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more vast, gigantic, and unthought of, treading rapidly on their heels! He lives in a railroad, nay, in an electric age, where action follows thought, and the conception of designs vast and mighty, and their speedy prosecution and completion, are almost simultaneous.

Minnesota has just entered upon the eighth year of her political existence. So far as business prosperity is concerned, it promises to be a bright one—brighter than any that has preceded it. Navigation has opened, and boats from below have appeared within our borders and at the wharves of St. Paul a week earlier than the usual time, taking one year with another. Our merchants and business men have been east and south for their spring and summer supplies, and are returning with stocks much larger than have heretofore been brought to the territory. Our mills, from the St. Croix to the Blue-Earth, and for scores of miles north and south along the former stream and the Mississippi, maintain their ceaseless noise and motion day and night, converting the products of our rich pine-forests into building materials for markets below and improvements at home. In the towns and villages, along the roads and highways and byways of the older settlements, and out upon the broad prairies, and by the shores of the broad streams and margins of the clear lakes of the "Sioux Purchase," the sound of the hammer and the axe is heard, busy at improvement. All is life, all is hurry, all is energy, all is onward, all is *hope*. The boats from below come swarming with hardy adventurers from other portions of our common country, and from other lands, to mingle with those now here—to settle and live among us—to be part and parcel of us—to make common cause and bide common destiny here with those who have prepared the way for the future advent of a mighty and prosperous commonwealth into the great American Union.

Minnesota at this time partakes to a large degree of the general prosperity now so happily and manifestly apparent throughout the country. I can see nothing within her, or upon the surface, indicative of a reverse of this agreeable and promising state of affairs. Her business people have not over-traded, and are consequently not dangerously in debt. Let them be