

The nearest, and I may say the only, feasible way to reach the head waters of those rivers is by the Canadian Pacific Railway, which follows the Bow River for a hundred miles in the Rockies, to where it turns north near the summit; its source is forty or fifty miles further north and in its course to the south it runs near to and parallel with the North Saskatchewan and Red Deer Rivers, so that the communications for lumbering could be carried on from that point better than any other.

Therefore the establishment near Calgary (which would be the centre of supplies) of a settlement of our people, accustomed to lumbering, would be an advantage to the farming as well as the lumbering interests, would furnish material to build up the hundreds of towns that are soon to spring up on the borders of those large rivers, as well as manufacture lumber to be sent east along the line of railway.

We have seen the great North-West viewed through eyes scientific, geological, military; by civil engineers, surveyors, colonization societies, farmer delegates from England, and by resident farmers, but have as yet seen no report of that country from such people as our delegates, consisting of practical farmers and lumbermen, chosen by a large community of farmers and lumbermen to carefully view the country and to report on the best and most favorable locality for settlement.

This we have done, and have made our selection as above, intending to settle there ourselves with our people.

After five weeks travelling in that country we have come to the following conclusion:—That it will be settled up from Winnipeg westward and from Calgary eastward, and clustering round the principal towns and settlements on the way out. One portion we considered very attractive for immediate settlement is that lying between the Cypress Hills and the C. P. R. It is better watered and timbered on the hills than any we saw on the way out and is a very beautiful section of the country; the soil also appears very rich. Judging other intending settlers by ourselves, we do not think that these immense plains that we crossed on the way will be settled till the more favorable places are taken up, *although the land is all good*, but it will come in its time. On looking at a good map of that Territory one can see how favored the district of Alberta is, with its thirty millions of acres of the best of soil, its beautiful scenery; its high benches are like a mountainous region with the upper half cut off, and the glorious Rockies ever in sight in the distance, the great number of clear streams traversing it in every direction, its hundreds of lakes, its proximity to the heavily timbered Rocky Mountains, its coal and favorable winters for stock, with Calgary for its great centre on the Canadian Pacific Railway, it will have a market for all its produce either to the east or to the future mining and lumbering centres of British Columbia, and the Pacific seaboard.