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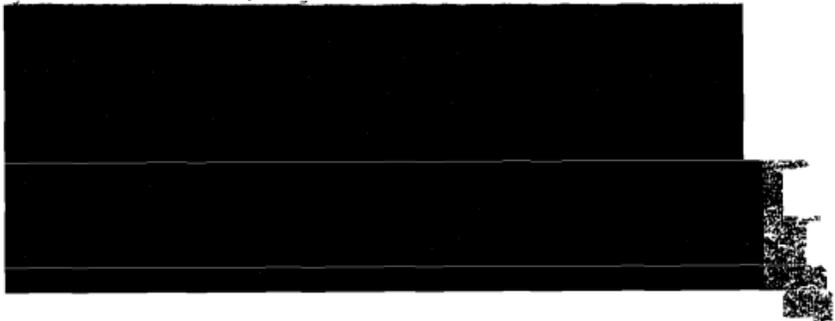
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PROSPERITY FOLLOWS SETTLEMENT

Settlers' Experiences

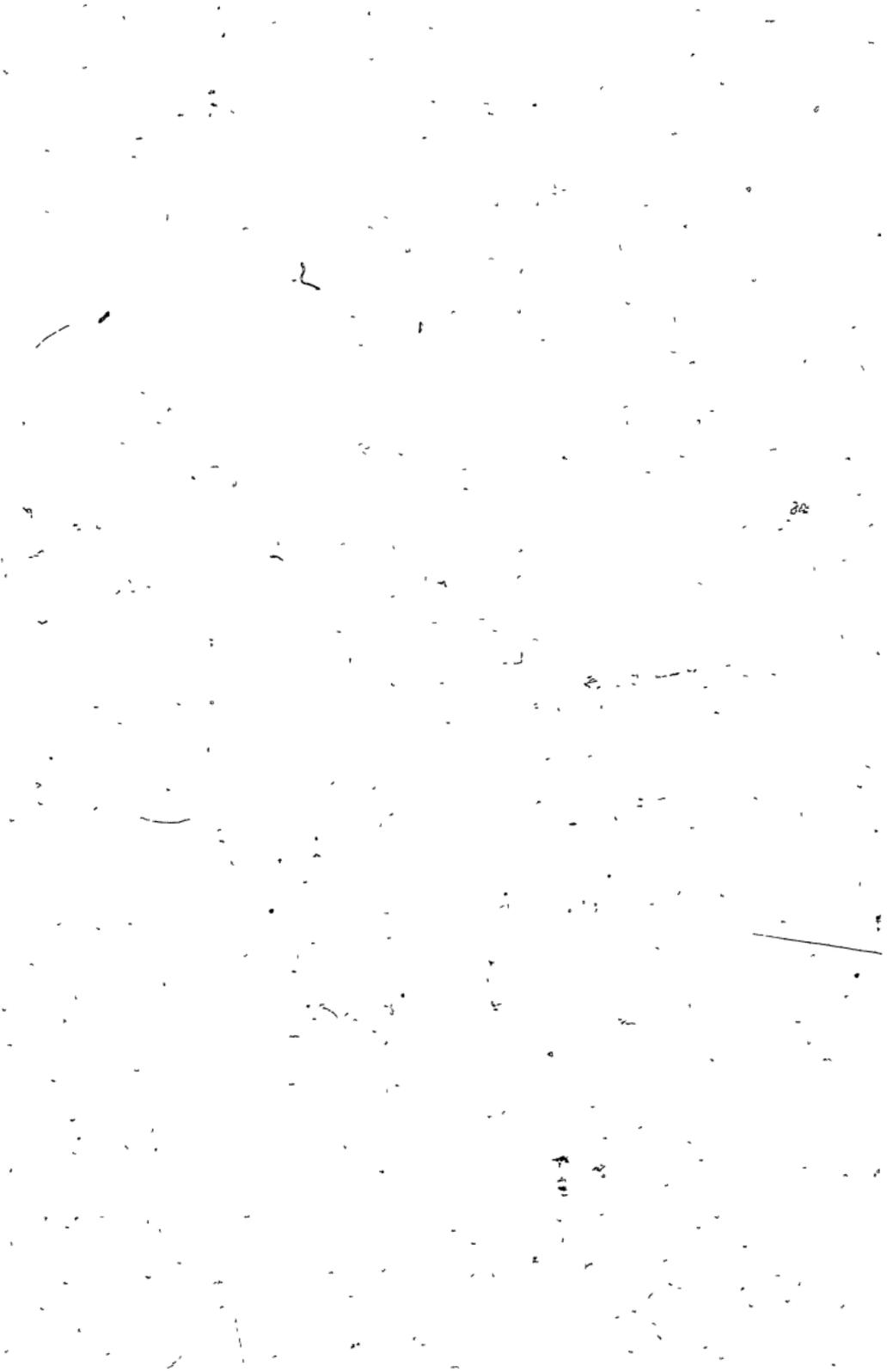
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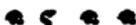


1900

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MINISTER OF INTERIOR.



SETTLERS' EXPERIENCES.



Duhamel, Alberta, Canada, Sept. 6th, 1898.

I came to this part of the country last April with a wife and four children, had no money, went to work at once at carpenter work and earned enough to put in a small crop, which consists of seventeen acres of oats and five acres of wheat, all of which has done well. I worked in the States at carpenter work for ten or twelve years. Living cost so much there I could save no money. I wouldn't take \$5 a day and a life job to go back to the States again. I'm convinced that this is the country for a poor man with a family to make a home for his old age, where he has a good government to live under, which gives him 160 acres of the best land that is in this world. Had I come to this country ten years ago I would be well-to-do to-day. Anybody wishing to come to this country can fully rely on Mr. C. O. Swanson. We found him very reliable, truthful and trustworthy in every respect. His address is, Mr. C. O. Swanson, Canadian Northwest Colonization Agent, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Ont., Canada.

Yours truly,

Robt. M. Mutch.

Alberta, Canada, July 31, 1898.

Dear Brother,—We are about 40 miles on our way to Edmonton, having arrived at Lesser Slave Lake on the 23rd of June, and it is the prettiest place I ever saw. From where I sit in front of the cook's tent I can count 30 tepees belonging to half-breeds. With the lake so calm, I can't compare it to anything but a sea of oil; and the wild hay far surpasses anything I have ever seen before, and also potato tops away ahead of anything in the older countries. We saw wheat and oats that looked well. We are working on our way back, and expect to reach Edmonton on the 27th, perhaps later. We are putting in bridges and such like. Mr. Chalmers is at the lake yet. We expect him every day on his way to Edmonton. I am going to send this letter with him.

I will now give you a short history since we came to Alberta. When we arrived at Edmonton last spring there was quite a delegation of us. Every one we called on had

enough grain to last him for a year, and most of them, like ourselves, poor, having had to leave their families behind until they earned enough here to send for them. I didn't go into the unsettled country, for I had to hunt up a job; but Clyde did, and says he likes it well, and that everything stated in the pamphlets is true. This is where we are going to locate, about 40 miles east of Wetaskiwin. Now, Hamie, hurry up the girls, and have them meet us at Edmonton not later than September 1st. We would like to have them with us when we go to locate. Will you let Mr. Bennett see this letter, so he may know how we were treated? If any other person wants to take up a claim, let him send us the papers and we will do the business. You need not tell anybody, but we have \$110 each, and we are going to blow it in on a team of horses. Now good-bye, and hurry the girls along.

From your brother,

George McClellan Lackey.

South Edmonton P. O., Alta., N.W.T.,

November 9th, 1898.

Thomas Bennett, Esq., South Edmonton, Alta., N.W.T.

Dear Sir,—I came from County Fermanagh, Ireland, about three miles west of Enniskillen (Letterbreen.) Amount of capital when I arrived—I had \$3 when I first arrived in Manitoba, and when I arrived here I had \$1. No experience in farming in this country. I like the farming here best. Our land is rich enough to do without manure, and that is a big saving on labor. I may say I had no experience whatever in managing a farm; green as a cabbage head when I arrived here. Well, Sir, to the best of my opinion, for a poor man to make a start in life, I don't think there is any comparison at all between this country and the country I left. Well, Sir, I got to rooting as fast as I could, and have kept a rooting ever since, and now I have got a home that is fit for any man (farmer). My capital when I came was all in my arms and head, and to put a fair value on my farm stock, implements, roots, grain, etc., now, would be about \$8,000.

On the whole the country suits me well, and I am well satisfied.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

Thomas Daly.

W. F. McCreary, Commissioner of Immigration.

I came to this country in 1893 from Taftville, Kentucky, U.S., took up a homestead in Stony Plain, township 52, range 27. Started with \$500. The third year I sold \$700 worth of cattle; fourth I sold \$650 worth of

grain; this year I have 4,000 bushels of grain, 10 head of cattle, 8 horses, 60 pigs, and all the implements required on a farm. I have a good house, granary, stable, etc., and I would not sell my place for \$4,000. I had no experience at all in farming before I came here. I am very well satisfied with my new home, and pleased over our healthy and beautiful climate, and advise any man with a little energy to come; so much the better if he has a little capital.

(Signed)

M. Bileau,
Stony Plain P. O., N.W.T.

St. Albert, Alberta, Nov. 1st, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

I came here from Redfield, South Dakota, four years ago. Worked out for two years, and then took up land and started for myself with about \$300. I cropped 25 acres the first year, and threshed 1,000 bushels of grain. I put in 30 acres this spring and got 1,500 bushels. I have five horses and four head of cattle, wagon, plow, harrows and mower, a house 16x20, good stable and granary. I would not sell my place for \$1,000 cash. I was brought up on a farm and like farming, especially when a person can reap such good returns as he does in this country in mixed farming, and a person don't need to work as hard here as he must do in the States in order to get along. My father is also living here. He arrived here one year later, and has done well and would not go back to the States on any account.

I would recommend my friends to come to this country. I am located in township 54, range 25, section 18.

(Signed)

Frank Iseke.

Edmonton, November 10th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

Dear Sir,—We came here from Aberdeen, South Dakota, in the spring of 1895, and rented a farm on the Sturgeon river, and after our first crop here we were more than convinced that the statements made in the Government pamphlets were not exaggerated, for we had 53 bushels of wheat to the acre—7,000 bushels of grain altogether. This year our wheat averaged 50 bushels to the acre—5,000 in all. We have raised more grain since we came here than we did in thirteen years where we came from, and only had half the ground to work; no country can equal this. We are more than \$2,000 ahead

in money, besides this year's crop, since coming here. In the States we were going behind every year. In this country we have no hot winds or blizzards to contend with like they have in Dakota where we came from. The winters are beautiful and healthy and the climate is extra fine, especially for people with weak lungs. Fuel is here in abundance, which is an expensive article in Aberdeen, Dakota, and a great drawback to farmers there. We have no taxes to pay, except a small school tax, which was a great surprise to us. Where we left everything was taxed, even the clothes on our back. A man that does not succeed in this country it is his own fault, for the soil is so rich that everything that is put in the ground to grow will grow, if it is only half attended to. A friend of ours from the same place, a Mr. Lewis, had over 1,000 bushels of oats off ten acres this year. We have bought a nice improved farm, paid \$800 cash for it, and there are a number of other good improved farms for sale reasonable.

We can cheerfully recommend our friends to come to this country, and they will never regret it. We are only sorry that we did not come five years sooner.

(Signed) Neil McLeain,
Hector McLeain,
Located 12 miles south of Edmonton.

Rosenthal, Alberta, Nov. 5th, 1898.

I came to this country in April, 1893, from South Dakota, without one dollar; worked with farmers the first two years. With the first \$10.00 that I earned I took up a homestead in township 52, range 1 west of the 5th. I have 40 acres under cultivation. Sold \$200 worth of wheat last year; will have more to sell this year. My wheat averaged 30 bushels to the acre. I have implements and stock to the value of \$600, all paid for. A farmer will be more successful by going into mixed farming. Will recommend any person who desires to better themselves to come to this country, even if he is poor, if he is only willing and able to work.

(Signed) Fred Schin.f.

Edmonton, Alberta, N.W.T., Nov. 26, 1898.

Mr. Crawford.

Dear Sir and Friend,—It is quite a while since I heard from you. We have had real nice weather all fall, until about a week ago. Since then it has been cold and dry

Very little snow yet; not enough for sleighing, but the roads are in fine shape for the wagon; none of the Kansas mud here. There was a fall of snow October 18th, about 8 inches; it stayed on about a week. We had the threshers at the time; we were off one day with the snow. It took us six days to do our threshing. I had almost 9,000 bushels of grain, 5,540 of wheat, 376 of barley, and the rest was oats; about 250 of potatoes. Had it not been for the wild oats on this farm, I would have had eleven or twelve thousand bushels, but they kept the tame ones and the wheat back and then fell off on the ground as soon as they got ripe, but, nevertheless, I have made a good crop. If it wasn't so far from Winnipeg and the market, I would be all right. I would like to see the Dauphin and Swan River districts before I settle. We had a Missouri delegate for supper some time ago. He was well pleased with the country.

There is always some one wanting to know how I like this country, etc. My brother intends coming as soon as he can sell out in Kansas. There are two of my brothers-in-law with me now from Ontario. I don't see anything to hinder a man to make money in this country.

Yours,

David Crozier.

Edmonton, Alberta, November 30th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sir,—I came to this country from Nebraska in the spring of 1894 without one dollar, but plenty of push. I worked with farmers that year, and in 1895 sent enough money to bring my family. I took up my homestead in township 55, range 24; kept on working out until I had sufficient to start for myself, and I must say that I have done remarkably well, for I now have five horses, eight head of cattle, some hogs and poultry, and implements to the value of \$300, and good log house and stables. This year I had 1,500 bushels of grain off forty acres. I think this is the best country I ever saw for a poor man to get rich in, if he is only willing to work. I am speaking from experience, for I had to work hard since I came here and have received good results. The climate throughout the year is extra good. I can honestly recommend any one to come if he is a worker or has means to pay some one to do the work.

(Signed)

C. L. True,

Sturgeon River, Edmonton, Alta.

WILLIAM HUNSPERGER HEARD FROM.

Seven Years in Alberta, N.W.T.—Is Healthy, Happy and Likes the Country Well.

Didsbury, Alberta, Nov. 28, 1898.

To the Brown City Banner.

Dear Editor,—I will enclose one dollar for the Banner, which is a welcome paper to us, and I will also let you know that we are all in good health. We have very nice weather now. We had it very cold from the 18th to the 21st; the thermometer was down to 18 degrees below zero, but now we have spring weather, hardly any frost. The crops were good this year. They didn't turn out so much to the acre, but a good sample. We threshed a little over 1,000 bushels from 40 acres; 642 bushels of oats, 110 bushels of wheat, 269 bushels of barley, and five bushels of peas. Now, I will give you the price of grain: Wheat, 55c.; oats, 25c.; barley, 40c. Our oats weighed 42 lbs. to the bushel. Beef, dressed, 5c. to 6c. per lb.; pork, dressed, 6½c. per lb. It may be that some people think that that isn't a very high price, but the cattle weigh more in this country than in the east. I dressed a heifer last fall that weighed 619 lbs., and we have a two-year-old steer now that will dress about 700 lbs. Butter, 25c. per lb.; eggs, 30c. per dozen. This is the Calgary market. Chickens, 12c. per lb.; turkeys, 15c. per lb.; geese, 13c. per lb. We have 10 horses, 35 head of cattle and 8 pigs. We butchered three hogs—one dressed 247 lbs., one 187 lbs., and one 163 lbs. It pays better to feed the wheat to the pigs at 55c. than to sell it. Beef was 4c. per lb. last spring, live weight, and the buyers are offering now 3¼c. per lb. for spring market. So the ranchers expect the beef will be 4c. per lb. till spring. Horses sell from \$5 up to \$75. I will say this much that I am not sick of this country yet. We are all doing well. It is a very good chance here for a family to get a home for themselves without very much money, and a man don't need to work all his lifetime to make a farm here like they do in a bush country. I saw men starting in the east in a bush 20 years, yes, 30-years ago, and worked till they were old men and women, and now their children are on the old homestead, and they will have to work hard yet to get the farms in good shape. We can make a farm in good shape in five or six years in this country. People are all doing well in this country—that is, those that will work. Of course, there are people that come to this country, thinking that they can make money without

working; but that is not the case. I hope some of my old friends and neighbors in Michigan will make up their minds to come out in this country. We were very glad to see Mr. G. Rickman and Floyd Dean landing last Monday, the 21st. They say they enjoyed the journey very well, and also like the country so far.

Kind regards to yourself and family and to all my old Michigan friends and neighbors.

Very truly,

Wm. Hunsperger.

Edmonton, Alta., November 28th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sir,—I came to Alberta from Spokane, Washington, in the spring of 1894. Had five dollars when I arrived. I took up a homestead in township 55; range 25; worked out with farmers and got them to do my improvements as part payment.—In 1897 I had fifteen acres in crop and secured 680 bushels of No. 1 milling oats. This year I have 1,000 bushels of wheat and oats, all first-class, off 25 acres. I have 40 acres ready for next year. My stock consists of one team of horses, two cows, ten pigs; also some poultry. Good house, stable and well. My homestead is all fenced with wire fencing. I also have a wagon, plow and harrows all paid for. I would not sell my place to-day for \$1,000. I am more than pleased with the country, and will never leave it for any other place. The climate is the best I ever experienced. I have a nice lot of apple trees which I raised from the seed, and they are all doing well. I will recommend anyone who wants to better his position to come to this country, and I am satisfied that he will never regret it.

(Signed)

L. T. Rebolt,

Riviere Qui Barre, Alberta.

South Edmonton, Nov. 17th, 1898.

I came to the Edmonton district in May, 1893, with enough money to purchase a farm of 160 acres, four miles from Edmonton, a team of horses, a cow, all necessary farm implements and provisions for a year. Was a bachelor for three years. At present time I have 320 acres of land, 160 of which are fenced. Had this year 27 acres of wheat, which yielded 1,000 bushels; 15 acres of oats, which yielded 750 bushels; 6 acres of oats for hay, which yielded 15 tons. Broke 30 acres of new land this year. Have six horses and 14 head of cattle. There is a good spring on the farm sufficient for all the stock. I

have a very high opinion of the Edmonton district and its capabilities, both for mixed farming and ranching, and, in comparison of the value, I do not think cheaper land is to be had in Canada.

Wheat should be in by 30th April, oats by 10th of May, and barley by June 1st, which enables all grain to be cut before danger from frost.

(Signed)

Wm. F. Hawkins.

Lacombe, Alberta, Nov. 25th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

Sir,—I came from Cascia County, Idaho, U.S.A., to Southern Alberta, and moved from there here in July, 1894. I brought here 34 head of cattle, fifteen horses, two wagons, two sets of harness, and \$150 in cash. I homesteaded S. E. quarter 28, 40, 26, west of the 4th meridian; also purchased a quarter section of C.P.R. land. Have been farming, more or less, nearly all my life, and I am convinced that you can raise crops 40 per cent. cheaper here than where I came from. My capital at present, counting everything, is about \$5,000. The yield of my grain, all round, in 1897, was 60 bushels per acre; this year, 1898, yield of wheat per acre, 37½ bushels, oats 50 bushels, and barley 35 bushels; potatoes, 400 bushels per acre. I consider this is a much better country for a man than where I came from, providing he is industrious and has a small capital.

Have a wife and six children; two only able to work on the farm. You get a free homestead here, and C.P.R. land is cheap and the terms are easy. I have made my seventh payment, and am much pleased with my purchase, as the land has much more than paid for itself. School law here is decidedly ahead of where I came from, and there are schools wherever there are settlers.

I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed)

J. A. Tolman.

(Translation.)

Edmonton, Alta., _____, 1898.

Commissioner of Immigration.

I, William Muller, lived for twelve years in South Dakota; brought with me \$2,500 to South Dakota, and lost nearly everything that I had, so that I saw that I could do nothing in South Dakota, and I left the country with \$800 and went to Canada, and have now been here

four years and have bought three quarter sections of land, and am well satisfied, as I made each year from \$1,000 to \$1,200, and I believe I could not have found a better country nor climate, no matter where

Respectfully,

(Signed)

William Muller.

(Translation.)

Stony Plain, December 26, 1898.

Commissioner of Immigration.

I, Heinrich Schellenberger, came, in 1892, from Austria, Province of Galicia, to Canada, took up a farm at once, was possessed of small means—had only \$100—but I thought of the proverb, "Pray and work with soul and body," and that does everything and makes work easy. To-day I have three farms, and all the machinery necessary for a farmer. I harvested this year 2,550 bushels of grain, of which, wheat 1,716 bushels, oats 1,000 bushels, barley 134 bushels, and potatoes 200 bushels. Further, horses 7, cows 4, young cattle 5, swine 43. Further, wagons 2, plows 2, harrow 1, sleigh 1. I have never regretted that I emigrated to Canada, as I could never do so well in the old home. I wish everybody who likes emigrating to come to Canada. A hearty greeting to all who may read this letter.

(Signed)

H. Schellenberger,
Spruce Grove P. O., Alta.

(Translation.)

Fort Saskatchewan P. O., Alta, Canada,
14th December, 1898.

Dear Relations,—I came during the year 1889 here—that is, to Canada. The journey for myself, wife, four children, as well as my father, mother, brother and sister, did not cost me a great deal via New York. When I reached Edmonton I had two pair oxen, two cows and two calves, wagon, plow and harrow. My homestead is situated six miles east of Fort Saskatchewan. I have 140 acres under cultivation, eight horses, 30 head of cattle; also all necessary farming implements; have harvested this year 2,200 bushels of wheat. Water, pasture and timber are plentiful in our district, and I advise every industrious person to come here to Alberta. My native place is Josephsburg, Austrian Galicia, Europe. All who wish to come to Canada heartily greeted.

(Signed)

Philip Mohr, Sr.

Didsbury, Alberta, Dec. 26th, 1898.

Mr. C. House.

Dear Sir,—As I agreed to write to you some four years ago, when I took the train at Brown City for Western Canada, I will now give you my experience since I left Brown City. When I arrived at Didsbury I thought it was a queer looking place to try and make a living at, but, nevertheless, I found it all right. I went to work on a ranch for \$300 a year. I worked something over three and a half years and earned \$1,135, and now I am on my own homestead. I have a good house and barn and some fencing, also some cleared land. I have three horses, ten head of cattle, and farming implements. I find it easy to make a living here. The crops were very good this year.

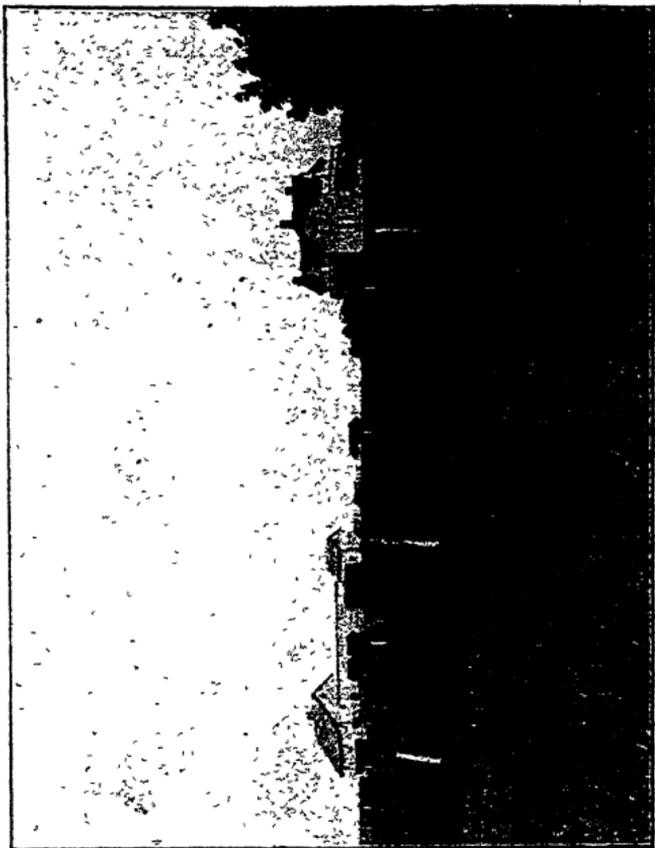
This is a good stock raising country, and all the stock are doing finely this winter, as there has been little snow to hinder them from feeding in the open pastures; but it looks a little hard to see 300 or 400 head of cattle let loose in the morning to hunt up their food when it is 35 degrees below zero and a foot or so of snow on the ground, but they do it all the same, and make good beef, too.

The largest cattle ranch near here has 1,500 head, and that is quite a nice bunch of cattle. The nearest sheep ranch has 18,000 sheep. We also have a new store here now, and it won't be long before there will be more. Some one has to be first everywhere to start business going, and it will not be many years till Didsbury will be a great town.

There has been 7,660 acres of land taken up here in the last six years, and I hear there are twenty-five families coming from Ontario next spring. This will help to fill up Didsbury, and that is what is wanted to make a country. I hope we will see some Michigan people come out, too. I would like to see some of them very much, for I could tell them more than I can write about this fine country.

I find this to be a very healthy place. A person can eat till his eyes bulge out; but, of course, some people think that there is not anything to eat at all out here, but that is where they get left. There is just as much to eat in this country as there is in Michigan, and I think a little more, too. If you don't think so, come and try it and find out for yourself.

This time last year we had fine sleighing, but we are left this year. The snow has all gone to Ontario, as near as I can find out. I suppose some people would think that there would be plenty of snow in Western Canada, but that is a mistake. As far as the cold weather goes, I do not mind it as much as I did in Michigan. I have tested the weather here. I have sat in the saddle for fifty



HOUSE OF A PROSPEROUS FARMER IN CANADA.

miles when it was 35 and 40 degrees below zero, and I did not notice it as much as I did 20 degrees below zero in Michigan.

Well, I was pleased to see my brother George, who came along on the 21st of December. George has come to stay. He is sorry that he did not come out here two years ago, for he likes the country first rate.

The prices are as follows: Wheat, 55c. per bush.; barley, 25c.; oats, 25c.; potatoes, 35c.; butter, 25c per lb.; eggs, 40c. per doz.; turkeys, 15c. per lb.; flour, first quality, \$2.75 per bbl.; second quality, \$2.50 per bbl.; geese, 14c. per lb.; chickens, 10c. per lb.

I spent 24 years in Michigan, and I find that Western Canada is the best, and I am sure that I shall see better things here yet from all appearances. I wish you a very happy New Year.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

M. Rykerman.

Leaton, Mich., December 15th, 1898.

Mr. J. N. Grieve, Canadian Immigration Agent,
Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

Dear Sir,—I first went to Alberta in April, 1898, and remained five weeks, and was so favorably impressed with what I saw, and could learn from those in a position to know by residence in the country, that I selected three quarter sections and moved there with two of my sons and their families, and they are there now, located off Conjuron Creek, west of Leduc, and are delighted with the country and the prospects for the future. I have broken about 25 acres of the finest land in the world, and built houses, stables, etc. The country is fast filling up with desirable settlers, and I would advise anyone in search of a home to lose no time in seeing it, as I consider it an excellent country for mixed farming. Cattle do remarkably well, there being plenty of feed summer and winter.

