

## CALGARY.

A vast and rolling plain, and all around  
As far as eye could see or far imagination reach,  
The same extending. Tall scented grasses waved,  
The air was sweet with perfume, and the ground with  
flowers.

In and out the scent played the fleet footed gopher,  
And now and then a badger raised his wary head.  
Coyotes slouched along unheeded, and the prairie wolf,  
With long and sloping trot, would steal along seeking his  
prey.

The silver river, treacherous but fair, wound ever hurriedly  
along,  
Whirling and panting, as though it strove to reach its  
goal

Before the appointed time; and the speckled trout and  
white fish played luxuriously.

In the far distance the great Rockies reared their noble  
heads

Undaunted through the ether. The snow flashed on their  
brown and purple sides

And deep within lay treasures only known to gods.

Sudden over the plain, with shout and laugh and song  
Came a bright cavalcade. At the head riding a nervous  
broncho

Prancing and curveting, was the chief of the tribe of  
Blackfoot;

Gay in his scarlet blanket, and beaded leggings of buck  
skin,

Over his shoulder a scarf of purple, twisted his hair with  
ribbon and beading;

Stripes of ochre and red on his face, and on his breast  
much tattooing;

So, regal and haughty, rode the head of the Blackfeet.

After him rode his braves, each with his squaws and ponies,  
While behind followed the patient dogs trailing along with  
their burdens.

By the river they paused, dismounted and set up their  
tepees—

Chatting and laughing the while. No one was near to  
molest them:

The prairie was theirs by right, they were the Blackfeet  
Indians,

This was their hunting ground, who should deny it them—  
Dashing across the plain and spearing the buffalo yonder.  
So, laying them down to rest, they slept unsuspecting,  
Waiting the sun to rise on the morrow.

A year or more with flying feet has passed away.

We stand upon the selfsame spot, where once before we  
saw the Indians file.

But what a change!

In place of scented grasses, gopher tracks  
And badger lairs, stand houses, sidewalks, stores.  
The lofty poles of telephone and the electric light now in-  
tercept the view

'Tween us and mountains grand, and glancing as we walk  
we read

"The Bank of Montreal," "Hudson Bay Company," "I.  
G. Baker's store."

And so on for a mile.

"Where are we, where the Indians, where the tepees,  
where the prairie?"

We ask agape, and hear the answer prompt:

"Oh, this is Calgary, the chiefest town of the North West,  
the Chicago of the prairie.

Have you money to invest? Put it in real estate.

Are you rich? Well, buy town lots. See, here's a snap.  
I'll let you have it cheap." And thus until our brain is in  
a whirl.

Oh! modern science, modern push and modern pluck,  
Where will you end! 'Tis like a chapter in th' Arabian  
Nights—

"He claps his hands. Hey, presto! Here's a city with  
railways, waterworks and churches."

We marvel and admire.

## SHEEP FARMING IN ALBERTA.

Alberta to-day offers what the Australian colonies had to offer thirty years ago—millions of acres of rich grass lands well watered and adapted in every respect for growing first-class mutton and fine wool; on a land blessed with a climate of sufficient heat and sunshine during two-thirds of the year to keep the yolk in active circulation, thereby insuring a fine fibred wool; with mild winters and early springs, where cold rains and dust storms, so injurious to the fleeces, are almost unknown, inducements to which Australia never could aspire. A railway runs through the centre of the grazing lands and markets for wool and mutton within easy reach.

Alberta is *par excellence* the sheep country of North America. There is now on the plateau and undulating prairie lands east and north-east of Calgary a country capable of supporting ten million sheep—a country of sweet, thick grasses, such as sheep thrive best on—this too outside the limits of the larger cattle ranges. To men who will engage in this industry in Alberta, with a capital of from three to five thousand dollars, and devote themselves with diligence to the care of their flocks, and use the intelligent judgment so much needed in sheep husbandry to secure the animal whose wool and mutton will be of the highest market value, a fortune is assured, and that too at the end of a very few years.

The first large band of sheep were imported from Montana in 1884; during the following years numerous other flocks were brought in, and it is estimated that there are now (1885) over 40,000 sheep in the district. The losses during winters have been very light, not exceeding two p. c.

