

embracing all the territory drained by Lake Winnipeg, extending, of course, south to Lake Traverse in Minnesota; and the new year brought out a small company of Highland Scotchmen. They settled at the present site of Winnipeg, but had a rough time enough of it for the first ten years, being driven out two or three times by the French Canadian settlers, drowned out by floods, and having their crops destroyed by grasshoppers. They held their ground, however, and, in 1821 the worst of their troubles was removed by the amalgamation of the hostile Northwest Company with the Hudson Bay Company. The great trading monopoly then extended its jurisdiction over the whole Northwest, establishing posts from Lake Superior to the Arctic, and from the Red River to the Pacific ocean; and exercising, through its army of clerks and functionaries, all the civil, military and judicial rights of an independent government. The Red River settlement became a mixed community of Scotch, French and Indian blood, cultivating a narrow strip of land along the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, and existing by sufferance of the commercial lords of the country. They raised abundant crops and lived prosperously; but, for want of communication with the outside world, could neither market their surplus nor increase their numbers by emigration. The colony survived in this dead-alive condition until the foundation of the Canadian confederation. In 1868 negotiations were begun for the extinction of the Hudson Bay Company's title to the lands, which were concluded a year or two later. The company received \$1,500,000 and one-twentieth of the public lands. The company still exercises its old rights in the remote frontier, but abdicates them as fast as settlements are made and local governments formed. The annexation of Manitoba to the Dominion was not accomplished without some friction, the French Canadians and half-breeds, under Louis Riel, raising the standard of revolt, and formed a provisional government. The rebellion was a mere burlesque, though it lasted a year, and rose to the tragic level in one event—the shooting of an Englishman named Scott by order of the half-drunken provisional government. The revolt fell to pieces upon the appearance of British troops, though it is claimed that the Province obtained more favorable terms from the Dominion by this show of force. In 1871 Manitoba peace-