We cut and stacked 40 tons of hay, and raised an excellent crop of potatoes, which in quality were the finest I ever saw. There are no potato bugs there, and the crop is very easily raised.

It is also an excellent country for raising many kinds of vegetables, and better wheat and oats cannot be raised anywhere. I intend going back in the spring and make it my permanent home, and expect to take more of my family with me. Anyone desiring any information about Alberta may write or see me at Leaton, Mich., or to my son George at Leduc, Alberta.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

James J. Kirkpatrick.

Lacombe P.O., Alberta, N.W.T.,
December 7, 1898.

The Commissioner of Immigration, Ottawa.

Sir,—I came out from Sheffield, England, in 1889, to Manitoba, for a change as much as anything, and with no fixed determination to stay in the country altogether.

I was a school teacher in the old country, and scarcely ever enjoyed good health. I remained two and a half years in Manitoba, and then returned to England in the winter of 1891. I could not, however, content myself there after the life on the prairie, and returned the following spring to Manitoba. I worked there until June, 1894. When my parents and brother came out the following month, we came to Red Deer, Alberta, with the intention of settling on homesteads, my father and myself being, at that time, the only members of the family qualified to enter for land.

Our capital on arrival, after payment of baggage dues, amounted to about \$25. We had no stock or machinery at all. I was the only one of the family who had any experience at all of farming, and I found it stood me in good stead out here. We found the country, at that time, just beginning to be settled up. Neighbors were scarce, and everything was very dear, and there was very little work to be had.

We located on the west half of section 30, tp. 39, r. 25, west of the 4th meridian, myself on the n.w. $\frac{1}{4}$ and my father on the s.w. $\frac{1}{4}$. We found the soil to be a deep black loam, varying from 10 to 24 inches in depth, suitable for raising anything.

Of course, without capital we found it a hard struggle uphill; work being scarce made it a great deal harder. The difficulties we had to contend with are now practically over. There is plenty of work to be had and everything is much cheaper than it was then.

For a country that has only been opened up for about six years, I consider the progress here has been marvelous.

Owing to having had to work from home so much, we have not the work done at home which we might have had, if we had had sufficient means to give us a start. We are, however, gradually getting the stock and machinery around us, and in the course of two or three years hope to be doing well.

Most of our crop this year was cut green, as it was on new land and sown too late to ripen.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed)

Wm. A. Roe.

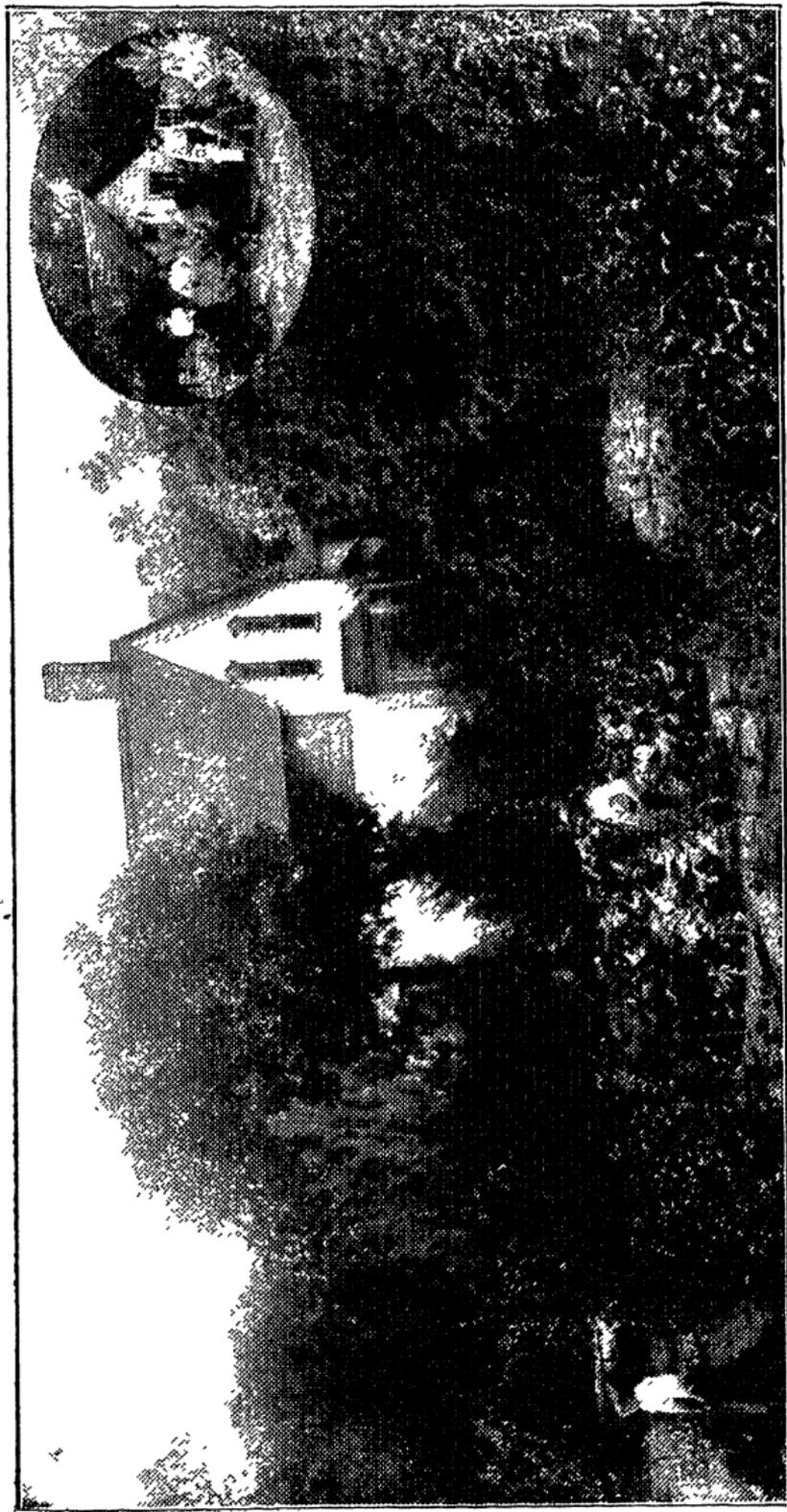
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Mixed Farming in Alberta.

(Glasgow Scottish Farmer, September 9, 1898.)

Sir,—This is making a living by stock and produce. The produce may be partly wheat, rye, oats, or barley, and partly potatoes and turnips; and the stock may be sheep and work horses, and a cow or two for milk, or work horses and cattle, with almost invariably pigs and poultry. Some farmers have small bands of from ten to twenty horses, and their ordinary work horses and cattle. If the farmer sends his milk to a creamery, he is particular about getting his milking cows home night and morning, and this is also necessary if he is milking a number of cows and sending his butter and eggs to the stores. Yearlings and two-year-olds are turned out about the middle of April. Of course, they have been out very likely all winter, but at that time they are put outside the farm of 160 acres if it is fenced in, and left to forage for themselves till November; and with them any cows suckling calves, which cows have calved early and have settled to the bull. These will stay out till November. I was at a sale of cattle lately in Innisfail. There were about 160 all ages, and, on the whole, they were a very poor lot. The best cow made \$44; others, including two-year-old heifers, from \$22 up. The steers made from \$25 to \$31; the oldest would be rising three. Railway land, unless in exceptional circumstances, can be bought for \$3 an acre, one-tenth of the purchase price being paid at purchase; the balance, at 6 per cent. interest, in nine annual instalments. These terms are considered very liberal, and, if the land is suitable for hay, wood, or cropping, is taken advantage of, and farmers who are able buy a quarter section adjoining their farm for a run for stock. Further, government land can be bought at \$3 an acre. They stand at \$4 an acre, and I have known their land, with no improvements, standing at \$14 an acre. The only advantage is that the longer their land remains unsold the more pasture there is for stock. Now, I must explain that all the odd-numbered sections unsold are free for pasturing stock.

I came here in 1891, and have not been asked for any taxes yet; but other districts are not so favored. (1) The land is taxed at the government selling price per acre; (2) the improvements are valued, houses, fences, well, and number of acres plowed; (3) the stock are valued, and the ratepayer can appeal to the school trustees if the assessor has valued him too high. I believe the school tax runs from \$5 to \$8 annually. The difficulties which I particularized before may be added to by the three follow-



MR. STEVENSON'S FRUIT ORCHARD (NEW AND OLD HOVIE).



ing: (1) Want of knowledge of the country, and agricultural affairs in particular. This can be got over easily by any man with a fair education, an average intellect, and an ordinary supply of common sense. (2) Want of capital. This is easier got over than want of knowledge, for a man willing to work, and especially a skilled laborer, can soon make capital for himself; and by working for others he sees different methods, and when working for himself he can adopt that which gives best results. (3) Indisposition to work. This is the greatest difficulty of all; and so many young, strong, healthy fellows come out here because they felt indisposed to work at home, and are disappointed at their want of success, that I must warn all intending emigrants who think they can live without working not to come here.

This is the first of a series of letters on "Mixed Farming," so perhaps you will excuse its being so much of an explanatory nature.

Yours, etc.,

D. C. Cruikshank.

Edmonton, Alberta, May 25th, 1898.

Mr. J. H. M. Parker, Duluth, Minn.

As I promised to write you, I do so. I arrived here safe, also Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and Baker, of Duluth. Thompson and Baker have located, and are now building their houses. They located 22 miles east of Edmonton. They were well pleased with the country, as well as myself. I went out with a party of delegates and looked over the country. We all went to Wetaskiwin and went out southeast. We were out four days and travelled at the rate of 50 miles a day. I took pains in looking over the country, and made the acquaintance of many farmers, and all like the country and are all doing well. I found the condition of the farmers better than I expected to. There is considerable government land, but you must get back from 20 to 35 miles. All the delegates are locating and are going to get all they can. I think that all newcomers ought to have a year's provisions and a little money. I found five elevators at Edmonton and two at Wetaskiwin

W. A. Clarke,
Mantor, Mich.

Winnipeg, 9th June, 1898.

We, the undersigned delegates from Barnesville, State of Minnesota, have just returned from visiting the Battle River district, near Wetaskiwin. The land is very rich, black loam, clay subsoil; hay is in abundance; good

water; and, if prairie fires are kept out, the people can never fall short of fuel and building timber; the timber is fine and large. We saw some fine cattle, and the farmers are all contented and doing well. We met William Swan, who came from Fargo three years ago with a team, some farming machinery and \$17 in cash. He has a fine place, six miles of fencing, and threshed last year 46 bushels to the acre. He and his sons own a section of land, and his improvements are worth all of \$2,000. We have taken free lands for ourselves on the Battle River, 14 miles from Wetaskiwin, and so have Messrs. Collins, Frankhanel, Spancer and Murray, all from this district. We can fully recommend this district to any farmers who wish to find new homes for their families. There are no taxes, except a small school tax of about \$3 in districts where there are schools. Homesteads are still to be had from 18 to 25 miles out of Wetaskiwin.

(Signed)

John Marth.

John Eruger.

Chris. Bredemreier.

(Translation.)

**READ WHAT EVEN OLSTAD, FROM
FOSTON, MINN., SAYS.**

Information for Scandinavians in the United States About
the Conditions in Alberta.

During 1894 I emigrated with my family to Alberta, Canada, and have now been here about four years, and I am thus acquainted with the country and its conditions. I can say that I like it well here and do not repent that I left Minnesota. I believe that Alberta, with regard to the fertility of the soil, can fully compete with Minnesota, in spite of the fact that farming is not carried on upon such a large scale here as there, but the products are just as good, if not better.

Last year's harvest of wheat gave from 10 to 50 bushels per acre, depending upon how the soil was cultivated, or on an average 20 to 35; oats from 35 to 75, and barley 20 to 55 bushels per acre. In regard to the raising of cattle, this territory is far ahead of Minnesota and Dakota, as the cattle can here be brought up cheaper and obtain higher prices. The good and rich summer pasturage makes them grow quick, so that oxen are full-grown at three years of age.

As a dairying state, Alberta is yet in its infancy, but I am fully convinced that dairying will become the chief industry of this state. These products will bring good

prices, as they can be shipped to different markets, i. e., England, Kootenay and Klondike, which will likely become head market for butter.

What the people in the States mostly fear is the winter here. They have the wrong impression that the winter in Alberta is very severe. Of course, nothing else could be expected so far north, but I have now spent four winters in Alberta, and none of these have been as severe as those eleven I have spent in Minnesota. Some few days it might become very cold, down to 40 degrees, but this lower temperature is not felt here as much as in the States, as the air here is dry, and in consequence lighter; and, besides, a very cold day, it is always no wind.

There are many homesteads yet to be had not far from the railway. Here in this settlement, consisting of nearly exclusively Northmen, and situate 22 miles from Wetaskiwin, a station on the Calgary & Edmonton railway, there are several homesteads within the school district bearing the name of New Norway. At Wetaskiwin good business is done, as times during the last year have improved considerably, and here would be a fine opportunity for a Norwegian or Scandinavian store, as we need such a one.

I would not advise anyone to come here without means, as such will have to rely upon others or be more dependent, even if it is not now as difficult to get through as four years ago. On the other hand, I know of people who have come out here without having as much of what is called "Sound Money" to buy a bag of flour, but who still have succeeded and do fairly well.

If you are in possession of two strong arms, a good energy and a sound mind, you will without doubt succeed here in Alberta, and after some time become your own master upon your own farm. On the other hand, a person must not have too great expectations, as here, as well as any other place, difficulties and unforeseen loss may be met with.

My letter becomes long, and I must conclude, with the advice: Come and examine for yourself and see with your own eyes.

(Signed)

Even E. Olstad,
Duhamel P.O., Alta., Canada.

Edmonton, Alberta, May 25th, 1898.

Mr. Ed. T. Holmes, 154 E. 3rd Street, St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir,—I write you as I agreed to do so. I am sorry you could not come out with us and have seen the country. We had a pleasant trip, travelling over about 200 miles of country, and liked it well.

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.

Well, I believe I have answered all the questions. You say that you will be up here about the first of April. I wish you could come about the 20th of this month, for if the weather stays like it has been for the last three days for a few days longer, there will not be any sleighing. The snow is going very fast. My cattle go out in the morning and stay out all day; get all the water and feed they want, and are doing well. I do not think you can miss it by coming at the earliest opportunity. Well, let me know what day you will leave home, and I will meet you at Bowden. I have maps and prices of railroad land and can show the country for 20 miles around.

I remain, as ever,

Yours respectfully,

H. F. Powell.

Lewisville, Alberta, October 20th, 1897.

C. J. Broughton, Esq., Canadian Government

Land Agent, Chicago.

Dear Sir,—Your favor of October 4th received, asking how I liked Alberta, and if I was pleased or disappointed in the move I made when I left Minnesota and moved to Alberta. In answer to which I will say we are well pleased. I don't know what a man could ask for any better. We have the best of soil, a black loam. In proof of which, I will cite an instance. Houchier brothers, who live two miles east of my farm, just threshed 1,000 bushels of wheat from twenty acres and sold the same for 60 cents per bushel. Mr. Wigg, one and a half miles south of me, has just harvested 350 bushels of as fine potatoes as you ever saw off one acre of ground. Oats have gone this year from 45 bushels as high as 104 bushels to the acre, and will weigh 42 lbs. to the bushel. I don't think there is a country can beat us raising roots. We just put 175 head of cabbage in the cellar that weigh from 8 to 23 lbs, any amount from 18 to 21 lbs. Turnips grow without end; we raise them that weigh 8 lbs. for flat, and Swede turnips grow to most any size. Where is the country that can beat that soil? The beauty of it is we get 160 acres for nothing, just by living on it and working it for three years. The government gives us the timber to put up our buildings with, which makes the warmest of houses. We keep house plants the year round. Keep warm by wood that we get just for the drawing of it. I think we have the best country in the world for stock. I have never seen anything that could compare with it. Plenty of free range, where cattle can roam with feed up to their eyes. We shelter and house our stock as a rule, 100 head being about the profitable

number for a small farmer. The government has built creameries on the co-operative plan for the farmers. They retain one cent a pound to pay for the plant, and at the end of three years the plant is paid for and turned over to the farmers. This year the common cows have averaged one pound a day; after the government has taken out the one cent for the plant and enough to pay for the making and selling, it has netted the farmer 17 cents. So you see we have a dairy country as well, no better. Plenty of grass and water; there are little lakes every mile or so. I am on Battle river, and have two lakes within a mile of me. And what pleases me with the country is, we haven't one cent of tax to pay, unless we vote for a school district; then the taxes are from \$4.50 to \$8 a quarter section. Don't tax personal property in the country. And last, but not least, is our climate. That takes the cake. In April it comes warm and pleasant, and stays so. We usually have dry springs until the middle of May. After that we have abundance of showers. No terrible storms like we used to have in Illinois. I have been here three years, and we haven't had a thunder shower that would wake a person up. The ground freezes November 1st, and we have snow from the 15th of that month until the 1st of April. We have no blizzards. The snow falls like feathers, and lies when it falls until spring. We have steady cold weather in the winter, and no place on earth can stock do better than they do here. It's a dry cold, and when it is 20 below we do not feel it as much as you do in Illinois at zero. The sun seems to shine all the time in the winter days, and summer evenings you can sit out doors and read a paper at 10 o'clock. Nice cool evenings; no night since we lived here but what you will need two quilts over you. You ask if a poor man can do well here. It's just the country for a poor man; that's what brought me here. Plenty of instances where men came here with just enough to get a team and a cow; have been here three years, got the deed of their land, 50 acres to 100 acres under cultivation, land fenced, and 25 to 30 head of cattle. Of course, some come here and expect to find dollars rolling up hill, but they are disappointed and leave the country. But I don't know as the country is to blame for that. It can't furnish everything. Hoping I have answered all your questions, I am,

Yours truly,

C. E. Vaughn,
Lewisville, Alberta.

Wetaskiwin, October, 1896.

I left Mancelona, Michigan, April 10th, 1894; arrived in Wetaskiwin April 18th; had a good look at the coun-

try until August, then located within five miles of Wetaskiwin. I like the country well. Of course, I came here without anything; now I have a comfortable home and plenty to eat, which I would not have had if I had stayed in Michigan. If anyone wants a free home for \$10, and would like to raise cattle and horses, I know of no better country. Horses need no care summer or winter. Abundance of hay for the cutting.

(Signed)

Levi Bradshaw.

Sweaborg, Wetaskiwin, Sept. 14th, 1898.

W. Toole, Esq., Calgary, N.W.T.

Dear Sir,—According to your request, I will hereby give my experience of the circumstances up here.

It was through the immigration agent, Mr. C. O. Swanson, of Waterville, Que., that I first obtained knowledge of this country, and I followed one of his excursions here four years ago last spring. I have thrived well the whole time since. I have now harvested five crops, and have had good crops every year. I can therefore recommend the country for crops as well as climate.

I worked in a shop in the United States thirteen years, and thought during the last years to go out in the country on account of my health. I could surely not have struck anywhere a better climate and general circumstances than I have found here. Therefore, will I specially say a word to those who are working in shops and feel tired therewith, but would like to get a home of their own, that here is the right place for them. I know several people who came here with very little to start with, but have made good progress, and everyone seems to thrive well; but it is naturally more or less a sacrifice to come from the cities to a new settlement.

I have received dozens of letters from different States with questions about whether the saying that frost destroys everything here is true or not. It is altogether untrue; frosts here do not hurt the grain except in very low places. Old farmers, who have come here from the United States, say that they have never seen such crops before as they saw here, which can be proved this year nearly all over Alberta.

For those who look for land whereon to get a home of their own, there is room for several thousands both on homesteads and on railroad land. The railroad land is cheap, \$3 per acre and ten years' time; so it is a chance for one as well as the other. Bad reputations have come out about Canada, but it is entirely untrue with reference to Alberta. I know very little about the other provinces.

My own progress is not so very great, but I have surely done better here than I should have done in the United States during the same time working in a shop. I have now 50 acres in crop, 11 head of cattle, 5 horses, 20 pigs and 75 chickens, all the necessary farm implements, etc. Is not this to be well off compared to working as a slave in a shop, I would like to know?

Last summer a number of roads have been laid out and fixed up. Several schools were commenced, and a church building is erected within the settlement, which is going ahead in every direction. Immigration is going on steady. Some have left here and gone back to the U. S., but some have returned here again, because they found that it would be better for them.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

C. H. Swanson.

Egg Lake, Alberta, Sept. 9th, 1897.

J. H. M. Parker, Esq., Canadian Government Agent,
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Sir,—As I was to see you in April of last spring, you advised Mr. McCormick and myself to come out here and see for ourselves, and when we came out here I was surprised to find this part of the country so well adapted for farming. The soil, climate and crops are all as good as could be desired, and fully as good as you recommended. I am going to return to Michigan to settle up my affairs there, and intend to bring my boys here, as I am getting about all the land I want for them.

I wish you would write me a letter regarding return rates. Write to Calgary, Alberta, care Donohue.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

James Cuthbert.

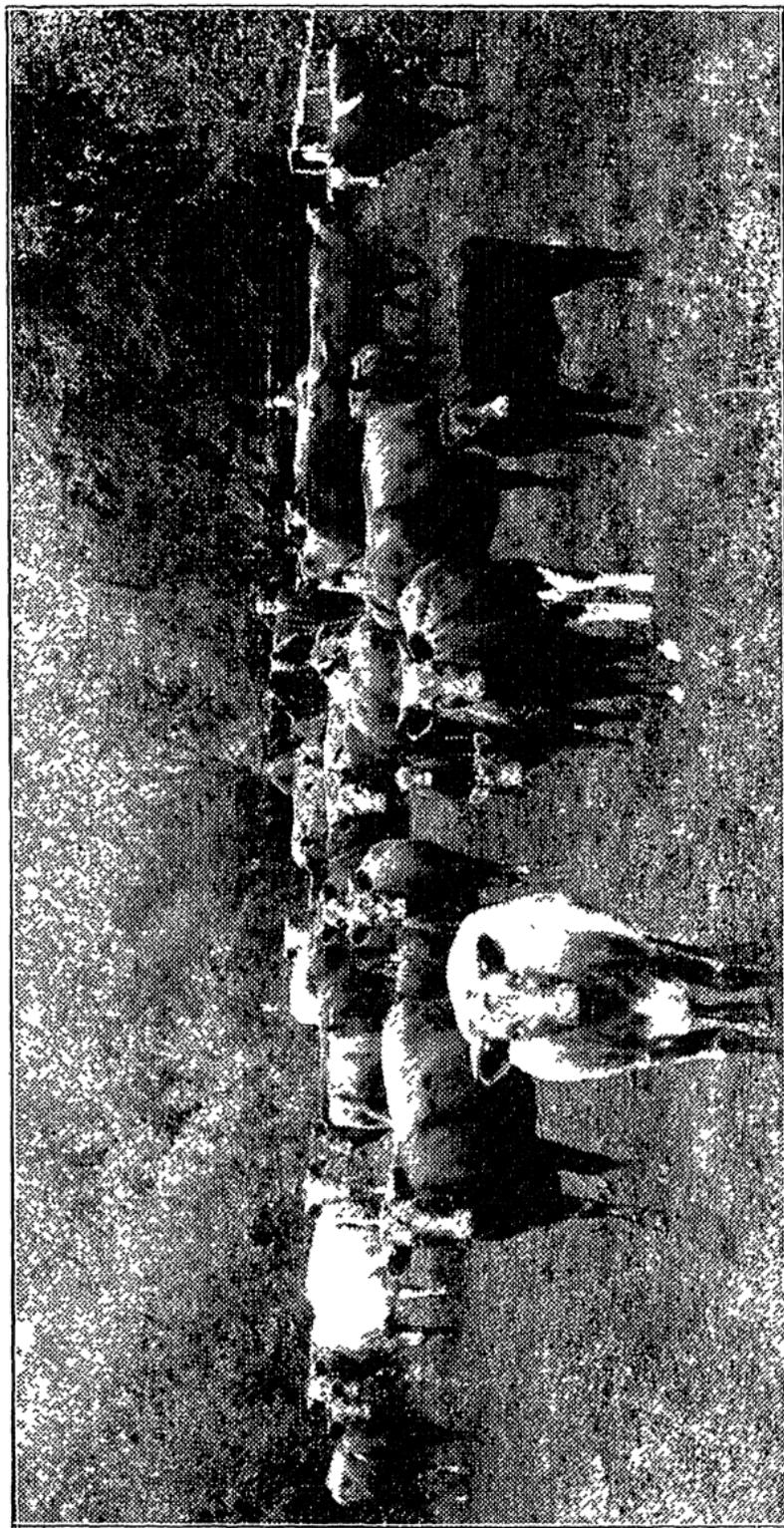
Wetaskiwin, Alta., Sept. 11th, 1897.

W. Toole, Esq., Calgary, N. W. T.

Dear Sir,—You want to know how I have got along since I came into Northern Alberta. I am happy to inform you that I am not ashamed to tell.

We crossed the line and were at the Customs House the 4th of July, 1895, and located on my land five miles northeast of Wetaskiwin, on the 1st of August; left Farmington, Washington, on the 29th of May.

We had time to build our log house the first fall and to make us comfortable for the family and stock. The



READY FOR THE BUTCHER, NEVER HAD AN OUNCE OF GRAIN, WILL WEIGH FROM 1,100 TO 1,500 LBS.



first fall we built four stables, 18x20 inside, so that we could put everything inside them when the cold got down to the fifties, and worked hard getting up the stables and got through dubbing on the 1st December, but to our surprise we had no use for the stables only for the milk cow and two span of horses. The balance of the horses lived on the prairie all winter and took care of themselves. Two of the stables we left the doors open for them to go into in a cold time, but they would not do it, but stayed out on the prairie the coldest nights we had, and looked as spry as crickets.

I suppose you want to know if we have made a living since we have been here. I can go ten rods back of my house and count ten residents. I know all of their circumstances. Everyone of them have doubled their cultivated land and doubled their animals, and a great deal more. All of us are comparatively out of debt and an unusually big crop to thresh and prospects of a fair price, and I expect we are as well contented a lot of people as there are from Florida to the Klondike.

My son bought two pounds of twine to the acre, and when we started to bind some barley, we found that instead of taking two pounds to the acre, it was taking nearly five pounds. Then you ought to have seen him hitch up a team and make for town for 100 lbs. more. I cannot say how it will thresh. All I can say is that it is well headed, and takes an enormous amount of twine. The reason twine is so hard to get is that the government has taken the fines on the trade of the country, commonly known as duty, off the twine, and the merchants don't want any more of it on hand for another year.

The crops are nearly all cut, except a few late pieces of oats. I have 25 acres yet to cut. Got 75 acres; will thresh some in three days to get grain to fatten my hogs, so as to have some bacon when they start on our shortest road to the Klondike in the spring. The country will be open to us all right, with the Crow's Nest Pass R. R. and the shortest road to the Klondike.

The only fault that we have to complain of is that we did not open more land to have something more to sell.

Yours truly

(Signed)

John Cummings.

Wetaskiwin, Alta., Dec. 9th, 1897.

