

adjusted his mask. Mavorick Bill was called upon to respond to the following sentiment :

Over the Range we are daily drifting;
To the land with flowers made bright and sweet;
Some linger for years and years before going,
While others are Jerked there with boots on their feet.

Maverick Bill, who was standing where a halo of rope almost encircled his head, replied as follows :

"Fellow Citizens: You have taken me completely by surprise, and I am wholly unprepared to make a speech, especially in reply to a poetical sentiment. I have always run more to fresh beef than I have to poetry. I might say that if you had not taken me by surprise I would not be here. I had other engagements which I had hoped would prevent my attendance this evening, but your invitation to be present was so pressing that I could not tear myself away.

"The hour is too late and I will not detain you with any extended remarks.

"I owe my contemplated rise to the pernicious literature of political economy. I studied political economy at college, and naturally became a free trader. I did not seem to fully grasp the subject, but I had a burning desire to put everything I saw on the free list, and to reduce the surplus until it looked like a new woolen undershirt just from the wash.

"I began on the surplus left from my father's estate. In a few brief years the family treasury was as barren and desolate as the path of a snowslide.

"I came west. I saw surplus cattle roaming the hills and lurching in the verdant valleys of our fair young commonwealth. I started in to reduce that surplus—hence my presence here; hence this raw (hide) material; hence these steers—"

The speaker was informed that his time was up. Under the rules of the Society, all speeches by guests were limited to two minutes.

Bill moved for a suspension of the rules, but the motion was defeated. A motion to suspend the speaker was carried unanimously.

Over the Range they are going, going,
Some in life's morning, and some in life's noon,
Others when twilight shadows are falling,
And others skip o'er by the light of the moon.

—Richard Linthicum in *The Great Debate*.

JAN., 1891.

H. J. Montgomery, of Prince Albert, has sold a car load of beef cattle to W. H. Sinclair, of Regina. He was on the way to Winnipeg with the cattle, but got a favorable offer for them at Regina.

Considerable excitement has been created in this district, writes a Battleford correspondent to the *Free Press*, by the discovery of what is said to be crude petroleum. Prospecting parties have been out for some time and the liquid discovered has been sent east to be assayed. Should it prove to be of good quality, a company will at once be formed with the object of developing the springs. One of the curious discoveries of the prospectors was a burning coal mine emitting no smoke, but the heat of the earth being so great in the vicinity that the explorers were unable to walk on its surface. An immense cavern on the side of a hill shows where a large seam of coal has taken fire and gradually penetrated the earth.

HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS OF CANADA.

The Department of the Interior of the Canadian Government issues through Mr. A. M. Burgess, Deputy Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, the following rules relating to the acquiring of land :

All even-numbered sections of Dominion Lands in Manitoba or the North-West Territories, excepting 8 and 26, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or other purposes, may be homesteaded by any person who is the sole head of a family, or male over eighteen years of age, to the extent of one quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

ENTRY.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office in which the land to be taken is situate, or if the homesteader desires, he may on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, receive authority for some one to make the entry for him. A fee of \$10 is charged for an ordinary homestead entry; but for lands which have been occupied an additional fee of \$10 is chargeable to meet inspection and cancellation expenses.

HOMESTEAD DUTIES.

Under the present law homestead duties may be performed in three ways, and on making application for entry the settler must declare under which of the following conditions he elects to hold his land :

1. Three years' cultivation and residence, during which period the settler may not be absent for more than six months in any one year without forfeiting the entry.

2. Residence for three years anywhere within two miles of the homestead quarter-section and afterwards actual residence in a habitable house upon the homestead for three months next prior to application for patent. Under this system 10 acres must be broken the first year after entry, 15 acres additional in the second, and 15 in the third year; 10 acres to be in crop the second year, and 25 acres in the third year.

3. The five years' system under which a settler may reside anywhere for the first two years, (but must perfect his entry by commencing cultivation within six months after the date thereof), breaking 5 acres the first year, cropping those five acres and breaking 10 acres additional the second year, and also building a habitable house before the end of the second year. The settler must commence actual residence on the homestead at the expiration of two years from date of entry, and thereafter reside upon and cultivate his home-stead for at least six months in each of the three next succeeding years.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT

may be made before the local agent, any homestead inspector, or the intelligence officer at Medicine Hat or Qu'Appelle Station. Before making application for Patent the settler must give six months notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands of his intention to do so.

INTELLIGENCE OFFICES.

Intelligence offices are situate at Qu'Appelle Station, and Medicine Hat. Newly arrived immigrants will receive, at any of these offices information as to the lands that are open for entry, and from the officers in charge, free of expense, advice and assistance in securing lands to suit them.

A SECOND HOMESTEAD

may be taken by any one who has received a homestead patent or a certificate of recommendation, countersigned by the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, upon application for patent made by him, or had earned title to his first homestead on, or prior to the second day of June, 1887.

INFORMATION.

Full information respecting the land, timber coal and mineral laws, and copies of these Regulations, as well as those respecting Dominion Lands in the Railway Belt in British Columbia, may be obtained upon application to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa; the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or to any of the Dominion Lands Agents in Manitoba or the North-West Territories.

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