

some living buffalo, and no less than 24 specimens, including 10 old bulls, were killed. The wood-buffalo still survive in remoter parts of the North West ; but they are probably not numerous, and are doomed to early extinction with the present opening-up of these distant gold producing areas.

Observers who crossed the prairies, before the buffalo were nearing extermination, confess that no description can do justice to the impressive spectacle which these bovine monsters presented. Their brown almost black forms scattered over the plains and quietly grazing in untold numbers or spurred by fear and fury rushing in irresistible stampede and leaving clouds of dust behind, can be only dimly imagined. Single herds of ten thousand buffalo were not at all uncommon, and nothing could resist the shock of these legions when in stampede. Fences, tents, waggons, even settlers' huts were thrown down, and railway trains have been compelled to stop until the monstrous troop passed by or run the risk of being overturned by the onward sweep of the buffalo.

The narrow winding paths along which they moved in single file can be still clearly seen upon the prairie, radiating in every direction and converging and crossing each other, while the hollow basins in the earth, the "wallows" where they rolled in the dust, or in wet mud where the ground was marshy are distinctly visible though hollowed out twenty or thirty years ago. Of the thousands of paths to be clearly discerned by the traveller on the C. P. R. west of Winnipeg, a large proportion run nearly north and south and indicate no doubt seasonal migrations from the usual summer resorts to more southerly winter grazing grounds. Six or eight paths frequently run side by side, and as the western rivers usually take an east and west course, the buffalo paths lead to water. Some of the paths are stated to have been worn down to a depth of 24 to 30 inches so vast where the long lines of buffalo which tramped along them.

If it is hardly possible to adequately picture the roving buffalo herds as they appeared a quarter of a century ago, we can happily still form some conception of their imposing and