

acre; buckwheat, in some seasons, gives a good crop, but it is by no means certain, owing to the early frosts; oats do not thrive well; peas, beans, and potatoes yield abundantly; little or no hay is made, the cattle being able to feed all the year round on the natural hay, which they find very nutritious, and fatten upon it. The grass grows up rapidly in the beginning of summer; and the subsequent heat and drought convert it into hay, in which all the juices are preserved. Besides this, they have on the prairies along the river, two luxuriant growths of grass; the first in the spring, and the second soon after the overflowing of the river subsides, which is generally in July and August. The last crop lasts the remainder of the season. Neither do they require shelter, although they are penned in at night. The pens are movable; and the use of them is not only for security against the wolves, but to manure the ground.

The farm at Vancouver is about nine miles square. On this they have two dairies, and milk upwards of one hundred cows. There are also two other dairies, situated on Wapauto Island on the Willamette, where they have one hundred and fifty cows, whose milk is employed, under the direction of imported dairymen, in making butter and cheese for the Russian settlements.

They have likewise a grist and saw mill, both well constructed, about six miles above Vancouver, on the Columbia river.

One afternoon we rode with Mr. Douglass to visit the dairy-farm, which lies to the west of Vancouver, on the Callepuya. This was one of the most beautiful rides I had yet taken, through fine prairies, adorned with large oaks, ash, and pines. The large herds of cattle feeding and reposing under the trees, gave an air of civilization to the scene, that is the only thing wanting in the other parts of the territory. The water was quite high; and many of the little knolls were surrounded by it, which had the appearance of small islets breaking the wide expanse of overflowing water.

This dairy is removed every year, which is found advantageous to the ground, and affords the cattle better pasturage. The stock on the Vancouver farm is about three thousand head of cattle, two thousand five hundred sheep, and about three hundred brood mares.

At the dairy, we were regaled with most excellent milk; and found the whole establishment well managed by a Canadian and his wife. They churn in barrel-machines, of which there are several. All the cattle look extremely well, and are rapidly increasing in numbers. The cows give milk at the age of eighteen months. Those of the California breed give a very small quantity of milk; but when crossed with those from the United States and England, do very well. I