

INTRODUCTORY.

In the compilation of the present pamphlet much care has been exercised to obtain facts fresh from those whose practical experience entitles them to speak with authority. The day, we trust, has passed when the professional pamphleteer may write with impunity about things which he has never seen and which at best are the creations of conjecture. The public are not a trifle interested regarding the statements made by the pamphleteer writing in the interests of countries requiring immigration. Sufficient has already been said on this point for the present generation at least, and therefore it is a great relief to turn from the illusions of a Munchausen and deal with the bare facts as they come directly from the pioneer settlers themselves and it may be added that these statements have not been placed in their mouths by parties anxious to portray in loud colors but rather the plain and homespun truths which practical work in the field entitles them to set forth. The Provisional District of Assiniboia with its 95,000 square miles is full of promise as an agricultural country, or to write more accurately an excellent country for mixed farming.

The general features of the country are occasionally level plains alternating with prairie undulations. The magnificent Saskatchewan or "River that flows" flows through the northern and western part of the district and numerous lakes, of which may be mentioned the Qu'Appelle groups, water the surface. The latter from the source of the Assiniboia River from which the district is named.

The soil abounds in all the elements of fertility and the last two seasons an abundant rain fall has shown that the previous impressions that the district was a veritable desert for dryness have been erroneous. The line of the Canadian Pacific Railway passes through the center of the district from east to west. Regina the seat of Government for the North-West Territories is situated at a central point in the district along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Regina has a population of about 2,000. It is also the head quarters of the North-West Mounted Police and