

A FARMER ON MANITOBA

DESCRIBES THE COUNTRY, ITS CLIMATE AND RESOURCES.

Where Capital, Knowledge and Industry Are Certain of Reward—Fifteen Years Experience in the Prairie Province—The Kind of Men Wanted in That Country.

There have been so many diverse expressions of opinion concerning Manitoba as a farming country that it may well have been called a "debatable land." Its votaries are never tired of describing it as the "place of promise," the one hope of the Dominion; its detractors would have you believe that it is fit not even for a dog to live in; and between these two there is a whole gamut of opinion for and against. The truth is often found to be the mean between two extremes, but in the case of Manitoba, after a careful sifting of the evidence, one is inclined to believe that "the ayes have it." One is especially inclined to this opinion after a chat with Mr. Samuel Hanna, himself a successful Manitoba farmer, and one of the largest in the province. Mr. Hanna went to Manitoba fifteen years ago and he sums up the experience of those three lustriums in this pregnant sentence: "Manitoba is good enough for me."

Mr. Hanna is a man that it does one good to meet; large of frame, as is fitting for a land of "broad acres," kindly of disposition, of indomitable perseverance, and filled with the knowledge of his business to his finger-tips, he strikes you as

THE IDEAL PIONEER.

and the kind of man whose absence from the "Deserted Village" Goldsmith most deplored. When Mr. Hanna first settled in Griswold, in 1881, there was no railway nearer than Portage La Prairie, sixty miles west of Winnipeg. Brandon was first surveyed for town sites in the May of that year and the first sale was made in June. In fact, from Portage La Prairie to Vancouver all the town sites have been surveyed and built up since that date—a fact eminently to be taken into consideration when criticising the progress of the country.

But let Mr. Hanna speak for himself: "I went from Pennsylvania to Griswold, Manitoba," he says "in 1881. I cleared the land and in 1883 I raised two thousand bushels at eighty-two cents and eighty-one cents per bushel. There was no elevator there then. In 1884, I raised four thousand bushels, which I sold for seventy-six cents. In 1885 the crop was a little injured by frost and in that year I shipped four thousand bushels to Toronto, obtaining for it forty cents per bushel. In 1886 I sold seven thousand bushels at sixty cents; in 1887, ten thousand bushels at fifty-two cents; in 1888, six thousand bushels at a dollar and two cents. In 1889 there was a drought, which nearly burnt up the crop, the average being only about ten bushels per acre. In 1890, I sold fourteen thousand bushels at eighty-two cents and in 1891, eleven thousand bushels at sixty-five cents. During all this period I raised a lot of coarse grain and did some

MIXING FARMING.

Of late years the price of wheat has been very low and I have gone into mixed farming more and more extensively. "You have had no reason to complain of prices recently, Mr. Hanna?" "No, the recent depreciation has been a real blessing to the country. It has enabled those who were a bit behind to pay off their debts, increase their stocks and implements and extend their holdings. Generally, I may say that the Manitoba farmer was never in a better position than he is to-day."

"How many acres do you farm, Mr. Hanna?" "I have two farms, about ten miles apart. The one, of fifteen hundred acres, I farm myself; the other is of three hundred and fifty acres. Of these about half are under cultivation—let to a tenant on shares."

"What was your best yield of wheat per acre?" "My best yield for my whole crop was thirty-four bushels and I sold it to Mr. Ogilvie for eighty-one cents per bushel. I may say that of late years I have carried my wheat to Mr. Ogilvie's elevator at Griswold as it was threshed, and when it was all in Mr. Ogilvie has paid me the highest price for it. I do not think that farmers should speculate in wheat and the past has proved that I was always right in selling my wheat as soon as it was threshed and delivered."

"If it is not asking too much, Mr. Hanna, at what do you estimate the present value of your holding?" "I have over ten thousand dollars' worth of buildings on my farm, besides I own the land and have all the best and most modern implements, and I am happy to say that

ALL ARE PAID FOR.

"I have seen a drawing of your house and it certainly looks a fine structure." "Yes, I confess to being a little proud of that house myself. It is two stories high and built of brick; the bricks I shipped from Mr. Ogilvie. It drains into a well-constructed sewer. It is fitted with hot and cold water, etc., and has the modern system of ventilation. It also has a windmill to raise water to the top floor. It cost me five thousand dollars. I have also fitted a windmill to my barn for the purpose of crushing and cutting feed, etc."

