

## HAVE TO USE EXPENSIVE STONE

in many pursuits where they now use wood. I hope you will not be incensed at me making these remarks, but I am bound to tell you what I think and what every member of the association thinks. (Applause.) I shall lose no opportunity of impressing this as far as I can upon Canadian public opinion, and I have endeavoured to imperfectly fulfil that obligation to-night. I now come to notice the towns. We saw various towns and lost no opportunity of inspecting them, such as Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Qu'Appelle, Medecine Hat, Moose Jaw and Calgary, and I must also include Regina and Broadview, and I am bound to congratulate you heartily on the condition of these rising places. It is wonderful the manner in which they have sprung up, and are springing up now. We observed that the streets are well laid out, the houses clean, tidy and picturesquely situated—villas springing up in the neighborhood

## SURROUNDED WITH GARDENS AND TREES.

We observed schools and churches and banks and other institutions. We saw also shops full of all the little paraphernalia of civilization and the stocks of agricultural machinery I have already described. Altogether, the condition of these places is most satisfactory, and everywhere we saw evidence of what may be called culture. And here let me take the opportunity of congratulating you on the exhibition at Winnipeg. (Cheers.) It was especially pleasing, as culture is a thing most likely to prove wanting in a young country. The way in which the exhibition was gotten up, the careful style in which the exhibits were arranged, I may say the scientific manner in which they were placed, is very creditable to the community and is culture in the true sense of the word. Indeed, I think the Association are to be congratulated that it was for them this exhibition was got up, and that for this reason if for no other they have been instrumental in doing good to you and themselves, and thus

## MAKING THEIR VISIT MEMORABLE.

I must say a word about communication by land and water. It would be like gilding fine gold if I were to say a word of praise about the Canadian Pacific Railway. But I am anxious to press on your consideration that the C. P. R. is but the beginning of a vast railway system. It is the main artery from which may run veins into all directions. It is, I may say, the backbone of the body politic, from which the arms, the legs and toes are to come. As I have explained before

## THE C. P. R. RUNS THROUGH A RICH COUNTRY,

but it is not the richest—there is a finer one to the north and to that region branches must go. It is said by many that the C. P. R. should have gone further north, but I believe those in charge took the wisest course; the main line should go as straight as an arrow from ocean to ocean. I have heard many remarks by farmers that railways are wanted to the south to connect with those pushing this way from the United States. These are matters of great and pressing importance. As to water communication, I am well aware that Canadian boatmen, celebrated in prose and poetry, are passing away before the advance of the iron horse, but I observe that steamboats are plying on the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan and even to Edmonton. All this is satisfactory, though I am compelled to say that river communication will not stand before the railway but where there are railways it is

## NECESSARY TO HAVE WATER COMPETITION

which will have a beneficial tendency to keep down railway charges for freight. But gentlemen, what is still more important for you men of Canada, is the truly grand project of the Hudson's Bay navigation. (Continued cheers.) I am aware a committee of experts is now sitting on the project and considering whether it is practicable. If it is declared practicable, well and good, but if not, then I will never abandon the hope that it will be found so by a future generation.