

terminal elevators in the town have capacity for about half the quantity. There are important flour and oatmeal mills and large manufactories of various kinds. Owing to the unpopulated state of the prairie, it was only within very recent years that the latter industries were started. But now the unlimited water power, that can be easily utilised for the purpose, promises to make it a famous manufacturing centre. The quantity of oats, barley, wheat, and potatoes that are sold at Winnipeg is hardly calculable. But it is safe to say that in proportion to the population no town in the world transacts more business than this town.

About six miles from Winnipeg is Silver Heights, the property of Sir Donald A. Smith. Driving to it through the prairie, one is struck with the enormous cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, &c., that appear on either side. All sorts of garden produce grow here in the open fields, and their size is the best possible testimony to the climate and fertility of the soil. The last of the millions of buffalo that once roamed over the prairies are kept here in a protected park, and I had the pleasure of seeing some half-dozen of these noble animals.

Leaving Winnipeg, the capital of the Province of Manitoba, for the Far West, the tourist is first surprised to find so much of the prairie in the near vicinity of the town in its natural condition, unbroken, and sparsely inhabited. After the first surprise is over the locomotive pursues its course over a boundless level country extending as far as the eye can reach, and with nothing to break the view but a long line of trees that mark the course of the Assiniboine River. Herds of cattle, feeding on the rich green grass, appear on either side, and soon some splendid grain fields and homesteads at regular intervals are passed. The homesteads are surrounded with highly-cultivated land, and appear to be in a most prosperous condition. After a run of sixty miles from Winnipeg the train first stops at

Portage-la-Prairie.

This is an important town of a day's growth, with over 4000 of a population. It is the centre of a rich district, as is evident from the flour mills and the large grain elevators that stand out con-