I have lived two and a half years in Alberta, near the small town of Wetaskiwin, and during that time have come to the conclusion that it is difficult to find a better region for settlement than ours.

First, it is not difficult to bring land under cultivation, as the whole surface can at once be worked with the plow, and yet there are quantities of timber and fuel. A man who settles on the treeless plain, where he is obliged to buy all timber for building, is at once obliged to have a good deal of money. If any one settles in the primeval forest, the beginning is even more difficult. The great things in this neighborhood are raising cattle and dairying. Nowhere else have I seen such fat cattle as here. It is also a fact that Alberta meat brings a higher price than that from other places. Last year a government butter factory was built in Wetaskiwin and worked with good results.

That our district is fitted for growing grain is evinced by our elevator (grain store), which was built this autumn, and it is even debated as to whether it would not be better to put up a second one.

As our settlement is still a new one, and many settlers arrived here poor, on which account they could at first only break a little land, it is a matter of surprise that our district has made such progress. Just one and a half years ago it was difficult to find any employment in the district, as every settler endeavored to find some extra work for himself; now the complaint is that there is a want of laborers. Maid-servants are especially in request, and receive good wages. Our climate is perhaps the healthiest in the world, I myself, at least, have never felt so well as here. There is perhaps much more to be said in regard to this district, I will include all in the closing sentence: "Who seeks a home to him I recommend Alberta."

What has induced me to write this down? Partly the wish that our district should be more improved by means of immigration. It certainly is a matter of importance to us that our German settlements should become larger. Yet I can say with a clear conscience that that is not the principal object. This is that poor people, also in my German Fatherland, as also day laborers in the cities, should learn where they can attain a happy independence.

(Signed) Friedrich Bredlow,
Lutheran Pastor, Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Wetaskiwin, 8th December, 1897.

I came from Russian Poland, where I was a teacher for 15 years. As I had a large family, I wished to find a new home. As it is difficult to get on in earthly matters in the old home, I chose a new home in Canada, and went off to it with a rejoicing heart. I chose the district of Alberta, as I already had friends there. When I arrived

in Winnipeg the district was misrepresented to me. I paid no attention to this, but hastened to my destination. When I arrived in Wetaskiwin it pleased me at once. The fine horses, beautiful cattle, the fine soil; many farms were well built, and I thought at once this cannot be a bad district. And when I learned further that many of the farmers had only been there two or three years and had come with very little money, others without a cent, merely some provisions, others even in debt, everyone must agree with me, the people here must have made great progress. Most of them have in their stock more than one team of horses, rather from four to more, 10 to 20 head of cattle, etc., the necessary farming implements, many a good number of machines. One sees how the farmers endeavor to improve, and this is really the spot where one does not work for nothing. Each endeavors to possess something, and it is really possible to obtain something here more than it is in other places. Cattle bring a good price, horses medium, everything else good.

In my opinion this district is a good one. No one who wishes to change his dwelling place need fear to come here. There are still homesteads and good farms nearer to the town to be bought for a low price.

As there is excellent pasture for cows here, a butter factory was built this year through the intervention of Mr. A. Rosenroll, which has been most useful to farmers.

Cattle here become very fat. Yesterday a neighbor of mine killed a cow which had not been specially fed, but yielded four pails of tallow.

In regard to my chances of progress, I cannot say much, as I myself have only been here a year; but can say so much, I have never yet repented coming here, and have already got on better than in my old home. If any one wishes to have further information, they need only write to me, and I will not leave their inquiries unanswered.

(Signed) Julius Pekrul,

Missionary of the German Baptist Community

My address : Julius Pekrul, Wetaskiwin P. O.,

Alberta, Canada, North America.

Wetaskiwin, November 30th, 1897.

I was cow herder with Mr. Robert Tomasius, in Froegenow, District Osterode, Rag., near Konigsberg. Some years ago I left the old home to find a new in the Canadian Northwest. When I arrived in Winnipeg my money was, so to speak, at an end. Two months later came my family, consisting of my wife, mother and two children. For some years I worked with farmers, when

I applied my wages to getting cattle and sheep. As I had heard often and much about the splendid regions about Wetaskiwin, I decided to come here, and I have succeeded beyond expectations. There is already a large German population here, from 50 to 60 families, and all make important progress every year, and one never hears complaints, as one does in the United States from settlers. We have also many Germans from Russia here who thank God that they have come to this country, where they can get on better in one year than in Russia in a life time. This is a paradise for raising cattle, although wheat, barley and oats do well. There is a good market for disposing of all the products in the mining district of the Rocky Mountains and on the east coast of the Pacific. Our butter and fat cattle are exported to England and France. We have a plentiful water supply, which is not always to be had in other districts; in summer always enough rainfall, in winter superb sleighing. The greater part of the cattle are fed in the open during the daytime in winter; at night they generally stand under sheds. This spring we received, through the intervention of Mr. Rosenroll, a butter factory, which is under the supervision of the government, and is a veritable gold mine for the farmers, as all milk can be disposed of. From 22 cows the milk brought me in during three months over 1,200 marks. (1 mark 1 shilling.)

I now own over 1,000 acres (Eng.) of land, 120 horned cattle, 13 horses, 250 sheep, 24 hogs, 30 turkeys, 50 ducks, 65 hens, all the necessary implements for agriculture, self-binder, harvester, mowing machine and horse rake, etc. This year I had from my farm a clear profit of 6,000 marks. Next year I hope to do better still, as I intend buying in more land, which is still to be had for almost nothing, and such beautiful and rich soil that one's heart laughs for joy.

Should any of our German brethren, who, in spite of hard work, cannot make a success of it in the Fatherland, have a desire to emigrate, I can recommend this district; here one can attain something.

I have my laborers sent out from Germany, for here they are not to be had, as everyone with very little trouble can start for himself. Mr. Spiro, emigration agent in Hamburg, manages the forwarding very well, indeed. We have here also a Lutheran congregation, who are ministered to by Pastor Bredlow, from West Prussia. It would please us to obtain more German countrymen.

(Signed)

Adam Kaiser.

WORKERS GET ALONG.

Edmonton, Alta., Nov. 30th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man.

Dear Sir,—I came to this country from Nebraska in the spring of 1894 without one dollar, but with plenty of push. I worked with farmers all that year, and in 1895 sent enough money to bring my family. I took up my homestead in township 55, range 24, kept on working out until I had sufficient to start for myself, and I must say that I have done remarkably well, for I have now 5 horses, 8 head of cattle, some hogs and poultry, and implements to the value of \$300, and good log house and stables. This year I had 1,500 bushels of grain off 40 acres. I think this is the best country I ever saw for a poor man to get rich in if he is only willing to work. I am speaking from experience, for I had to work hard since I came here and have received good results. The climate throughout the year is extra good. I can honestly recommend any one to come if he is a worker or has means to pay some one to do the work.

(Signed) G. L. True,

Sturgeon River,
Edmonton, Alta.

SATISFIED MICHIGAN MEN.

Leduc, Alberta, N.W.T., Sept. 30.

To Our Neighbors and Friends in Isabella County, Mich.

It having been reported that E. Kirkpatrick, who went to Alberta from Leaton, Isabella County, as a delegate to report on the country, had misrepresented the facts on his return, we wish to make the following statement: Relying upon his report, we sold our farms in Isabella County, and, with Mr. Kirkpatrick, we left Leaton on the 29th day of May, 1899, and arrived here on June 4th. We wish to say that we have found everything as represented by him to be exact in every particular, and are so well pleased with the country and the prospects for the future that we would not return under any circumstances. While the past summer has been quite wet, there are immense crops of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and all crops raised in this country. We have plenty of good water and the country is remarkably healthful, and consider this a grand country for a man to secure a good, cheap home for himself and children. We have had no frost to

hurt vegetation until September 27th, and then but a slight one; and have now the finest weather imaginable.

We also wish to say that all information furnished us by Mr. J. N. Grieve, Canadian Immigration Agent at Mt. Pleasant, Mich., has been truthful, and any reflections cast on his or Mr. Kirkpatrick's statements are without foundation. We will be pleased to answer all inquiries from any one wanting information about Alberta, and will say for ourselves, we are more than satisfied with the move we made.

Geo. E. Blondheim.

C. J. Blondheim.

William Mogg.

—Isabella County Enterprise (Mich.), Oct. 13, 1898.

LIKES IT BETTER THAN IDAHO.

Lacombe, Alberta, Nov. 25th, 1898.

To the Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

Sir,—Having been requested to write you as to how I like this country, I may say I came from Cassia County, Idaho, U.S.A., to Southern Alberta, and moved from there here in July, 1894.

I brought here 34 head of cattle, 15 horses, 2 wagons, 2 sets of harness, and \$150 in cash. I homesteaded southeast quarter 28-40-26 west of the 4th meridian; also purchased quarter section C.P.R. land. Have been farming more or less nearly all my life, and I am convinced that you can raise crops 40 per cent. cheaper here than where I came from.

My capital at present, counting everything, is about \$5,000. The yield of my grain all round in 1897 was 60 bushels per acre; this year (1898), yield of wheat per acre, 37½ bushels, oats 50 bushels, and barley 35 bushels; potatoes 400 bushels per acre.

I consider this is a much better country for a man than where I came from, providing he is industrious and has a small capital.

Have a wife and six children, two only able to work on the farm. You get a free homestead here and C.P.R. land is cheap and the terms are easy. I have now made my seventh payment, and am much pleased with my purchase, as the land has much more than paid for itself. School law here is decidedly ahead of where I came from and there are schools wherever there are settlers.

I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed)

J. A. Tolman.

A SUCCESSFUL FARMER.

Within three miles of the town going eastward is the farm of Mr. W. Creamer, one of the municipality's largest and most prosperous mixed farmers. Mr. Creamer came to this country in 1880, and settled on a portion of the land which comprises his present enormous farm of 1,280 acres. In common with many others of a similar period he experienced all the hardships and difficulties common to the absence of railway and market facilities. In no wise daunted, by energy, industry and indomitable will to surmount all obstacles he has achieved an unparalleled success, and is known throughout the district as one of its pre-eminent farmers. His operations extend over 1,280 acres, two sections (the thought alone of so much land makes the Ontario farmer dizzy); 800 acres of this is broken and the remainder is excellent pasture land and wood. This harvest he took off a crop of 500 acres of wheat and 200 of other grains. Four hundred acres are plowed and ready for wheat next spring. Mr. Creamer is, as has been stated, a mixed farmer of no mean proportions, having at the present time 40 horses, 60 head of cattle and 50 pigs. The most modern farm buildings are found on the premises, the main building being a barn 55 feet square on a stone foundation containing stabling for 16 horses and a large number of cattle. The loft is stored with 29 loads of sheaf oats for feed, and tons of hay; there is also a cutting box. Another building of large dimensions is the granary, in which after teaming large quantities to market, he still has stored 3,000 bushels of wheat. A crushing machine is in the building. There are a number of lesser buildings containing chicken house, pig pens and cattle sheds. The farm residence is a handsome frame structure of ample proportions; in connection with it is a wood shed. The water supply is unexcelled; besides house supply there is a well in the stables and a never failing spring situate in a bluff, which never freezes. Surrounded by a thick bluff of poplars, extending in a semi-circle to the west, north and east, the winter storms are broken and accumulation of snow unknown. Added to his farming operations, Mr. Creamer conducts a threshing outfit for the season. His success is an instance of what can be accomplished in the Great West.—Baldur (Man.) Gazette, Nov. 16th, 1899.

WHAT A PLUCKY PIONEER HAS DONE.

Thomas Meredith, general merchant and cattle buyer, was one of the first who landed in the York Colony. He came from Cookstown, Ont., without capital beyond an

endowment of shrewd common sense and hands ready to take up anything that came first. He began his western life with a yoke of oxen and plough, turning the prairie turf on a farm close to old York City. The early settlers met with much to dishearten them; the first attempts at growing a crop not proving successful; nothing daunted he struck out for Brandon as a hired man, and with his earnings resumed farm work in the settlement. From work he branched into various mercantile pursuits gradually extending operations. To-day his estimated wealth is worth about \$50,000, acquired during 16 years of farming and business in the west.

It would occupy too much space to enumerate in detail a short sketch of Yorkton's business men who are doing a thriving trade. Amongst others may be named, Messrs. Bull, Dunlop, Collocott, Beck, Ashdown, Betts, Magrath, Switzer, Douglas, Ebly, Patrick. The farmers and ranchers who are well-to-do, with large herds of cattle; their names are legion.—Yorkton (Assa.) Enterprise, Aug., 1899.

THE EDMONTON DISTRICT.

A Splendid Farming Country.

The Agricola colony has a population of 1,200. Many of these settlers were in very poor circumstances when they arrived, though the majority of them had stock of their own. Now, with scarcely any exceptions, they are prosperous and happy, while many of them are comparatively wealthy. As examples of what has been done by the colonists in the Agricola, Alberta, district last year, the crops of several of the leading men were mentioned. Hugh Irvine, who has been in the country five years, threshed 3,200 bushels and received 70 cents a bushel for it. Jas. Fitzgerald raised 3,000 bushels in his fourth year of settlement. James Atkinson had a crop of 3,500 bushels. These men started without capital.

In addition to this, the opening of British Columbia mining regions by means of the Crow's Nest Pass railway will furnish a second market for what the Edmonton farmer can produce. Hundreds of square miles of magnificent farming country yet remain for cultivation in the Saskatchewan valley, which can be bought at a very reasonable price.



PRIZE WESTERN CATTLE.

HAD NOTHING WHEN HE STARTED.

Wetaskiwin, October, 1896.

I left Mancelona, Michigan, April 10th, 1894; arrived in Wetaskiwin April 18th; had a good look at the country until August; then located within five miles from Wetaskiwin. I like the country well. Of course, I came here without anything; now I have a comfortable home and plenty to eat, which I would not have had if I had stayed in Michigan. If anyone wants a free home for \$10, and would like to raise cattle and horses, I know of no better country. Horses need no care summer nor winter; abundance of hay for the cutting.

(Signed)

Levi Bradshaw.

Swan River, Manitoba, 10, 35, 29.

November 11th, 1898.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir,—I intended to write to you long ere this and tell you how I got on, but I have been very busy, and time flies by. If you remember, I came from the North of Ireland last June with a family of 12 and my brother. I took two homesteads, one for my eldest son James and self—northeast and northwest quarter of Section 10, 35, 29. I like the land of the Swan River Valley better than any I have seen. I have about 12 acres of land plowed, have a dwelling house 32x22 feet, a stable 24x15 feet, six head of cattle, a yoke of oxen and a horse. I did not get here till the 14th August. In fact, I think the government of the Dominion has done everything possible for the comfort of the settlers; indeed, I must say that the government and railway officials of Manitoba are the kindest people I ever met.

I am, dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

Richard Lyons.

Bridge Creek, December 5th, 1898.

John Flesher, Esq.,

Dear Sir,—I arrived in Manitoba in the month of May, 1880, and selected a homestead and pre-emption on the west half of Section 10, Tp. 15, Range 16, and have resided there ever since. My capital amounted to \$500, besides my household effects, with a family of five, all too small to be of use in the way of help. My two sons now own

the north half of Section 9 in the same township, so that we have the section with only the road between. We have raised this year 3,500 bushels of wheat, 2,000 bushels of oats and barley. I have four working teams of horses and three young horses, a stock of twelve cows, one pure bred Jersey bull, and fifteen head of young stock. I consider my farms, stock and implements, at a low valuation, worth \$10,000. My wheat this year averaged 30 bushels per acre; oats, between 40 and 50. I have had good success with crops; no damage from frost, and only two slight losses from hail. Hoping that your efforts in the matter of immigration may be successful.

I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed)

Robert Campbell.

(Translation.)

Lacombe, Alta., Aug. 26th, 1899.

F. Pedley,

Supt. Immigration,

Ottawa, Canada.

Sir,—Five years ago I came here from the State of Washington and took up a homestead 6 miles east of Lacombe. I have farmed in several of the Western states but prefer Northern Alberta for mixed farming. I have had good harvest every year and the climate is exceedingly fine. I have $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to a good school and 2 miles to nearest church. There is lots of land to be had here yet, that is free homestead land, but it is going very fast. Railway land is now selling fast and costs \$3.00 per acre. I can recommend this place to my compatriots, who are willing to work. I came here very poor but have succeeded well. If anyone of you, who reads this letter comes to Lacombe, please give me a call. There are five of us settled here and all came from Washington, and all have done well.

Respectfully,

(Signed)

Ole Olsen.

Lacombe, Alta., July 9th, 1899

Mr. T. O. Currie,

Stevens Point,

Wis.

Dear Sir,—After rambling some 3000 miles by train and wagon through Manitoba and the N. W. Territories, inspecting carefully all the country passed over I have

concluded to anchor at this place. I find here the same excellent soil I found at Yorkton and Prince Albert, a greater variety of timber, a large extent of the best grazing country, grain products equal in yield and quality to the best produced in the famous Red River Valley, the finest creek and spring water in abundance, lakes well stocked with fish and game, and to my surprise, markets for all products quite as good as in the districts farther east. Notwithstanding a backward spring and much more than the usual amount of rain, crops of all kinds are looking very well at present and give promise of a bountiful harvest. The population of the different settlements along this line of railway will be easily doubled by the immigration of this summer, and there is still room with best of soil, conveniences and opportunities for thousands more. Young cattle and horses are never housed here in winter, and yet they come out in the spring looking as well as those given the best of stabling and care in Wisconsin.

The ranchmen figure on a ton of hay to the head of cattle, though most admit that it is better to have more rather than less. Prices here at present are as follows:—Yearling steers and heifers, \$20; three and four year old steers, \$40 to \$50; good cows, \$40; horses for work, \$60 to \$100; ponies, \$10 to \$30; wheat, 53c.; oats, 40c.; butter, 18c.; eggs, 15c.; cheese, 15c. The people here are nearly all Canadians and Americans, the exception being a few Germans. All seem well satisfied with their location, and those from the States think they made no mistake in seeking to better their circumstances by the change.

One of my daughters and her husband, Mr. Guy Holmes, of Loyal, will prepare to start soon for this place, and any information and assistance you can give them will be appreciated. Will it be necessary to have their lands located before they come, or is your certificate sufficient to secure rates and privileges? They will no doubt write you in regard to it. I think now we will settle in the Valley of the Blind Man River, about 14 miles west of this place and two to four miles west of Gull Lake. It is a beautiful valley, with soil, wood and water of the best. From present indications I may be able to locate from 12 to 15 families here by this time next year. I have stood the travel and knocking around remarkably well, and have met with uniform kindness and courtesy from officials and all others.

With kind regards I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed)

W. B. McPherson.

**WESTERN CANADA.—CROP PROSPECTS
AND CLIMATE ABOUT EDMONTON,
N. W. T.**

Interesting letter from Mrs. S. A. Brigham, late of
Mason City.

Ross Creek, Alberta, N. W. T., Canada,
Aug. 7th, 1899.

Dear Sir,—I promised, when leaving Mason City, to send you a description of this country at an early date. We are located in the Beaver Hills, 30 miles from Ft. Saskatchewan and 50 miles from Edmonton. To the east of these is an immense area of bottom lands, which furnishes abundance of hay for the settlers. It is dotted with small lakes, the largest of which is called Beaver Lake, 16 miles in length.

There is plenty of small timber and willows which make fine shelter for the cattle and horses now feeding there. Beyond this is a settlement of half breeds (a mixture of Scotch and Indian). Many of them are rich, and have built good houses from the sale of their stock, raised on these lands. They have a church, Presbyterian and Episcopal services are held in it.

The Beaver Hills are covered with small, green willows which are easily gotten rid of before breaking up the land. Here and there poplar, birch and tamarack trees abound. Small meadows are numerous. The soil in these hills is much richer than the bottom lands, being a kind of black leaf mould. There is no tough sod to break, like that of the prairie lands, and it is very productive. Wheat, oats and barley do finely, escaping the light frosts of the bottom lands, and vegetables are the finest that can be grown. Potatoes especially are large and solid, easily producing from 200 to 300 bushels per acre, and best of all never a "taty bug" to wrestle with. Corn is not a success—can only be brought to roasting ears. Tomatoes rarely ripen, owing to the cold nights. Wild fruit—strawberries, gooseberries, saskatoons (or pine berries), raspberries and cranberries, are found on the hills. Small tame fruit does splendidly, the red and white currants in my garden are as large again as common sized ones.

The climate during the summer season reminds me very much of England. We have long days during the months of June and July, one can see to read many evenings until 10 o'clock in the twilight. Some nights less than three hours of darkness, and the birds are singing at 2 o'clock. Then again it rains so easily. You look

towards the west and see a little cloud coming up, a gentle shower follows, the sun shines forth again, and in a little while you forget it has rained.

The balm and wild cherry bushes are very fragrant, and the wild flowers are beautiful. Large red lilies are as common as the daisies; blue bells and numberless purple flowers, and the wild roses grow on tall bushes like tame ones, from a pale pink to a deep red shade.

Cyclones are unknown here and the thunder and lightning is very light. We had two storms this summer accompanied with wind and hail, but nothing to lodge the grain. The average heat is about 78 degrees. We had three or four days in July at 90. The nights are always cool.

The winter season is one of great activity. All the fencing is gotten out then and logs for the farm buildings. By paying 25 cents you are granted a permit at the land office to cut logs upon vacant lands. The roads are good and smooth, for the snow never drifts, not even around the buildings, and this is a great saving of time to the farmer. Hay is hauled from the bottom lands all winter long, and a man can work outside every day as far as the weather is concerned. There are cold snaps when it reaches 40 and 48 below zero, but the lack of wind prevents one realizing it and the mountains 150 miles west of us are a great protection.

Our neighbors are mostly Canadian, Scotch, Swede, and we have a nice sprinkling of people from the States. We had considerable fun on July 1st, displaying our flags. The stars and stripes were hoisted alongside the red, white and blue. I did not wish to be disloyal to the dear old flag of my native land, but I had to wear the stars and stripes I had enjoyed to live under for so long a time.

The creeks abound in small fish, but for real good fishing one must take three days off and go out to the Sturgeon River (40 miles) where the finest pike, goldeye and sturgeon are plentiful.

We are now in the midst of haymaking (Aug 7th). Wheat will not be cut until early in September, this being a little later season than common, but the crop will be immense. I send you a sample of wheat and barley. its height is almost even with my shoulders, average 50 inches. Newcomers lacking binders can hire their grain cut for 75 cents per acre. Prairie chickens are here by the thousands.

The water is good. We have a fine well 15 feet deep. In the creeks the water is soft and of a yellowish color.

The material is here for the erection of the first school house in Ross Creek. Twenty-one children are anxiously awaiting the fall term of school. We have organized a Sunday school with an average attendance of 35. A young Presbyterian minister preaches every two weeks

in the homes around ; he will be at my home the coming Sabbath. We expect to hold our first communion service the last Sunday of this month.

And now for the drawbacks (we have them), but nothing very serious. The mosquitos are simply abominable, especially after a shower. You cannot take any comfort walking or driving, but if a little breeze is stirring they lie to the bushes and await the next balmy still day to avenge themselves. But it is claimed these will disappear as cultivation advances. Then again, we are surrounded by bachelors ; we have no less than 18 single men in this neighborhood, on matrimony bent. When a feminine gender of any age between 14 and 40 visits these hills we pity her, so great is the demand for her company. Can you aid us, Mr. Editor, through your valuable paper? Another drawback is the distance from town. To be without sugar, hair pins, kerosene, etc., perhaps two weeks, before a team can be spared for a two days' journey to the Fort, is estimated to ruffle the best of natures. Even this trouble cannot last long, for a charter has been granted for a railway to Victoria, which will give us a town at Beaver Lake. Another drawback,—the man we settlers most enjoy to see (mail carrier) only puts in an appearance once in two weeks. We intend rustling a lengthy petition this fall for a weekly mail. We have just been granted a new post office, and this will follow in due time.

In conclusion, if the remainder of our loved ones were here with us, we should better enjoy life on Ross Creek, and unless the unexpected develops, consider this will be a pretty fair place to end our days.

Mrs. S. A. Brigham.

GREW 14,000 BUSHELS OF GRAIN, IN 1899.

Dauphin, Dec. 18th, 1899.

To F. Pedley, Esq.,

Supt. of Immigration,

Ottawa.

Sir,—I came to Manitoba and settled in the Dauphin district in 1889, taking up the N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 9-25-19 and paid \$3.00 an acre to the C. P. R. for this land.

I did not at first cultivate much land on account of having no railroad, but in 1898 and 1899 have grown 14,000 bushels of grain,

In 1898 I had a field of 44 bushels of wheat per acre, and this year my wheat crop averaged 31 bushels per acre.

I like the country well and the climate suits me. I consider this a very healthy country.

I was offered \$5,000.00 for $\frac{1}{4}$ section and \$4,000.00 for the other, or \$9,000.00 for the $\frac{1}{2}$ section.

I have 11 horses, 12 cattle and a complete outfit of machinery. My property and chattels are worth \$12,000.

This is the best country for a poor man I ever saw. I started here with no capital ten years ago. I will be glad to answer any questions that may be submitted to me from any source.

Yours respectfully,

William Brown,

Dauphin P. O.,

Manitoba.

**STARTED TEN YEARS AGO NOW
WELL FIXED.**

Willow Creek, Alberta, Dec. 30th, 1899.

Mr. C. J. Broughton,

Canadian Government Agent,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir,—I now write a few lines to you to let you know that I am in Southern Alberta and like it well enough to settle here.

I am surprised to see the amount of grain that is raised here, that is where it is put in right. Wheat here in this neighborhood has turned out as high as 37 bushels to the acre; the harvest here is late, for they only got through threshing, I helped D. J. Grier through his threshing, he had 110 acres under cultivation and threshed 1,400 bushels of wheat, and 7,600 bushels of oats, and had 600 bushels of potatoes. His brother, Curran Greir, had 110 acres under cultivation and had 1,200 bushels of wheat and 5,825 bushels of oats, and had 2,000 bushels of potatoes; they are good farmers but there are some with small patches that beat them to the acre.

I notice the folks who ten years ago started on nothing are to-day pretty well fixed, so I think that is a pretty good side.

Now as to the weather here, the middle of this month was very rough and cold for about ten days, but this last week is warm, snow all gone and it is like summer; to-day it is raining a little.

The lady you sent partly under my charge from Chicago I helped all I could on the way and parted the best of friends. Now, my dear sir, this is about all the news

for this time. Hoping you will be so kind as to see after the shipping of the rest of my stuff and family, also thanking you for your kindness to me, I am,

Yours very truly,
(Signed) Charles R. Taylor.

**HAD \$500; NOW HAS BUILDINGS
WORTH \$3,000.**

Roden, Dec. 20th, 1899.

F. Pedley, Esq.,

Supt. of Immigration, Ottawa.

Sir,—I came to Manitoba in 1881 and settled on Sec. 32, 11, 22. I commenced with a small capital of \$500.00.

I came from Yorkshire, England, from Thirsk near York.

I have grown since 1890 about 5000 bushels of grain each year. I had 5 acres of crops the first year and now crop 375 acres.

I own 640 acres of land and my buildings are worth \$3,000.00.

I have 15 head of horses and 30 cattle and a complete outfit of machinery, and have always had good crop, grain and roots.

