

opportunity of examining the farming system in the country, and gathering some information, which has proved of extraordinary value.

After quitting work as an employé, Mr. Sandison resolved on trying it on his own hook. At first he took a homestead some fifty miles from the Canadian Pacific Railway, but he soon gave that up, concluding that to rent or buy a farm near the line was much more profitable. So, in the second year from his leaving Ontario, he rented a farm of 320 acres within four miles of the C. P. R., near Brandon.

He concluded that, in Manitoba, land of the highest price was the cheapest in all cases, and that a man can within two or three years own land for which he has paid \$10 or \$15 (£2 to £3) an acre, within five to fifteen miles of a railway, while a man working a farm as far back as thirty miles from the line, will practically be able to do nothing.

He found that a great many people in Manitoba made a mistake in buying say 320 acres of land, and, instead of making every foot contribute a return, only working a little of it at first, and thus be paying interest on land which was yielding no profit, or otherwise having his money lying idle in the land. He worked on the theory above enunciated, and in a very short time was the owner of his land.

On another point he showed his good judgment. As soon as he was able, he bought the best horses he could procure. This he found more profitable than purchasing inferior or worn-out animals.

Having got control of half a section, he broke it up at once, and made it pay for itself; then he bought a section, following the same method with it, and now, according to his estimate, the value of capital he has lying in labor alone is equal to \$10,000 (£2,000), a pretty good showing, indeed.

Another point regarding farming in Manitoba which Mr. Sandison brings forward is that the country is particularly adapted to farming on a large scale. It is, or should be, the ambition of every farmer to increase his holdings and the acreage of his crop, and he is perfectly right in this, so long, of course, as he has the labor and machinery to harvest the crops he sows.

In Manitoba the land is generally level, the fields are square, the furrows a mile or half a mile long, and consequently the farmer can make a correct estimate of the cost of his labor, since each man is required to do a like amount of work at the plough.

According to Mr. Sandison's idea farming is much easier in the Prairie Province than in either the Old Country or Ontario, and, as has been already said, he speaks from actual experience. In the first place the