

katchewan, west of the elbow, is of the same dubious character as the Souris plain, but Mr. Tupper, Dominion Inspector of Telegraphs, insists that most of it is well watered and fertile.

West of this wide plain, lying north and south along the Rocky Mountain chain, is the region of the Bow and Belly Rivers, two tributaries of the Saskatchewan, a fertile, well-wooded and watered district, said to be admirably adapted to the raising of cattle. A good many ranches are already established there, and its conditions of climate and forage supply will soon be tested.

The most notable experiment in cattle raising in this region is about to be made by Mr. Cochrane, a well-known Ontario writer, who had just concluded arrangements with the Government for opening a ranch on Bow River. He has leased 36,000 acres of public land for twenty-one years, at a rate absolutely nominal, and is to secure ownership of one-fifth of it at a price almost so. He has purchased in Ontario, America and England several of the finest thoroughbred cattle and horses to be had for money. He is arranging to import 10,000 Montana cows and commence building on a large scale. He had not visited his future home when I was in Canada, though his stock was on the way; but he was confident from the result of his inquiries of the ultimate success of his venture. A good many less extensive and somewhat unauthorized experiments in cattle raising are said to be going on in Bow River country.

North of the Qu'Appelle the country has been more thoroughly explored and the sources of information are less doubtful. The triangle between the Assiniboine and Qu'Appelle is traversed by several old Hudson Bay trails, and is pretty well known. It is fertile, well watered and has a good deal of timber along the streams and on the Touchwood Hills. Settlers are fast working towards this region, along the line of the Assiniboine. West of the Touchwood Hills the country does not seem to be so well known, but it has several considerable streams and lakes. Long Lake, northwest of Qu'Appelle, is sixty miles long, and, like the Fishing Lakes of Qu'Appelle, is the expansion of a small creek filling its excavated valley. The westward boundary of this region is the South Saskatchewan, which turns north from the elbow and runs parallel with and about fifty miles from the