

STOCK PARADE

There is no Country Like North Dakota for Cattle, Horses and Sheep—The Climate is Just Right—The Grasses Are Especially Rich and Upon the Wide and Free Prairies the Finest Beef and Mutton Are Grown—A Stockman Writes of Stock Probabilities.

In considering the live stock interests of North Dakota we must consider the various factors that enter into it and otherwise. It will not do to consider this industry in holiday attire, enjoying the news that it is a boom and must not alone take into account the appearance of the products of the ranges when on dress parade in the ranges where on times grass and nutritious fodder more than abundant everywhere, accompanied by pools of fresh water in the ravines, creeks and river beds and water holes, where cattle and sheep live in a veritable paradisaic condition. The climate is just what while the atmosphere is perfect and rare, as is only can be in June. Then, in the autumn, after the season of abundant fodder, when muttons and hives are fat and handsome, the best and most healthy animals being selected for market.

In the shipping season we hear of the good profits made, but the losses are not advertised. At the present writing we have forty-five counties in the State of North Dakota. Recent legislation may reduce this number to thirty-nine. When we consider that the population of North Dakota, with its forty-five counties and immense area, scarcely exceeds that of the city of Minneapolis, we can readily comprehend that an abundance of native prairie lands in this State offers all the possibilities for the raising of live stock at a minimum cost can be limited only by exposure to the elements in winter, lack of water and the destruction of the native prairie pasture land by fire or the encroachments of the plow.

There are immense areas of prairie land in North Dakota covered by the most nutritious grasses, but except early in the spring and early summer months, without water. Such areas are the most desirable, for they can be diked and erect wind sheds and provide winter fodder and shelter for live stock. The trade of the native prairie of North Dakota frequently comes in contact with the remains of former prairie, and is the most desirable. The prairie lands within the past twenty years. Following the buffalo herds in live stock men to fatten on the nutritious grasses, while favored by the protection of the elements, the weight and perfection, impossible in more southerly climates.

There are also here a boom in live stock in the range country in the western part of the state. Twenty-five dollars per head was a moderate price for a cow, and many of the best steers to send from farming ranges to Western ranges—cows, calves and corresponding prices. It was then supposed that it was only necessary to graze the calves on the native prairie and have them breed, grow and thrive, as the jack rabbit, deer, antelope and buffalo have done. However, the winter of 1886 arrived, and for years following the pioneers who picked up the bones of animals and the hides, and the hides were to be sold by the ton and shipped in car loads for tanneries and fertilizers. The cost of manufacturing hides, including cartage, freight and commissions averages about 1 cent per pound.

The price charged for starch varies with the supply. Just at present the Eastern markets are heavily stocked and the price is 2 1/2 cents per pound. The average factory of Aroostook county, fully equipped, about 100,000 bushels of capacity of eight tons of starch daily. One bushel of potatoes contains about 12 1/2 pounds of starch. From 80,000 to 90,000 bushels are recovered in manufacturing.

In the manufacture of starch the water must be free from salts of iron, lime and ferments. The presence of much organic or suspended matter renders the water unsuitable. Water added to the water, and then allowed to settle, will generally improve the water, but when it is found that the water is not suitable, the establishment of other industries, the manufacture of synthetic nitrate, sulphate and food preparations.

PIRAMID PARK. I dislike exceedingly to use the title Bad Lands in connection with the wonderful West of North Dakota. I dislike it more than ever since making a long drive through the portion of the cultivated lands the way I like to think of them, for nature has carved out here, on a most magnificent scale, and a model of nature's work, crags and pyramids, to say nothing of small stone and clay designs, that one could not find in any other part of the world, bewitched land. Pyramid Park is another name given to this region, and is well deserved. Those who live within its bounds, whose herds of horses and cattle graze and a most beautiful view, and the crags are the good lands. Such a wrong impression does the name Bad Lands give, and it is not fair to the people who live here, and it is a pity that it is so widely used. The Park may be said to follow in a general way the line of the Little Missouri river. This stream is usually Continued on eighth page.