I would strongly advise farmers with small capital in the old country to come out here and settle and get a good start for themselves and their sons. This is the best country I know to get a good start in.

I will be glad to give any information; apply to

Yours respectfully,

Edward Willey.

Roden, P. O.,

Witness: C. W. Speers.

Manitoba.

**AVERAGED 5,000 BUSHELS OF WHEAT
FOR TEN YEARS.**

Griswold, Dec. 21st, 1899.

To F. Pedley, Esq.,

Supt. of Immigration, Ottawa.

Sir.—I started on the E $\frac{1}{2}$ 36, 9; 22 in Manitoba in 1881 and commenced without capital.

I have always had good crops; for the last 10 years my average of grain would be about 5,000 bushels each year or 50,000 bushels in ten years.

I own a section of land, 640 acres ; my buildings are good and cost me about \$4,000.00.

I have 18 horses, 40 cattle and a good farming outfit.

I have worked hard since I came and looked after things carefully which any man must do to succeed.

The country is all right and any man not afraid of work can get a start soon.

Yours respectfully,

Thomas Ingram,

Griswold,

Witness : C. W. Speers,

Manitoba.

THE BEST COUNTRY I KNOW ANY- THING ABOUT.

Sidney, Dec. 23rd, 1899.

To F. Pedley, Esq.,

Supt. of Immigration, Ottawa.

Sir,—I came to Manitoba in the spring of 1891 and settled on Sec. 31, 11, 12 W.

I have 480 acres of land and my buildings cost \$2,500.00.

I have 7 horses and 13 cattle and a complete outfit of machinery.

I threshed 4,500 bushels of grain this year ; my crop has always been good.

Any young man willing to work can get along well here and should succeed, this is the best country I know anything about.

I started here without capital but have given close attention to my work on the farm. I came from New Brunswick, Canada.

Yours respectfully,

J. J. Robinson,

Sidney, N. O., Man.

POULTRY AND DAIRYING PAYS WELL.

Austin, Dec. 22nd, 1899.

F. Pedley, Esq.,

Supt. of Immigration, Ottawa.

I came to Manitoba in 1877 and took up my farm in 1880 settling on Sec. 6, 12, 12, W. The country was timber and it took me some time to clear off the scrub.

I had 960 acres of land, 14 head of horses and raise grain principally.

I had 5,500 bushels of grain last year, my wheat average in 1899, 35 bushels per acre, my outfit of machinery is complete.

I find poultry and dairying pays well.

My crop has always been good; the lowest average of wheat I ever grew to the acre was 30 bushels and I have grown 50 bushels of wheat to the acre.

I refused \$7,000.00 for the $\frac{1}{2}$ section I live on; my buildings are good.

~~This is a good~~ country and in my opinion the best country on earth for a poor man.

I have made considerable out of the sale of wood since I came.

I commenced with no capital, just two willing hands, having three young children left without their mother, she having died before we left our old home in the east; this kept me back to some extent.

I have made since I came to Manitoba by farming about \$20,000.00, and will be glad to answer any letters or questions from any source.

Yours respectfully,

Charles Bredin,

Austin, P. O. Man.

HAD 5,000 BUSHELS OF GRAIN LAST YEAR.

F. Pedley, Esq.,

Supt. of Immigration,

Ottawa.

Sir,—I arrived in Manitoba in the fall of 1895, having spent one year in Dakota after leaving Canada. I located on the N. W. 9, 25, 19, W., having to buy from the C. P. R. I obtained possession from a squatter, to whom I paid \$100.00 for his improvements, which consisted of some 20 acres of breaking. I now have the whole of this land, 160 acres broken and in crop, having harvested last season some 5,000 bushels of good grain, which sold at the ruling prices. I carry four teams of horses, all of which I work on the land, using four horse teams, thus saving a great sum each year in labour, eight head of cattle, ten hogs. This is about the average stock I carry, my farm being more adapted to grain than stock raising.

I cultivate some 15 acres of Timothy which for the past three seasons has yielded well. Wheat is my staple crop, and has never failed me, though I take the precaution to farm my land well, and get in my crop in good

time in Spring. I have recently bought another quarter section close to me, which I intend more as a stock farm, it being more suitable for this.

I landed here with about \$450.00 all told, no stock or implements whatever, and now have a full outfit of farm implements, sleighs, waggons, binder, gang plow, seed drill, harrows, buggies, etc., suitable to conduct farming operations with.

I value my outfit as it now stands, taking in stock and implements, at \$2,000.00, and my two quarter sections at \$6,000.00 as they now stand. In addition to this I have sufficient cash to keep me going, and have no debts, everything having been paid for in full.

I consider this a good country for any one who with a fair knowledge of farming, would be willing to work and live economically for the first few years until he got on his feet, no matter whether he had capital or not; in fact, in my experience the majority of people who have prospered have landed here with but small capital.

Yours truly,

William Buchanan,
Post Office, Dauphin.

"I HAVE DONE WELL IN MANITOBA."

Deleau, Dec. 26th, 1899.

To F. Pedley, Esq.,
Supt. of Immigration, Ottawa.

Sir,—I came to Manitoba in 1882, and settled on Sec. 22-7-23 w. When I arrived in the country I had only \$80.00.

I have now 320 acres of land, 6 horses, 10 cattle and a complete outfit of machinery.

I have grown 3000 bushels of grain on this half section different years, and my crop has always been good.

I have about \$3000.00 worth of buildings, having purchased some property in Deleau village.

I have done well in Manitoba but have given attention to my work. Any man who is willing to work and will be careful for a few years, can get a good start in this country.

It was a lucky day for me when I came, and the best move I ever made.

My brother, James Duncan, has done equally as well. He owns 480 acres of land, and has splendid buildings and improvements, and is very comfortably off. He had only \$60.00 when he came to Manitoba. His farm joins mine; he has property and chattels worth \$8,000 to-day.

Any information I will gladly give to any inquiring.

Yours respectfully,

John Duncan,
Deleau, P. O., Man.

WHEAT AVERAGED 41½ BUSHELS TO THE ACRE.

Dauphin, Dec. 18th, 1899.

To F. Pedley, Esq.,
Supt. of Immigration,
Ottawa.

Sir,—I came here in 1888, about 11 years ago, to the Dauphin District and settled on Sect. 3-25-19.

I did not cultivate extensively owing to there being no railroad, but went into stock raising which pays well.

In 1898 I threshed 9000 bushels of grain, my wheat averaging 41½ bushels to the acre; in 1899, this year, I threshed 8000 bushels of grain, which averaged 35 bushels.

I like the country well. Good water can be obtained at a depth of 12 feet from the surface.

When I came here I had a capital of \$2,000.00, that being invested in live stock, machinery, etc.

I would not take less than twenty thousand dollars, (\$20,000.00), for my land and chattles. My buildings cost \$3000. I have 13 horses, 30 cattle and all the necessary machinery new.

I consider this the best country in the world for a poor man to get a start in. The land is rich and fertile and the entire district good.

The railway was built in 1897. For three years previous to that, viz., in 1894, 1895, 1896, I threshed an average of 5000 bushels of grain each year.

I will be glad to give any information I can concerning the country to any one who may require it.

Yours respectfully,

Thomas Pollon,

Dauphin, P. O.,

Manitoba.

A LYON CO. (MINN) FARMER SPEAKS.

Virden, Manitoba, 18th Nov., 1899.

To Hon. Clifford Sifton,
Minister of the Interior,
Ottawa.

Sir,—Thinking that my experience in Manitoba might be both useful and interesting to my fellow-countrymen in the United States, who may be looking to Manitoba and the North West with the intention of settling there, I have much pleasure in stating that through information received from Mr. W. F. McCreary,

Immigration Commissioner at Winnipeg, I was induced to visit Manitoba in February, 1898. When I called upon Mr. McCreary he spared no pains to give me all the information, etc., in his possession, the result of which was that I came here with a letter of introduction from him to the secretary of the Virden Board of Trade. That gentleman provided me with a competent land guide, and although there was considerable snow on the ground, I had no difficulty in selecting three homesteads for myself and sons. Having made the necessary homestead entries at the land office in Brandon, I returned to my home in Lyon County, Minnesota, and came back here in May following, accompanied by one of my boys, bringing with us two teams of horses, implements, etc. Our first work was to erect a temporary shanty and stable; after which, we broke and levelled 75 acres and put up 30 tons of hay. I went back to Minnesota about 20th July, leaving my son here. I returned in October, bringing my family with me. I found that the land we had acquired was of good quality, being a strong clay loam with clay subsoil. Last spring I sowed 100 acres in wheat, 50 acres in oats and barley (75 acres of this grain was sowed on "goback" plowed last spring). My crop was threshed in October, the result being over 2,700 bushels of grain in all. Wheat averaged 15 bushels per acre, and graded No. 1 hard, but that which was sown on the land other than sod ("goback") went $24\frac{1}{2}$ bushels per acre.

To say that I am well pleased with the result of my first year's farming operations in Manitoba does not adequately express my feelings, and I have no hesitation in advising those who are living in districts where land is high in price, to come out here, if they are willing to do a fair amount of work. I am 10 miles from Virden, which is a good market town, and 9 miles from Hargrave, where there are two elevators. This summer I erected a dwelling house of native stone, and bought a half-section of land adjoining our homesteads, for which I paid a very moderate price. There are still some homesteads in this district, and land of fine quality can be purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company at \$3.50 per acre, on liberal terms. Good water is generally found at a depth of from 15 to 20 feet. I have 175 acres ready for crop next year.

The cost of living here is about the same as in Southern Minnesota. Some commodities are higher and others lower in price, but the average is about the same.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

Jacob Reicher.

Dauphin, Manitoba, Canada., May 14th, 1899.

Mr. McInnes,

No. 2 Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir,—I am still in Dauphin, though have bought land on Gilbert Plains. I am no less in love with the country than when I last wrote you. This spring is very backward, though crops are nearly all in now. It is quite muggy for a while in the spring though it soon dries off. There is no prairie here as I supposed before coming to the country. The land is covered with scrub but most of it can be ploughed under. The winter is not as disagreeable as in Michigan. This is a good place to grow stock, though most every farmer thinks of nothing but wheat, which is a good crop, as well as every other thing put in the ground. Potatoes yield from 700 to 600 bushels per acre, wheat from 40 to 60 bushels, oats 100 per acre. I dug a well 11½ feet deep with 7 feet of water, which is a sample of wells here with good water. I cannot but feel sorry for thousands of persons working sand banks back there when the soil here is the best in the world. We would like to see the Canadians in the States coming back where there is land enough and to spare. There is not many things except lumber, cattle, horses and some such things that come higher than there, that is nothing like the difference one would expect. There is lots of "cull" cows being shipped in here, which sell from \$30 to \$50. Oxen are as high as \$120, and that for very poor yokes, not half broken. The Galicians lead their cattle instead of having them mind by word of mouth, which seems to be the common way of driving here. There is some bronchos sold probably cheap here, but good horse teams cost \$300 or thereabout. I am expecting to sell my place there soon; if I do I would like to come there to get a car load of stuff to start on my farm here with. One cannot say too much for this country.

I remain,

Yours as ever,

(Signed)

Lewis A. Graham.

Lacombe, Alta., April 17, 1899.

W. V. Bennett,

Omaha, Nebr.,

Dear Sir,—I am writing you in regard to Mr. Frank Freel, Bancroft, Nebr. He wants to come here on or about the first of May.

I wrote to him to get his certificate off you; hope you will get him in shape to come here on or about the same time Mr. Redig comes.

I like the country here better than I expected I would. They are sowing their wheat. Commenced on the 10th of the month—snow all gone and weather nice.

If you have any one wishing to hear from this country I will write them in regard to it. I have several coming here on my recommendation. I would not return to Nebraska if they would pay my fare and give me the best ten acres of land I know of.

Hoping you will do your best for people coming from my part.

Yours respectfully,

F. E. Robertson,

Lacombe, Alta.

Dauphin, Manitoba, Jan. 26th, 1899.

M. V. McInnes, Esq.,

Canadian Government Agent,

Merrill Block, Detroit, Mich.

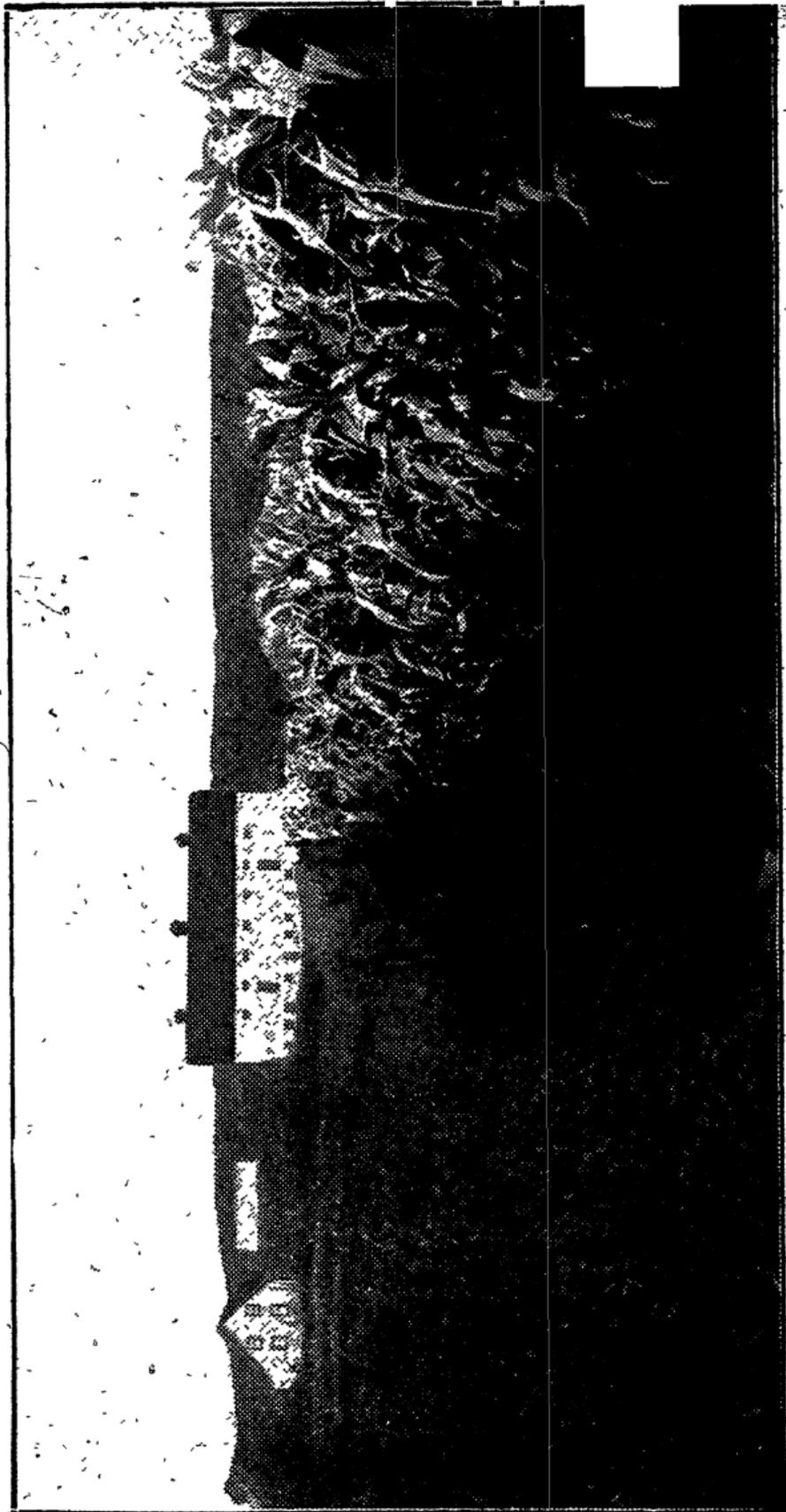
My Dear Sir,—I thought I ought to write you, as you were so kind in doing all you could for me when I was in Michigan.

I have been here now nearly three months, and am highly pleased with the country and my settlement in it. I am happy to say that the winters here are not nearly as severe as they are in Michigan; that is, one does not feel the cold as badly here as there. Here at Dauphin we are well sheltered by the mountains. There is never much wind here and the air is very dry and pure, so that you never feel the cold much at all.

This is one of the best stock raising countries in the world, and has the very finest soil I ever saw anywhere, and I have been used to farming all my life. When I came here first I had a chance to see the kind of soil we have, for I dug several wells. The water is very good and you have only to dig from 10 to 15 feet to get it. There is plenty of good timber here for building purposes.

I never saw cattle look so fine as they do here this winter. With reasonable care they give great milk and make the grandest and sweetest beef I ever eat. I will try and get all the people I can to come here, and I know more than 100 who are interested in this country, and every one of them ought to come out here in the spring and settle.

The people here are enterprising and smart and want to get on and make money and have good homes. There are churches, schools, and all conveniences and comforts of eastern life. I am delighted I came here and will stay



FIELD OF FODDER CORN, WESTERN CANADA.



and get more to join me. There is lots of work here for everybody who comes, and I am supporting my family now by what I earn.

Well, now, I must finish and go to work. Many thanks for your kindness.

Yours respectfully,

Lewis A. Graham.

THE PLACE FOR A POOR MAN.

Alameda, N. W. T., Canada, Dec. 22nd, 1899.

Mr. B. Davies,

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir,—As I promised you about two years ago that at some future time I would let you know what I thought of Western Canada and the chances of a poor man making a start and supporting a family at some time, so will write a few facts concerning my own experience the past 21 months and what I have done, any able bodied man can do, provided he will work.

I left Traverse country, March 20th, 1898, landed in Alameda at noon the 21st., with \$3.55 in my pocket, a stranger and among strangers, and when my family came in Oct., 1898, my wife had nearly \$10, or barely enough to pay freight on her stove, sewing-machine and clothes and beds. I commenced work March 28th, also made entry for homestead same day (the man I started work for loaning me \$15 to pay entrance fee) and I have earned or at least received, \$478.10 in wages since then, and have been idle at least 2 months of the 31 since I came. The homestead I took had 12 acres broke by a former occupant. I paid \$20 to have it replowed in July '98, and the seed wheat for it cost me \$8.25. I let it to a neighbor for $\frac{1}{2}$ in elevator clear of all expense except the seed; and this fall I received \$70.10 for my part of the crops off of the 12 acres, so my total receipts the past 21 months has been \$548.10 and my expenses besides living for self and family have been as follows :

Entrance fee (\$5.00 being paid for cancellation).....	\$15.00
Summer fallowing 12 acres.....	20.00
Seed for same.....	8.25
Cost of house, besides my own labor on same....	75.85
20 acres of breaking and double discing same....	60.00

	<hr/>
	\$179.10
My half of wheat.....	70.10
	<hr/>
Net expense on homestead.....	\$109.00

We moved on our homestead July 10th, 1899, have 32 acres in good shape for crops in 1900. My wife joins with me in sending best wishes to you and yours.

You can truly say to any poor man who pays a big rent to get a farm (some-body-else's land) or works for wages to support a family that I have personally tried both in Minnesota and tried hard to make a success of it, but found to my sorrow that after working hard a poor living was all I could get out of it, and after nearly 2 years of Western Canadian life I will say that I am very thankful to you for helping me to decide to try it in Canada.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed)

W. H. Kinkade.

Carman, Manitoba, Feb. 14, 1898.

Mr. Adam Sharp, Ludington, Michigan.

Dear Sir,—Yours of the 6th to hand, and I see your intention of coming out here. You wanted to know about the wages. They are not high in the winter time. I am only getting \$25 a month now, but the first of next month I will get \$30 a month.

You wanted to know about the place. I like it very much. It is healthful and the winter is not so cold as they say. We have only four inches of snow; it came the last of November. It left the ground and has been steady weather, and I never saw as nice a winter in Michigan as they have had here. Work will be plentiful next summer and wages will be good. The summer work will start in April.

You can suit yourself about when to come. It cost me \$22 to come here. If you bring something to eat on the train, you can come for \$20 each. I have answered all your questions and you can suit yourself about coming. I have told you the truth about the place. I like it here and I will never go back to Michigan to live.

Your letter found us all well, and we were glad to hear from you. Bennie is working every day, and so is my father. They all like it here, and can make a better living than they could in Michigan.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

Albert Dallman.



FARM TEAMS IN WESTERN CANADA.

IN THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST.

Fred Mann Writes to his Parents at Brown City.

The following from the pen of a former Brown City boy will be of some interest to Banner readers :

Dauphin, Manitoba, Jan. 20, 1899.

Dear Father,—Your letter received. Glad to hear from Michigan. This letter leaves me in the best of health. I am working in a tie camp, making ties for the new railroad that runs past my farm. I am getting \$22 per month and board. I am 80 miles from Dauphin. B. Clark and two boys are well. I worked for Mr. Clark all last summer, and will work for him next summer.

The first of the winter was severe cold, but it is much milder now. I like this country well, like it better the more I get acquainted. The land is rich here and farmers raise excellent crops. It is a fine country to raise stock. We have far better cattle here than you have. I have my house and stable built on my 160 acres and my settlement duties done, so that is not so bad for a Brown City boy. If I have my health and it is God's will I mean to be well off. I would not trade my claim here for some young farmers' chances in Michigan. I don't have to work all my life to pay for my farm. Of course it is not all sunshine here, lots of hard work and many inconveniences, but it don't take so long to get your farm in a good state of cultivation. My farm is just half a mile from the station and closer to a fine river that has lots of fish. Game is plenty.

Your son,

Fred Mann.

Bridge Creek, Man., Nov. 14th, 1898.

To the Agent of Dominion Lands, Minnedosa.

Dear Sir,—I left Forfarshire, Scotland, in April, 1889, where I had farmed for the period of over thirty years, landing at Franklin station on 15th day of May with a capital of \$1,300. Had I left ten years earlier, would have come with £4,000 more than I did. In the old country the tenant farmers are bound in their leases to certain conditions and cannot get away honorably, although they see their means melting before their eyes, without consent of the landlord. My son, who came out the year previous, bought the north half of Section 16, Tp. 15, Rge. 16, the one quarter at \$5 per acre, the other at \$6 —\$1,760. I erected a small frame house on the north-east quarter at a cost of \$800, and a log stable with loft at about \$100.

This was all the buildings I had the first year. I bought a yoke of oxen for \$111, and a pony for \$75, a cow and heifer for \$45; all the implements I bought for the first two years was a one-horse wagon with shafts and pole, could be used either with pony or oxen; an old breaking plow, stubble plow, break of harrows and a set of sleighs. We hired for the breaking of 16 acres the first spring. Being a very dry season, it was a poor crop; was obliged to cut it with the mower, collect it with the rake and thresh it with the flail, which gave me seed for the following year and flour. Had no hired help for the first three years. I hauled a set of logs every year for stables and a granary, till last year, when I put up a frame granary and implement shed, as well as made considerable additions and alterations to the dwelling house. Some years ago I got various tree seed from the experimental farm at Ottawa. They grew excellent; now I have a splendid wind-break around the buildings. The place is fenced all round with tamarac poles and barb wire, as well as a 45-acre pasture field. The farm is now all under cultivation, less the pasture field. This year we had 215 acres in crop, the balance in breaking and summer fallow; the yield would be about 25 bushels per acre. Our stock consists of 12 horses and 11 head of cattle, which I value at \$1,226, and a complete set of implements at \$608, land and buildings at \$7,000. The difference here of the value of the land in nine years looks big, but I have put it exactly at market value. I consider this country second to none in the world for farming. I believe mixed farming is the best, if well supplied with water (we have three wells on our property). Some would say you want hay. In reply to that I would just have green feed as ready. Timothy, Brome grass, or even native rye grass, can be grown successfully.

Any man farming here is bound to make money, if industrious and persevering. The foregoing is as plain and as brief as I could put it.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

(Signed)

Alexander Miller.

Edna, Minnedosa, November 16th, 1898.

John Flesher, Esq., Agent Dominion Lands.

Sir,—I came to Manitoba about the 20th July, 1888, from Liverpool, England, where I had been some years in business, but formerly from the Lake District of Westmorland in the North of England.

After a few weeks looking over Manitoba and the North-West, I finally purchased a farm of 160 acres at \$5 an acre, which I considered suitable for mixed farming

(which, I think, is the soundest and safest line). My family came out about the end of September the same year. I had sufficient capital to pay for my farm and most of the necessary machinery for working it. For five or six years we were not able to make much headway; steadily resisting the temptation and facilities for getting into debt, I hired very little help, but since that our prospects and position have year by year improved and the future looks still more hopeful. I own three quarter sections of land (480 acres) at the present; about 40 head of cattle and seven horses, and 80 acres broke. Crop this year—wheat, average 30 bushels per acre; oats, 45; barley, 42.

I am very well satisfied with the country and the change. I am confident that if many of the young men from my native country, who can scarcely hope to rise above the position of farm servants, or tenant farmers, were to come out here they would soon be able to own farms.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) Richard Storey, J. P.

Franklin, November 21st, 1895.

Dear Sir,—I came to this province in 1889 with about \$3,500 and by trade a carriage builder, and worked as a journeyman in London, Galt, Guelph and Toronto, and while, if I had an ample income, should still prefer a large city, I prefer the farm, with its modest share of independence, to the city, with my nose on the grindstone and my social position fixed largely by the street I lived in and the size of house I could rent.

I have about 240 acres under cultivation. Average yield of wheat this year, 28½ bushels per acre, but was much more on all fields not too often cropped, and I had no breaking or summer fallow. My present capital is about \$15,000. I have met with no serious reverse except the big hailstorm of 1893, which destroyed my best crop and the best one I have ever had. I have found my trade of very great advantage, enabling me to do all my own building and repairing. Should say that the great need of settlers is the ability to manage; the sound common sense to do without that which he does not absolutely need; the courage to get that which he ought to have. To the man who has a sound body and a sound head I should say come, whether he has money or not.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

John Kerr.

Portage la Prairie, Man., October 23rd, 1898.

Dear Sir,—I received your letter on Friday's mail and to-day thought I would answer. I will commence to answer your questions at once. I like this country well; so well that I would not think of going to the east to farm. I have not finished threshing yet, but will give you last year's yield. I sold 5,500 bushels of wheat, and had enough to seed 300 acres last spring. I expect 6,000 bushels this year. I have 480 acres of land. I have 12 work horses and one driver. I run a thresher and two binders; they are McCormick binders. Mowers are all right to bring; don't bring plows or harrows. Your wagon is all right to bring. Don't bring sleighs, unless they are 1-bench sleighs and long runners. Horses are cheap here, from \$100 to \$120 for eastern horses and \$30 to \$80 for western; they are good for \$80. Cows from \$25 to \$30. You want good heavy horses here, from 1,200 to 1,500 pounds. You can get homestead land in the Dauphin country; same in the Swan River district. I think it a very good country. I don't know anything about Alberta, but it is prairie land. There is some scrub land in Manitoba, but they plow it with a scrub plow. This is a great place for stock. Sheep do well here, and I think pay well, but they want a lot of care; cows pay well. Butter is worth 15 to 20 cents per lb.; a calf is worth in the fall \$8 to \$15, according to quality and breed. They raise fine stock here. I think the best thing you could do would be to come out here yourself and see the country. If you could get here with a thousand dollars and your stock and family, you could buy improved land. It is quite a chore to go on a prairie farm and build, and break land, and get the first year in. There is lots of land rented here, and they seem to be doing well. I would not advise you to come out here, but I am satisfied with the country. You could come out on a cheap excursion and travel to your heart's content and see. I will give you any assistance I can to see the country. There are lots of farmers here from Michigan, and they are doing well. Some of our neighbors are from Kingston, Michigan. I have two hired men all summer. You could run a big farm with your boys. Wages are good here in the summer. Men get \$20 per month, girls get \$10 and are scarce, as they marry quick here. There are lots of boys keeping batch here and farming. I don't see why you should not do well here. The land is easily worked after breaking and backsetting is done, and that is not very hard. I would be glad to see you come and see us. You can buy land here and pay a small payment down and give a share of crop each year until paid. You can buy any way you wish.

