

With the immense plains in the North-West to compete with, where the soil is extremely rich and capable of producing grain in abundance and of high quality for many years without the use of fertilizers, it is unlikely that farmers in the eastern Provinces can continue to grow wheat as a staple crop with profit, hence more attention will no doubt be given by them in future to stock-raising and to dairying. Already the annual exports of Canadian cheese amount to over 88 million pounds, and the business has by no means reached its limit, and with similar effort and skill brought to bear on the production of butter, a large and profitable trade could soon be built up in that commodity. During the summer season the pasture lands of most eastern farms usually furnish rich and luxuriant herbage; the great desideratum is cheap and nutritious food for the long winter months when cattle have to be housed, food so stored as to be convenient, and handled with little expense.

In the North-West also Canadian farmers are learning that it is unwise to trust entirely to grain growing, and in Manitoba and the Territories mixed farming is becoming more general. There has been a prodigious increase in the number of cattle in that country within the past five years, and dairying enterprise is beginning to be developed. As long as the number of cattle there was small, and but a limited proportion of the land taken up, the western plains afforded unlimited pasturage for stock, and the lower lands furnished an abundance of hay for winter use, which could be had almost for the cutting. Now the conditions are changing. The land is being rapidly settled and the nearer unoccupied hay lands are no longer sufficient to provide winter sustenance for the increasing herds, and the farmer has either to drive his cattle a long distance from home and put them into rude winter quarters near his hay supply or to draw his hay, in many instances, from 25 to 50 miles to feed his animals at home. With the steady influx of settlers, farmers there must soon face the problem of growing on their own land winter food for their stock.

TIME OF CUTTING, SELECTION OF VARIETIES, ETC.

Indian corn, where it can be successfully grown, produces probably a greater weight of crop per acre than any other fodder plant. It is nutritious and a very large quantity can be grown at a small cost. In the growth of this plant stores of nutriment are gradually laid up in its stalks and leaves until it reaches that stage when the grain is formed, but still in a soft condition, when the