As to the breed of sheep most profitable, opinions vary, all breeds pay well when well cared for. For large flocks, merino and merino crosses—merino Leicesters perhaps are the most valuable, both for wool and mutton. Others think the Shropshire and Oxford Downs are a better cross, and still others the Cotswold. Be that as it may, give any breed care and they will pay in Alberta.

There is a splendid opening for stud flocks here, and a fortune will reward the individuals or companies who will first engage in that line. It is not necessary, for the object of this article, to discuss the best mode of handling flocks; enough to say that nature in the bounty of her gifts has granted to Alberta all the essentials to make it one of the great wool and mutton producing countries of the world.

## HORSE BREEDING IN ALBERTA.

As a horse-breeding country, Alberta bids fair to be to Canada what Kentucky is to the United States—a country where the horse attains the very height of perfection. Its northern location, its high altitude, its invigorating and dry atmosphere, mild winters, with luxuriant grasses and plentiful supply of purest water, are all conducive to the growth and development of the noble animal; and, although the industry is still very young, the Alberta horse has become noted for endurance, lung power and freedom from hereditary and other diseases.

There are at present in Alberta over 20,000 head of horses, varying in point of quality from the hardy (Cayuse) Indian pony to the beautiful, well-formed thoroughbred. Thoroughbreds from Great Britain and Kentucky, Clydesdales from Scotland, Percherons from France, and trotting stock from the United States, have been imported at great expense, and the result is that the young horses of Alberta will compare with any in Canada. A better display of horse-flesh than that made at the Calgary Agricultural Exhibition in the would be difficult to find, and there is little doubt that each succeeding year will witness a marked improvement.

As an investment, horse ranching in Alberta offers bright inducements, and the farmer or capitalist coming to this country and wishing to engage in this business, will find millions of unoccupied meadow lands, possessing every attraction and advantage from which to choose a location; will find too a country where the cost of raising horses is surprisingly low; for while it is necessary to provide corrals and winter sheds and a certain amount of hay, to guard against losses in very severe seasons, it will also be found that there is an illimitable supply of nutritious grasses. Timber for building purposes is to be had for the cost of cutting and hauling, and with the small amount of hired labour required to conduct the business, the expenses will be light when compared with the profits which are assured to those who engage in the industry in a practical and intelligent manner.

During the most severe seasons horses will thrive on the ranges along the foot hills of the Rocky Mountains without feed or shelter other than they will provide for themselves, and in the spring will be found fat, with sleek coats. Still, it will pay best to give young stock and brood mares, until they become acclimatized, feed and shelter during the early months of the year.

As to the market, it is continually growing better; a good animal will always command a good price. The North West Mounted Police annually require a number of saddle horses. The officers of the British army will find Alberta the depot from which to secure the best animals for their purposes. The incoming settlers will for years require a large number of animals, and for heavy draught horses there is practically no limit to the demand; Eastern Canada, the United States and Great Britain require thousands of them each year. To those coming to Alberta, the writer would say bring as many first-class brood mares as you possibly can, and if you should not desire to settle here you will find a ready market for your stock at prices which will yield you a handsome profit on the investment; and indeed the same may be said of all breeds of domestic animals. Bring good trading animals, be they horses, cows, sheep or pigs, and the profits from a carload will probably defray your expenses and pay you well for your time while enjoying a trip to the great ranching and farming country of Canada.

## CANADA AND THE EMPIRE.

Under this title Mr. J. Castell Hopkins, with whose wealth of knowledge on all questions of Imperial concern, and admirably clear and vigorous style, our readers have had many profitable opportunities of becoming acquainted, has brought out, in pamphlet form, "A Study of Imperial Federation." However our readers may differ with respect to the subject of Mr. Hopkins's paper, they cannot fail to derive pleasure and advantage from the fund of valuable information, the force of patriotic pleading and the strong economic arguments that he brings to bear on the discussion. It is published by Mr. C. Blackett Robinson, of Toronto, and may be obtained at the trifling cost of ten cents a copy, and no person who is interested in the destinies of Canada and the mighty empire of which it forms so important a portion should fail to read it carefully.