Some prices of implements :—

Wagons (Canadian).....	\$70 00
Horse rake, 12 feet wide.....	35 00
Harrows, 16 feet wide.....	20 00
Mowers.....	70 00
Binders.....	135 00
14-inch plow.....	24 00
15-inch gang plow, with seat...	65 00
Sleighs.....	25 00

Hay, \$4 to \$8 per ton. Straw is seldom used, it is burnt as soon as threshed. I could not tell you whether mixed farming pays better than wheat. I do not run a mixed farm, as I have to hire all help, and the expense is too much for labor. There are no orchards here. Apples are shipped in at a reasonable price. Small fruit is good here and does well. I have only been frozen once since I came here, in 19 years raising wheat. I will close with best respects to you and family.

Truly yours,

Marshall Tuck.

W. H. Franklin, Willmott Co., Michigan.

Rosedale, November 26th, 1898.

To the Agent of Dominion Lands, Minnedosa, Man.

Sir,—I am a native of County Tyrone, Ireland. Previous to coming to Manitoba, I had resided in Pennsylvania, U.S. I arrived in Manitoba April 1st, 1882. Capital on arrival, \$200. Present capital, about \$5,000. Acres under cultivation this year, 100; yield per acre, 25 bushels; oats, 40 bushels; barley, 35 bushels. I would say that I believe that this is a good country for a poor man to emigrate to, if he is possessed of good health and is not afraid of work. If he has not these qualities I would advise him to give this country a wide berth. If the Department considers my letter of any use, they may publish it; if not, all right.

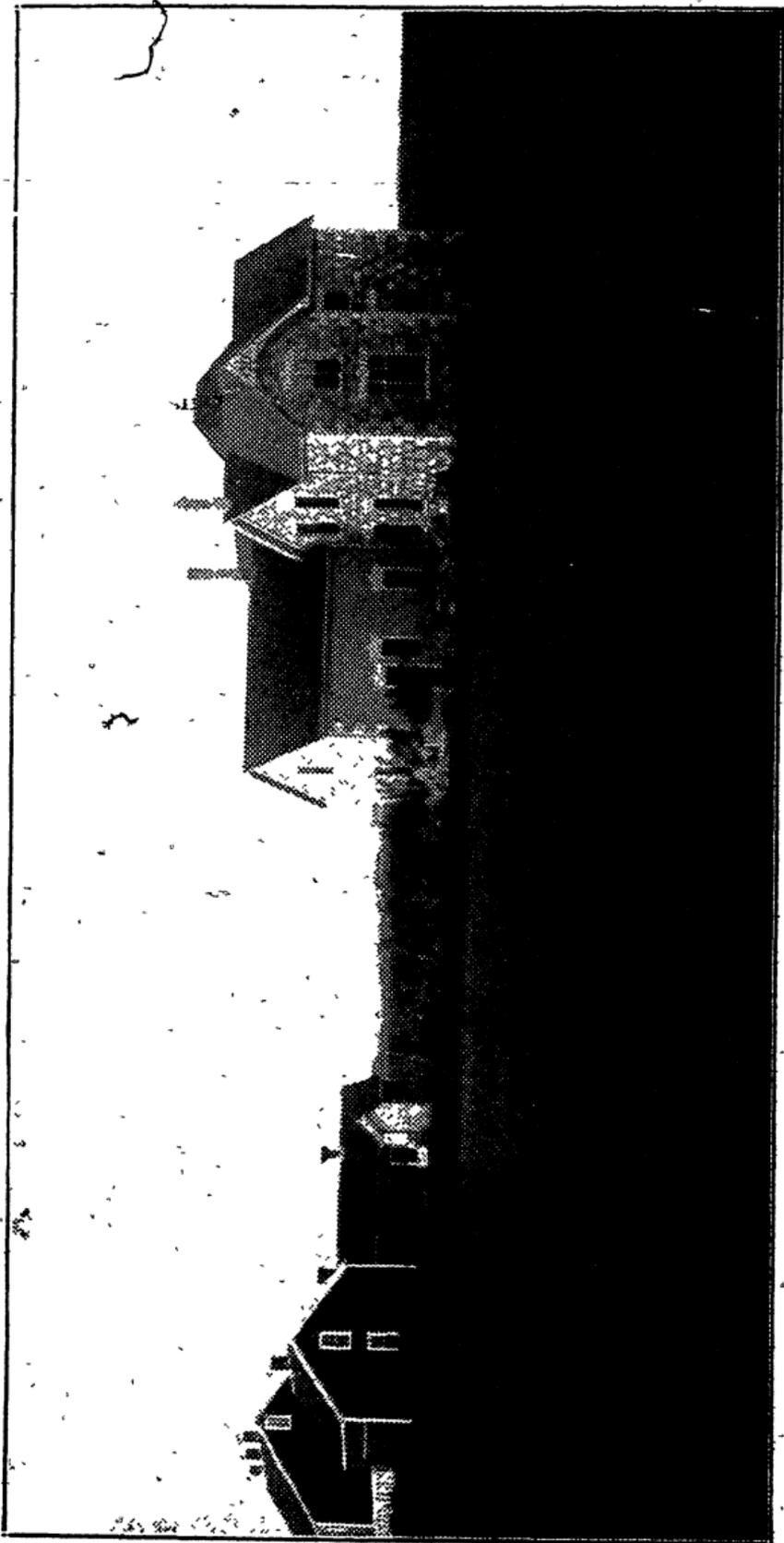
I remain,

Yours respectfully,

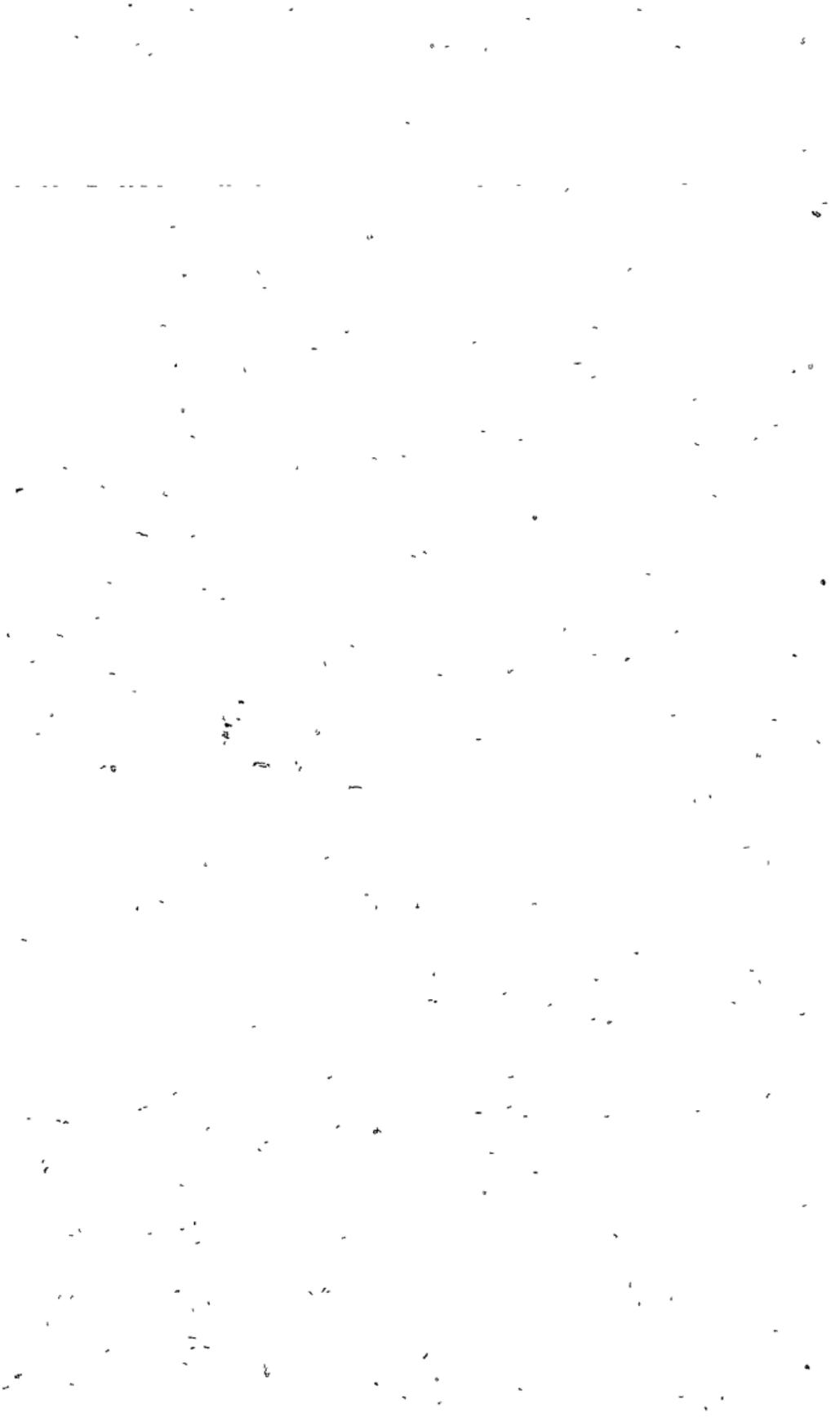
(Signed) W. C. Coulter, Neepawa.

P.S.—I might say that on arrival in this country my family consisted of wife and one child—now it consists of wife and seven children. Quite an increase in capital.

W. C. C.



A PROSPEROUS WESTERN CANADA FARMER, WHEAT FIELDS IN THE DISTANCE.



LIKE THE COUNTRY.

(Brown City, Mich., Banner.)

Brown City, Sanilac County, Michigan,

Friday, July 8th, 1898.

(Through the kindness of Mr. John Scott we are permitted to publish the following letter, which speaks volumes for the Canadian Northwest.)

Dauphin, Manitoba, June 7th, 1898.

Kind Friend, Mr. Scott,—Your most welcome letter came to hand a short time ago, and I assure you we were very much pleased to hear you were all well. We are quite well at present. Our dry spell of weather has been broken. On the first of June we had heavy rains, with some hail, which lasted till the 4th, and I tell you we are pretty well soaked up now. Crops are looking fine and pasture can't be beat. Cattle and horses are fat and sleek; it only takes about an hour to fill themselves. We are fencing father's place, which is seven miles from Dauphin. We will put up two miles of fence, which is worth \$2.90. We have a nice lot of breaking done beside our oat ground. The land breaks easy; two horses can break two acres a day, but I use three and plow a 16-inch furrow. It fairly makes me laugh sometimes when I see the width of the furrow I am turning.

Horses and cattle are very scarce here, Cows are worth \$45 and \$50, and two-year-olds \$40 to \$45. We are living in our new house. We are on the corner of the farm about five rods from the river. We have good neighbors just across the road. One owns 480 acres all paid for, and has no family. It is well settled all around here. We like it here splendid. Several of the farmers here tell us they are better satisfied with this part of Manitoba than any place they ever saw, and some of them have been all through the Western States, even to California, and Ontario; and there are some here from Michigan. One man came here a week ago from California and bought one and one-half miles from us. The settlers here tell us the winters are not half so severe or cold. The snow don't drift. Work has started on the new railroad. It is their intention to build it to Fort Churchill, near the Saskatchewan river, on the Hudson Bay. The road will open up a large territory of good land. Besides, it will make a better market even than Winnipeg. It will make a shorter route to Liverpool by over 500 miles. The farmers are feeling greatly pleased about it. Land is increasing in value very fast. The road has been surveyed across one corner of our place at Fork river, and they intend building a station near it. Milton, Fred and

Burton will all be within one mile of a station. Milton and Fred have entered for the west half of section 28, and Burton has the northeast corner of Section 20, Tp. 29, Range 21 west. If you look on a map that shows the sections, you can find just where we have located. There are some very fine places to be got there yet; good soil, with plenty of hay and pasture, and good water, and just enough timber for building and wood. The land is very easy cleared. They say to just start a fire and it will clear itself. We have each a good long stable on our places, also shanties. I think if you intend coming, you should do so as soon as possible, as there is quite a rush of settlers all the time. The land office is crowded with people seeking homesteads. If you would come now you might get a choice quarter near the railroad, which is a great advantage here. We live only seven miles from town, but it takes over half a day to make a trip there and back and do our trading. I think I have given you as good a description of the country here as I possibly can at present. The country suits us well and we intend to stay, so if you come, and it don't suit you, you surely will not blame us for bringing you here, but I feel quite satisfied you will be well suited if you come. We were surprised to hear that Ed. Garnett and Will Windsor had pluck enough to go to war. How is Tom Morris getting along and how are his crops.

Very truly,

B. Clark & Sons

Virden, Man., June 25th, 1898.

Mr. Benjamin Davies, 154 East Third street,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir,—I have arrived in Manitoba and am very much pleased with the country, and have taken up a claim. The land is good, and I am especially thankful to the Board of Trade of Virden, who helped me a great deal—in fact, all in their power. They are a great help to a stranger, and do anything to help settle this country. I shall go back east and bring up a carload of effects and settle here. There is also plenty of land for other settlers.

Thanking you for the favors done to me,

I am, respectfully,

(Signed)

J. W. Wulf.

Griswold, September 30th, 1898.

Sir,—I submit you a report of the wheat grown on my farms this year, viz., the s. half 1, 10, 23 and 31, 9, 22. I had 450 acres of wheat and threshed 11,000 bushels of No. 1 Hard wheat; my crop has always been good.

I am two miles from Griswold P. O. My oats, potatoes and vegetables are very good.

I sold last year's crop last week for 81 cents, but have not disposed of this year's crop yet.

(Signed)

W. J. Young.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir,—I beg to submit to you a report of the wheat grown by me this year in the Griswold district on Section 1, 10, 23 and Section 4, 10, 22. I had 500 acres of wheat on this land and threshed 10,500 bushels of No. 1 Hard Red Fife wheat, or an average of 21 bushels per acre. I have sold about 8,000 bushels, 5,000 at 80 cents and 3,000 at 78 cents clear.

My farm is three miles from Griswold, and has been since 1884 all that could be desired; no failures, but good paying crops every year, and sometimes extra good.

(Signed)

Allan Young.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir,—I, Samuel Hanna, take pleasure in giving the following report:

I have harvested and threshed on my farm, Sec. 7, 10, 22, and Sec. 12, 10, 23, in the Municipality of Whitehead, Griswold P. O., twelve thousand bushels (12,000) of No. 1 Hard Red Fife wheat, which would yield about 20 bushels per acre, and have sold a portion of this wheat for about 80 cts. on track at Griswold, and could have sold all at same price.

My farm is three miles from Griswold, on the main line of the C. P. R. The oat crop is at present being threshed, and already sufficient evidence of 50 bushels to the acre is available. I will have about 5,000 bushels of oats. My potato crop is excellent, and also Swede turnips. Corn and vegetables have exceeded my expectations and are all that could be desired.

Yours respectfully

(Signed)

Samuel Hanna.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir,—I cheerfully give the following information:

My farm is about five miles north of Griswold. I had 390 acres of wheat, which yielded 21 bushels per acre, for I threshed 8,200 bushels of wheat No. 1 hard.

I sold about 4,000 bushels at 81 cents net. My potatoes and vegetables are good; my crop has always been good.

(Signed)

William J. Good.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir,—I take pleasure in submitting to you a report of my crop grown on the south half 35, 9, 23, Griswold P. O., one mile from Griswold.

I had 220 acres of wheat, from which I threshed 5,700 bushels, about 26 bushels per acre, of No. 1 Hard Red Fife. I sold the same for 79 cents per bushel, but held too long, as I refused 81 cents for the same. After keeping all the wheat in my granary I required for seed, bread and more than I required, I was paid by the Lake of the Woods Milling Co., in cash, \$4,207.00. This was all grown on the above half section. I also have about 1,000 bushels of oats on the same land, and my root crop, although small in average, is excellent.

I came from Prince Edward Co., Ontario, in the spring of 1889, and bought this half section for \$3,800. My crop has always been good. In 1890 I sold enough to pay in full for the farm, having that year 6,400 bushels of wheat. This year my farm would pay all expenses and more than pay the original price in net profit.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed)

G. A. Trumpour.

W. F. McCreary, Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir,—My farm is east half 36, 9, 23, one mile from Griswold P. O.

I had 260 acres of wheat and threshed 5,000 bushels of No. 1 Hard Red Fife. I homesteaded this land in 1881; started with no capital; have bought two other farms near me; have them all paid for. Have last year's wheat unsold as well as this.

Good stone barns, all buildings good; have 20 horses, 50 cattle, 30 hogs, and, although not boasting nor a millionaire, have made my money farming in Manitoba and don't want to go to the Klondyke. I am doing well enough.

(Signed)

Thomas Ingham.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Griswold, September 30th, 1897.

Sir,—I take pleasure in giving a report of the yield of wheat on my farm, west half 36, 9, 23, one mile from Griswold.

I had 135 acres of wheat and threshed 3,580 bushels of No. 1 Hard Red Fife wheat.

I came from Ontario Co., Ontario, in 1890. I paid \$11 per acre for this half section of land. My crop has always been good. The lowest crop of wheat I ever threshed off this land was 15 bushels and the highest 35 bushels to the acre all round.

My place has been very successful. My oat crop is good; my potatoes are good. I have not sold my wheat, this year's production.

(Signed)

George Michie.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Yorkton, October 27th, 1898.

James Armstrong, Esq., Toronto, Ont.

Replying to yours of the 7th inst., re German settlers, I beg to say that the settlers are all doing first-class. Not one of them had anything when they came in here seven or eight years ago. Now they all have a large portion of their land broken up and have from fifteen to seventy-five head of cattle each, and from two to ten and twelve horses, all implements necessary to work their land, and a great many have bought hay quarters this year. There has been a great deal of land broken this season. The grain is good and very little hurt with frost. I would recommend any man who wants to make a start in life to come to this district.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

Wilhelm Jonzen.

(Influential German, living near Yorkton, N.W.T.)

Yorkton, Assa., Canada, Nov. 17th, 1898.

J. S. Crerar, Esq.,

Government Immigration Agent,

Yorkton.

Dear Sir,—In keeping with a promise I made you when I came here this spring, I will give you a report of how I find and like this country. Perhaps it might not be out of place to mention in passing that I was born at Bury, Lancashire, England, January 30th, 1848. I lived in England till June 2nd, 1881, when I sailed from Liverpool to this country. I am an engineer and machinist, and worked at my trade in Canada till 1887, when I moved into the U.S.A. I worked at my trade for seven years there, after which I turned my attention to farming. My early days being spent on the farm, I was not a stranger to the work, but the elements played such havoc with my crops the last three years I was in Minnesota, that I came away \$3,000 worse off than I should have been had I come away three years sooner. This spring I came as a delegate from the State of Minnesota, to look over the N. W. T. for a suitable place for myself and some of my neighbors. As you will remember, I was on my way to Edmonton when I met with you in Winnipeg. The talk we had caused me to look up the Yorkton district first. The prospect here was so satisfactory to me that I located at once, hurried home and shipped stock and implements so as to get a crop in, which was simply splendid. We are late with threshing, only finishing to-day. We have 2,000 bushels of as fine oats as can be found anywhere. Our wheat was good, but only a small quantity, as it was more of an experiment than anything else. Our garden truck was the best, I think, we ever had, but the natural advantages that are to be found in this country for raising stock are so numerous that it would seem as though it were specially made for it, either on a large or small scale. I am well pleased with my change; sorry I did not come sooner.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

Thomas Kirkland,

Wallace, Yorkton, Assa.

Winnipeg, 15th December, 1898.

I came to Western Canada in 1888, and, being pleased with it, took up land before I returned, at Sintaluta and returned from Ontario the following year with my family, a carload of effects, but with very little money. I had a large family of ten boys and five girls, and therefore

had no light load to carry, but some of my boys being grown up, and with their assistance and determined tenacity and perseverance and sobriety, we gradually got ahead. We now own seven sections of land, the bulk of it being under cultivation. We raised 30,000 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat this year, summer fallowing running to 40 bushels per acre, and sustained no loss from wet, but only from the shaking out of a small quantity of grain in the stook, as we never stack, having our own thresher. We have forty horses and a considerable head of stock, and our total belongings, at a reasonable estimate, we place as worth to-day between \$75,000 and \$100,000. I am pleased in every way with the country, but a man must be sober and industrious and attend closely to business to succeed. This, with common sense, barring accident, will pull any family through in this country.

(Signed)

J. T. Partridge.

Insinger P. O., Assa., N. W. T., Nov. 12, 1898.

J. S. Crerar.

Dear Sir,—I was born in Clackmananshire, Scotland, came to State of Massachusetts, 1870; from there to South Dakota, in 1883, with \$3,500; lost nearly all that I did have trying to grow grain, and worked hard all the time. I arrived in Yorkton in May, 1892, with seven head of cattle and four horses; two horses died the first year. I put up all the hay I could and took in nine head of cattle to winter, and five horses in March until May, which tided me over the winter. The second summer I put up all the hay I could and took in more cattle to winter, and have done the same every year, but this year my stock has increased so that I can't take in any more, having over 60 head of my own. Wages here are good. Farmers pay \$25 per month through haying, and I had a man at my house to-day offering men \$1.50 per day without board.

I am well pleased with the country. We get all the good dry wood we want for the hauling home, which we get within half a mile from my own place; all the hay we can roll up for our stock, and not one cent of taxes to pay. I have barns for all my cattle and horses, and they are good barns. They did not cost me a cent, except a few nails for my doors. They are built of logs; we haul them home on the sleighs in the winter time. I have also a good comfortable house, built of logs; all the expense I was out on it was for windows, floors and nails.

I think Assiniboia Territory is a good place for a working man to come to, with a little capital to invest in a few cows.

(Signed)

Robert Lawrie.

TESTIMONY OF A SCOTCH SETTLER IN CANADA.

Mr. Peter Horn, farmer, Regina, N. W. T., who is now visiting friends at Kirknewton, Midlothian, has written to Mr. John Grant, Canadian Government Agent, Dumfries, as follows :—

Dear Sir,—As to the advantages of Canada as a field for settlers of the agricultural class, I will give you my own experience. I emigrated to Canada when I was 18 years of age. Noon after arrival I was at work.

After working for three months I had made good the expenses of my journey from the old country to Canada, and in five years and two months I had earned in wages, in addition to board, from farmers with whom I work, \$1,015, or about £209.

In July, 1886, I visited the old country, and in October of that year returned to Ottawa, where I remained four years, receiving \$30 per month, without board.

In 1890 I went west to Regina, and commenced farming on a free grant of 160 acres of land, a grant which I consider equal to a gift of £100 to a settler, and I must say I don't regret it. I have had excellent crops—wheat, 35 bushels per acre; oats, 70 bushels, and with the prices received for the 1897 crop I can now live in independence.

I have 153 acres under cultivation, and intend to buy more land as I require it. I have six horses; raised four colts last year and two this year. I pay no rent and no taxes, and consider my land second to none in the world for wheat growing.

I only state facts here, and my advice to intending emigrants is to go to Manitoba or the Northwest Territories. Regina is the best place I have struck yet. Don't commence farming at first until you get into the ways of the country and the methods of farming there. Work out for a year or so.

Provisions are as cheap as in Britain; beef costs only half as much, while wages are double.

Good horses, 5 years old, cost £20 to £25; cows, £5 to £7.

There is plenty of free pasture and cattle can live out all the year round.

I have rented my farm this season, and have been in this country since the end of November, but intend returning to Regina in July.

I have just received a letter from Canada, saying that one of my neighbors at Regina sold 1,200 bushels of wheat at Fort William for \$1.20 per bushel, or £2 per quarter; another had some left over from seeding, and got \$1.15 per bushel for it at Regina. The crops on my place were never looking better for the time of the year.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

Peter Horn.

Alameda, N. W. T., September 12th, 1897.

Mr. M. V. McInnes,

Canadian Government Agent, Detroit.

Dear Sir,—I desire to inform you that the three parties sent by you from Saginaw arrived here and have taken up land. Mr. McEwan drove them out. They are highly pleased with the location, and for the present have gone to work in the harvest for \$1.50 per day and board.

There are a great many questions asked as to the temperature here in winter. Some are under the impression that it is exceedingly cold. As I learn from those who have lived here for a number of years, while the temperature is lower, still, on account of the dry atmosphere, the cold is not felt as much by far as it is in Detroit. These people all look hardly and healthy; have wintered it and come out all right, so I don't see why we and our friends cannot.

Those others whom you write are coming this fall; let them delay no longer than possible, as they can select their land much better now than after the snow flies.

With kindest regards, and hoping to hear from you, I am,

Your friend,

Fred Muller.

Yorkton, Assa., October 28th, 1897.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Sir,—I am a German from Russian-Poland. I came to the Northwest in the spring of 1879. I came to the Yorkton district on the 12th day of June of said year. I took up a homestead in what is now called the Ebenezer Colony, 14 miles north of Yorkton. I had only \$10 cash when I landed in Yorkton. I have now under cultivation

55 acres of land ready for crop. I have 30 head of horned cattle, 4 horses, pigs, and over 100 barnyard fowl, with all the machinery required for farm purposes.

I like the country awful good, and it is the place for a poor man, and I fully recommend this district to my countrymen, and would advise intending emigrants to locate in this district. I am now worth at least \$2,000, and any man who will and is willing to work, can do as well as I have done.

I am, yours truly,

(Signed)

John Fenske.

Yorkton, Assa., October 28th, 1897.

W. F. McCreary, Esq., Immigration Commissioner,
Winnipeg.

Sir,—I am a German, who came from Russia in the spring of 1890. I worked one year in the city of Winnipeg. I then moved to the Yorkton district in 1891 and took up a homestead, southwest half of Section 16, Tp. 27, Range 4. I had only \$100 when I landed in Yorkton. I have now 45 acres under cultivation. In 1896 I had over 2,000 bushels of grain. I have this year over 1,000 bushels, not having as much land under crop. I have now 19 head of cattle, two horses and colt, 10 pigs, and a lot of chicken and other fowl. I now am worth at least \$1,500. I like the country; and it is the place for a poor man, and I can fully recommend this district to emigrants who have small means and are willing to work.

(Signed)

Casper Nebrant.

(Translation.)

Glenmary, Sask., November 4th 1898.

Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

I am confident Scandinavians will find themselves satisfied with this country, providing they are in search of a home in the Northwest. I have found no one yet who is willing to work who could not do better here than in any other place that I have been. I can safely state that this place is ahead of Alberta for mixed farming. Although I have not seen Alberta myself, I have conversed with a number of those who have and who have afterwards settled here perfectly satisfied.

Myself and those who came with me are well pleased with this country, and would not return to the place we came from in North Dakota, U.S.A., for any money. I arrived here four years ago and settled in Tp. 47, Range

21, west of 2nd meridian, which is on the south side of the South Saskatchewan river. The land is generally rolling, with few poplar bluffs; hay meadows, large and small, are found everywhere, and a few small lakes, with occasional ravines or creeks, furnish convenient water for stock.

We can grow any kind of grain or vegetables which can be grown in Manitoba. I have raised wheat ever since I came to the place, and it has not been frozen. I understood before removing to this country that grain would not ripen before freezing. Such is not the case, but in this, like many other places, the wheat requires to be sown in the spring and not in the summer. The quantity varies from 7 to 30 bushels of wheat per acre, oats 20 to 70, barley about 40 bushels, and potatoes 300 bushels per acre. Hay in large quantities of the very best kind.

I have five miles to pine timber, where all kinds of building material can be procured. Logs can be sawn for \$5 per 1,000 feet, and shingles cost \$2.50 per 1,000.

For those who have not enough work on their own land, and require to earn wages, plenty of work can be had with the other wealthy farmers, of whom there are a number in this district. At Prince Albert employment can also be obtained with one of the two lumber companies, who take out logs during the winter. Opportunities are also afforded for chopping wood and teaming, also fishing on the many lakes north of here.

I will say to my countrymen (I am a Norwegian) who are looking for a home, come here, and you will be able to find a piece of land satisfactory to your expectations, no matter how critical you may be.

There is possibly much more that could be said about a new country like this, in order to satisfy land-hunters, but I will advise them to come and see for themselves, and they will find it as I have stated. I will always be ready to answer any direct questions to the best of my ability, and trust that with your assistance enough Scandinavians will join this settlement to enable us to organize a church and school district.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) Christian Boe,
Glenmary P.O., Sask, Canada.

Prince Albert, 18th May, 1898.

D. C. McLellan, Esq., President Board of Trade.

Dear Sir,—I entered a homestead and pre-emption (total 320 acres) in 1886, and went on to the claim and commenced farming in the spring of 1888. I had no capital whatever in starting. I had, of course, the usual

difficulties attending a man situated as I was for want of means. I remained constantly on my place ever since, working it as best I could, and at the present time I have the entire farm enclosed with a good rail (wire-bound) fence, and two cross fences, or a total of four miles of first-class fencing, not counting small dividing fences. I have 150 acres under cultivation, 11 horses, 16 milch cows, 26 head of other horned cattle, a threshing outfit (horsepower, value \$600), two self-binders, one mower, one rake, one gang plow, two walking plows, one seeding machine, two sets harrows, one set disc harrows, one roller, one fanning mill, and all necessary tools for farm use. Also one wagon, one democrat wagon, two sets sleighs, five sets harness.

All the above-mentioned property has been accumulated by me since 1888. I have received no assistance from other sources, but have paid for everything from the proceeds of the farm.

I can confidently recommend the country as being healthy; food, water and hay in abundance in most localities. The weather is never so severe as to prevent working during the entire winter. I have never had a failure of crop since starting. No other trade or calling would have given me the accumulative amount of wealth with which I am surrounded, except farming.

Any man of ordinary capital and determination to succeed must get on in this country.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

James Sinclair.

Colleston, Sask., June 6th, 1898.

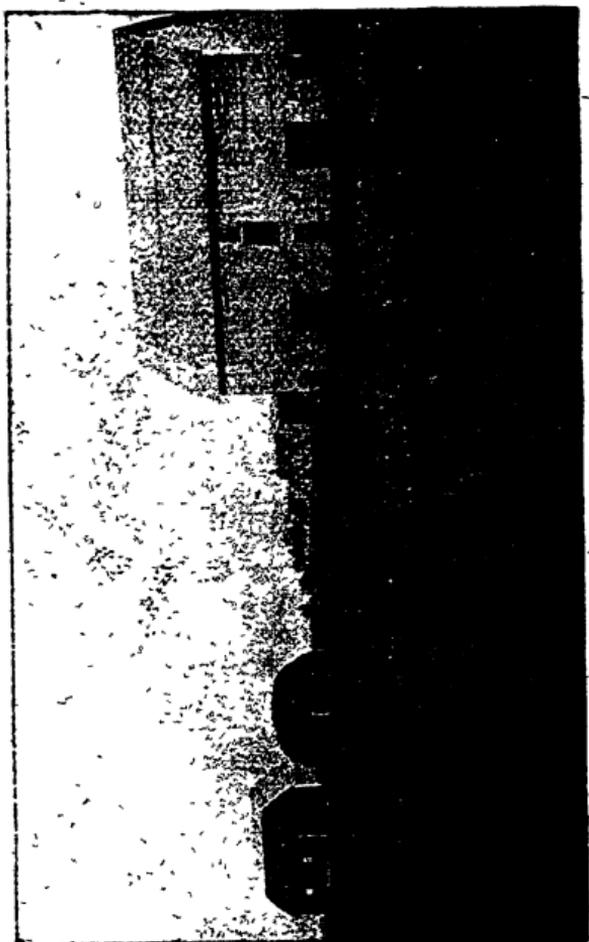
To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

In reply to your request for a letter regarding my experience in this country, I have much pleasure in stating that I came here from Middlesex, Ontario, in 1879, and settled in my present home, $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles from the town of Prince Albert. I had only a small capital to begin with, but I believe I could nowhere have invested it to better advantage. I now own five quarter sections (800 acres) of land, 80 acres of which are under cultivation this year; 60 acres of this is in wheat. I am also pasturing about 200 head of cattle of my own. From my

experience I am able to say that this country is excellently adapted for mixed farming and for stock raising. I have never had a failure of crop. Last year off 60 acres I raised 2,500 bushels of first-class grain. Potatoes and root crops can be raised in great abundance, and grow to a very large size and are of the best quality. Potatoes of 2 to 3 lbs. are common, and an acre will yield 400 bushels. There are no potato bugs here, and rats are also unknown. Neither are there any Canada thistles. Native hay can be obtained throughout this district in large quantities. It grows wild, and all that is necessary is to go out and cut it. It is of good quality, and cattle wintered upon it come out in first-class condition in the spring. I have also found abundance of fuel. Jack pine is plentiful, and can be had for the cutting and drawing, and is good wood. Timber for building and fencing is also plentiful and easily obtainable. Water of the best quality I can get anywhere by digging ten or twelve feet. The winters are long, but steady and pleasant, and they are not so severe as has been reported. There is not a day in winter in this section that a man cannot drive upon the road or engage in outdoor work, if he wishes. I have wintered cattle out of doors, allowing them to run about my straw stacks, and they have come through in fine condition. This is quite customary here. I am well satisfied with this country and believe that young or energetic men coming in here with capital of \$500 and upwards can make themselves more comfortable in two years than in ten years in the older countries. Within a mile we have a good school, and within three miles we have English, Presbyterian and Methodist church services. The roads are excellent and dry up quickly after rain, so that traveling is pleasant and easy. In this neighborhood we have a flourishing temperance society and active tennis, football and baseball clubs, and other means of social recreation and enjoyment. I have now a very comfortable home, and have every reason to be glad that I settled here and to be satisfied with what I have done.

(Signed)

John McFadden.



A. AND J. MORRISON'S HOMESTEAD,
NEAR CARMAN, MANITOBA.

McDowell Settlement, Saskatchewan; June 6th, 1898.

To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

Dear Sir,—Replying to your request for the result of my experience in this district, I would say that when I came here from Ireland twenty years ago, I had less than \$200 with capital with which to start. For a few years I worked in a lumber camp, and then took up a half section, (320 acres), where I now reside, 12 miles from Prince Albert. Before I came here I had travelled through the principal sections of Ontario, but I found vegetation more luxuriant here than in any other section I had seen, and the soil was at least equally as good. I therefore decided to settle here. I have since worked my farm, which lies on the banks of the Saskatchewan river, and added to it from time to time until now I own altogether 2,570 acres of land in this neighborhood. Six hundred and forty acres (one section) is in the block on which my house and buildings stand, and is all fenced in. Of this there is now under cultivation 180 acres; 140 of this is in crop this year, 100 acres in wheat and the balance in oats. I own 130 head of cattle and 20 horses, and a full equipment of implements and harvesting machinery. I never could have accomplished this in the old country and am very glad that I ever settled in here. I have always found a satisfactory market at Prince Albert. Last year I sold 2,700 bushels of wheat at an average of 65c. a bushel. This I raised off 100 acres. I also sold cattle last year to the value of \$520. There is always a ready sale for cattle here, and the country is well adapted for profitable stock raising. Fuel, water and timber are readily obtainable, and I know no country better suited for the thrifty settler with small capital. I have never raised any hay, the natural hay growing here every year being sufficient for all purposes. In every respect I like the country and can recommend it confidently to intending settlers.

A. Landand.

Colleston Settlement, June 5th, 1898.

To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your questions as to what success I have met with in farming in this country, I would say that I settled here with very small capital when I was about twenty years of age. I broke up my first twelve acres of land in 1891, just seven years ago. I now have 65 acres in crop and I own 76 head of cattle and 6 good horses. I also own binder purchased last year, waggon, top buggy, mower, rake, plows and all necessary farming implements. I have also erected a

roomy and comfortable house, good stable, granary and other outbuildings. I own a quarter section of land, all well fenced. The soil is a dark, sandy loam, well adapted for wheat raising. I know no better country than this for mixed farming and stock raising. I came here from the north of Ireland, and could not possibly have done there what I have done here. A young man of industry, whose capital is small, can do here in a short time what he never could do in the old country. I am well satisfied with this country in every way and with the progress I have made in it. The climate I like better than the climate of Ireland. It is drier, clearer, more bracing and more healthy. The winters are cold but not severe. There is no necessity for anyone to feel discomfort from the winter who protects himself properly. I am never interrupted in my outdoor work by the cold, and blizzards are entirely unknown here. I find a good local market for my grain and produce at Prince Albert, seven miles distant over a good road. Fuel, water and timber for building and fencing purposes are plentiful, easy to get, and good. I should like to re-visit Ireland, but I should not like to return there to stay. The natural hay grows in great quantities and is to be had for the cutting, so that I have never required to cultivate any. It is a good feed, and the cattle do well upon it without being fed anything else. The land is rolling, and numerous poplar groves afford shelter for pasturing cattle. Last year I sent milk to the Prince Albert creamery and was well pleased with the result. I have never been troubled with frost, and consider this a first-class settler's country.

Andrew Knox.

Melfort, Sask., N. W. T., May 25th, 1898.

Dear Sir,—As the government is desirous of getting direct information from settlers regarding the experiences of those homesteading on the Saskatchewan, I herewith enclose a brief summary of facts.

Settling in the Melfort district in 1884, and experiencing the usual hardships incident to a pioneer's life, with but a nominal sum to start with, and a young family, my wife and I have had the pleasure of seeing our situation gradually improve each year, and now we are fairly comfortable and independent.

Pages might be written, and truthfully, in praise of this magnificent section of the N. W. T. Suffice it to say that nature has done all she could and the rest remains with the steady industry of the individual.

Fourteen years of seed time and harvest have passed over, with light, medium and heavy crops. Wheat was frosted twice during that time, but we have never experi-

enced a total failure. Intending settlers must not think there are no drawbacks, and as a rule the great weakness of immigration literature is a withholding of these. Well, here is a sample :—

Climate exceedingly hot in summer; nights, however, always cool. Winter extremely cold. Mosquitoes very numerous some seasons, but these are trifles to young and vigorous men and women determined to succeed, as the climate, though severe, is extremely bracing and very healthy. Our great, and, in fact, only drawback at present, is want of a railway. Seventy-five miles from Prince Albert, the nearest market, is too far to haul grain profitably; so when you consider that a number of us, both in Carrot River and Melfort, have done fairly well, even in our isolated position, give us ready communication with the outside world and Kinistino district will soon be widely known and celebrated both for the quality and quantity of its products. Kinistino is the title for the whole electoral division lying east of the Saskatchewan river, and includes the settlements of Birch Hills, Kinistino (or Carrot River) and Melfort. It lays to the north of the Birch Hills. No stony land, well watered by creeks and lakes, soil of the finest and deepest. (See Report of Ogilvie and Fawcett). Timber, hay and firewood plentiful and within reach of every settler.

The prairie is of a gently rolling nature. Many quarter sections can be plowed without a break; black soil with clay subsoil. Sand and limestone to be had. Timber is of poplar, birch, tamarac, spruce, and in the northeastern portion of the district ash. The ash-maple is plentiful and produces a fair quality of maple sugar, but as a rule is grown for ornament rather than use.

My brother and myself have seen most of Manitoba and the N.W.T., and our choice is my present home on Section 20, Tp. 44, Range 18 w. 2, in Melford settlement.

Trusting these few remarks may be of interest,

I have the honor to be, etc., etc.,

Reginald Beatty.

Colleston Settlement,

Saskatchewan, June 6th, 1898.

To the President of the Prince Albert Board of Trade.

Dear Sir,—In response to your request to know how I am satisfied with farming in this district, I beg to say that I came to this country eighteen years ago without capital. For the first few years I did any work I could get. In 1884 I took up a half section of land eleven miles from Prince Albert, and the following year I

bought a few cattle. From this I worked along until now I am cropping 50 acres of land and own 50 head of cattle, half a dozen horses and a good supply of farm implements. I have built a comfortable rough-cast house and good stables, and am in a better way to do well than at any previous time. I have been sending considerable milk to the creamery at Prince Albert, and am well satisfied with its working. I prefer the climate here to that of Eastern Ontario, the locality from which I came. Although the winter is cold, the air is dry and the cold does not penetrate. I have found this country healthier and better for throat affections than the damper climate of Ontario. Anyone who comes in here, who is thrifty and has a little capital, cannot fail to make a good living at mixed farming. Stock raising is a sure source of profit, and my crop has never failed me. I consider this one of the best neighborhoods to be found in many days' travel. This is true socially as well as with respect to the making of a living. The educational and social advantages will now compare favorably with the best Ontario districts. I am well satisfied with the country and with what I have been able to do here and with my future prospects.

George S. Reid.

Captain Craig, an intelligent Scotchman, who has been a resident of Prince Albert for several years, says that farming will prove successful if settlers will take the right way about it, and come prepared to work. He has farmed seven years in succession, and is therefore competent to give an opinion. He further says: "Those farmers, who, to the necessary skill have added industry, the result has been in a high degree satisfactory, and many have attained prosperity and independence from extremely slender beginnings."

"Beef animals are raised with little trouble or expense; they are usually rolling fat on the natural summer pastures and natural hay, and the straw piles in winter bring them through in good condition. Hundreds of excellent animals are annually bought up in the district for outside markets as well as for local consumption. It is not claimed for this district that it is safe or economical to winter out cattle or the better class of horses in ordinary seasons, although native ponies do wonderfully well pawing for their living. Sheep are not very generally kept, although it has been found they do remarkably well and there are already a few flocks attaining considerable dimensions. Pigs are reared by almost everybody, but not in such numbers as they might be. This will no doubt be one of the great industries of the future."

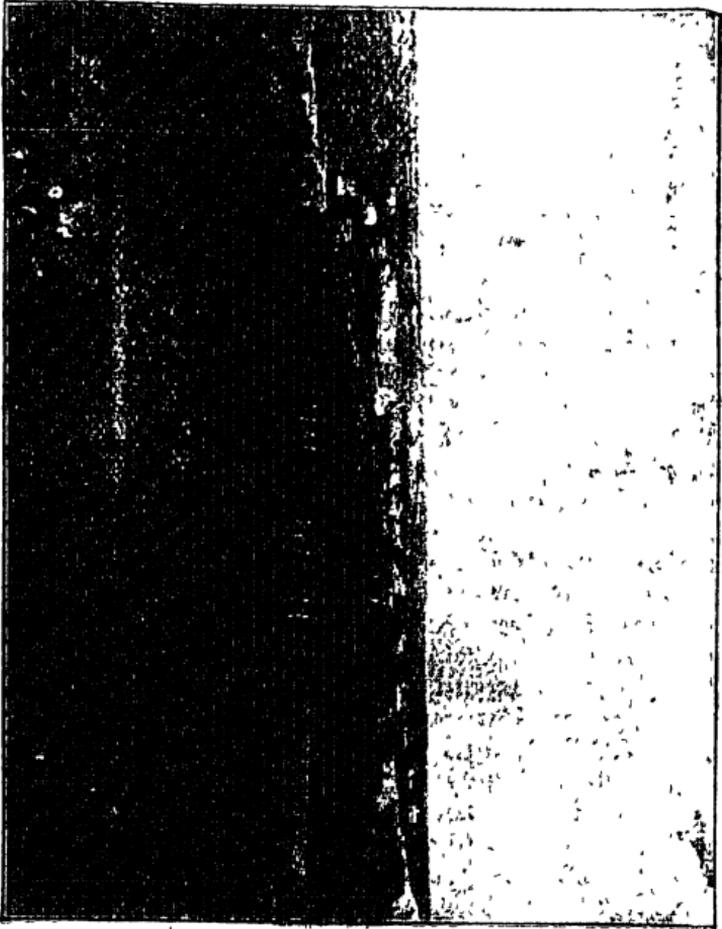
William Miller came from Huron, Ont., in 1870, and located in Rockwood, near Winnipeg, Man., where he remained for two years. Moved to the Saskatchewan in 1873 and took up land quite close to where Prince Albert now stands. Likes the Saskatchewan country. Has farmed seventeen seasons, and states that his wheat will average about 40 bushels per acre eight years out of the seventeen. The remaining nine years he estimates that his wheat crop would average one year with another, 25 bushels per acre. The poorest wheat crop he has had was 1889, owing to the drought, when the yield was 18 to 20 bushels per acre. This was the first year he had suffered from drought to any extent. The crops of 1890 were later with him than he ever had before, and he had about eight acres of wheat damaged by frost. The balance of his crop escaped serious injury. Mr. Miller has kept a diary since he came to the country, so that his statements are not made from memory. He states that his oat crop has varied from 40 to 80 bushels per acre in different years, except 1889, when it was about 20 bushels per acre. Barley he regards as a very sure crop, and the smallest yield he has had was 20 bushels per acre in 1889. Horses, cattle, sheep and hogs have all done well with him.

James McArthur, banker, Prince Albert, is interested in a large sheep ranch. He says it costs less to keep sheep over the winter than during the summer. The region is a great hay country, and hay can be put up for the winter at a cost of about \$1 per ton. Sheep can be kept through the winter at a cost of about 25 cents per head, when handled on a large scale. They are free from disease. Hay has never been scarce. The growth of natural prairie grass is luxuriant. Water is readily obtained everywhere. Where there is not good surface or running water, it can be obtained in wells at a depth of 10 to 14 feet. Mr. McArthur also believes the country is remarkably well adapted to raising horses, and grain and root crops are phenomenally successful.

J. M. Campbell moved to the North Saskatchewan country in 1874. He has a ranch at Stony Creek, 60 miles southeast of Prince Albert. He has farmed about 100 acres and has never had a crop failure. His wheat, one year with another, has averaged 25 bushels per acre or

over, while oats have yielded about 50 to 60 bushels per acre on an average for a number of years back. Mr. Campbell, like many others, has given more attention to stock, as the isolated nature of the settlement previous to the advent of the railway, rendered the market for grain rather small. He thinks the country a remarkably favorable one for raising horses. His horses winter out and "rustle" their own living. His horses are of the native breed, crossed with a Canadian stallion. They average about 1,200 pounds weight. He has taken first prize with horses that were out all winter and were never fed a straw. Cattle require feeding in the winter, though young stock will do without stabling, if fed. Sheep, he says, do with an open shed for shelter, covered overhead. They require feeding for about two months. Cattle need feeding for about three months during the winter, on an average. Hogs have paid him well. In his district, Mr. Campbell says, the settlers are all doing well, despite their distance from a railway. Most of them started poor. They are loaded with stock now, which they sell for Indian and mounted police requirements, and a market for their other products is found in the same way to some extent.

J. A. Macdonald settled on the North Saskatchewan in 1868, and his property is now within the corporation limits of Prince Albert. He was the first settler to take up land and remain on it. He tells the same story of successful operations in farming, and never had what could be called a failure of his crop. His wheat averaged 24 to 30 bushels per acre. Since 1884 he has done little in the line of growing grain, having gone principally into stock. Hay is secured in abundance for winter feeding, and can be put up at a cost of about \$1 per ton. This is the natural prairie hay, which grows without any cultivation, and is always a heavy crop. Cattle are very healthy; they will do well on straw, but with good care will make good beef in the spring on hay alone. Mr. Macdonald estimates that it costs from \$10 to \$15 to raise a three-year-old steer, which is then worth from \$30 to \$40. There are no losses in stock to provide against. Hogs and sheep pay wel'



Isaiah McCall, for 10 years a resident, has farmed six miles from Prince Albert and raised stock, giving his attention mainly to the latter. He has found the seasons favorable and has always had a good crop of coarse grain, having given little attention to wheat. The season of 1890 he had a good volunteer crop of oats and barley. He had intended summer following the land and did not plow it in the fall, but a crop came up in the spring from seed that had fallen from the previous crop. This looked so well that it was allowed to grow, and produced a crop of 25 to 30 bushels per acre. Mr. McCall has some imported Durham cattle and they have done well with him.

R. J. Pritchard, an old resident, who came in 1873, has devoted his time mainly to stock. It is his opinion that cattle can be raised to better advantage in the Saskatchewan country than on the plains to the south, where cattle ranching is followed on a larger scale, and where no provision is made for the winter. In the Prince Albert country hay is put up for the winter, but the cost of this is light, as there has always been an abundance of it. There are no losses to provide against among stock in the winter, such as cattlemen in the ranching district to the south meet with occasionally, and this more than compensates for the cost of winter feeding, as against the districts where no winter feeding is done. Mr. Pritchard has known cattle to live out all winter and pick their own living, and come out well in the spring, but this is not given as a safe plan to be followed. In one case some freighters left an ox which had become tired out, and this animal was found the following spring in much better condition than when it had been abandoned as useless. Mr. Pritchard had 250 head of cattle to winter this year. He has moved those over to the wood country on the north side of the river, where he has stables and hay put up. The young cattle will not be stabled, but will be fed. Horses not being worked will do very well running out all winter without any feeding except what they pick for themselves, and will come out fat in the spring. Cattle have not the ability to "rustle" their living during the winter like horses.

S. J. Donaldson, who came into the country in 1876, and served in the Mounted Police force, has farmed for six years. He has grown feed grains principally for his livery business in Prince Albert. He grew some flax one

year as an experiment, and it produced an immense crop of seed. He threshed 2,000 bushels of oats off 30 acres in 1888; 1890 he had the same quantity from an acre or two less of land. The crop was estimated by counting the number of sacks. In 1889, the dry year, he only had 400 bushels off the same acreage.

Abraham Regier, Rosthern District, (s. e. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 14, 43, 3), came from Russia in the fall of 1891. His friends helped him over from Russia to Canada. Settled in the Rosthern district in the spring of 1892. Borrowed one pair oxen, one cow, one old waggon and one old plow from friends in Manitoba, but had not one cent of money in his pocket. To-day he has eight horses, nine head of cattle, four pigs, 70 poultry, \$400 worth of machinery, 120 acres under cultivation. He sold \$900 worth of crop in 1897. Would strongly recommend friends and relations to come here.

Abram Regier.

I came from Russia in 1892. Settled in the Saskatchewan District, Rosthern, in 1893. Had \$10 in my pocket when I came to Rosthern; also four oxen and two cows, one waggon and one plow. To-day I have a homestead of 160 acres and bought a farm of 160 acres, eight horses, ten head of horned cattle, 7 pigs, 40 poultry, 150 acres under cultivation; 2,000 bushels of wheat in the year 1897. Sold crop for \$1,250. The climate is very healthy. Winter begins in the middle of November; spring begins in the middle of April. People from the old country and the United States would recommend to come in spring. I am worth \$4,500 at the present time.

Johan Faast.

Rosthern, Sask., June 3rd, 1898.

Dear Sir,—I give you a short memorandum of my doings since I landed in Saskatchewan. I arrived in Rosthern in 1894, with no money in my pocket, but had just a few head of horned cattle and a wagon and plough which I brought with me to this country, and took up a homestead near Rosthern. To-day I have 6 horses, 14

head of horned cattle, 6 pigs, 150 acres under cultivation. I also have machinery worth \$600, and also bought another farm of 160 acres, which makes one-half section of good land. Those lands are worth, at a very low estimate, \$4,500, with the improvements and the cattle and machinery thereon. If this is any use to you for furthering immigration purposes, you may use it for that purpose, as I would strongly recommend all my friends, wherever they may be, to come to this country.

Respectfully yours,

Peter Epp.

Came from Russia.

Prince Albert, 16th May, 1898.

D. C. McClellan, Esq., President Board of Trade.

Dear Sir,—As regards my success as a farmer, I wish to state that I came into this country in 1882 and settled on a farm of 360 acres. I had no capital whatever except one yoke of oxen and a wagon, with which I brought in my wife and myself. Without any outside assistance I have worked along and now have 75 acres under cultivation, 9 horses, 15 milch cows, 30 head of horned cattle, 10 sheep, 30 hogs, a good house, 1½ stories high, 18x22, shingle roof; stables, 75x20, flat roof; horse stable, 18x30 flat roof. Barns are not necessary and are never used, but I have a good granary, shingle roof. I have also a self-binder mower, rake, two wagons, one buck-board, three sleighs, three plows, two harrows, harness and all necessary tools for working the farm. I grew 1,100 bushels of grain last season and plenty of vegetables. Cattle, swine and poultry do well and sickness is unknown among them. I have plenty of natural hay and good water and wood on the premises. I am perfectly satisfied with the country, and have a large family to provide for. The only thing needed is government aid to our creameries and more railway competition. The country is healthy and a man can work any day in winter. I have never had a failure of crop.

Yours truly,

S. I. McKeen,
Colleston Post Office.

A GROUP OF ELEVATORS SHOWING WHEAT FIELDS YIELDING 35 BUSHELS TO THE ACRE.





Kirkpatrick, June 6th, 1898.

D. C. McLellan, Esq., President Board of Trade,
Prince Albert.

Sir,—In reply to your inquiries in regard to my experience of farming in this country, I would say I have been farming for 22 years. Never have I experienced a failure in crops. I have 175 acres of land under cultivation; have had an average crop of 20 bushels of wheat per acre every year. Oats and barley are a decided success in this country, and stock-raising can't be beat. Give us cheaper transportation for our produce and I don't want a better home than the Saskatchewan, but the high rates since the railroad came here is the only drawback to the farmer in this country.

Thomas F. Miller.

Fort Saskatchewan, January 22nd, 1899.

Dear Friend,—I received your kind and welcome letter two days ago, and was glad to learn from it that you were all well.