"Mr. Hanna, is not your experience unique? I mean, you do not generally find your neighbors so successful as you have been?" "Mr. Hanna was emphatic in his reply. "My experience is not at all

been equally successful, according to the size of their properties." "Then why the bitter complaints concerning the country that we hear from time to time?"

Mr. Hanna smiled. "Now let me give you a few modern instances," he said. "Last year, at the solicitation of his friends, I gave employment to a young Swede. He was a very gentlemanly fellow, but knew no more about farming than a babe in arms. However, he said he was very anxious to work, and did not mind how hard he worked, so I let him start. In one day and said weeks he came to me one day and said he would have to leave. I asked him if he found the work too hard. No, he replied, but there was

NOT ENOUGH LEISURE.

He said, at home he had been used to read three or four hours a day and found that he could not get along without it. Of course, that is rather an extreme instance. What is of frequent occurrence though, is the advent of young Englishmen of good family, sent abroad because their people want to get rid of them. Some of these young fellows turn out well; they start doing chores, are promoted, and finally become good farmers. With the majority, however, it is different, most of them are ignorant of farming; some are idle, some are dissolute and inveterately so. They are a nuisance. The English "gentleman," who comes abroad with a few hundred pounds, and fancy he is going to make his fortune in about three months. He knows in his heart that he knows it all, and all he succeeds in "making" as a rule is making a lamentable mess of it. I remember a few years ago, some Ontario farmers coming to Manitoba. They came with their wagons and implements; they were describing the "dudes," called them "haysseeds," and the "dudes" called them "haysseeds." However, these men knew their business and the laugh was soon on the other side. I only mention these facts to show you the kind of men who do cry the country; for Englishmen in general I have

THE GREATEST ADMIRATION.

some of the best farmers in Manitoba are practical Englishmen, and I only wish there were more of them. "Now, about the climate, Mr. Hanna; that is well, rather too hot in summer, isn't it; and, to put it mildly, not exactly 'sultry' in winter, eh?" "We are told, too, that the mosquitoes in your dog days are very powerful and persevering, and hardly satisfied with a man at a meal."

"Ha, ha!" laughed Mr. Hanna, heartily. "In winter," he said "the weather is certainly cold and sharp, but it is very bracing, and we dress warmly at all; in fact, we really like it. There is no better summer climate in the world. As for the mosquitoes, they are to be found in the long grass and are to be found in the high and cultivated lands and on the rolling prairie there are hardly any." "Yet the frosts play the mischief with your wheat, Mr. Hanna?" "A little, yes, but not nearly so much as is reported. I only remember three years when the frosts damaged our crops to any extent, out of the fifteen I have been in the country. Of course, in these years the farmers suffered from the low prices of the damaged article."

"Then, to sum up, Mr. Hanna, you think that the country is 'all right'?" "I am sure that the country is all right and has a great future before it; all that is wanted is

THE RIGHT SORT OF SETTLERS.

and plenty of them. If the price of wheat keeps at a remunerative figure, as I think it will now for some time, we shall extend our operations; if it reverts to the low figures of the past few years, there is plenty of scope for mixed farming. In any case, my own opinion is that mixed farming is best, as it brings into operation all a farmer's resources, and it can easily run along side by side with the most extensive wheat cultivation."

"One or two things I would like to add to your many questions," concluded Mr. Hanna, smiling in his hearty fashion. "In Manitoba now, a good land can be bought at from three to five dollars per acre not far from the railway and settlements; of course, without improvements. I would also like to point out that we have coal fields, on the west, at Leithbridge; on the south, at Assiniboia; and that at Fort McLeod we have as good anthracite coal as is to be found anywhere in the world. Add to these things the custom that must come to us when the gold region shall have been developed, and I think you will agree with me that our future prospects are of the brightest."

A BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

Canada is on the Point of a Great Mineral and Agricultural Development. According to the published estimate of General Superintendent Whyte of the C.P.R. Manitoba will next year raise 40,000,000 bushels of wheat for export. This estimate pre-supposes that next summer's weather will be the proper blend of rain and sunshine, and that night frosts will omit their too frequent visits to the golden harvest field.

Considering that last year's crop in Manitoba was comparatively light, the expectation that 1897 will be a good agricultural year is not unreasonable. And if 1897 be a good year in Manitoba the wheat which twenty-six thousand farmers send to market ought to bring \$20,000,000 into the province. All the signs just now seem favourable to Canada's development. The indications are that the country has turned the corner. Across the border the humiliation of one party and the ascendancy of another are supposed to be a basis for national prosperity. Canada believes that national prosperity is coming, not because one party is in, and the other out, but because there are signs of a mineral and agricultural development such as the Dominion has never witnessed.

