

\$100; and it was in this district that the prize wheat exhibited at the Crystal Palace in England, was grown. There are often from 50 to 150 acres of wheat on one farm in this section. The great inducement to sow wheat, has hitherto caused many farmers to trespass too much perhaps, upon the properties of the soil required for this crop; but if Mr. Caird were this year to visit this part of the country, and view it (not from a rail-car window) he would find more extensive fields of his favorite crop, and likely to pay a higher *acreable* profit than the Illinois prairie land, because the prices in Canada are almost always double those of Central Illinois, where the corn is of a coarser description. This perseverance in the growth of wheat is an evil that time will remedy; especially as the growth of other grain and also sheep, and dairy farming, are more certainly remunerating. Another extract from page 28 gives a remarkable instance of misguided judgment and grievous misrepresentation, the first clause however, of the extract being perfectly true.

Mr. Caird says, "a light sandy loam of good quality, only half cleared, is still valued at from £7 to £8 an acre, (sterling no doubt, as all his pounds are sterling throughout the pamphlet). It is this comparatively high price of land in addition to the cost of clearing off the timber, that forces the emigrant westwards to a country where better soil with equal facilities of transport, can be bought for less than the mere cost of clearing this off its timber."

Taking the word "westwards" to mean Central Illinois, which seems to be the summit of Mr. Caird's American predilections, it may most safely be asserted that the soil there is *not better*, that the facilities of transport are *not equal*, and that even supposing land in Illinois could be bought for less than the mere cost of clearing in Canada (say £3 10s sterling per acre), Mr. Caird has omitted to state the value of the timber cleared off. He will be surprised to be told that many pine trees on these very farms are and were worth from 6s to 15s each. It is not unusual for one tree to produce five saw logs of 12 feet long each, worth 4s to 5s stg., each log. The timber alone, of well grown cedar swamps in all the settled districts of Canada West, is worth £4 to £5 per acre on the spot; and even if the hard wood is all burned to ashes, the ashes of 3 acres will, with very little outlay of capital or labor, produce a barrel of potash worth £6 sterling. The value of the timber on our wild lands in good situations, where saw-mills, or rivers to float saw-logs, are accessible, is very considerable. Our forests, instead of being a bugbear to the intelligent emigrant, are a very great source of wealth, and enable him to pay for his land and erect the required buildings, and supply fence rails and fuel, sugar, &c., which the settler on the prairie has to purchase, and sometimes at very high rates. That the soil is not better in Illinois than in Canada West, can be easily proved. Which gives the largest crops of wheat per acre of the best quality? Decidedly Canada West. The probable average of Illinois is stated by Mr. Caird at pages 55 and 89, as 20 bushels per acre, but at pages 54 he gives the *probable* yield at 18 to 20, and the *real* yield "nothing but shrivelled husk;" and again at page 52, as nearly a total failure, and 600 acres killed by frost, and at pages 75 and 76, he gives the yield of 1857, as little more than 6 bushels per acre, and according to the United States census of 1850-51, Illinois did not yield ten bushels per acre, whereas the average of all Canada West that year was 16 14-60, and of the counties to which Mr. Caird alludes to in the above extract, the average was 21 bushels. Then as to *quality of wheat*, that of Central Illinois is notoriously inferior. Merchants in Toronto import large quantities of it at about half the price of Canada wheat for distillery purposes, not being fit for making flour, except what is denominated by the Americans, "Stump-tail flour," being of a third or fourth rate quality, and this is the general character of the prairie wheat in Central Illinois. Then as to price, Mr. Caird quotes it in several places at 3s stg., (75 cents). At the very time Mr. Caird quotes this as being the price in the Illinois markets, Canada wheat was selling in Toronto and Hamilton and all our frontier markets, at exactly double that amount, 6s. stg., (\$1.50) and at this date Upper Canada wheat is selling in our markets at double the price of Illinois wheat in Illinois markets.

Let old country farmers remember this, that even supposing the yield of bushels per acre to be the same, the price in Canada is double and of course the value per acre double, and giving Mr. C.'s own averages, 20 bushels per acre, and his own prices, 3s. stg. per bushel, the Canadian farmer would pocket £3 stg. per acre more for the Prairie farmer in Illinois; and this £3, be it remembered, is good interest for £50 on every acre of land sown in wheat, say one-sixth of the whole arable land, or £8 6s. 8d. per acre on all the wheat producing land on the farm.