

Traveling near Winnipeg, Manitoba.

We went nine miles out of Winnipeg on the Main Portage Road. This is the road on which most of the travel is done to and from Winnipeg. The rains again descended, and the roads were in too bad a state to induce us to go further. We turned and made back tracks. On our way back we met freighters that had just passed through one of the bad sloughs with twelve carts; we next met a lot of Frenchmen from near Ottawa, who had several carts drawn by one horse each; one cart had just been got through one of these sloughs with considerable trouble; the second one got stuck, notwithstanding that three men were wading through the mud pushing the cart as well as they could, and a fourth man was lifting one of the wheels. The mud and slush were knee high, and this black, sticky, waxy mud was plastered over these men from head to foot. But despite the oaths, sticks and men, they were stuck fast, although the horse did its best and the men also; it was no go. We stood to see in what way they would manage to get out. To our surprise they

his other enclosures. The M. P. P.'s wife collects the tolls, which would amount to a good sum if all would pass that way, but some cannot afford it and others will not pay. There were four more carts to go through; and not wishing to see the poor men and beasts in such a plight, we paid for them. We have often paid four times as much for not half as good a show as that was.

There were three men pushing the cart behind and one lifting on the wheel. Our artist could not show them all without hiding too much of the cart, etc.

This making horses draw by the tail is a common practice in Manitoba among freighters. They informed us that they often draw loads in that way that horses could not draw otherwise, and that a balky horse that will not draw by the collar will invariably draw for all he is worth when hitched by the tail.

We hear there are several people having dry ground or near-outs who put up a fence and charge emigrants for going through, or let them stick, drown or starve.

These emigrants had many a bad place to pass

country. We shall treat on the bright side in due time, but we deem it proper to state a few remarks that we have heard, some of which, from our own observation, we fear are too true, namely, 1st, that the C. P. R. will cost us one-quarter more than it should do or would do if the contracts were let in a manner that would allow more competition; 2nd, that the Round-house is being erected to try to make a centre of business or city in a swampy or murky soil, when a good dry site is within two miles of it; 3rd, that a crossing could be made over the Red River and a canal and bridge constructed with the stone on the ground a few miles from where the line is to be built, which would much enhance the value of the road and the development of the country; 4th, that too many emigrants are dumped into Manitoba and left to the mercy of fraudulent sharpers to fleece them, many of whom a good detective could catch and eradicate from our soil; inefficient Government officials might be found among this class if an independent man were sent among them.

Some may think we have diverged from the



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TRAVELING NEAR WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

got one of the other ponies, tied a knot in its tail, took a rope made from buffalo hide and cut it into strips and twisted it; the rope was then made fast to the horse's tail and to each shaft. The horse hitched in this manner pulled with its utmost strength; we expected to see the tail or hairs separate from the horse; but no, the tail stuck fast and the loaded cart came after the tail. There was considerable thrashing, pushing and lifting on the wheels, and the mud and plight of men and horses were fairly beyond description or credence. We looked at the horse that had pulled so well by its tail, and except the coating of mud, he did not appear a bit the worse.

The men were mad and swore at the Government, and said the members of the Government ought to be hung; perhaps you may be inclined to that belief when we tell you that this scene took place at the corner of a person's land who puts M. P. P. to his name. The said dignitary had a dry corner on his farm through which emigrants were allowed to pass by paying 10 cents for a one-horse cart. A kind of gate is fixed with a rope tied round it, and the dry ground fenced in with

before getting to their destination. We have heard of some that were hunting land who had traveled and worked hard all day, and had only proceeded two miles.

The spot from which we took our sketch was at the corner of Sandy Murray's farm, a large land owner only about 4½ miles from Winnipeg, almost adjoining Deer Lodge, the residence of the Hon. J. McKay (pronounced in Manitoba McCoye); this gentleman's residence adjoins that of another senator, the Hon. A. Smith, called Silver Height. This is where the large dining hall had been erected in honor of Lord and Lady Dufferin, and where all the paraphernalia of style had been displayed at that time; 100 ox-carts formed part of the procession of honor. Some of these Senators, we hear, own about 100,000 acres of land reserved from the settlers that have to wade in mud to search for land on which to obtain a sustenance. Perhaps some of our readers may almost think with these Ottawa emigrants, as above expressed.

We fear we are using too much of the space in this issue about Manitoba, but we wish to arouse a proper spirit in regard to this great and valuable

sphere of this journal in touching on such subjects as the above, but we write for the farmers, and if we can improve their condition we believe most of our readers will not object to our deviation. We shall touch on the soil at another time.

(To be Continued.)

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