DEPARTED GRAZING.

Just thirty-three years ago to-day, said the old soldier, the top of my head was grazed by a bullet. There isn't much grazing there now. Is there, grandpa? was the comment of the youngest grandchild, and as the old gentleman rubbed his bare poll he tried to admit the correctness of the assertion.

About the House.

NOTES FROM RELIABLE.

Large sleeves have disappeared from street and informal or dressy home gowns, but party dresses of elaborate design have none whatever, writes Reliable in Ohio Farmer. A large but terribly bow, made of wide, black satin ribbon, is placed on each shoulder attached to the strap that goes over it from front to back of gown bodice, standing upright, and long gloves almost reach them in party dresses.

As I have said, deep, dark shades of red (with lighter shades of dressy wear) continue to be popular, with greens, browns, tans and grays. Reds will also continue to be much used in the millinery and dressmaking of the coming spring. This is a note worth remembering by economists in dress. The leather seats of chairs can be renewed and cleaned by rubbing with sweet oil, into which a little vinegar has been put. Use a soft cloth, putting but a small quantity of the mixture on at one time. Then take a dry, soft cloth and rub well and until the leather shines.

Braided borders are seen on the skirts of heavy cloth and other wool gowns. Also on lapels, cuffs, collars and vests of same. This is work that can be done at home. It freshens up a "made-over" gown wonderfully.

All housekeepers do not realize that it is want of economy to neglect the constant care of oilcloth. The secret of its getting out of order and rotting so soon is generally because it was not carefully treated from the first. A piece of oilcloth is put down new and left some length of time without more than ordinary sweeping. Its owner thinks that it still looks well and fresh (and it does), and she does not care to waste her time and strength on it till it really needs it. But all this time small particles of dust and dirt have been collecting in the little crevices and small cell-like holes found in all oilcloth and before she realizes that the piece she lately tacked down is anything but new, dampness has gathered in the little dirt spots, and the goods are beginning to rot, or at least to become dull and dingy, and the little holes filled up with dirt.

There is a great deal, of course, in selecting a good piece of oilcloth. Cheap goods are not worth buying. It depends for durable qualities on the paint and varnish used. If these are poor the cloth will not last long, though it may look as well as a better piece at first. Cheap goods have a filling of fish oil which never hardens, or is finished with resin varnish that becomes brittle and soon cracks and wears off. Never scrub or rub oilcloth hard. Don't wait for it to show signs of wear, dirt, or defacement, but once a week wipe it thoroughly with warm skimmed milk, using a soft flannel cloth, and be careful to wipe it dry. If milk is not at hand, use lukewarm water, or cold tea. But the warm skimmed milk both cleanses and brightens, and also helps to preserve the cloth. About twice a year oilcloth may be washed with hot soapuds, but it must be done very briskly and dried thoroughly, and then either varnished or wiped off with warm skimmed milk, as above. Any of the products of petroleum or kerosene are good, but they do not impart any varnish. They simply clean it. It must be wiped off quickly, and very little used. Two tablespoonfuls of kerosene in a gallon of soft water is about the right proportion. If your cloth is old and defaced and not capable of being brightened up, wash it with warm water and sand soap. Dry water and sand soap. Dry water and sand soap. Dry water and sand soap. Dry water and sand soap.

To clean linoleum, first wash with soap and water, or kerosene, wiping it dry. Then go over it with a flannel cloth dipped in a solution of equal parts of olive oil (that made from cottonseed or peanuts will answer here) and sharp vinegar. Use flannel and rub dry. Soda is used by some housekeepers, but it is a mistake, as it injures paint and oil, both of which enter into the make-up of linoleum.

A TEMPTING DISH.

A cold dish either for a Sunday night tea or a course at a luncheon, is easily made from half a pound of cold chicken, veal, lamb or tongue. Chop the meat fine, and mix with it two tablespoonfuls of cream, a tablespoonful of chopped parsley, and paprika to taste. This mixture is to be imbedded in a jelly made in the following way: Measure an ounce of gelatin and let it stand until soft in four tablespoonfuls of cold water. Put a pint of cold water in a saucepan, and add to it a slice of onion, a few leaves of celery, a bay leaf and a clove. When the water boils, strain it over the gelatin, season moderately with salt, and add a small teaspoonful of beef extract. When the liquid begins to thicken, pour half of it in a small mould or deep dish or bowl. Make the meat mixture into a flat layer, somewhat smaller than the size of the mould, put it on the jelly, and spread evenly. Then pour over it the remainder of the jelly. When stiff, pour the contents of the mould into a flat dish, and garnish with olives, peppers, mushrooms or croutons. Cut in slices to serve, use a cake knife to lift it, or serve as a salad on a bed of lettuce, and pass with a mayonnaise dressing. Any delicate fish that is not very oily may be served in the same way.

