

tinuous residence the patent issues, while in the United States the patent does not issue until after five years continuous residence. Therefore, I claim that our land laws are, on the whole, much more liberal than those of the United States.

#### HAD EFFECTS OF THE OPPOSITION.

Now, Sir, the course taken by certain portions of the press and by those who are opposed to the Canadian Pacific Railway has been identical. Both are opposed to the Northwest, and the effects of their opposition have been most disastrous in England, not only to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company but to the Northwest, for the interests of both are the same. I believe a great deal of the abuse which has been published against the Northwest, with regard to frosts, etc., has been published in order to injure the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The effect is to injure both, to impair the value of the Canadian Pacific Railway stock in the English money markets, to check immigration and the investment of capital in the Northwest, and to cause general stagnation of business over the whole of that country. There have been other causes for that stagnation, but these things have helped to increase it. Is there any foundation for these attacks which have been made on the Canadian Pacific Railway? Is there anything in the nature of the Northwest to show that it would not support a railway? I hold that in Manitoba alone there is going to be business enough to support the Canadian Pacific Railway.

#### WHEAT YIELD OF MANITOBA.

Take the statistics of last year, which have been collected by the deputy minister of agriculture for the province, who has been very active and painstaking in collecting them. They show that last year there were 457,216 acres under cultivation, of which 208,674 were under wheat, yielding an average of 23.69 bushels to the acre, making a total yield of 4,799,571 bushels. It was thought at the time these re-

average yield claimed was too great—that the result would not bear it out. The deputy minister, with his accustomed energy, went to work and got returns from the threshers in the different parts of the province, and they bore out his report within a fraction; our exports this year was about 2,500,000 bushels. Now, Sir, we have an estimate that next year

there will be 377,624 acres in wheat which, at twenty bushels to the acre, will give a total product of 7,553,480 bushels. In addition to these, I have got statistics from the assistant land commissioner of the Canadian Pacific Railway, showing the amount of breaking and back-setting in the Northwest Territories. The statement he furnishes shows that 87,000 acres of the Canadian Pacific Railway lands alone are broken and back-set, ready for seeding next spring. If they yielded twenty bushels to the acre, that would add 1,740,000 bushels. I have not been able to learn the exact number of sections of government land which have been settled in the Northwest, outside of Manitoba, but a large addition can be made on that account. These figures show that the total yield of wheat in the province and the territories next year, under ordinary circumstances, will be 9,293,480 bushels, so that we shall have at least 6,000,000 for export. That may not seem a very large amount; but when we consider that during the past year the total exportation on the St. Paul & Manitoba road, which has the largest percentage of the wheat-carrying trade of all the railways in America, amounted to 13,000,000 bushels, and that that road will carry this year no more than 16,000,000 bushels, we may conclude that the Northwest will do pretty well if, in the second year of its exportation, it will have a surplus of 6,000,000 bushels. In the following years the product will increase much more largely. At this rate of progress, I estimate that the wheat yield in five years from to-day will be over 20,000,000 bushels in the Province of Manitoba, of which we will have at least 16,000,000 for exportation, or as much as the St. Paul & Manitoba road have carried over their line this year. This is more than the Canadian Pacific Railway could really carry out of the country. Taking the 30,000 farmers now in Manitoba, and supposing that each cultivated only thirty-five acres of wheat, and that each acre gave twenty bushels, we will in five years have a yield of 21,000,000 bushels, that is, if immigration should entirely cease, and these farmers should only cultivate thirty-five acres each; but with the large number of immigrants coming in every year it is impossible to give an approximate amount of the production in the time. Yet we are told that there will not be sufficient traffic to make the Canadian Pacific Railway pay expenses.