

I quite agree with the following from the Dominion of Canada Guide Book, 1884, page 109 :

"Agriculturists in search of land, and specially those going to the North-West, should be very careful how they receive the glowing representations which are made to them by agents of land companies who will waylay them at many points on their journey, and particularly if the route taken should happen to be through some of the Western States. An immigrant bound for Manitoba should persevere, in spite of all representations or misrepresentations, in going to see for himself."

A couple of years ago several farmers from the County of Megantic sold out and went to Manitoba to settle and came back disgusted with the country owing to the deceptions of land agents or persons who represented themselves as such. We had to run the gauntlet on our way out, but took note of what we heard and saw, and judged for ourselves, and hence the advantage in going out in large communities to commence settlement after a place has been chosen, as we have done, and giving to others that follow the same advantage of settlement, together with the information and assistance from those who had preceded them, and which these Township men of old Canada are so well accustomed to and know so well how to give.

The Rev. James MacGregor, D.D., one of the party who accompanied the Marquis of Lorne in 1881, remarks :—

"Speaking of the section of country where the cattle ranches are situated, on the third prairie steppe :

"The whole of this region may be said to be more or less under the beneficent influence of the warm winter winds known as the 'Chinooks,' whose true physical explanation has not yet been accurately ascertained, but of whose extraordinary effects in tempering the cold of winter there can be no manner of doubt. It is owing to these winds that snow never lies to any depth, and as a consequence cattle and horses find food and shelter for themselves all the winter through. The result is that ranching or stock raising on a colossal scale has already begun."

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"Of the fertility of the soil throughout most of this region we had the amplest proof. It is a pitch-black sandy loam, very easy to work. Near the northern extremity of the region on the Indian supply farm, close by Calgary, we saw for the first time ploughing on the prairie. A pair of horses and a yoke of oxen were each ploughing a mile-long furrow on rich haugh land, a sight which set me thinking about our farmers at home. The virgin soil had been broken in spring, and they were turning it over for fall sowing. Labor was scarce, poor and dear. They were roughly stacking the barley like hay, and the oats were being reaped; the crops of all kinds were in splendid condition. On a farm close by, where the oat crop was a wonder to behold, and where the oats were standing strong in the stem, and 41 inches high, we had the curiosity to count the produce from one self-sown grain of oats, and found them to be 2,691 grains. At another Indian supply farm, at the southern extremity of the region, we counted the return from single grains of oats, and found them to be three times that amount, with as many as forty-five stalks to the stool, and each stalk like a reed; while from one