

1881 are estimated at between \$300,000 and \$400,000, against some \$67,000 in 1874. The exports arrive by two channels, the Pembina branch railway and Red River, on which five or six lines of steamers ply in the summer months. The interior trade is in the hands of the Hudson Bay Company, which has lines of steamers on Lake Winnipeg and the Saskatchewan, and trading posts scattered over the whole immense region stretching to the Arctic Ocean and the Rocky Mountains, and two private lines of steamers upon the Assiniboine.

Emigration, upon which the future of the Northwest depends, has been steadily increasing since 1871, though as yet it is inconsiderable in comparison with what coming years must bring. The emigration for the present season, about half finished in July, numbered then about 4,000, of whom the commissioner of emigration believes about two-thirds are from Canada, and the rest from Great Britain. So efforts to attract continental emigration have not been successful, except in the case of the Russian Mennonites. The Icelandic colony, established some years ago upon Lake Manitoba, has proved an utter failure, and broken up. I do not consider, from a hasty collection of fragmentary and imperfect statistics from the different land offices, that more than 4,000,000 acres of land in the whole Northwest are sold or taken up. This is scarcely one-fiftieth of the whole amount available. The opening of new land offices, and the enlisting of new corporate interests in the sale of land, will give a great stimulus to emigration and settlement.

Up to the present year, the only method of obtaining lands in the Northwest, except by purchase from settlers or half-breed granters, has been through the Dominion land office and the Hudson Bay Company; and the latter has not been eager to sell, or enterprising in inviting settlement. Now the Canadian Pacific railroad syndicate has become the proprietor of 25,000,000 acres of land along its lines, which are to be immediately put into the market, and urged upon purchasers by the most modern methods. The syndicate lands, it is said, are to be sold at the maximum government price of \$2.50 per acre, except in certain desirable localities, where a larger price will be demanded. The Hudson Bay Company, which received by the bargain with the Dominion in 1871, two sections in every township, holds its