

KING COAL.

C. D. Wilber, Esq., L.L.D., State Geologist of Illinois, has an interesting paper on the above named subject in the Chicago Mining Review of the 25th September.

Among other things Dr. Wilber says:—

Taking our course north from Mexico, and comparing each political division or territory with the one south of it, we are permitted to notice the great preponderance of coal north of the 30th parallel, in British America. Large deposits of coal from 10 to 15 feet in thickness are found 400 and 500 miles north of Montana and Idaho. It is probable, however, that in the extreme north, bordering on the Arctic Ocean, we shall find a corresponding limit of coal, the cause of which is referable, as before stated, to the climatic conditions of vegetable growth.

It will be interesting especially to the English and Canadian readers of the Mining Review, to know the sources of coal for the vast region now intersected by the new Canadian Pacific Railway. This area comprises the Provinces of Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta, and British Columbia. Here is an immense wilderness of both flat and rolling prairie, of grassy plains and magnificent rivers, having a soil both capable of husbandry and herding, as is proven to-day by thousands of new farms where so recently prevailed the wild and hopeless monotony of Nature.

Into this unmeasured domain nearly 2,000 miles in length, east and west, by at least 500 in width, north of the 49th parallel—the international boundary—are coming, with the facilities of this new trans-continental railway, now being constructed by the government, hundreds of thousands of the more hardy populations of northern latitudes—of Ontario, Quebec and Northern Europe, already accustomed to long winter terms.

"A colony of families from Iceland," says a Winnipeg paper of recent date, "have settled in Manitoba, and are so delighted with their new summer-land that they have sent greetings to their friends, with advice to come and possess the fertile acres of Manitoba, 'without money or price.'" It is pleasant to anticipate them and their countrymen, the Greenlanders, removing from the 75th to the 50th parallel, and rejoicing in the sunshine of a warmer climate, where even 40° below zero is to them a foretaste of ethereal mildness.

Coal supplies for the eastern portion of this new region will come from the Souris River lignites already referred to. The middle region can be supplied from the Medicine Hat and Belly River coal districts which also afford lignites. The last named coals are inferior in quality, i.e., not compact, having a heavy per cent. of ash and moisture, and easily disintegrating in the open air. But notwithstanding they are the lowest order of croceaceous coals, yet the necessities of a six months' winter will compel their use and distribution by rail on an extensive scale.

Beyond Calgary, which is destined to become the leading city of the Northwest Territory, coal is found of a quality far superior to the lignite of the plains just referred to.

A field of anthracite coal has recently been found near Cascade Mountain on the Canadian Pacific railway 900 miles west of Winnipeg. It has been traced in a direct line, on its outcrop for several miles, and at intervals, pits or shafts have been dug to prove the regularity and persistence of this anthracite stratum. About 300 tons have been mined and shipped to the East, and from this amount, sufficient tests have been made, to prove not only its great value, but also its identity, as a true anthracite coal.

In the Western States and Territories it is a universal fact that the grade of coals in quality or value increase towards the Rocky Mountains as follows:

1. We have loose or spongy lignites; 2. Compact or solid lignites; 3. Semi-bituminous; 4. Anthracite.

A correct outline map of the productive coal limits of the Western States and Territories must be vague and uncertain especially on the south. Western Texas, New Mexico and Arizona should have areas indefinitely shaded with frequent doubt-signals—thus (7)

But the coal area rapidly enlarges with every succeeding parallel going north. This area is over 200 miles wide in Southern Colorado. While in Northern Colorado from Greeley westward, across North Park to the coal fields of Utah in Great Salt Lake region, the width of the coal area is nearly 400 miles.

Through Wyoming, beginning in the Black Hills region, the coal area extends into Idaho, and includes several deposits of great size and value, notably one near Evanson on the Union Pacific railway, having a thickness exceeding 40 feet; easily traceable several miles northward in the Bear River valley. "But, on the other hand, it is quite contrary to expectation, yet a fact, that the country nearly 900 miles west of Ogden, including both Nevada and California, is almost, if not quite destitute of coal.

We find the greatest width of coal area is spanned by the 49th parallel, or the international boundary, reaching from the Souris River coal system to the Pacific coast, with considerable areas intervening that are destitute of coal, both in Northern Idaho, Montana and Manitoba.

