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and British Columbia is being paid annu-  
ally \$100,000 for the right of way to the  
C. P. R. through her territory. The pay-  
ment of \$1,500,000 to the Hudson's  
Bay Company and the granting of one  
twentieth of the lands were the first steps  
towards Canada acquiring any jurisdic-  
tion in the country. The next step was the  
liquidation of the Indian title. This was  
accomplished by means of treaties with  
the Indians, which stipulated the pay-  
ment annually of certain sums of money  
and provisions &c., to the several tribes  
throughout the North-West. To fully ac-  
complish the extinguishment of the In-  
dian title, however, it was deemed ne-  
cessary to treat with the half-breed pop-  
ulation and consequently it was agreed  
to grant certain lands, (1,400,000 acres)  
to these people, which was done as the  
meaning of the Act explains, for the pur-  
pose of fully extinguishing any title  
which the children of the aborigines of  
the country might possess.

In taking these two steps, however, the  
Dominion was only paving the way for  
an extension of her jurisdiction and al-  
so of provincial government to the ter-  
ritory thus to be acquired. It was like  
a parent preparing the way for his or  
her children but nothing in this goes to  
show any just reason why the Dominion  
should withhold from the North-Western  
provinces any rights, which under the  
constitution of Confederation they have  
reason to expect. There were other  
expenses incurred in acquiring the North-  
West which, however, will be dealt with  
ere we close, when it will be shown that  
there is no reason or precedent for  
making them chargeable to provincial  
account.

While advocating the claims of  
Manitoba at this time, we are really  
preparing the way for the full en-  
joyment of their rights by the provinces  
still to be created in this great land.  
But while doing so, it must not be lost  
sight of, that during the last ten or twelve  
years there has been a sad inroad made  
into the lands of this Province, and at

present instead of having something laid  
aside for a rainy day, we find Manitoba  
unprepared to meet the growing wants  
of the country, and the property which  
should be hers in all justice, dwindling  
away year by year, thus gradually reduc-  
ing her chances of ever becoming finan-  
cially strong.

On investigation we find that 3,749,075  
acres have been disposed of in one way  
or another by the Dominion. 1,315,840  
acres of land within the present boundar-  
ies of Manitoba have been allotted to the  
half-breed population. About 2,400,000  
belong to the Hudson Bay Company, and  
in the neighborhood of 2,600,000 acres  
have been set aside for school purposes,  
the administration of which, however, is  
withheld from the Provincial Govern-  
ment, and in addition to this be-  
tween two and three million acres  
will be devoted to railway pur-  
poses. With its enlarged area Manitoba  
contains about 2,640 townships, or some-  
thing over sixty million acres. From  
this say 25 millions must be deducted  
for water and useless territory, leaving  
a balance as follows:

Good land	35,000,000
Disposed of,	3,749,075
Half-breed lands,	1,315,840
Hudson Bay Co.,	2,400,000
School,	2,600,000
Railway, say	3,000,000
	<hr/>
	13,064,915

Showing still to be administered in round  
numbers, 22 million acres. It is esti-  
mated that there is at least 200 million  
acres of good land in the North-West. If  
then the Dominion paid only \$1,500,000  
for this vast amount of territory, it just  
cost them 7½ mills per acre, which it  
must be admitted is not a very high  
price for land even where it is so plenti-  
ful.

Now what would be the result of an  
arrangement between the Dominion and  
Provincial Governments by which the  
latter would obtain control over the  
public lands? It would make the Pro-