

# MANITOBA.

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PUBLIC attention having been called a good deal of late to Manitoba, both as an outlet for the superfluous bone and sinew of the mother countries, and as a wheat-producing Province of unlimited capacity, this pamphlet, based on three years' personal experience, may not be unacceptable to intending emigrants and those interested in Manitoba as a farming and stock-raising country. But it is not with the whole Province I am about to deal. I have selected the County of Minnedosa from this vast territory, and purpose placing on record in the early stage of this country's life, facts certified to by disinterested men.

It is not my purpose to go into unnecessary details, but rather to recount facts concerning, and opinions held by many fully qualified to give unmistakable and reliable evidence of, the resources of this new country. The Little Saskatchewan district is eminently adapted to the support of a very large population, and capable of producing immense supplies of Wheat, and that it is also suitably adapted to the raising of Stock there can be little doubt.

Mr. Alexander Begg, in his "Guide to Manitoba," published in 1878, condemned the idea of inducing emigrants to go to the North-West—*i.e.*, west of the then boundary of Manitoba—in advance of civilization, and before proper means were opened up to that vast country. "But," Mr. Begg says, "It must not be understood, however, that we have any desire to belittle the Saskatchewan country, on the contrary, we are of opinion that in the near future, that great territory will afford homes for thousands of hardy and industrious farmers; and we are also aware that as far as climate, soil, and other advantages are concerned, the Saskatchewan is equal to Manitoba." That near future has arrived, the Little Saskatchewan district is now annexed to Manitoba, and the annexed portion is already dotted with homestead buildings and rising towns, is crossed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and Manitoba—in this newly acquired territory—possesses the most fertile land west of the Red River Valley.

The County of Minnedosa comprises 36 townships of 36 square miles each, in block, bounded on the east by range 16; on the west by range 23; on the south by township 12; and on the north by township 19, west of the principal meridian.

The County is represented by one member in the local House of Parliament at Winnipeg, further elections follow immediately of Warden, Municipal Councillors, &c., and the election of a Member to the Dominion House of Parliament at Ottawa takes place early in the new year 1882: So that this district, which three years ago was a "howling wilderness," so to speak, has now a population of nearly 2,000, is on the "high road" to receive those benefits from provincial and local legislation, such as the establishing of schools and colleges, the making of roads, and the introduction and enforcing of those laws so necessary to promote the peace and security of a new country.