DELICIOUS FRENCH CANDY.

To make French nougat, boil one pound of granulated sugar and one teacupful of water over a sharp fire until it begins to turn yellow. Do not stir while boiling. Have ready one-half pound of almonds blanched and dried. Put them in the oven and leave door open; when they begin to look yellow add to the candy as it reaches the turning point described above, and quickly pour into a well-oiled tin or iron pan about one-half inch thick; mark with a sharp knife into bars before it cools. By bending the

tins between the hands slightly the candy will come out easily.

DRESS BINDING.

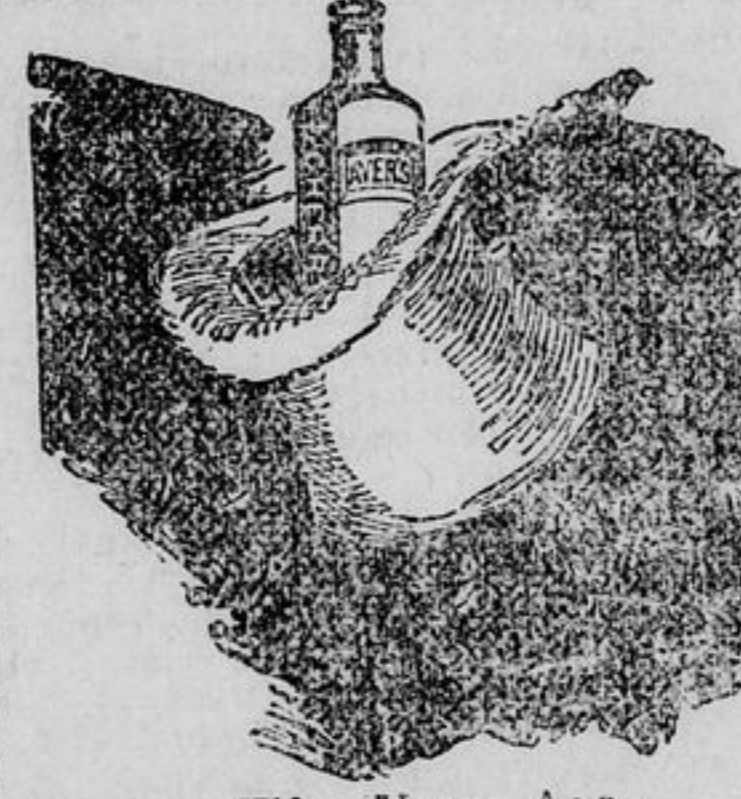
When a skirt needs rebinding take the velvet, or whatever finish it has, off entirely, even if it is but worn in spots. Then brush the skirt carefully and hang it in the air for several hours; sponge and press the bottom of the skirt, and it is ready for rebinding. If the facing is worn, it is best to renew that with alpaca or percale, about 12 inches in width. For binding, velvet is most serviceable, although there is a fad at present for mohair cord. If cord is used, it is fastened to the edge after the skirt is entirely finished; if velvet, the skirt is faced, not bound with it.

FERTILIZERS FOR WINDOW PLANTS.

A horticultural authority gives the following formula as suited to plants in the window garden: Five ounces sodium phosphate, seven ounces sulphate of potassium, six ounces nitrate of sodium. Mix and dissolve one ounce in 28 quarts of water, using only a very little of the solution in a great deal of water to wet the earth of the plants once in a while. Care must be taken not to wet the foliage.

LOVE UP A TREE.

Billing and cooing among the Fijians is a curious feature in their social customs. It is decidedly against the rule to do any courting within doors. The gardens or plantations are the spots held sacred to Cupid, and the generally approved trysting place of lovers is high up among the branches of a bread-fruit tree. You may often walk around a plantation on a moonlight night and see couples perched 40 feet from the ground in the bread-fruit trees, one on each side of the trunk, a position which comes fairly within the limits of a Fijian maiden's ideas of modesty.



Fifty Years Ago.

