

farm at Indian Head, where these crops are grown, is thoroughly cultivated, and is kept as clean as a garden: and yet some of the handsome crops which I saw growing had actually been drilled upon the unploughed stubble of the previous year. At the Brandon farm, which is maintained with equal skill, and which has given quite splendid results, the highest yield in the test of 39 varieties of wheat was 36 bushels, as against 40 bushels in the previous year; but this must not be confounded with the much superior results of the 1893 crops, which were very nearly as heavy as those at Indian Head. In the test of 45 varieties of oats grown in 1892, the highest yield was 91 bushels, as against 87 bushels in the previous year; and no less than 16 varieties exceeded 70 bushels to the acre, while, with two exceptions, every variety yielded over 50 bushels; so that it is not in this case the variety grown, so much as the soil and the climate, which enables the farmer to reap such excellent crops. In 1891, of 25 varieties, the lowest yield was 58 bushels; while in the same year the test barleys varied between 31 bushels and 57 bushels to the acre, all but 12 being over 40 bushels. I was so amazed at the astonishing crops grown at the Indian Head farm, that I have obtained from the superintendent details of the actual yield since threshing—for which he has my best thanks. I am aware that upon a Government farm, where the cost of production is not always a consideration, as it is upon the farm of a settler, greater things can be accomplished: but in this case it is not a matter of manure, but of labour, skill, and common sense. The experimental farms exist for the very purpose of showing the settlers how to achieve similar results. They are always open for inspection, and every assistance is gratuitously given, together with seed, if that be necessary, so that the farmer can follow in exactly the same line, and, so far as time and labour permit him, achieve, if not the same, very similar results. In driving over the prairie, however, I too often noticed that the land had been, and was still being, prepared for cropping while in a foul and imperfect condition. Heavy crops cannot be obtained if cereals are grown among weeds, and so long as farmers are content to till the soil on a slovenly system, they will have to put up with inferior crops; and what is still worse, they will find that, instead of the value of their acres increasing year by year, it will be decreasing, because they are being rendered unfit for sale.

*Mixed Farming
Essential.*

The next question which arises is, whether the country is suitable for mixed farming, and the production of dairy goods. In replying to this, two other questions arise—whether the stock of the farm can withstand the severity of the climate, and whether the crops usually produced for the purpose of feeding stock on a mixed farming system will grow with sufficient freedom. These two questions are answered by existing facts. In all parts of the West of Canada cattle are found, and at the exhibitions which I attended at Winnipeg and Brandon numerous specimens of almost all our English beef breeds were exhibited of very excellent quality. Dairying already forms a part of the agricultural system of the West, and the produce, if not as good as that of England, is at

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