

least of it, a much too glowing and sanguine view of the prairie farmer's prospects. At page 60 he gives the opinion of a Mr. Brown, an old farmer in the country, "that more money has been made, and may be made in this state by stock farming than by corn-growing;" and adds, (page 61,) "but he has not found short-horned stock so successful on the natural prairie grass, of which, on his own lands, he has no longer any."

To give us an idea of stock farming, Mr. Caird tells us (page 71) that "oxen of three years old, large and in what we should reckon fair condition for stall feeding, are valued here, *i. e.*, Central Illinois, at not more than £4!" And again at page 69, he quotes the price of beef at 2d. per lb.; and at page 72, a Kentucky farmer admits that two acres of his best blue grass land in Illinois were needed to fatten a three-year old short horned ox. At these prices stock farming cannot be profitable at all, and if *better* than corn-growing, what inference may we draw? The story of the ox and two hogs eating a hundred bushels of Indian corn (page 74,) and then being sold at 2d. per lb., is not calculated to give very favourable views of prairie farming. It is well Mr. Caird has so frankly represented these facts to enable British farmers to judge for themselves. It may be well to state here that cattle, sheep, beef, mutton, pork, and grain of all kinds in Canada, are fully double the prices quoted by Mr. Caird as being the prices in Central Illinois; and intelligent British farmers will no doubt govern themselves accordingly, especially as all other crops, except Indian corn, are more productive in Canada West, and labour quite as cheap. These high prices may be supposed to militate against mechanics and manufacturers, but where agricultural products are high, mechanics find more employment and better wages than when they are low. The farmers being more prosperous, are better able to carry on improvements of all kinds. Mr. Caird, at page 50, quotes the wages of a journeyman carpenter at 4s. per day, with his board; these wages are rather lower than in Canada, but the colony has suffered so severely by the late exceptional reverses, that there is little employment for tradesmen at present at high wages. If we have a good harvest and an average crop, times will improve rapidly; but it may be safely stated that it is not probable that either Illinois or Canada will ever again reach that state of inflated prosperity, caused by the late expenditure of millions of dollars in the purchase and formation of railway routes. The benefit of the colony will be permanent and substantial, but the first pioneers of the benefit will probably be severe sufferers. Mr. Caird has well said, and it appears true with regard to Canada also, that, "the development of railway accommodation has been too rapid, and has for the present outrun the immediate requirements of Illinois."

I have alluded to the fact that wheat and all other grain, except Indian corn, are more productive in Canada West than in Central Illinois. The circumstances of climate are, perhaps, the chief cause of the superiority of Canada West. The great wheat-producing countries of Europe lie between the 50th and 59th degrees of north latitude, where the summer