

country may be formed from the fact that it measures over 90,000 square miles. The foot of the hills and the plains are carpeted with rich buffalo and other grasses, on which cattle and horses live, thrive, and fatten summer and winter without any shelter save what the nature of the undulating plains afford. The snow does not lie long, nor is it ever very deep. The ranchers cut and stack large quantities of hay in order to be prepared for emergencies. The pioneers of cattle ranching have devoted much valuable time and money to the introduction of well-bred horses and cattle. Thus a superior class of stock is always maintained on the best ranches.

Calgary forms a centre for the railway branch line that runs north to Edmonton and south to Fort M'Leod. Both branches throw open new and extensive districts, which comprise some of the richest and finest land in the North-West, and is now attracting many settlers, who, in comparison with the wooded part of Canada, find it extremely suitable and profitable for cultivation and the prosecution of mixed farming. Those who have been settled here for some time declare that the fertility of the land, opened up on either side by these two railway branch lines, is unsurpassed. Wonderful crops are produced, and the climate is suitable, thus rendering life here both enjoyable and prosperous. Marketing facilities are within reasonable distances. The producer being at no great distance from the railway, may have the result of his labours, whether in wheat or cattle, transferred by rail to the east or west coast for shipment. There is not a more excellent country in the new world than that around Calgary for mixed farming, and none with a more varied and charming scenery, or a more bracing and exhilarating climate. It abounds in all kinds of game for sport and horsemanship, and all that is capable of making life what it was originally intended to be.

Having now traversed the prairie from east to west, it may be stated generally that though apparently it is as level as a billiard table yet in reality it is a sloping country rising gradually towards the Rocky Mountains. Some of the buildings and homesteads are comparatively small, and sometimes do not add much to the natural beauty of the prairie. In many