## THE FARMINGTON LECTURES.

The Farmington lectures for 1890 (which are held at Farmington, thirty miles from New Haven, on the New Haven and Northampton Railroad) began on the 17th inst. and close on the 2nd of July. This is the third year of this undertaking. The lectures are twenty-four in number, divided into four courses of six each, and covering a wide range in philosophy and ethics. The morning courses are twofold, dealing (1) with the Philosophy of Thomas Hill Green, which has of late been attracting so much attention both in England and the United States, and (2) with the Relations of Church and State. The evening courses are devoted to (1) the Greek Moralists and (2) to the Primary Concepts of Economic Science. Mr. Thomas Davidson, who lectured in this city not long ago, is the organizer of the lectures, in conducting which he is assisted by Prof. Gardiner, of Smith College, Northampton; Mr. Stephen F. Weston, of New York; Prof. John Dewey, of the University of Michigan; Dr. Harris, Commissioner of Education, Washington; the Rev. Dr. Potter, of New Bedford, Mass.; Mr. Percival Chubb, of London, Eng., and other noted students and professors of philosophy, literature and political economy. Mr. W. Douw Lighthall, M.A., B.C.L., of Montreal, author of "Sketch of a New Utilitarianism," treats of Green's ethical system, viewed in relation to Utilitarianism, with a statement of his own system. Mr. Davidson's course of the Greek Moralists—Æschylus, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle—is sure to be exceptionally interesting and valuable. We understand that more Montrealers attend the lectures this year than on any previous occasion—the natural result of Mr. Davidson's visits to the city.

## THE COMING AMERICAN CENSUS.

A United States contemporary says the stationery ordered for the coming census would fill a room three blocks long, 30 feet high and 40 feet wide. In addition to the 20,000,000 population schedules now being printed, 10,000,000 more will be ordered in a few days. This will require 200 tons of papers, which is now being delivered at the rate of 20,000 lbs. a day. Twenty million blanks for statements of recorded indebtedness will be required; 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 manufacturers' schedules and 2,000,000 agricultural schedules. These blanks are all about nine by eleven inches in size. Six hundred different kinds of circulars have already been printed, the average number of copies of each being about 20,000, or, in round numbers, 12,000,000 miscellaneous forms. Besides the printed matter, millions of sheets of other paper are needed, one single order being for 100,000,000 blank cards for the use of the electrical tabulating machine. A part of this stationery will be sent through the mails, and for that purpose 75,000,000 free delivery envelopes have been ordered. These figures give only the amount of the preliminary printing order. When the census is being taken and the returns are being computed, much additional printed matter will be used, and the printed census records will consume more paper than is required both to get ready for and to take the census.

## HUMOROUS.

BEGGING the question—Inducing a young man to propose.

THINGS ONE WOULD RATHER HAVE EXPRESSED DIFFERENTLY.—"Please look a little pleasant, Miss. I know it's hard; but it's only for a moment!"

JUDGE: "Do you know what a thoroughly depraved man you are?" "No, your honour. How could I know it? Nobody else but you ever had the courage to tell me so."

WIFE: My new bonnet came home this afternoon, Charlie; won't you take me to see Mrs. Baker to-night? Husband: Do you want to see Mrs. Baker or do you want her to see you.

HARRY: She has jilted me, and I know I shall die. The disappointment will kill me! Aunt Hannah: I know disappointments affect one, Harry. But you'll get over it. I felt just as you do now when I set that yaller hen on thirteen eggs, and only just got one poor chick out of the lot.

WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN AT THE ACADEMY.—Fair Critic: Now look at that, Mr. Townsend. Aren't you surprised at their hanging such a thing? Mr. Townsend: Er—well—er—not exactly. But, you see, I'm prejudiced—that thing's mine.

A CLERGYMAN TO BE TRUSTED.—"John," said Mrs. Cumso, severely, "you went to sleep in church this morning." "Yes," replied Mr. Cumso, "but I know that Dr. Choker is thoroughly orthodox, and there is no necessity to stay awake and watch him."

FIVE OF THEM.—A little boy of five went with his mother to make a call. The lady of the house, who was very fond of children, told him she intended to ask his mother to let her have him. "Don't you think your mother would let me buy you?" she asked. "No," he said; "you haven't got money enough." "How much would it take?" she asked. "Three hundred pounds," he answered promptly; "and you haven't got that much." "I think I could manage it," she said. "If I can will you come with me?" "No," he said, with decision. "Mamma wouldn't sell me, anyhow. There are five of us, and mamma wouldn't like to break the set."