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The Dominion of Canada came into existence July 1, 1867, under the terms of the so-called British North America act, by the union of the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; the province of Canada was divided into Upper and Lower Canada, which divisions are known now as Ontario and Quebec, respectively. It was subsequently augmented by the province of Manitoba and the Northwest territories in 1870, by British Columbia in 1871, and Prince Edward island in 1873, and now includes the whole of British North America with the exception of Newfoundland. The following figures show the computed area of the provinces and territories of Canada:

	Square Miles
Ontario.....	222,000
Quebec.....	228,000
New Brunswick.....	28,000
Nova Scotia.....	20,600
Prince Edward Island.....	2,000
Manitoba.....	73,956
British Columbia.....	383,300
Provisional District of Assinibola about.....	59,635
Provisional District of Keewatin about.....	282,000
Provisional District of Saskatchewan about.....	107,092
Provisional District of Alberta about.....	106,100
Provisional District of Athabasca about.....	104,500
Northwest Territories.....	906,000
Territory east of Keewatin and south of Hudson's Bay.....	196,800
Territory of Hudson's Bay.....	358,000
Islands in Arctic Ocean and Hudson's Bay.....	800,000
Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, etc....	47,400

Total area of Canada.....3,456,383

By way of comparison it may be observed that Canada is nearly as large as the whole of Europe, and about 500,000 square miles larger than the United States without Alaska. According to the census returns of 1891, the population of the Dominion was 4,833,239, of which 93,967 were in the territories.

There is no state church in Canada and the utmost religious liberty prevails. The government is federal. By the British North America act, before referred to, the executive government and authority of and over Canada is vested in the Queen. The governor-general for the time being carries on the government in the name of "her majesty," but is paid out of the Canadian revenue. The Dominion parliament consists of an upper house, styled the Senate (eighty members) and the House of Commons (215 members). The senators are nominated for life by the governor-general on the advice of the executive council. The Commons

are elected for five years. The procedure in this Dominion parliament is very much the same as in the Imperial Parliament at Westminster. At the head of each of the provinces is a lieutenant governor, appointed by the governor general, and paid by the Dominion, who is a medium of communication between the provinces and the federal government. In some of the provinces there are two branches of the legislatures, in others only one. This, however, is a matter entirely within the control of the local authorities, as are also the election of members, franchise qualifications and alterations of the electoral districts for the provincial legislatures, but the duration of the local assemblies is fixed at four years. Legislation upon local matters is assigned, as a general rule to the provinces. Throughout the Dominion—in the respective provinces—there is generally a perfect system of municipal government. Both the counties and townships have their local councils, which regulate the taxation for roads, schools and other purposes, so that every man directly votes for the taxes he is called upon to pay. Free education is furnished in all the provinces of Canada. In districts where the inhabitants are divided in their religious opinions, and mixed schools are not possible, the law enables separate schools to be provided. Teachers are trained at normal schools at the public expense. There are in the Dominion eleven universities and colleges which confer degrees of divinity, arts, law, medicine, civil engineering, etc.

The criminal and civil laws of Canada, as well as their administration, ensure impartial justice to all. The criminal law is based upon the English system.

The active militia of the Dominion consists of about 40,000 men. On more than one occasion the admirable organization of the force has been put to the proof, and during the rising of the Indians in the Northwest, in 1885, its successful operations excited the admiration of the military authorities, both in Great Britain and the United States. The Northwest mounted police force numbers 50 officers and 1,000 men, who are engaged in the maintenance of law and order in the northwest territories, and to do service as guards against smuggling along the international boundary. A small detachment of this force is stationed about eight miles southeast of Cardston, while a whole company or more is located at Lethbridge. They are doing efficient service as civil officers, and give good satisfaction to the settlers.

Alberta is one of four provisional

districts which the Dominion government has formed out of the northwest territories. This district, contains 106,000 square miles, and is bounded on the south by the international boundary; on the east by the district of Assinibola; on the west by the province of British Columbia, at the base of the Rocky mountains, and on the north by the 18th Correction line, which is near the 55th parallel of latitude.

Alberta embraces an area larger than that of England and Wales together; and is about one-third larger than Utah. It embraces something like 45,000,000 acres of land, most of which is very fertile. That part of the district which has already proven to be well suited for general farming and dairying extends from the American line on the south for 300 miles north, and from the foot of the Rocky mountains for 200 miles eastward. The southern half of this area is well adapted for raising horses, cattle and sheep, and fattening them without other food than the rich buffalo grass which grows everywhere spontaneously and which cures itself on the stem, retaining its nutritious properties all the year round, without cutting or covering, excepting that it may be covered by the light fall of snow during the winter months, which covering rather improves it than otherwise and is very seldom deep enough to prevent the animals eating it off the ground. The country adjacent to Cardston and that lying between that place and Lethbridge are fair samples of the prairies.

Alberta may properly be termed the dairy region of America. Its cold, clear streams and rich and luxuriant grasses make it almost a paradise for cattle. Experience has proven that with good management the cattle thrive well in the winter. The numerous ranches in the district are already sending their cattle to the eastern markets and to those of Great Britain. The census of 1891 showed that the district contained 31,970 horses, 10,785 milch cows, 134,064 other horned cattle, 16,057 sheep and 5,103 swine.

Before the Saints settled in Alberta it was an open question whether the district was suitable for ordinary farming operations, an opinion prevailing that it should be given up to the ranches. But now the problem has been fully solved; its suitability for mixed farming, especially that in which dairying has a large share, has been proven by actual results.

That part of Alberta in which Cardston is located is known throughout Canada as the Buffalo country. Years ago immense herds of buffaloes