

I have located in 45-20, section 30; have a fine spring on my location. I found a little alkali, not enough to mention. I also found all the farmers in good condition.

Baker and Thompson are located and like it well. I will start home to Michigan to settle up my affairs and move here as soon as possible, and I must say I have been well treated by all the Canadian Government agents.

At Edmonton, on the Queen's birthday, I saw a large turnout of farmers, whom I questioned very closely and found that they all liked the country, but advise any one coming here to have a little money.

Yours truly,

W. A. Clarke,

Mantor, Mich.

Bowden, Alberta, March 7th, 1898.

Mr. L. A. Paddock.

Dear Sir,—Your letter, dated Feb. 21, is at hand. I will endeavor to answer it this morning. In regard to the country being rolling, it is not very hilly. It does not wash away; it is dotted over with bunches of timber and with good springs and lakes; and fish, deer, bear, lynx and hare or rabbits. I think that your plow will work all right up here, and you can get most any kind of repairs that a person wants.

Wheat, good milling, 80c.; oats, 30c.; barley, 30c.; potatoes, 30c.; pork, 5½c.; beef, 5½c.; fresh white fish, 5½c per lb.

We have a flour mill sixty miles south and one about the same distance north. We need one here. Horses will live, and hundreds of them do live, from one end of the year to the other and are fat all of the time. We live about sixty miles from the mountains. We can see them plain from our front door. Forty feet is as deep as any one has to dig for water, and no alkali to speak of. People charge \$3 per acre for prairie, \$4 to \$5 for broken.

I think you could break all right with your John Deere breaker. The sod is not very tough, but there is a tough spot and then a very loose spot, so it makes it hard to break. June is the very best time to come. We cut lots of hay in the upland. I was out selling fish yesterday, and I found four cows for sale. I could have bought them from \$30 to \$40 per head. A man could, by traveling around, pick up a few, but there are lots of men buying.

We cut hay in July and August. It is worth from \$1.50 to \$2 per ton to put it in the stack. You can get a timber permit for 25c., and then you can get all you need to put up a house and stable, and 2,000 rails and firewood.