

foundations of a great and prosperous community. They are all energetic, most of them are reading men, some are cultured men, and there is no doubt whatever, that the free and independent bearing which characterises the men in the North-West is due in part, possibly wholly, to their free surroundings. It may be that even the associations of the North-West have some influence on them. The associations connected with the North-West are of the most inspiring kind, for though a new land, it is a land which has historical associations of which people can never read or think of without enthusiasm. Some 150 years ago Pierre Gauthier de Varennes traversed those very regions, and Forts Du Pas, Fort du Grande Rapide, at the Rapids of the Saskatchewan, Fort La Corne, and other places familiar to North-West travellers, are among their footmarks that are living yet. That prairie region alone contains 123,000 square miles, reaching up from the arid plateau of the Missouri to the forests of the Saskatchewan and stretching away from Manitoba to the foot of the Rocky Mountains. That whole region maybe described as one vast wheat mine. There can be no doubt in the mind of any man who knows that country that it is destined to be the great wheat-producing region of the future. My hon. friends from Hamilton visited the country last year. Both of them went north and south and saw what sort of a country was there. The correspondent of the *Empire*, Professor Dawson, visited the country, and probably some hon. members have read his letters about the country; but my hon. friends from Hamilton, with visitors from Ontario, at an earlier period, saw with wonder the extraordinary crops produced. It is not merely, as I have already stated, a wheat-producing country. We have farmers in every part of the North-West who are also engaged in stock raising. If you go north of Regina or Moose Jaw, you will find farmers who came in there without \$100, as they will tell you, owning herds with nearly their whole homestead cultivated. In the Qu'Appelle valley you will find several herds increasing at an almost mathematical ratio every year, and horse ranching south of Regina is most successful. I have here a pamphlet just issued by the Regina board of trade. I will not trouble the House with the details contained in this pamphlet.

Mr. MITCHELL. Read it.

Mr. DAVIN. I will not read it, even though that desire be expressed by the Third Party without a single dissenting voice, but I will give the House some idea of the character of the pamphlet. On page 13, there is the testimony of