

8. That can be taken not to precipitate the sale of lands along the lines of projected railways, or lands which through any other cause are likely in a short period to become of special value.

These, gentlemen, are my views ; I respectfully submit them to my colleagues on the Board for consideration. I feel assured that the Land Commissioner, when he comes to understand them, will view the matter in a very different light to that expressed in his communication of the 2nd October. I cannot doubt that he will cordially welcome the adoption of a policy which is perfectly sound in principle, and which will completely protect him from baseless charges, such as those which the Deputy Governor was called upon to investigate when in Winnipeg, and which under the present system he would be continually exposed to. I feel perfectly satisfied that Mr. Brydges will recognise the advantages of the plan proposed. I am convinced that once adopted it will work well ; and few men have in a higher degree than this Officer the business energy and administrative talent necessary to carry it out successfully.

Should the general land policy outlined be favorably entertained, I shall venture to ask you to reconsider a resolution on the minute book respecting the purchase of lands by Officers, Clerks, and others in the employment of the Company. I shall submit reasons which, I think, will satisfy the Board that the prohibition is felt to be a grievance by many of the oldest and most worthy Officers in the Service. I understand there are men a long distance from the country now being opened up for settlement, who wish to invest their savings in farm lands, possibly for their children or for themselves to occupy when they retire from the Service. These men cannot obtain Government land which