

ADVICE BY AN OLD SETTLER.

John Beggs, an old settler of Arcola, Assa., writing to a local paper, says: "Do not be in too great a hurry to make money for the first year or two, but make up your mind to go carefully and feel your way for a short time. A person who is unaccustomed to prairie farming, and is limited as to means, had better if possible obtain a good homestead, which he can secure upon very easy terms, and if he has not sufficient money to enable him to stock and equip it on the start, I would suggest his procuring work with a farmer, which is easily obtained at good wages. He can work in this way for six months of each year and put in the balance of the year on his homestead. A great many people coming in here feel that they are losing time while doing the residence duties on a homestead unless they are in a position to buy horses and machinery to work continually on the land, but if they would only stop and think they would remember that at the end of the three years which they are required to put in, they have a clear title to 160 acres of land, worth at least \$1,600, or in other words, for each month they are required to reside upon the land they have accumulated a title to \$90 worth of property, which can be converted into cash at any time, if so desired."

Expert Opinions of Western Canada.

It is in view of the exceptional weight attaching to the opinions of farmers, agricultural editors, and business men from the fertile farming areas of "the States," whose judgment can not be in any way biased in favor of another country than their own, that the following matter is presented.

SPYING OUT THE LAND.

Three editors of the American Agriculturist recently made a 4,000-mile tour through Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Their report of what they saw, after referring to the adaptability of Western Canada for the growing of small grains, and to the excellence of the stock, says: "Among the settlers are many from the United States. Such rapid development as we saw is only possible in a country blessed with a fertile soil and a prosperous people. The future of Western Canada is full of promise. Rapid and substantial development is certain. When the newer parts of the United States were settled, they had much to contend with. There were no railroads, consequently no markets. With the settlers in Canada everything is different. Railroads have preceded them, furnishing at once a market and means of securing the comforts of modern farm life."

PRIME GRAZING COUNTRY.

"Grass is one of the notable things about all the landscape of Western Canada," says Henry F. Thurston in the Farmers' Review (Chicago). "There is thus not a mile of this country that can not be used for some agricultural purpose—either for tilling or ranching. Stories were told the writer of men who, last year, cleared from their wheat crop more than the land on which it was grown originally cost them. This is easy to believe, in view of the large crop and high price for wheat last year."

CANADA'S MARVELLOUS CLIMATE.

We should not lose sight of the influence of the rains; the total average rainfall for the season is but 13.35 inches for the Territories, and 17.34 inches in Manitoba, and the amounts falling between April 1st and October 1st are respectively 9.39 inches and 12.87 inches or about three-fourths of the entire

rainfall. From the middle of June to the middle of July there are over two hours more daylight in every twenty-four hours than in Nebraska. Prof. Thos. Shaw of Minnesota, than whom there is no better authority, says: "The main reason why Western Canada wheat grows to such perfection consists in the longer period of sunshine it gets each day."

We saw more and larger bands of cattle and sheep grazing in Assiniboia and Alberta than we ever saw on the western plains of the United States. One band of cattle numbering 5,000 head were grazing on the rich grass, and sheep without number.—H. E. Heath, in *Nebraska Farmer*.

VAST AREA OF WHEAT LANDS.

"The wheat-growing districts of Western Canada," says the Orange Judd Farmer, "are unrivaled in the production of grain. In these districts there is length of season and ample rainfall to secure the crop under ordinary conditions. During the year 1902, 50.7 per cent of all the wheat officially inspected at Winnipeg graded No. 1 hard, and 30.6 per cent No. 1 northern, making 81 per cent of the total receipts falling within the two highest market grades. During practically the same time only 1 per cent of the receipts at Minnesota were hard and 22 per cent No. 1 northern, or 23 per cent of the total receipts represented the two highest gradings."

WESTERN CANADA'S POSSIBILITIES.

"The tide of immigration which is pouring into the northwestern territories of Canada, and which is being very largely recruited in the central valleys and northwestern states of this country," says B. W. Snow, in Farm and Home, "makes a presentation of the agricultural possibilities of this new land of timely interest to American farmers. The character of the winters may perhaps be best appreciated when it is understood that cattle, both on the range and on the homestead, remain without shelter the year around, and ordinarily without feed, except as they rustle for themselves."

PROMISE OF THE NORTHWEST.

The Indiana Farmer (Indianapolis, Ind.), in its issue of July 25, 1903, says: "The developments of recent years have shown that extending far into Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, there is an area of millions of acres adapted to the growing of the finest wheat in the world, and of this immense area only a small portion, relatively speaking, has as yet been turned by the plough. All things considered, we look upon this region as one of great promise. We do not see how it can fail to become one of the most prosperous regions in the world, and that in the near future."

CHARACTER OF THE EDMONTON COUNTRY.

"We were strongly reminded," says the editor of the Farmer Call (Quincy, Ill.), in speaking of the Edmonton district, "of the famous Mendon Prairie in western Illinois."

"The farming country about Edmonton differs from the open prairie in that it is slightly rolling and is not destitute of timber, giving ample wood for fuel, building, and fencing. The soil is a rich, black loam, almost altogether free from stones, Springs, creeks, and small lakes abound. There is a rich growth of grass, such as makes Northern Alberta an ideal cattle-raising district. Oats and barley do exceptionally well, the former running from forty to forty-five pounds to the bushel. The wheat can be successfully grown here is proved by the number of local grist mills running day and night, grinding the wheat of this district to supply home consumption."

WESTERN

"Western lands," say "It is a great thing, of relations, of thought, a country liberty. The cattle, but the enterpriser that other

WHEAT I

"Agriculture in the Spri black earth soil in the soils of Manitoba, and the ingredients in production of wheat are their high these soils. dry and hea is cheap.

Assiniboia, katchewan, have but to open col the Saskate and fill the

"The Ar crosses from into Canada; or nothing t that he has a republic or the color archy. He by no mo restrictions; by less. T which men willingness

HIGH PRI

"The farr the Farmer wheat—per than the fa same long Northwest as the cattle

MORE EVI

The whea are ideal di the ripening making the s grown, or pastures are and western not only wi