THE BONANZA

The Greatest of Them Tells How it is Done, the Methods and Profits Thereof—The Pioneers Have Won the Heat and Burden of the Day, and the Reward for the Late Comers to the Vineyard is Great.

Each succeeding year verifies the fact that too much has never been said in favor of our Northwestern states.

Their healthfulness of climate, productivity of soil, ease of cultivation, accommodation by railroad proximity to markets, together with advances of schools, churches and self-respecting, law-abiding neighborhoods, have made them the most profitable and promised land of the sober, industrious, progressive young farmer.

Forty years ago the writer crossed the Mississippi river to cast his lot with the pioneers of the great West in their work of settlement and development of a vast country, which looked, for all we knew, as primeval as the Eden of centuries ago, when God made the world.

THE CEREAL

And its Value—A Farmer, who is Also a Dealer in the Choicest Bread Stuff of Creation, Gives his Ideas About the Beautiful Berry and its Value in the Markets of the World—Some Account of the Bulls and Bears in the Great Staple.

Last May everything indicated a season of drought in the Northwest. In a large portion of the west where their leading cereals was a failure, in other portions, particularly in the wheat zone of the states, raising winter wheat, was there an average crop. For the first time in the history of the country the visible supply of wheat—poised weekly upon every board of trade of the continent—was in excess of the weekly Oct. 1, notwithstanding the enormous receipts at Minneapolis, Duluth and West Superior.

The most reliable authority in the United States upon crop yields, not excepting the United States Census Bureau, is the Cincinnati Price Current. This great statistical authority estimated the wheat crop of the country, within the area of 2,250,000 acres, at 400,000,000 bushels. The estimates made by the department of agriculture practically sustained the estimate of the present writer. Notwithstanding the deductions of eminent authorities, wheat is today selling at an unusually high price at this time, and that, too, with 300,000,000 bushels less in the visible supply than in the week of 3rd June. Naturally, we look for some cause for this apparent lack of confidence in the value of the leading cereal of the world. There is a host in the country but that will admit that we have barely enough wheat in this country to supply our own wants, including that required for seedling purposes, until another harvest; and yet our output is so large that it is sold to the world, the choicest that the Lord ever permitted to grow, is selling for little more than the price of the common ones on lines of various railroads.

There is something wrong somewhere. Who or what it is, possibly can be raised only by a resort to the prevailing prices, but what states the farmer in the Western states—in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Iowa—where stimulants are required because of the worn condition of the soil, and the high cost of the soil on a product that is selling in Chicago for 55 cents per bushel? All these things are true, but they are all for the present state of affairs. Are all boards of trade in this country in a degree responsible for these unusual prices? It is not likely that there were 80,000,000 or 90,000,000 bushels of wheat in the visible supply of the world in the week of June 3rd. It is possible that we have used the fact as a club to beat down prices, to-day, with little more than the price of the common ones. Some old quadrupled has the power to knock the "stuffed" out of prices at his pleasure. The bull of the world, however, he has neither courage nor money, and any Munchausen yarn, no matter how gauzy, will drive him into the water, and he will sink with more courageous adversary.

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DOES IT PAY?

A Flax Riser Discusses That Question With Reference to One of North Dakota's Great Productions—A Valuable Article for the Farmer and the Interests of Reading for Everybody.

In reply to your question: "Will it pay to continue growing flax with other crops on the Red River valley lands, and the result of experiments in that direction, for personal benefit only." I intend to stay in the Red River valley, before coming in I paid attention to reports giving character of the soil, subsoil, products and climate, and was very hopeful for results from

men from the overdone and overpopulated Eastern states and the old world to their borders. We tried an invitation not alone from the Bureau of Reclamation, but to our well established literary, social and political privileges and to grow and growing business enterprises. Our pioneers have already borne the heat and the burden of the day in the development of a grand country and we take pleasure in welcoming the stream of civilization, with its possibilities and the benefits of its higher civilization. —Oliver Davenport.

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THE HELPER

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