

*5th Question.* What is the population of the Red River Settlement?—*Answer.* From what I can learn, about fifteen thousand, but this does not represent a large floating population who make Red River their head-quarters.

*6th Question.* What are the educational facilities, and are the religious wants of the community well provided for?—*Answer.* I am aware of no settlement with so small a population so well provided for in these respects. There are schools and colleges where the youth of the country may acquire an education not inferior to what may be obtained in any country. There are Seminaries for females where young ladies may learn all the usual accomplishments that can be acquired in any civilised settlement; and as to religious wants, there are clergymen of various denominations in full proportion to the population.

*7th Question.* What convenience would there be for the reception of immigrants on their arrival at Fort Parry and how could they get located or employed—or what means of subsistence could they procure in the interim?—*Answer.* In the first place the settlement has always had (with the exception of a year of calamity like the last, when a plague of grasshoppers destroyed the crops) a superabundance of food for sale at low rates, and only did not raise more because of the want of a market. In the event of improvement going on there would always be considerable employment for those newly arrived, who would, or should generally drop out of the labor market before another year, to cultivate their own farms, the facility for doing so, being so very great in a prairie country at once fitted for the plough, as compared with a wooded country, where a lifetime has to be spent in getting rid of the timber and the stumps. For the permanent location of settlers, steps should be immediately undertaken by the Government for the survey of townships, first in every available position where the nucleus of settlement already exists, and extending from these centres as rapidly as possible. Of course a proper survey of the lands already occupied should be the first thing undertaken so as to determine the extent and set proper boundaries to existing properties, to be conformed by sufficient titles, under patents from the Crown. Based upon these, the surveys could proceed and in the meantime such settlers as may reach the country in one way or another, can squat to suit themselves and their possession will of course be respected and the pre-emptive right to purchase given to them, as has always been the case in Canada, when the country comes to be surveyed. When the route by Lake Superior is opened, and facile communication with the country is established, all the machinery your emigration committee, and all other influences combined can induce the Government of the Dominion, or private or provincial associations to put in motion, cannot crowd into it a greater tide of population than it will be ready to absorb, even if the bulk of the vast mass of European emigration annually seeking the shores of America should be directed to it. For the first few years the influx of settlers need only be limited by the capacity of the number that may have preceded them to produce food enough for those to arrive in the following year. After that the produce of the country will sustain any number of immigrants that can come.

*8th Question.* What class of immigrants would it be most desirable to bring into the Red River country?—*Answer.* The great mass should of course consist of farm labourers, but with as large a proportion as possible of the better class of farmers capable of conducting agricultural operations in conformity with all the modern improvements; the country being so readily fitted for scientific farming, the more of that class that can be introduced at an early period the better, as the system of cultivation thus inaugurated will give a tone to the operations of the more ignorant and lead to the speedy development of a higher character of agriculture. The ordinary proportion of mechanics and trades people should follow as a necessary consequence of exclusive settlement.

*9th Question.* In an extensive alluvial plain like these prairie countries, will not large quantities of lumber be required for buildings and fences, and how can it be procured?—*Answer.* From the height of land west of Lake Superior, the watershed drained by the river Winnipeg and its tributaries—and through which the route to Red River has to be opened—presents a vast area of country, in many respects similar to the valley of the Ottawa and abounding in Pine timber and waterfalls suitable for saw mills; and this will no doubt at an early day become the seat of an extensive lumber trade destined for the supply of the prairie country to the west of it. For the immediate wants of the settlers there is an abundant supply of timber in most parts of the country along the banks of the rivers and streams, and which, though of an inferior character for the purpose, will suit very well for all the wants of the early settlers, both as regards building and fencing, and as the country progresses they will obtain a supply from the pine region, as Chicago and the prairies west of it now do