which I consider a great advantage in the use of gang plows, harrowing with large outfits driven by one man, harvesting, etc., as is the case in this district, as one man can accomplish much more than in having to do much turning. The land here is a very rich clay loam with clay sub-soil, and is somewhat hard to break and backset, but after that it is easy to work. I broke 100 acres here in 1886 with a gang plow drawn by 4 to 7 oxen, the driest season we have had since the place was settled, and backset 70 acres of the same besides doing what other work I had to do. Cool days I broke $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres per day, but my average during the month of June was about 3 acres per day; in backsetting about 7 to 8 inches deep with 6 to 7 oxen, I averaged about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres per day on half mile furrows. I have my homestead all broke, but about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre where my house and granary stand, and nearly finished backsetting. I expect to have it all in crop next year. I had about 120 acres under crop this year, viz., 92 acres under red fife wheat, 23 acres under black Tartarian oats, balance under turnips, potatoes, etc., all of which has surpassed my expectation. I sowed seventy acres on last years stubble without plowing, and just harrowed with common harrows drawn by 5 oxen abreast, harrowing in ten acres per day. Grain is all cut and about half stacked. In cutting with a Little Maxwell binder I averaged 15 acres per day with 2 or 3 oxen.

The quality of the wheat is good and will grade No. 1 hard, if not extra No. 1 hard. I find by collecting samples of wheat from Regina east to Port Arthur elevator, from farmers, grain dealers and elevator men, that the wheat grown in the Regina district is much harder than that grown further east and consequently more valuable. In drawing together the grain here, I find a vast difference from Ontario, where we had so much more straw to handle for to get the same quantity of grain. The question there seemed to be, how