Grandfather's hat! And within it you see, Grandfather's favorite cough remedy. Whether 'twas Asthma, Bronchitis or Croup, or he who at night waked the house with a whoop, With Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Grandfather was sure That no cold or cough would ever fail of a cure. In hats the styles change, but the records will show Coughs are cured as they were 50 years ago.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

is no equal as a remedy for coughs, colds, and lung diseases. Where other soothing elixirs palliate, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral heals. It is not a cheap cough syrup, which soothes but does not strengthen; it is a physician's cough remedy, and it cures. It is put up in large bottles, only for household use. It was awarded the medal at the World's Fair of ninety-three. It has a record of

50 Years of Cures.

Here in Ottawa

Irresistible Proof That There is a Cure for Diabetes.

The following sworn statement is the best proof that diabetes is not incurable, and that there is a remedy which will cure it:

Ottawa, County of Carleton, to wit: I, Charles Moss, of the City of Ottawa, in the County of Carleton, Blacksmith, do hereby solemnly declare as follows:

1. I reside at 150 Bell Street, in the said City of Ottawa.
2. For the past fifteen years I have been a great sufferer from kidney disease; among the prominent symptoms of which were severe pains in my back, hot flashes extending from the base of the spine up between my shoulders, dizziness, headaches, etc. I was in a bad state generally and suffered great agony at times. The intense pain prevented my sleeping, and I seemed to get worse continually. The doctors who were called in pronounced my disease diabetes, but their treatment did no good, and they held out but slight hope of my recovery. I was then so far gone with the disease that I could not turn in bed without help. My urine was of a dark wine color, and full of sediment.
3. I took all kinds of medicine, but without permanent relief.
4. Hearing of Doan's Kidney Pills I got a box at H. P. McCarthy's drug store, but having been so often disappointed I had no faith in them. However, I started taking them, and they struck the right spot at once, and I commenced to get better. From that time on improvement was continuous until I am now, after five weeks use of Doan's Kidney Pills, entirely free from pain of any kind. My urine is natural, and I am now working right along every day in my shop.
5. It is a great source of pleasure for me to testify to the world of the curative powers of Doan's Kidney Pills, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Sgd. CHARLES MOSS,

Declared before me at the City of Ottawa, in the County of Carleton, this 4th day of April, 1896.

Sgd. JOHN E. O'MEARA, A Commissioner, etc.

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The D. & L. Emulsion Will build you up if your general health is impaired.

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AGRICULTURE

HANDLING HEIFERS

On the proper handling depends in a great measure the fitness of the milk. P. Goodrich. We have a heifer for a special purpose it is to produce a large quantity of milk, the largest returns possible for the food a cow is able to convert into milk a milk-producing food consume and utilize of foods is largely a matter of habit. The heifer best for producing a large quantity of milk should be a large one, containing a large amount of fat, and that are best for producing fat, the same kinds that produce bone and muscle in the young frame in the young heifer should be the dairy should be fed growth and development made fat or allowed habit. That would value as a dairy, for when she comes you try to push it to make her produce (and therefore ducts, she will refer to the full amount will pile some of it up. She should be afforded. When he wants her to make feed, except what own support, into guard against infection when they are skin milk and a feed wheat bran, and such muscle, not feed to any tending foods as time. The heifer, if proper she is two years old good growth and yield. She should be in at that age been better cow if she ness of her life, with an early age. In another year with have a good pasture she would get fat thus formed would her value as a dairy from calfhood up treated in the same manner. Instead afraid of her own she should be tended to see him. A hired man go into the cows and heifer er up around him for a kind word. I conclude there is ship and kindly feed and they will do the other hand, in the field they see and keep as far as possible. I make up sooner he leaves a ter it will be for der that cows show solely necessary. I have a liking for and milks them. about to come in box stall in a stable handled and petted the care of her. a good bed and be as possible, and the be given frequent cold. When she is time when the skill is required developed into capable of being given half a ton and if she is half a ton in a quarter her thirst is quenched feverish condition, but little grain is fed for the first week tritious hay or food a little wheat bran the first week be gradually introduced weeks after calving feed, and in four up to her maximum get the heifer well ready give down man milker is requiring the utmost degree of success. tended depends, if the future useful good way to do is which the calf is er can reach and best that the calf of the time comes up the calf from its gins to suck you up. Do this every time suck unless you are it. You are in part to think she has g by the time the calf can be taken a hearing of the cow ly notice it. One dropped out and the she will hardly be Her calf has been accepted in its adopted calf, and her milk as ready would for her own you can take it up will not appear to Milk is a product bles the mother off. I am sure she has gation goes along ing milk, and to b must have some h of the cow. If the er she will never cows are not so organized. With seem to matter i