We have nice weather this winter. It has not been very cold yet. I rode 25 miles last night without getting out to walk. There is a little snow on the ground, but not much. One of the little bay horses I had there stays out all the time. She is as fat as a pig, and we have a hard time to get her when we want her.

Just now there is 160 acres near town, just a mile out, good land. I can get it for \$3.50 an acre, \$80 down and ten years to pay the rest in. I think this is a far better country than Kansas to be in. Coal is \$1 a ton, and wood is free, and it takes so little feed for cattle. Hogs are a good price, and so are cattle.

Do you know there is a lot of good land here yet? If you were to come up here and get land and some cows you would do well. I don't think you would care to lend any more; you would be a rich man in a few years. We have not seen a storm yet. The roads are splendid; have no mud this winter yet. I had a good time Christmas this year.

How are things back there this winter? You had all better come up here, where there is no grip to bother. Give our best wishes to your wife and all the family. I will close with best respects to all.

I remain, yours truly,

(Signed) Donald McAllister.

P.S.—The fires are all out to-day, so you may know that it is not cold when we don't have a fire at this time of the year.

January 29th, 1899.

Well, we have some more snow, but it is not cold. Wish you would come up here and give me all the cows I want on the shares.

There are 220 acres a mile and a half from town for sale at \$1,000. There are 100 acres broken on it. There are lots of folks coming in the spring. How is Andy Craig getting along? Tell him that this country is far ahead of Kansas, and that it is not so cold, either.

D. McA.

**CLIPPING FROM AN EDMONTON NEWS-
PAPER.**

Threshing is in progress throughout the settlement. D. Crozier, on W. Cust's Cut Bank farm of 425 acres, has 5,500 bushels of wheat, 3,300 bushels of oats, and 300 bushels of barley.

John Sherrold, of Sturgeon, had $33\frac{2}{3}$ bushels of wheat to the acre on the whole crop. His son had 57 bushels to the acre on one field.

W. Nicholson had 43 bushels of wheat to the acre on his whole acreage. The grain is all in good condition.

Edmonton, Alberta, N.W.T.,

March 14th, 1899.

Mr. J. S. Crawford.

Dear Friend,—I found I had so much to see after I couldn't go south this winter. I wanted to buy some cattle, and got 40 head. Then they were to feed and water and care for, and that big crop of grain to market, and get ready for the next crop, I could not get away.

I must say we have had a fine winter; not one stormy day. True, the mercury went down, and it froze hard, but it was dry, clear and calm. I think it was as pleasant a winter as I have spent for a good many years. No wind, snow or slush; good roads all the time ever since we came here. The longer we stay the better we like it.



One day, the 10th February, we drove 40 miles, 20 each way. In the morning it was 38 degrees, at night it was 45 below, and we never stopped to warm. The sun shone brightly. So that is the way it goes.

By the way, I had a letter from my Klondike brother to-night, dated December 17th at Dease River Landing, B.C. He is wintering there with 14 others. He is in fine spirits; has saved all his horses, and expects to go on and get where he can get the clear yellow metal next summer. He only heard I was here last November. He is very sanguine of success. He is catching lots of white-fish; they are drying them for summer use.

Well, I have concluded to stay right here on the Cut Bank farm, as it is known here. The one I was looking at when you were here, and that I rented last year. The old man that owned it took a notion to sell and I bought. The papers were made out last Friday, 1,040 acres at \$6 per acre, 300 acres in cultivation. I think I got a bargain. I have done well on it this year. If lots of those renters in Kansas and Missouri would get out here where land is cheap and good and plenty of room for stock, they would do well, soon own a farm of their own, and wouldn't freeze to death, either. There are good chances all over this Northwest. My brother-in-law likes it fine. They say it beats Ontario winters; no storms like there. They are going to locate here somewhere. If my brother at Olathe could sell he would come this spring.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

David Crozier.

**GAINED 23 LBS. IN A FEW WEEKS,
AND IS WELL SETTLED NEAR
WINNIPEGOSIS.**

Writing to Mr. J. S. Crawford, the Agent of the Canadian Government at Kansas City, the undersigned, formerly a resident of the State of Kansas, says:—

I travelled through some of the farm districts in Southern and Southwestern Manitoba, and visited the government farm at Brandon, all of which was very satisfactory and offered a fair prospect for a poor man to make a start in life and secure for himself a good farm home, which, with a little energy and business management, would soon bring him in more than a living. However, I was not quite satisfied with these parts, so I travelled farther north, coming at last to the place known

as Winnipegosis, located on the lake of the same name. Here I was met by the government guide, Mr. Paul Woods, and we travelled over a great deal of this country and south to the end of the lake. I was much taken with the country in general and the location of the town is very favorable, so I decided to remain here. I commenced at once to locate a suitable claim and site for it. I found one which is located about two miles from the town to where I have decided to build my house. It is s. e. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 2, Tp. 31, Range 18. I have what I think will prove a good quarter, and it is located very well, about three-quarters of a mile back from the lake, yet I will have a good view of the lake from the place where I have decided to build.

I have decided that this part of the country is as favorable for any kind of farming or for ranching as any one could find in this or any other country. However, there are very favorable reports coming from the Swan River country, and there is a great deal of travel in that direction. This country is about 100 miles farther north, and has not the protection that this place has from the frosts, yet it may prove all right. As to this I can assure you. I have a quarter section located in a neighborhood where I saw potatoes raised which went from 250 to 300 bushels to the acre; wheat went from 45 to 67 bushels; oats from 80 to 117 bushels, and all other grain and garden truck average about the same. I think this is all anyone could ask of land. As to stock raising, we have plenty of good hay and the stock fattens easily.

Taking all in general, this part gives all that one could expect to find, so I am well satisfied with this location and the place I have taken.

I expect to enter fishing in connection with my homestead, and in this way I am well satisfied I can make money enough to put my place in good condition, either to make money on it, or have it in fair shape to sell it if I choose.

There are a number of ways to make expenses here now, and the early spring will bring more of a demand for men. Although the wages are not high, yet one can live on them until he can get in shape for his farm to net him a living.

From the movements which are on foot now, such as boat-building and prospective railroads to pass through these parts, in connection with the lumbering and fishing, which is centred in this place, I expect next summer will prove quite satisfactory so far as the business transactions are concerned. At least, I expect a favorable showing towards making this part of the country desirable.

If you have any good settlers, with some money, direct them to this place, and I will do what I can to satisfy and locate them. There are a number of good claims in view here which are open yet, and they are quite desirable ones, too

There is no doubt that a man with no money will have to scratch and plan as well as to rough it for a while, but then if he has the head and nerve to stay, he can pull through and in a short time be quite independent of the outside world. His farm will grow anything he puts in the ground—that means that his first summer crop will fix him for the winter.

I can safely say that I know of no better place for a poor man to start, and only suggest that they come and see or try for themselves.

Hoping that this gives you a fair idea as to how well I am satisfied with this country, I will close, expecting to hear from you in the near future.

I remain, yours truly,

(Signed)

R. W. Huff.

P.S.—As to health, I weighed 126 lbs. when I came here; now I weigh 149, and am feeling in the best of health.

R.

Wetaskiwin, October, 1896.

I left Mancelona, Michigan, April 10th, 1894, arrived in Wetaskiwin April 18th; had a good look at the country until August, then located within five miles of Wetaskiwin. I like the country well. Of course, I came here without anything; now I have a comfortable home and plenty to eat, which I would not have had if I had stayed in Michigan. If anyone wants a free home for \$10, and would like to raise cattle and horses, I know of no better country. Horses need no care summer or winter, abundance of hay for the cutting.

(Signed)

Levi Bradshaw.

Sweaborg, Wetaskiwin, Sept. 14th, 1898,

W. Toole, Esq., Calgary, N.W.T.

Dear Sir,—According to your request, I will hereby give my experience of the circumstances up here.

It was through the immigration agent, Mr. C. O. Swanson, of Waterville, Que., that I first obtained knowledge of this country, and I followed one of his excursions here four years ago last spring. I have thrived well the

whole time since. I have now harvested five crops and have had good crops every year. I can therefore recommend the country for crops as well as climate.

I worked in a shop in the United States thirteen years, and thought during the last years to go out in the country on account of my health. I could surely not have struck anywhere a better climate and general circumstances than I have found here. Therefore will I specially say a word to those who are working in shops and feel tired therewith, but would like to get a home of their own, that here is the right place for them. I know several people who came here with very little to start with, but have made good progress, and everyone seems to thrive well; but it is naturally more or less of a sacrifice to come from the cities to a new settlement.

I have received dozens of letters from different States with questions about whether the saying that frost destroys everything here is true or not. It is altogether untrue; frosts here do not hurt the grain except in very low places. Old farmers, who have come here from the United States, say that they have never seen such crops before as they saw here, which can be proved this year nearly all over Alberta.

For those who look for land whereon to get a home of their own, there is room for several thousands both on homesteads and on railroad land. The railroad land is cheap, \$3 per acre and ten years' time; so it is a chance for one as well as the other. Bad reputations have come out about Canada, but it is entirely untrue with reference to Alberta. I know very little about the other provinces.

My own progress is not so very great, but I have surely done better here than I should have done in the United States during the same time working in a shop. I have now 50 acres in crop, 11 head of cattle, 5 horses, 20 pigs, and 75 chickens, all the necessary farm implements, etc. Is not this to be well off compared to working as a slave in a shop, I would like to know?

Last summer a number of roads were laid out and fixed up. Several schools were commenced, and a church building is erected within the settlement, which is going ahead in every direction. Immigration is going on steady. Some have left here and gone back to the U. S., but some have returned here again, because they found that it would be better for them.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

C. H. Swanson.

Egg Lake, Alberta, Sept. 9th, 1897.

J. H. M. Parker, Esq., Canadian Government

Agent, Duluth, Minn.

Dear Sir,—As I was to see you in April of last spring you advised Mr. McCormick and myself to come out here and see for ourselves; and when we came out here I was surprised to find this part of the country so well adapted for farming. The soil, climate, and crops are all as good as could be desired and fully as good as you recommended. I am going to return to Michigan to settle up my affairs there, and intend to bring my boys here, as I am getting about all the land I want for them.

I wish you would write me a letter regarding return rates Write to Calgary, Alberta, care Donohue.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

James Cuthbert.

Morinville, Oct. 30, 1899.

I came here in November, 1894, from South Dakota, and took up the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 24-35-25. I had to borrow money from a friend here to make a start, and I have done very well. This year I had fifty-five acres under crop; my wheat averaged thirty bushels to the acre, and the oats sixty-five. I have five horses, fifteen head of cattle, and ten pigs, besides all the necessary farm implements. I consider my farm to-day is worth \$2,500, although I would not take that much for it. I am very well satisfied with my place, and advise any man with a little ambition who is seeking a good home to come to Northern Alberta.

Pierre Garvais.

Olds, Alta., Nov. 3, 1899.

On April 7th, 1893, I landed in Olds District from Colfax County, Nebraska, and settled on section 34. $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Olds, and feel well satisfied with my move. During the last three years I have averaged 2,000 bushels of grain per year of a yield and now have 45 head of cattle, 19 horses, a nice outfit of thoroughbred Berksire hogs, and all the necessary implements for farming down to the smallest detail. I would not take my old place in Nebraska as a gift, if in the consideration I were compelled to live upon it. During my six years residence here I consider that I am \$3,000.00 wealthier than when arriving, and if I had remained in Nebraska I presume all I would have had left by this time would be the old mortgage on the place.

E. Bame.

Leduc, Alta., Nov. 13, 1899.

After being in this country for about a year and a half we think more of it than ever, and have every confidence in the future of it. Crops were excellent this year. Our own crops were all we could ask, although the season has been unusually wet, and we were surprised to see the amount of grain that was raised and the improvements being made around us. We have such confidence in the country that mostly all of our family are here and are well satisfied with the future prospects, and we expect more of our old neighbors to follow us here next spring. We have not threshed yet, and consequently cannot give the yields of our first crop, but it was No. 1 in every respect. There are a few homesteads left yet near us and intending settlers are always welcome.

J. F. Kirkpatrick,
G. H. D. Kirkpatrick,
Fred. Kirkpatrick.

Fitz Morris, Assiniboia, Canada,

November 2nd, 1899.

W. V. Bennett,

Canadian Government Agent,
Omaha, Neb.

Dear Sir,—As promised, I will tell you what I think of the country: We landed here all O. K. and got claims that we consider equal to anything (for soil) we ever saw in the States. We have plenty of hay, are near timber and good water, and we think it is as healthy a country as we were ever in. We have good roads, and good schools, and people here are all satisfied with the prospects and with what they are doing. Their crops are always good and wheat this year made from 20 to 35 bushels; oats from 50 to 80 bushels; barley from 35 to 45 bushels and potatoes from 200 to 355 bushels, and vegetables all do well.

We like the people here, and, in fact, the most of them are from the States and we feel as much at home as we did in the States.

It is settling up fast and in the next five years it will be a thickly settled country. There are lots of good openings here yet and lots of homesteads. We like the country better than we ever did, and found it better than you represented. We could not believe it when you told us we would not have to pay any taxes, but we don't pay any taxes, except the land for school purposes, and that only amounts to from \$2.50 to \$6.00 on 160 acres.

We are looking for lots of people here next year and can recommend it to anyone.

We are under obligations to you for giving us the information and assistance you did.

I am, respectfully yours,

A. L. Craing.

Rosthern, Sask., Nov. 8th, 1899.

To W. V. Bennett, or to the Public.

We, the undersigned, have promised the public of Plymouth to give them our idea of the N. W. T. in Saskatchewan. We will now do so by writing to the editor. We have nice weather so far, hoping to have it further. There fell a little snow on the 25th of October, but not amounting to anything, and since then it is the nicest fall weather we ever lived in or saw. Nice sunshine in the day time and starlight and a little chilly at night. This country is free of blizzards and no winds to speak of. No dust storms have we seen since we left Plymouth, Neb. Wood is plentiful. Anybody that buys a quarter section or takes a homestead here has got enough wood on his farm to last him at least five years, and some quarters have as much as would last a family ten years, but there is lots of wood on the Saskatchewan river. There is lots of coal 200 miles from here, but no railroad yet. Grass is plentiful, more than can be used. Water can be had anywhere from six to ten feet and good at that. The climate is a very healthy one. We had considerable rain this summer and the crops grew to a great extent. Garden truck grows to an extra quantity. Potatoes yield from 200 to 300 bushels an acre; oats, 50 bushels an acre; wheat, 20 to 30 an acre; barley, 30 to 35. The soil is very heavy,—rich, black loam. Cattle are grazing out all winter and do exceedingly well. Horses are mostly brought here from ranges. The most of them are bronchos. All kinds of wild game is plentiful, and plenty of fish in both rivers. The people are mostly poor, but just wait a few years and we will be strictly in it. The mill in Rosthern is never stopped and can't make enough flour for the newcomers, running through 500 bushels a day and night, and still there is lots of them coming yet, mostly from Russia, poor as a mouse. If there is anything else you want to find out come up and see for yourselves. We remain, yours sincerely,

J. C. Zulauf,
C. Lanz,
J. C. Reinwald,
George Nickel,
George Berg,
Conrad Conig,

Bartlett, Mich., Nov. 16, 1899.

Mr. N. Grieve,

Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Dear Sir,—In submitting my report as a delegate to the Canadian Northwest, in the interest of myself and intending settlers, I will try to give you and them a fair and impartial description of Northern Alberta as I found it. In regard to climate and soil, and the general advantages it offers to the settler: The land is gradually rolling, in the broad sense of the term, neither prairie nor timber, and yet it is both. You may look in any direction from any point, timber and beautiful prairie-openings meet the eye. You can have your choice, all timber or all prairie, or part timber and part prairie. The timber consists of spruce, poplar and balsam of Gilead, plenty of it of sufficient size for building logs and lumber for the settlers' needs. The soil is a rich black loam, from eighteen inches to three feet deep. It looked to me to be the accumulation of decayed vegetation and ashes for centuries. The sub-soil is a stiff putty clay. As to climate, the summers are all that could be desired, plenty of rainfall with no hot dry winds. On the 28th of September, I saw prairie flowers in full bloom; sweet corn, potatoes and tomato vines that had not been touched a particle with frost. I had from good authority, backed with my own observation, that the winters are a good deal milder than ours. As a rule, the weather is fine up to the holidays, when the winter starts in, clear and cold, with plenty of snow for good sleighing; no high winds or blizzards. In the eight years that the railroad has been operated between Calgary and Edmonton there has never been a snow plough run over the road; in fact, the winds are so light that wind mills are of no use. Thirty-seven below zero was the lowest the thermometer registered at Lacombe last winter. Horses live out all winter and pick their own living; cattle winter in open sheds and around the hay ricks. Wheat, oats and barley are the principal grain crops. Potatoes and all vegetables do well, while the yield is something enormous, as compared to ours—oats yielding as high as one hundred and twenty-five bushels to the acre. Prices are good. Wheat, 60c per bushel; oats, 25c; potatoes, 50c; butter, 20c per pound; cows, thirty-five to forty dollars; yearlings, eighteen to twenty dollars, with a market at their door in the mining centers of British Columbia and Edmonton, the principal outfitting point for the Klondike. Wild fruit grows in abundance, strawberries, gooseberries, black currants and cranberries.

It is an old saying, and a true one, "Every place has its drawbacks." One object of my visit was to learn

what the drawbacks of Northern Alberta were and the extent of them. The only one I could see would be the possibility of a summer frost, but no more so than here. For the man that takes hold of it right and goes into mixed farming, dairying and stock-raising, there are practically no drawbacks. With a reasonable amount of industry, perseverance and economy, he is bound to succeed. With its rich nutritious grasses, green the season through, well watered by lakes, rivers, springs and brooks, with water anywhere, by digging from eighteen to twenty-five feet. Alberta offers advantages for dairying and stock-raising over any state or province in America.

I might add that I was in company with eight delegates from Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Ohio; their opinions were mine, and we all backed it by locating one quarter section of land apiece. To any person that is not perfectly satisfied with 40 or 80 acres of pine stumps and sand, and wants to better their condition, and give their children advantages, that is impossible for them to do here, I will gladly answer any question they may ask to the best of my ability, and give them the names of parties at Lacombe and Ponoka with whom they may correspond. At Ponoka I met with A. J. Aldrich, an old time resident of Kingsley, and delivered a letter from him to D. E. Winkoop, which fully bears out the statements I make.

Yours with respect,
Charles Truman.

Rosthern, Sask., Canada,

Nov. 17, 1899.

W. E. Bennett, Omaha, Neb.

Dear Friend,—I will drop you a few lines to let you know that we like the country very much and have done very well this year, considering it being so wet, and all the people that came out when I did like it very well and are trying to get their friends to come and settle here where we are. We found the country leveller and better than you had represented it to us, with plenty of hay and wood. I have a son-in-law in Detroit who I wish you would write to and send him a certificate to come here. I think he will come this fall, but probably can't come till spring. There are a good many coming from Plymouth next year. I wish those people down there could all see this country, for if they could they would all come here. Write to Mr. Fred Castens, 258 Monroe avenue, Detroit, Mich., as he is my son-in-law, right away, for I want him to come as soon as he can.

Yours truly,
Conrad Koenig.

**REPORT OF MR. J. A. BARRETT,
CRESCO, IOWA.**

Cresco, Iowa, November, 1899.

Mr. Benjamin Davies,

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 27th was duly received. I called at your office on my return from the Canadian Northwest, about Sept. 22nd, but was not fortunate enough to find you in town. I wish now to give you my impressions of the country as it appeared to me between August 26th and Sept. 19th, 1899, going from my home in the State of Iowa to St. Paul, and then direct to Winnipeg, Manitoba, via the Northern Pacific, reaching there the afternoon of August 26th.

About Winnipeg there is a rich black loam with clay sub-soil. The crops along the line going into the province were fine, but not all ripened, and the ground bore evidence of much rain. I learned, in the city, that the season was one of the wettest and coolest known, and the grain later than usual in maturing. During the greater part of two days I spent in Winnipeg, the weather was sunny and bright and the atmosphere cool and bracing. The people had a tanned appearance. I wore a light alpacca coat all the time I was in the city. It is a flourishing, enterprising place of about 47,000, with a fine, long and spacious business street, well and substantially built of stone and brick. Just at this time the city was full of immigrants and delegates looking the country over, and a large force of harvest hands from the east.

I left the city on August 28th, westward bound for Calgary and the town of Edmonton, in North Alberta, which territory I desired particularly to see. Having some knowledge of the early history of Manitoba and the time when the C.P.R. was built, I was surprised at the evidence of progress made in its brief period of settlement, and of access to the markets of the world. As I rode westward, I saw a beautiful prairie country, composed of rich, black soil, and, where settled, covered with splendid level fields of wavy grain, mostly wheat, oats and barley. I saw no evidence of hail or storm in the shape of lodged or battered fields, nor was there any evidence of frost. I never saw heavy grain stand up so well and present so level an appearance. Herds of cattle were frequently seen and it was noticeable that they were all thorough-bred, mostly shorthorns but some were polled Angus.

The farms seemed large and the prosperity of the country was indicated by the numerous substantial frame and brick houses, with outbuildings correspondingly good. Harvest was in full operation; reapers everywhere at work, sometimes two or three in the field. The stooks were very thick on the ground, and there was grain, grain, everywhere grain. Manitoba is evidently a grain province.

On westward we went, across Manitoba and through Eastern Assiniboia, the character of this country being much the same. The evening found us at Moose Jaw, with its splendid station constructed of brick and stone. Part of the night and next morning we passed over a long stretch of unsettled country, where the soil seemed very light and poor, but nearing Calgary we came into the ranching country and began to see herds of cattle. On reaching Calgary we found it had been just as wet as in Manitoba, and the weather there unsettled. There was some good grain about Calgary, but the country there was mostly devoted to ranching. It is one of the most substantial towns, for its size, that I have seen. It might be called the city of grey sandstone, as the business part is almost wholly built of that material, which is found in abundance near by; as is also coal, a little way west on the C. P. R.

Going north from Calgary, through North Alberta, we soon entered the best agricultural region I had yet seen. A deep, rich, black vegetable loam, with a clay subsoil. Here I saw the finest wheat and oats I had ever seen; great, strong stalks with fine heads and no lodging. Having lived in one of the finest agricultural States of the Union, I was surprised to see it surpassed, in the grain product, by North Alberta, but as I went northward the weather was still wet and the grain immature, although needing only a short period of continuous sunshine. Another product of this region was its cattle. All along the road to Edmonton we saw splendid herds of shorthorn cattle, the best I had seen anywhere, stall fed or otherwise. I venture to say that no part of North America can surpass North Alberta in its wheat, oats and cattle. These are at present the three great products. Other kinds of grain are produced and other stock raised; so also are fine vegetables. I stopped a couple of days at Lacombe and about nine days at Edmonton. I visited the market gardens at Edmonton and saw fine celery, parsnips, cauliflowers, cabbage, carrots, beets, etc. The potatoes, owing to the wet weather, were rather watery.

The visitors who were inspecting the country received prompt and courteous attention from the Dominion Government Agent, Mr. Sutter, who spared no effort, when the weather would permit, to enable us to see the country. We drove over the country about the

town for the greater part of a whole day, visiting some farmers twelve miles out, examining their crops and cattle, etc. I saw more of the Edmonton district than any other, because longer there. The grain, cattle and vegetables were fine, as elsewhere, and there was no evidence of frost; but on the potato vines, further south, we saw signs of recent frosts.

All through North Alberta, from Calgary north, there were evidences of progress, new buildings going up, the lumber being of a good quality of spruce, produced and sawed there. North Alberta evidently can supply itself with lumber, yet it is chiefly a prairie country. It also supplies itself with a good quality of soft coal, which crops out along the banks of the rivers and streams. Right in front of Edmonton the coal crops out along the banks of the Saskatchewan and I went 100 feet into one mine then being worked and the product being carted up and distributed about town.

When the weather settled at Edmonton I thought the climate fine. The sun was hot, the atmosphere clear and bracing, and the nights cool. The town is beautifully situated on the banks of the Saskatchewan; has a population of about 4,000, a business street about a mile long, well built, for the most part with an excellent quality of red brick, manufactured right there. It is quite a business centre, and seems to be growing fast. Farmers come in from many miles around, and I saw a big trade in farming implements going on. Four great implement firms are represented there, viz.: Deering, McCormick, Massey-Harris and Frost & Wood.

Alberta on the whole is a fine agricultural country, and offers a splendid opportunity to the would-be farmer. The country, even in its newness, looks well, and can be vastly improved by settlement; and no doubt harvesting will be earlier as the country is brought under cultivation. The citizens of Alberta assert that they have always matured their crops as they did this year, being favored with bright, warm weather after the 1st of September.

I left Edmonton Sept. 9th for Calgary, thence to Salmon, B.C., where I spent nearly a week, returning to Calgary Sept. 19th. All this time the weather was warm and sunny, and I learned on returning to Calgary that the Alberta crop was considered safe and business in the town brisk, the hotels all full.

I did not take up any land, my purpose being to see the country, and if favorably impressed, to go there later. I found the country highly satisfactory, all things considered, and will likely go there next summer.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed)

J. C. Barrett.

Ponoka, Alta., Nov. 26, 1898.

W. V. Bennett, Omaha, Neb.

Dear Sir,—As the weather is so nice here at present I thought I would write and let you know, as it may be of some benefit to you. I never saw such nice weather anywhere I have ever been. We have no snow, and the old settlers think it will last until the 1st of January. The farmers have not had to feed any stock yet. Cattle are running out on grass and are as fat as if they were being fed. I do not think Burt County, Nebraska, can show the cattle in so good shape as we can, even if they have been fed on corn.

I am going to try and write a letter to the Lyons Mirror soon and give the country a little blow up.

Homesteads are getting scarce close to town now—the nearest land that is left to Ponoka is six miles. There is a good deal of railroad land left yet.

I am going to write to a man by the name of Young in Thomasville, Mo., to-morrow.

Hoping this finds you well, with half as nice weather as we have here,

I remain, your respectfully,

F. E. Robertson.

REPORT OF W. C. TUTTLE, CLEAR LAKE, IOWA.

Clear Lake, Iowa, Dec. 1st, 1899.

Benjamin Davies, Esq., St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir,—I beg your pardon for not answering sooner, but have been so busy since my return have hardly had time. In regard to Western Canada, and the Alberta district in particular, would say that I think there are grand opportunities for young people to get good homes very cheap, and a fine chance. I intend moving there by the 1st January, 1900, if possible.

