

"Little Winnipic; then in a southerly direction through the said lake, so as to strike its western shore in latitude fifty-two degrees; then due west to the place where the parallel of fifty-two degrees north latitude intersects the western branch of Red River, otherwise called Assiniboine; then due south from that point of intersection to the height of land which separates the waters running into Hudson's Bay from those of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers; then in an easterly direction along the height of land to the source of the River Winnipic (meaning by such last-named river the principal branch of the waters which unite in Lake Saginagas); thence along the main stream of those waters and the middle of the several lakes through which they pass, to the mouth of the Winnipic River; and thence, in a northerly direction through the middle of Lake Winnipic, to the place of beginning; which territory is called Assiniboia, and of which I, the undersigned, have been duly appointed Governor."

"Mr. Weldon—What date was that given?"

"The Chairman—It says, "given under my hand at Fort Daer (Pembina), the 8th day of January, 1814."

*By the Chairman, to witness:*

"Q. So that the colony existed for a long time, and was recognized by the Imperial Governments as a Crown Colony, in fact?—It was. The Hudson's Bay Company had a council called the Northern Council. Their factors or officers were the Council of Rupert's Land for all the purposes of Government. Besides having their officers and government at Red River, the Company had Sheriffs for Rupert's Land.

"Q. Outside of the colony?—Yes.

"Q. So that they had all the powers of Government?—Yes.

*By Mr. Ross:*

"Q. Did the southern boundary of the so-called colony of Assiniboia correspond with what was supposed to be the southern boundary of the Hudson's Bay Company's territory?—Yes; the height of land.

"Q. But the eastern boundary did not in any way correspond with what was supposed to be the eastern boundary of the Hudson's Bay Company?—It did not.

"Q. Then it was only the boundary of the colony on the south side that corresponded with the boundary of the Hudson's Bay Company?—Yes; the boundaries of the colony were made simply for its convenience."

Judge Johnson, formerly Governor of Assiniboia and Recorder of Rupert's Land, also shows very clearly that Assiniboia was recognized by the Imperial Government, and that it had the power, although restricted, of making laws and ordinances, and further, that it had no connection with Upper Canada. The following is from his evidence:—

*"By the Chairman:*

"Q. Was the Colony of Assiniboia recognized by the Imperial Government, and in what way?—The existence *de facto* of the Colony of Assiniboia was certainly recognized in a variety of ways, and in the most authoritative manner by the Crown of England in a series of Acts that admit of no doubt whatever. They sent the 6th Regiment there in 1846 or 1847, under Colonel Crofton. They were sent by orders of the Duke of Wellington to occupy that place, so that in view of any trouble in respect to the Oregon question, they might be made available on the other side of the mountains. However that was, they were sent there. After that, when I was sworn in as Governor in 1855, after the retirement of Colonel Crofton and the troops, I made a demand for troops for the purpose of keeping order, and I got troops commanded by Major Seaton. They sent out a company of 100 men of the Canadian Rifles, British troops in the pay of the British Government, and they were quartered there some years.

*By Mr. Ouimet:*

"Q. You were sent there in 1855 as Governor of Assiniboia?—Yes. Besides the troops, the Crown of England sent out a number of pensioners whom they re-enrolled in a permanent form, to whom the Hudson's Bay Company agreed to give land on