

MANITOBA

MANITOBA is the central one of the seven provinces of the Dominion of Canada. It is situated in the very centre of the North American continent, being midway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The southern frontier of the Province, bordering on the United States, is about the same latitude as Paris and the south of Germany, and the Province itself is further south than the British Isles, Holland and Belgium.

Manitoba has an area of 116,021 square miles, or nearly 74,000,000 acres, about the same area as is contained in England, Scotland and Ireland put together. It contains at the present time a population of about 192,000, the larger portion of whom are from Great Britain and Eastern Canada. Of the remainder there are large colonies of Mennonites, Icelanders, Scandinavians, and Germans, the majority of whom had but small means on arrival in the Province, and at present they have comfortable homes and they are amongst the most prosperous settlements in the Province.

RICHEST SOIL IN THE WORLD.

The soil is a rich, deep, argillaceous mould, or loam, resting on a deep and very tenacious clay sub-soil. It is specially adapted to wheat growing, giving a bountiful yield of the finest quality, known to the world over as Manitoba No. 1 Hard Wheat.

Mr. J. J. Hill, of St. Paul, Minn., President of the Great Northern Railway, is authority for the statement that "the soil of the Red River Valley is the richest farming country that I have ever seen. It is not only rich, but it has also bright prospects."

GENERAL FEATURES.

Manitoba, although called the first Prairie Province of Canada, has large areas of forests, numerous rivers and vast water expansions. Its forests in the east, along its rivers, fringing its great lakes, and on its mountain elevations furnish the settlers with fuel. Its rivers—the Red, Pembina, and Assiniboine—give a great natural drainage system to all parts of the Province.

Its lakes—Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Winnipegosis—abound with fish, and entice many a Norseman from the rich soil of the prairies to the wealth that is alive in the waters.

Aside from the utility of these natural advantages put to a practical use, all combined, forests, rivers and lakes, have a mighty influence on the climate of Manitoba, increasing the rainfall.

SOCIAL ADVANTAGES.

Manitoba to-day enjoys in full the advantages of advanced civilization; railway communication, and telegraph lines branch out from Winnipeg to all parts of the Province, and wherever settlers are, may be found villages, schools, churches and postal facilities. Over 800 schools are under the control of the Government.

MIXED FARMING.

For years the nutritious grasses of the prairies and thousands of tons of hay in the low lands were allowed to go to waste for want of cattle to graze and feed upon them. Settlers are now availing themselves of this natural