

#### INCORPORATION.

The Canadian Government granted a charter to the Winnipeg and Hudson Bay Railway Company to build a line of railway from Winnipeg to a port on Hudson Bay, and also a branch from the crossing of the Saskatchewan river to a point on the Canadian Pacific Railway at or near Regina, thus making a system in the form of a Y, with one of its southern termini in the heart of the wheat-growing region, and the other at the commercial metropolis of the Northwest. To aid in carrying out the enterprise Parliament voted a subsidy of \$480,000 acres of land adjacent to the railway, and gave the company such powers as to make its charter the most liberal in the Dominion.

#### AIDING THE ENTERPRISE.

So necessary to the development of the Northwest is the enterprise regarded that the Manitoba Legislature at its last session passed an Act guaranteeing interest at the rate of four per cent per annum on \$4,500,000 of the bonds of the Company for twenty-five years, that being the estimated amount required to build and equip that portion of the line situated within the province. This substantial aid to the undertaking was voted with the purpose of enabling the Company to execute the scheme at once and thus secure the early completion of the railway.

The Governor and Council of the Northwest Territories, the Winnipeg City Council and Board of Trade, the Manitoba Farmers' Union, the Fargo (Dak.) Chamber of Commerce, the Farmers' Convention of Minnesota, and public meetings in the leading towns and municipalities of Manitoba, the Red River valley of Minnesota and Dakota, and of the citizens of Helena, Montana, have, by resolutions and otherwise, expressed confidence in the enterprise, and urged its early completion.

#### SAVINGS IN DISTANCES.

Port Nelson, the terminus of the railway on Hudson Bay, is 2966 miles from Liverpool, Montreal 2990, and New York 3100—these distances being practically identical. But the saving in railway carriage is very great. From Regina, the terminus of the western branch of the railway, to New York, by the present shortest route, is 2135 miles; to Montreal, 1781 miles, and to port Nelson only 700 miles, showing a saving by the Hudson Bay route over New York of 1435 miles and over Montreal of 1081 miles. The saving from