

even terrible aspect from the few living specimens that yet survive. Those survivors, like the couple of hundred in the Yellowstone Park, Montana U. S. are either in a practically wild state, under protection more or less effective, or in a confined park, securely fenced in, as at Silver Heights, near Winnipeg, where a herd of sixteen or seventeen roam in an extensive enclosure.* Col. Bedson, ten years ago had 70 or 80 of them, pure bred, at Stony Mountain, near Winnipeg but they have been sold and form part of the herd of Mr C. J. Jones, Garden City, Kan., which probably numbers about 150 full blood buffalo. Mr. W. F. Cody and others have a few specimens, but there can hardly now be more than 1000 of these noble animals remaining of the countless myriads which not long ago peopled the plains.

Lord Strathcona had kindly suggested on my visits to the west that I should view his herd at Silver Heights, but the opportunity did not occur until last August, and my notes, made at the time may be of interest although nothing that is new or of scientific importance can now be said of the buffalo. The herd have a fenced reserve covering eight or ten square miles, and over this grassy park they wander with as much freedom as in nature. Some horses feed on this ground; but, while the buffalo do not associate with them much, there appears to be no animosity between them. One of the horses was injured, I learned, some months before, but the animal was possibly lame or weak, and unable to quickly get out of the way of the buffalo. Weak members of their own tribe are invariably attacked and killed. The principle of the survival of the fittest finds rigorous fulfilment among the buffalo. When a friend and myself reached the farm, the buffalo had not been seen for some hours, and were said to be several miles away. We determined to find out their whereabouts, but like other visitors who departed disappointed at not seeing the buffalo, we were just beginning to share in the same feeling, and were about to give up hope of viewing the herd, when we observed two

*Since these notes were jotted down Lord Strathcona has gifted his herd to the Dominion for the Banff National park.