

vincial Government an active agent in the settlement and development of the country. It would assist to a great extent the Federal Government in their task of peopling this great land, and it would give the Province of Manitoba an opportunity to place herself financially in a good position, without having to constantly make begging pilgrimages to the Dominion capital. Of course it is impossible here to lay down all the details that would be necessary for the handing over of the balance of the lands to the Province, but sufficient has been shown to demonstrate that it is not a matter of impossibility, but rather that there is everything to gain thereby, not only from a Provincial but also from a Dominion stand-point.

To return once more to the point where this letter commenced, it has been shown how the first step taken by Canada to obtain a foothold in the country was to buy off the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company, the second was to extinguish the Indian title by treaties and grants to the half-breed population. These two steps having been taken and the right of governing the country having been obtained, the Dominion was in a position to extend the constitutional privileges of Confederation to the people living in the country and to those who might thereafter make their homes in it. It was deemed expedient to keep a military force for some time in the country and it was also thought advisable to organize a corps of Mounted Police to secure law and order in the new territory. But none of these expenses are properly chargeable to Provincial account. As well might it be said that in case of a Fenian or other invasion taking place in Ontario that the cost of repelling it would be charged against that Province. As well might it be said that the cost of sustaining the volunteer force of the country is chargeable to each Province in proportion to the number of men enrolled. If the Dominion did and does expend a good

round sum to secure law and order in the North-West, is it not proving a good investment?

Is not the quiet possession of this country the means of increasing year by year the revenue of the Dominion? Is not the rapid settlement of this great country opening up an almost unlimited market for the manufactures of Canada? While our boundless prairies will be yielding their millions of bushels of grain which when exported will draw the gold of foreign countries to Canada, will not this gold be the medium of obtaining the raw material for Canadian industries and will not the husbandmen of the North-West be the consumers of Canadian products and the main supporters of Canadian industries in the East? It makes one almost doubt the ordinary intelligence of Canadians when we hear men who ought to know better grumble at the expense which Canada has been at to obtain jurisdiction over this fine country. Then another cause of complaint against the North-West and another reason given why the proceeds from the lands of this country ought to go into the federal treasury is, the expense of providing for the Indians. Well, this is one way of keeping law and order and it might as well be said that the expenditure for the support of the Militia, \$690,018.93, is properly chargeable to the Eastern Provinces as to say that the expense of keeping the Indians quiet is chargeable against the North-West Territory. It is foolish in the extreme for men to contend that because the North-West, like all other portions of the Dominion is a charge on the general revenue of the country that therefore the lands belong to the Federal Government to recoup that expenditure.

The fact is, that the principle of Confederation is to govern the country through Provincial administration much in the same way as State government prevails with our neighbors south of the boundary line and so it became necessary to create a province in the newly ac-

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