

Fifty-five miles from Winnipeg we reach Portage-la-Prairie, another city of a day's growth, and the centre of a well-developed and prosperous farming region. Its big elevators and flour-mills, its busy streets and substantial houses, tell their own story. From here a new railway reaches away two hundred miles or more to the northwest, making more lands accessible (if more be needed), bringing down grain and cattle, and before long to bring salt and petroleum as well. Crossing a low range of sand-hills, marking the shore of an ancient lake, we pass through a beautifully undulating country, fertile and well settled, as the busy little towns and the ever-present grain elevators bear evidence.

One hundred and thirty miles from Winnipeg we cross the Assiniboine River and reach Brandon, next to Winnipeg the largest town in the Canadian Northwest, a city in fact, although but a few years old, with handsome buildings, well-made streets, and an unusual number of large grain elevators and mills; and here again railways lead away, one to the northwest and another to the southwest.

Leaving Brandon we have fairly reached the



CITY HALL, WINNIPEG.