

ago the journey took forty days. I was there the other day, and the journey took thirty-six hours. When I think of this I cannot help feeling some pride that we have in our new country men with the manliness and pluck to carry forward these enterprises. It shows that we are not degenerating on that side of the water. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the climate, I can entirely corroborate Mr. Begg's statements. I have felt the cold more—the sensation of bitter cold—on the mountains of Wales, with the thermometer two or three degrees below freezing-point, than in Manitoba with the thermometer thirty degrees below freezing-point. In fact, the thermometer is nothing to go by. One or two words in conclusion. The population has increased enormously. When I first went to Winnipeg I went out with my daughter one afternoon, when we made a census of the houses, of which there were seventy. Allowing five for each house, the population would number three hundred and fifty, whilst now the place is inhabited by thirty thousand people. (Applause.) All this has taken place within fifteen years—the greater part of it within four. A change like this is almost unparalleled in the history of the world. From it one may form an idea of what the country is destined to become in a very few years, when the great North-Western plains will be filled by the population now pouring into them in so prodigious a stream. Truly the time is at hand when the Canadian may consider himself “the citizen of no mean country.”

Principal DAWSON, C.M.G., F.R.S.: After the exhaustive Paper we have heard read, and the address of my friend Governor Archibald, I feel there is not much to be said on the subject, although, as you might judge from the nature of the soil, Manitoba is a somewhat fertile theme. (Laughter.) You have heard the statements of Mr. Begg in his able Paper, in which I can fully concur. I have had the pleasure of journeying across the Western Plains as far as Calgary; and, looking with the critical eye of an old geologist, my good opinion of the country was very much strengthened in regard to its actual value as a portion of the earth for the support of man. (Hear, hear.) I found the railway—I mean the construction of the track—running out west at the rate of three miles a day, and the manner in which the thousands of workmen were organised and pushed forward the work in the most rapid and systematic manner was itself something worth a long journey to see. It was also interesting to see these thousands of men, from all sorts of places on the face of the earth, behaving in the most orderly way. The country seemed to have no need of police. No doubt the great secret of this is that the people are sober. (Hear, hear.) Nobody can get anything to drink, and some of the old toppers who went out at first took to “pain killer” from the apothecaries. (Laughter.) Undoubtedly, the entire sobriety of the country and the good conduct of the population are something very marked. (Hear, hear.) Another thing very marked is the enthusiasm of the people in regard to the country. One