North of this line we have already followed the route of the Canadian Pacific railway, with results as above stated. Still farther to the northwest, 200 miles north of Calgary, in the vicinity of Edmonton, are found large areas of excellent coal, exceeding 12 feet in thickness, extending thence west to the head waters of the Athabasca, and across again to the Pacific coast.

So varied are the above described coal areas, in their quality, quantity and surroundings, that the man who reads the mute but sure prophecies of nature can readily locate the future great centres of those industries that are based upon coal and iron.

NOR-WESTERS.**McLeod.**

Mr. D. J. Campbell, Secretary of the S. W. Stock Association, has received a letter from the Lieut.-Governor, relative to mangle in Indian horses, etc. He thinks that, as the only way in which mangle can be cured is to keep the horses afflicted in a stable until all traces of the disease have disappeared, the only way to treat Indian horses would be to build an infirmary, and have a large stock of drugs on hand. He says he cannot recommend the shooting of the Indian ponies, even if the Indians were compensated, as such compensation might run up to large figures, and if the Indians should not be satisfied trouble might ensue. Although he is quite willing to prevail on the Indians to keep their horses on their reserves, he says that, of course the Indians will drive any cattle other than their own off their property. He thinks the Indians are frequently blamed for things, of which they are innocent, and cites instances of mangle in several herds in this country, which he thinks could not have been communicated by Indian horses. He says, even if the Indian horses were killed, mangle would still exist in these herds, and if the rule of killing effected Indian horses is to apply to the Indians, the same rule would apply to all, white men and red alike. He concludes by saying: "Our officials, however, will do all they can to keep the Indian horses on the reserve, when of course it is expected that other owners will keep their horses and cattle on their own land in their turn."

Most of the grain in the vicinity of Macleod has been safely stacked, and there is an abundance of it. We understand that a portion of the crop on Pincher Creek was not saved, but that part of it can be fed green and will make excellent fodder. In almost all the cases where grain failed to ripen this year, it was put in too late.

The lakes all over the prairies are now swarming with ducks and geese. There is little chance of getting any, however, unless three or four go together, and a good dog, or light canvas boat, is indispensable.

Geo. Baker and Vice brought the band of stolen horses into Macleod on Wednesday afternoon, and turned them over to their owners.

Battleford.

The excavation for the cellar of the Hudson's Bay Company's new store, on the height of land between the rivers, is completed and ready for the mason work.

A team was taken to Swift Current on Monday to meet Mr. Oliver, who is expected to reach there about the end of the week.

Prince Albert.

Business is a little dull in town just now the farmers being all busy at the harvest.

Sportsmen begin to have a lurking suspicion that prairie chicken are not nearly so plentiful as they might be.

ALBERTA'S BILL OF RIGHTS:**Memorandum of Complaints.**

A Civil Judiciary Asked For—Also the Right of Habeas Corpus, etc.

The following memorandum has been forwarded to the Honorable Sir Hector Langevin, C.B. K.C.M.G.:

The undersigned beg to state that the several matters hereafter mentioned are deemed by the people of the northwest and especially the district of Alberta, as deserving of the attention of the Government and ask that you represent these matters to the Government, of which you are a member.

1st. That there are not a sufficient number of magistrates in the northwest territories, as the circuits are now too large, and as a consequence courts are not held frequently enough. This evil is increased as under the Northwest Territories Act we are informed that the Judges hold that all cases whether contested or not must be heard in open court and decided by the Judge.

2nd. That the people here are now of the opinion that all civil power as magistrates be taken from Mounted Police officers in well settled centres, and that resident judges be appointed at the principal centres in the northwest territories.

3rd. That the police officers as a rule have been arbitrary in their decisions, and in many cases great injustice has been done. We send you affidavits in one case. In case a wrong is done by them the sufferers have no redress but by action in a court, and this is often as illusory as the magistrates do not give any bonds nor is property qualification demanded.

4th. That we are informed that it has been held that the Stipendiary Magistrates have no power to grant a writ of Habeas Corpus so that at least in this district we are deprived of one of the safeguards of British liberty.

