

is little over 100 miles. This Province was definitely annexed to Canada in 1870, and its population, which was then about 12,000 souls, has increased during the last ten years at an astonishing rate. Since the year 1876, emigration has especially directed itself thither, and it seems that the Far-West will become a receptacle for the overcrowded populations of other countries. It is said that within the last year more than 30,000 persons have emigrated to the North-West, hence we can form some idea of the rapidity with which this country is being settled.

There are two large rivers which run through the plains of Manitoba, the most important of which is the Red River, being nearly 600 miles in length; it has its source in Minnesota and, after traversing the Province from north to south, discharges into Lake Winnipeg, a portion of which is confined within the colony as well as Lake Manitoba in the western part. This water course is navigable on a stretch of 400 miles, and during the summer season is frequented by many steamers. The water of this river is of a muddy appearance, but contains no noxious properties, and is good to drink when filtrated, especially during the winter season. We may here remark that on the prairie, they seldom fail to find water on boring wells.

The Assiniboine also is a large river of 600 miles in length; it runs from the west and is the principal tributary of the Red River, with which it mingles its more limpid waters. In many places, the navigation of this river is difficult, but when certain obstructions will be removed, the development of this fine country will thereby be rapidly promoted.

Of the less important water courses are the rivers Seine, Rat, Roseau at the east, and Sale, Gratiis and Marais at the west of Red River, of which they all are tributaries.

The Capital of the province—Winnipeg—formerly called Fort Garry, is situated at the confluence of the Red and Assiniboine rivers. It is a bustling and active city, which, in 1874, was only a village, distinguished at the time by the more ambitious title which it bears to-day. It hardly required a period of six years in order to marvellously grow into a large town with wide streets lined with pretty cottages and handsome shops, which would even be becoming to the Commercial Metropolis of the Dominion; also a town hall and public market have been erected and proper drainage attended to. Companies have been organized for the establishment of a city railway, and water and gas works. The Federal Government has also caused to be constructed various public edifices, such as the Post Office, Land Office and Custom House, which contribute greatly towards the appearance of the city. There is also a Protestant College for boys, several educational establishments for young ladies, and public schools, all good buildings. It has been stated that Winnipeg, whose