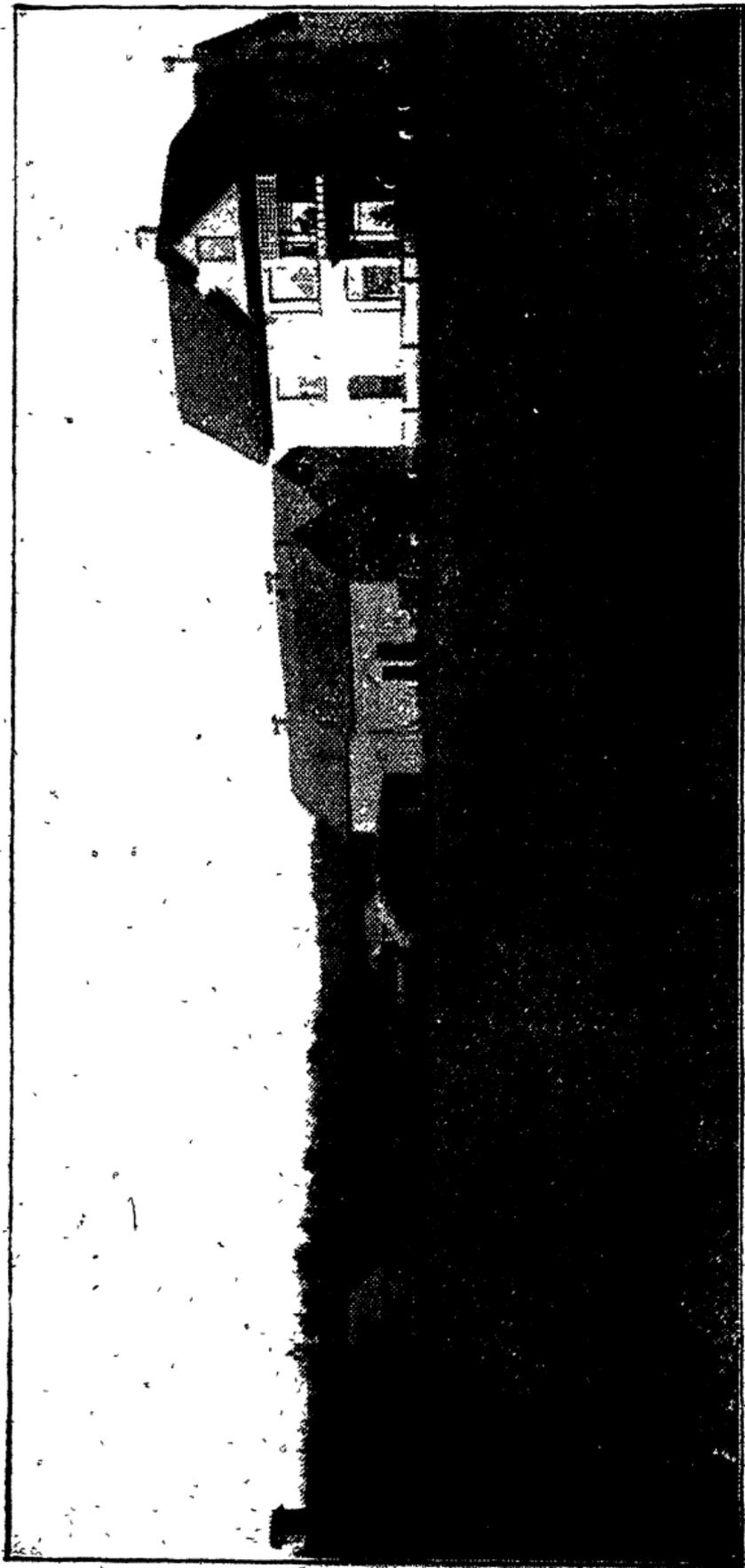
The climate is fine, the people and officials very kind and obliging, so what more could a man ask for? The crops were the best I ever saw.

I remain, yours truly,

(Signed)

W. C. Tuttle,

Clear Lake, Ia.



AFTER TEN YEARS RESIDENCE IN WESTERN CANADA.



**ANSWERS RECEIVED TO QUESTIONS
SUBMITTED TO THE FOLLOWING
SETTLERS:**

Mr. J. G. Beesley, who resides on Section 22, 18,
22, west 2nd, Mailborough P.O., N.W.T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1883.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 27.

What number of cattle have you? 30.

What number of swine have you? 20.

What capital did you have to start with? \$600.

How much land have you under cultivation? 320
acres—wheat 200 acres, oats 80 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and imple-
ments? \$3,300.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop
and cattle available for sale this season? \$3,500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your
district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm?
\$5 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Andrew Hagerty, who resides on Sections
14 and 15, 18-24 west 2nd, Stony Beach P.O., Assiniboia,
N.W.T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1889.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 15.

What number of cattle have you? 35.

What capital did you have to start with? \$4,000.

How much land have you under cultivation? 240
acres—wheat 160 acres, oats 75 acres, other grains 5 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and imple-
ments? \$2,150.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop
and cattle available for sale this season? \$3,646.32.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your
district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm?
\$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Hugh Gilmour, who resides on Section 6,
19-20 west 2nd, Moosejaw P.O., Assiniboia, N.W.T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1885.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 11.

What number of cattle have you? 15.

What capital did you start with? Yoke of oxen; no money.

How much land have you under cultivation? 165 acres—wheat 150 acres, oats 15 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,075.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$4,300.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 to \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Samuel K. Rothwell, who resides on Section 22, 17-27 west 2nd, Moosejaw P. O., Assiniboia, N.W.T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1884.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 14.

What number of cattle have you? 50.

What number of swine have you? 40.

What capital did you have to start with? \$700.

How much land have you under cultivation? 230 acres—wheat 200 acres, oats 80 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,100.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$4,420.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Alex. Morrison, who resides on Section 30, 6, 3, west 1st, Carman, P. O., Manitoba.

When did you settle in your present location? 1882.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 30.

What number of swine have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? Team of horses, household effects, provisions for six months, seed grain. No cash.

How much land have you under cultivation? 225 acres—wheat 130 acres, oats 50 acres, barley 25 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,000.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district. Wheat-growing and mixed farming.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$15 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$10 to \$12 per acre.

Mr. Wm. J. Rattray, who resides on Section 16, 7, 26, west 1st meridian, Pipestone P. O., Manitoba.

When did you settle in your present location? 1892.

Have you been successful? Yes.

How much land have you under cultivation? 715 acres—wheat 600 acres, oats 100 acres, barley 15 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,000.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$5,300.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Raising of wheat and cattle.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$7 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$5 per acre.

Mr. H. Ewing, who resides on Section 3, 54, 22, west of 4th meridian, Agricola P. O., Alta., N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1894.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 32.

What number of swine have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$2,600.

How much land have you under cultivation? 120 acres—wheat 70 acres, oats 38 acres, barley 12 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,291.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,350.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$5 to \$6 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. P. Flynn, who resides on Section 12, 55, 25, west 4th meridian, Roseridge P. O., Alberta, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1894.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 20.

What number of swine have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$1,500.

How much land have you under cultivation; 66 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres—wheat 35 acres, oats 27 acres, barley 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,500.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$5 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. William Wood, who resides on west half, 12, 19, 29; west 1st meridian, Elkhorn P. O., Manitoba.

Nationality, Scotch.

When did you locate in your present location? 1883.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 12.

What capital did you have to start with? \$500.

How much land have you under cultivation? 165 acres.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 to \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 to \$6 per acre.

Mr. Peter Wunder, who resides on Section 22, 30, 10, west 2nd, Sheho P. O., Alberta, N. W. T.

Nationality, American.

When did you settle in your present location? 1891.

Have you been successful? Yes, very much so.

What number of horses have you? 26.

What number of cattle have you? 100.

What capital did you have to start with? I had no capital.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$950.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? Sold this season about \$1000 worth.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed farming and dairying.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. James E. Peaker, who resides on Section 6, 24, 3, west 2nd, Yorkton P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

Nationality, English.

When did you settle in your present location? 1888.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 20.

What number of cattle have you? 175.

What capital did you have to start with? \$2,500.

How much land have you under cultivation? 240 acres—wheat 60 acres, oats 80 acres, other grain 100 acres.

What is the value of your house, stables and implements? \$1,425.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,600.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

Mr. Samuel Sanderson, who resides on Section 2, 26, 4, west 2nd meridian, Yorkton P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1888.

What number of horses have you? 8.

What number of cattle have you? 64.

What capital did you have to start with? About \$100.

How much land have you under cultivation? 100 acres—wheat, 85 acres, oats, 15 acres.

What is the value of your house, stables and implements? \$1,450.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,200.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Henry Harris, who resides on Section 12, 25, 4, west 2nd, Yorkton P.O., Assiniboia, N.W.T.

Nationality, Englishman.

When did you settle in your present location? 1889.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 55.

What capital did you have to start with? \$800.

How much land have you under cultivation? 90 acres—wheat 40 acres, oats 50 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,400.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Henry Schwitzer, who resides on Section 34, 18, 7, west 2nd, Grenfell P.O., Assiniboia, N.W.T.

Nationality, German.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 5.

What number of cattle have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$75.

How much land have you under cultivation? 95 acres—wheat 60 acres, oats 30 acres, rye 5 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$950.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. W. K. Jefferson, who resides on half of Section 24, 7, 4, west 2nd, Carlyle P.O., N.W.T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1882.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 9.

What number of cattle have you? 59.

What capital did you have to start with? \$3.

How much land have you under cultivation? 92 acres—wheat 60 acres, oats 20 acres, barley 12 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,000.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,700.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

Mr. Edward Turner, who resides on Section 21, 16, 18, west 1st, Minnedosa, Manitoba.

Nationality, Scotch-Canadian.

When did you settle in your present location? 1882

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 50.

What capital did you have to start with? \$400.

How much land have you under cultivation? 205 acres—wheat 50 acres, oats 75 acres, barley 20 acres, summer fallow 60 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,700.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mized.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 to \$7 per acre.

Mr. Charles Martin, who resides on Section 22, 18, 21, west 2nd, Wascana P. O., Assiniboia, N.W.T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1883.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 22.

What capital did you have to start with? \$2,000.

How much land have you under cultivation? 135 acres—wheat 90 acres, oats 45 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,100.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$2,555.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Duncan Buchanan, who resides on Section 19, 15, 9, west 1st meridian.

Nationality, Scotch-Canadian.

When did you settle in your present location? 1880.

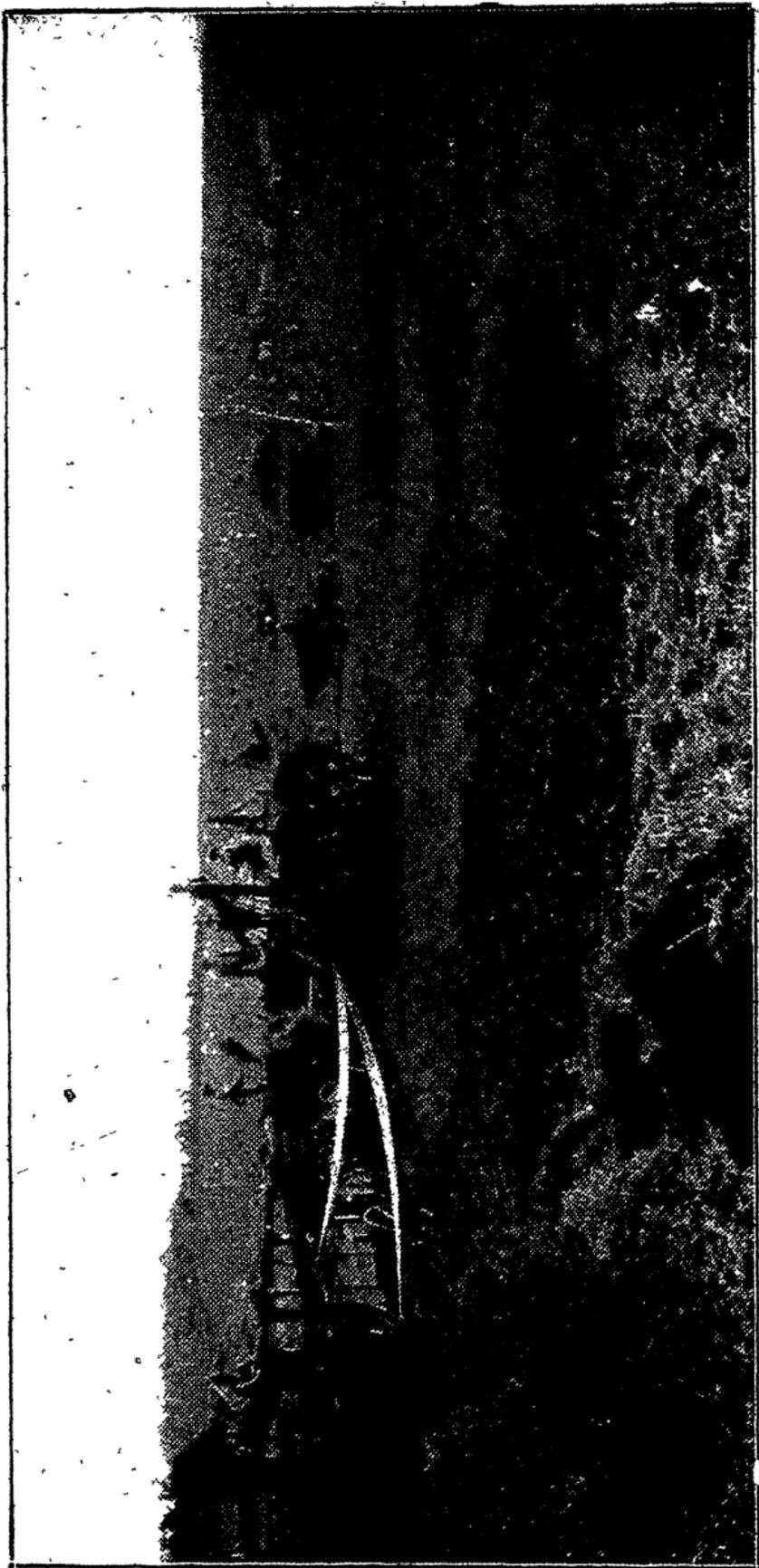
Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 8.

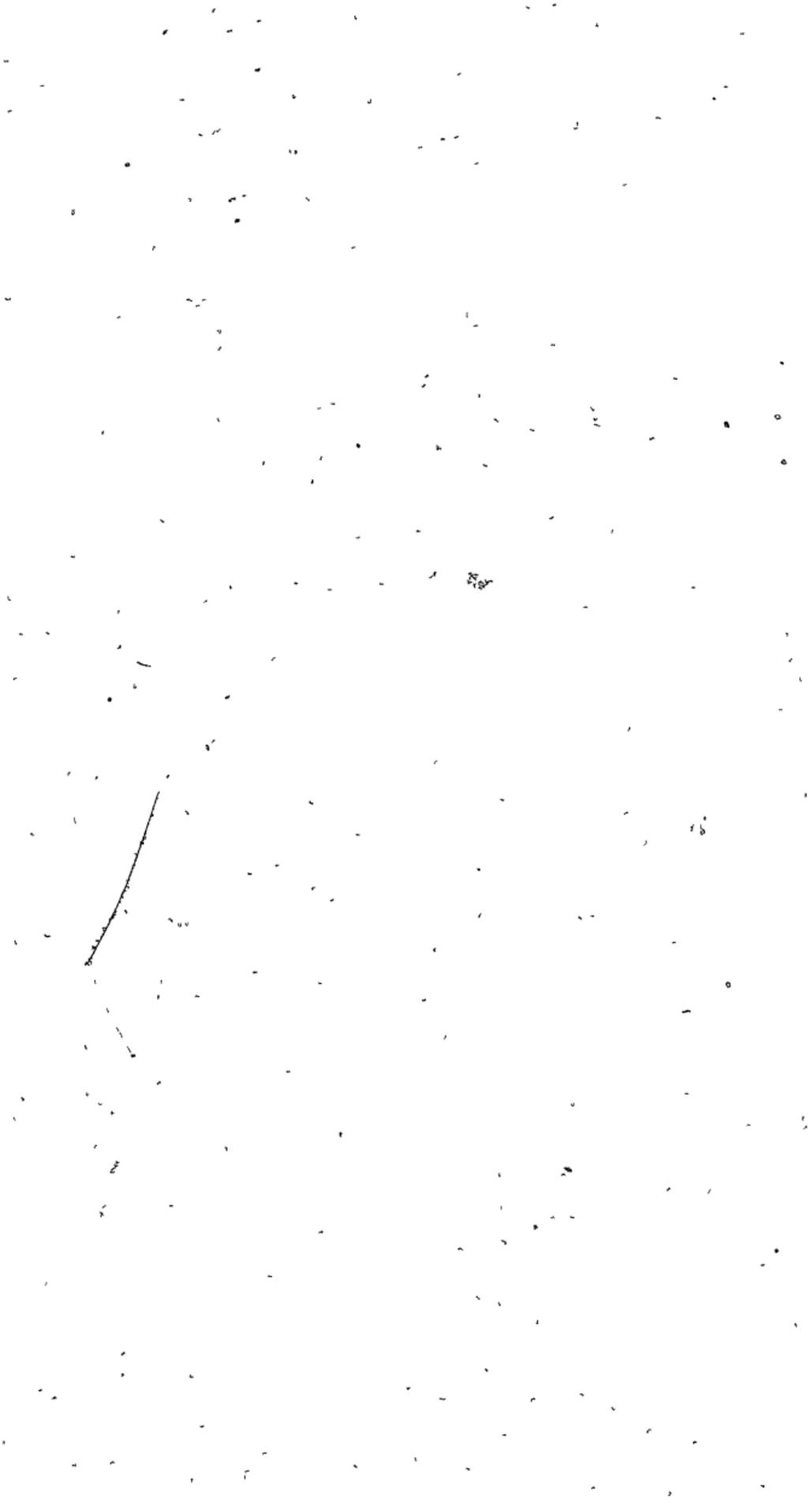
What number of cattle have you? None.

What capital did you have to start with? Nothing.

How much land have you under cultivation? 100 acres—wheat 30 acres, oats 70 acres.



THRESHING NO. 1 HARD WHEAT IN WESTERN CANADA.



What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,800.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$3 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 to \$6 per acre.

Mr. Charles Tanson, who resides on Section 13, 15, 17, west 1st meridian, Franklin P.O., Manitoba.

Nationality, English-Canadian.

When did you settle in your present location? 1891.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 6.

What number of cattle have you? 2.

What number of swine have you? 100.

How much land have you under cultivation? 101 acres—wheat 60 acres, oats 11 acres, barley 9 acres, other grains 11 acres, timothy 10 acres.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,600.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,200.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 to \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$4 to \$5 per acre.

Mr. Peter Hume, who resides on Section 28, 13, 17, west 1st meridian, Minnedosa, Manitoba.

Nationality, Scotch.

When did you settle in your present location? 1882.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 14.

What number of cattle have you? 35.

How much land have you under cultivation? 200 acres—wheat 75 acres, oats 50 acres, other grains 75 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$1,000.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,500.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 to \$5 per acre.

Mr. Philip Lowhuberg, who resides on Section 2, 19, 7, west 2nd meridian, Grenfell P. O., N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1887.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 4.

What number of cattle have you? 15.

How much land have you under cultivation? 83 acres—Wheat 65 acres, oats 18 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$500.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$600.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

Mr. Henry Swan, who resides on Parish Lot No. 381, Tp. 5, Range 1, east 1st meridian, Morris P. O., Manitoba.

Nationality, German.

When did you settle in your present location? 1878.

Have you been successful? I have.

What number of horses have you? 10.

What number of cattle have you? 25.

What capital did you have to start with? \$700.

How much land have you under cultivation? 210 acres—wheat 140 acres, oats 40 acres, barley 20 acres, other grains 10 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$2,600.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$1,800.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$10 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$5 per acre.

Mr. Thomas H. Jackson, who resides on Section 31, 15, 17, west 1st meridian, Minnedosa P. O., Manitoba.

Nationality, Irish-Canadian.

When did you settle in your present location? 1878.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 28.

What number of cattle have you? 68.

What capital did you have to start with? \$100.

How much land have you under cultivation? 270 acres—wheat 120 acres, oats 75 acres, barley 25 acres, fallow 50 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$7,300.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$4,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$4 per acre.

Mr. Basil Hutchinson, who resides on Section 2, 19, 21, west 2nd, Lumsden P. O., Assiniboia, N. W. T.

When did you settle in your present location? 1890.

Have you been successful? Yes.

What number of horses have you? 20.

What number of cattle have you? 30.

What capital did you have to start with? \$2,000.

How much land have you under cultivation? 265 acres—wheat 200 acres, oats 65 acres.

What is the value of your house, stable and implements? \$3,100.

What do you estimate as the cash value of your crop and cattle available for sale this season? \$3,000.

What class of farmers is the most successful in your district? Mixed.

What is the average price of an improved farm? \$8 per acre.

What is the average price of wild land? \$3 per acre.

FORMERLY OF MINNESOTA—HE SAYS,
"COME OUT HERE"

Vir den, Man., 18th Nov., 1899.

Hon. Clifford Sifton,
Minister of the Interior,

Ottawa.

Sir,—Thinking that my experience in Manitoba might be both useful and interesting to my fellow-countrymen in the United States, who may be looking to Manitoba and the Northwest with the intention of settling there, I have much pleasure in stating that through information received from Mr. W. F. McCreary, Immigration Commissioner at Winnipeg. I was induced to visit Manitoba in February, 1898. When I called upon Mr. McCreary he spared no pains to give me all the information, etc., in his possession, the result of which was that I came here with a letter of introduction from him to the Secretary of the Vir den Board of Trade. That gentleman provided me with a competent land guide, and although there was considerable snow on the ground, I had no difficulty in selecting three homesteads for myself and sons. Having made the necessary homestead entries at the Land Office in Brandon, I returned to my home in Lyon County, Minnesota, and came back here in May following, accompanied by one of my boys, bringing with us two teams of horses, implements, etc. Our first work was to erect a temporary shanty and stable, after which we broke and levelled 75 acres and put up 30 tons of hay. I went back to Minnesota about 20th July, leaving my son here. I returned in October, bringing my family with me. I found that the land we had acquired was of good quality, being a strong clay loam with clay subsoil. Last spring I sowed 100 acres in wheat, 50 acres in oats and barley (75 acres of this grain was sowed on breaking plowed last spring). My crop was threshed in October, the result being over 2,700 bushels of grain in all. Wheat averaged 15 bushels per acre, and graded No. 1 hard, but that which was sown on land other than sod ("coback") went 24½ bushels per acre.

To say that I am well pleased with the result of my first year's farming operations in Manitoba does not adequately express my feelings, and I have no hesitation in advising those who are living in districts where land is high in price, to come out here, if they are willing to do a fair amount of work. I am 10 miles from Vir den, which is a good market town, and 9 miles from Hargrave,

where there are two elevators. This summer I erected a dwelling house of native stone and bought a half-section of land adjoining our homesteads, for which I paid a very moderate price. There are still some homesteads in this district, and land of fine quality can be purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company at \$3.50 per acre on liberal terms. Good water is generally found at a depth of from 15 to 20 feet. I have 175 acres ready for crop next year.

The cost of living here is about the same as in Southern Minnesota. Some commodities are higher and others lower in price, but the average is about the same.

I remain

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

Jacob Reichert.

SYNOPSIS OF HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS, ETC.

New arrivals in Manitoba will find government officials and offices ready to supply all information concerning lands and the districts where farming land can be had.

All even-numbered sections, excepting 8 and 26, are open for homestead entry (160 acres) by any person sole head of a family, or any male over the age of 18 years.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office for the district in which the land to be taken is situated, or if the homesteader desires, he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Ottawa, receive authority for some one to be named by the intending settler near the local office to make the entry for him. Entry fee, \$10, or if cancelled land, \$20.

Under the law, homestead duties are to be performed by three years' cultivation and residence, during which period the settler may not be absent for more than six months in any one year, without forfeiting the entry.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT.

Application may be made before the local agent or any homestead inspector. Six months' notice must be given in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands by a settler of his intention prior to making application for patent.

If the settler has money, he can find farms well improved and in advanced cultivation, when he can commence on a scale as extensive as he likes.

If he has but little means and desires to rent the first year he can get properties to suit him, with or without teams, implements and seed, with the owner ready to assist him. As teams and implements can be bought on liberal time by paying from a quarter to a third down, as land can be got anywhere by giving a portion of the crop as first payment; and as seed can be got on time by giving a mortgage on the crop, a start can easily be made with little means; but to succeed under such circumstances, a good crop and fair prices, with great economy in the settler must follow. Other methods of settling are open to the emigrant, but these are most commonly adopted. In all cases it is very advantageous to the settler to commence with a couple of milch cows, some pigs and poultry, as they are very easily kept through summer and winter, and are a great help towards keeping the family while the crops are growing. As is shown in another section, the settler should also see to it that in addition to his wheat crop he should put in plenty of roots and vegetables for his own use, if not for sale. They grow with but little labour, and are a great assistance in housekeeping.

RAILWAY LANDS.

Railway lands consist of the odd-numbered sections along the main line of Canadian Pacific and branches, and in the Saskatchewan, Battle and Red River districts. The railway lands are for sale at the various agencies of the company in the United Kingdom, Eastern Canada and the Northwest Territories, at the following prices:

Lands in the province of Manitoba average \$3 to \$6 an acre. Lands in the province of Assiniboia, east of the 3rd meridian, average \$3 to \$4 an acre. Lands west of the 3rd meridian, including most of the valuable lands in the Calgary district, \$3 per acre. Lands in Saskatchewan, Battle and Red Deer River districts, \$3 per acre.

The Canada Northern and Manitoba & Northwestern Railways also have lands for sale along their lines at about the same prices.

If paid for in full at the time of purchase, a reduction from the price will be allowed equal to 10 per cent on the amount paid in excess of the usual cash instalment and a Deed of Conveyance will be given; but the purchaser may pay in ten equal yearly instalments, including interest at 6 per cent.

NATURALIZATION.

Every person who is of the full age of twenty-one years, and not an idiot, lunatic or married woman, can become a British subject as a Canadian. The person must have resided in Canada not less than three years, or been in the service of the Government of Canada or any of the Provinces of Canada, for not less than two years. He must take the oath of allegiance, and also an oath that he intends to remain in Canada. If a British subject desires to throw off his allegiance he may do so. He is also entitled to resume it. These proceedings are called "expatriation" and "repatriation." Aliens may hold property in all respects as British subjects, but they are not qualified for the municipal or parliamentary franchise; nor can an alien be an owner of a British ship.

If, after reading this pamphlet, any further information is required, application may be made to any of the following officials:

IN CANADA

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF IMMIGRATION,
Department of Interior, Ottawa.

THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

IN THE UNITED STATES.

M. V. McINNIS,
No. 2 Merrill Block, Detroit, Michigan.

D. L. CAVEN,
Columbus, Ohio.

JAMES GRIEVE,
Box 822, Saginaw, Michigan.

J. S. CRAWFORD,
214 W. 9th St., Kansas City, Missouri.

BENJAMIN DAVIES,
154½ East Third Street, St. Paul, Minn.

T. O. CURRIE,
Madison, Wisconsin.

C. J. BROUGHTON,
1223 Monadnock Building, Chicago, Ill.

W. V. BENNETT,
801 N. Y. Life Building, Omaha, Neb.

W. H. ROGERS,
Watertown, South Dakota.

N. BARTHOLOMEW,
306 Fifth Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

J. H. M. PARKER,
316 Palladio Building, Duluth, Minn.

WILLIAM RITCHIE,
Grafton, North Dakota,

E. T. HOLMES,
Indianapolis, Indiana.