

south of it. I would also give the evidence of Senator Sutherland, who is a native of that country, who has lived in it a lifetime, and who informed me that he has not seen damage by frost for the last thirty years; and if that is the case, I think we can safely say that so far as any liability to frost is concerned, we share that liability with the rest of Canada and a large portion of the United States.

DEFENDING MANITOBA.

Now, Sir, there was a statement made in a letter to the *Globe* the other day to which I wish to refer. The writer said:—

"The people and Parliament of Canada would do well to consider the fact that the building of the Pacific Railway is a national speculation at best. The Northwest has certainly not yet been proved a country in which agriculture will flourish, or be more than a most precarious occupation. If 1882 and 1883 were years of normal climate in Manitoba, grain-growing there is a lottery with a very large proportion of blanks. Before pledging the credit of the country for \$35,000,000 more, it would surely be well to wait for evidence that the frosts of 1883 and the floods of 1882 did not make them abnormal years. Mr. Stephen says that his company can fulfil their engagements, but if not granted aid now must call a halt for five years. A halt is just the thing that will suit the general interest. It cannot harm any public interest or any interest that parliament can legitimately befriend, while it will give time to learn the truth as to the capabilities of the Northwest before making the expenditure of many millions that should not be expended, unless the Northwest will certainly return the money, principal and interest."

Now, Sir, that statement is most damaging, as he affirms that successful agricultural operation in the Northwest is still an unsolved problem, and that grain-growing is a lottery with a large proportion of blanks. This affirmation is not only untrue, but without the slightest foundation to support it. With regard to the floods in the Northwest, that is another matter which the newspapers have exaggerated to such an extent, that it is wonderful to find that their statements are believed by anybody. They had floods in Montreal the other day, and to talk about the injury by floods in the Northwest is about the same thing as to say that the floods in Montreal injured the whole of Canada, the whole of the Eastern States, and nearly all the Midland States, as far as the Mississippi, and should deter immigrants from settling in these states. The floods extended over a few thousand acres along the line of the Red River, and were very limited in extent. I was astonished at meeting some of my friends

from Ontario, who came up to that country who owned land 40 or 50 miles away from the Red River—I say I was astonished at their asking me the following summer how many feet of water was on their land during the Red River floods. Their idea seemed to be that the whole country was covered; and when you take into account the fact that the portion which was flooded at that time was but the merest fraction of the whole country, and that even at places a short distance away from Winnipeg, such as Portage la Prairie, Brandon, &c., the floods were unknown, you will have some idea of the effect of the floods, and the amount of damage that is likely to be done in the whole country by similar floods in future.

EXPOSING THE GLOBE.

The *Globe* says again in an editorial article:

"What benefit has Ontario derived thus far from the opening up of the Northwest, or what benefit is it likely to receive that would justify the imposition of burdens so heavy upon our people? We have seen the very flower of the youth of this province allured to the West by what was said of the fertility of that region and of its vast resources, and we saw thousands of those young men, after much of their means had been wasted, forced to return, or driven wholly out of Canada, by the monstrous regulations framed in the interest of speculator and monopolist. We have seen the value of real estate in this province greatly reduced because of the outflow of the population."

Now, Sir, I maintain that a paper of the standing which the *Globe* has in Canada, advocating the rejection of these resolutions, and giving as a reason for so doing, that the young men of Ontario had gone to the Northwest, and that, therefore, this province should not be called upon to do any more for that company, is something like the position the New York *Herald* would occupy if it argued that Congress should not pass any bills in assistance of a line of railway passing through the country across the Rocky Mountains, simply because the young men of New York State, and other States, in the east, had gone to better their condition in Colorado and Wyoming, and that, therefore, it was a damage to the country. Another question has been referred to, and that is the colonization companies and the monopoly provisions, as they are called. Here is what the *Globe* of October 19th says:—

"A correspondent of the *Globe* is quoted to prove that larger quantities of free lands ready to be homesteaded have been discovered in Lisgar, and that there has been a rush for them. That this discovery is made only now, shows how bad the management has been. That