5th. That in liquor cases the giving of one half the fine to informants has had a bad effect, and a man being condemned on the oath of an informant alone has led to many cases of great injustice, and perjury has frequently been committed in this connection. This evil is seen among the policemen who have been known to obtain in one day two hundred dollars as an informer, one half the fine against two persons, although both defendants denied the allegations of the informer, and the defendants were both respectable men.

6th. That the police have used their right to enter houses in search of liquor in a most unwarranted manner, and we ask that before such be done that a sworn informant be at least laid before a police officer can enter a private house.

7th. That horse stealing is very prevalent here, and that scarcely any effort is made

to hunt out the guilty parties, as the thieves go south by the McLeod trail, and the police are unable to overtake them before they reach the United States. A telegraph line to Fort McLeod would in a great measure prevent horse stealing from here, greatly aid the police in this respect.

8th. The settlers about here are unable to improve their claims as they cannot be sure that they will obtain entries for the homesteads, as township 23 and 24, range 1, west of the fifth Principal Meridian, are not thrown open, and as they are the townships principally settled or squatted on about Calgary, the whole neighborhood is kept back and the country about here cannot advance unless these townships are thrown open for settlement.

9th. That a Court of Appeal we think ought to be established within the northwest territories, and the extension powers given to the Stipendiary Magistrate as Courts of final resort, and that an appeal be given from the Magistrate to a Court of Appeal in these territories in all cases of contract where the amount exceeds \$200, and in tort where it exceeds \$100.

10th. We think the goal and court house ought in the interests of justice to be erected at Calgary. The premises now used as a prison are entirely unfit for the purpose, and there is absolutely no place to imprison penal offenders, and we are informed that the north-west Council have refused to pass an Ordinance to arrest a person on a spies who is about to abscond as there is no goal in which to imprison him. For the past year the place used as a prison has been nearly all the time over crowded, as Calgary being in the center of the District of Alberta and near the mountain district where the railway and mining work is going on there is a necessity for such prison accommodation. There is no court house or building suitable in Calgary.

11th. We ask that settlers be allowed to cut the hay on the lands they have squatted upon or on unoccupied hay lands without payment of one dollar per ton, as if not cut by them it is wasted and the cutting improves the quality of the hay. The payment though small is a burden on many a poor settler, and produces but small revenue to the Government.

We ask that the quantity of wood cut under permit fee be increased, as now nearly enough to build a good barn is allowed, and a settler without considerable means is unable to buy.

12th. We ask that the northwest territories be represented in Parliament before prisons be erected in manner similar to that in force in the territories of the United States.

Signed by the Special Committee.

**PROCLAMATION**

CANADA,
NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.
Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of Faith, Etc., Etc.
E. DEWDNEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

[SEAL.]

To all to whom these presents may come, or whom the same may concern—

GREETING

Whereas by Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor General, Thursday, the sixth day of November next, has been set apart as a Day of General Thanksgiving;

And whereas it is our duty to acknowledge publicly to the Giver of all good our thankfulness for the bountiful harvest and other blessings and mercies He has vouchsafed to the North-West Territories during the present year.

Now know ye that we have thought fit to appoint Thursday, the sixth day of November next a Day of Public Thanksgiving to Almighty God, in the North-West Territories, and we do invite all pastors with their people and the inhabitants generally to observe the said day as such.

In Testimony Whereof we have caused the Seal of the North-West Territories to be hereunto affixed. Witness, His Honor Edgar Dewdney, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Territories, at Government House, Regina, this twenty-seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four, and in the forty-eight year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By Command,
A. E. FORGET,
Clerk of Council.

**MAIL CONTRACT**

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on 8th November, 1884, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, once per week each cash way, between

MARIETON
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from the 1st January next.

The conveyance to be made in a suitable two-horse vehicle, via Longlaketon, Craven and Rose Plain.

The Mails to leave Regina every Friday at 7 a.m., and arrive at Marieton at 4 p.m. Leave Marieton every Saturday at 8 a.m. and arrive at Regina at 5 p.m.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices at Marieton, Longlaketon, Craven, Rose Plain and Regina, or at the office of the subscriber.

W. W. McLEOD,
P. O. Inspector.
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Winnipeg, 15th Sept., 1884.

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