

miles distant, which called forth this strong language of the Attorney-General of Canada in his place in Parliament:—"That before long the red-tapists of the War Office would be convinced that there was a better route to the Red River than by Hudson's Bay." The *Toronto Globe* adding: "Surely this project is the very madness of monopoly. Do the Company think that they can shut out people from the direct road to the great West for ever?"

COPY OF THE TRADER'S LICENSE GRANTED BY THE COMPANY.

"On behalf of the Hudson's Bay Company, I hereby license to trade, and also ratify his having traded in English goods within the limits of the Red River Settlement. This Ratification and this License to be null and void from the beginning, in the event of his hereafter trafficking in furs, or generally of his usurping any whatever of all the privileges of the Hudson's Bay Company."

Goods of Traders had been seized and confiscated.

At the time of the Ashburton Treaty, the Company were much praised for their disinterestedness; public opinion soon changed on finding that large sums of money had been voted to them by Congress after the treaty was signed. It was said that, only for them, the mouth of the Columbia would have been the British boundary. Again, during the Russian war, had it not been for their bargain with the Russian Fur Company, Sitka and all Russian America would have been ours. The Committee of the House of Commons should be informed on both these subjects, and should know how much the Company have received, and are still to receive from Congress. It is a question whether this money belongs to the Company or the British Government.

Let us compare the country under the Company's rule with that free under the States and Canada, first taking the Red River Settlement. This had as great a population in 1821 as in 1856; so that there has been no improvement: while Canada West, without any prairie land, doubles its population in seven years. Minnesota, close to Red River, had 6000 in 1850, and 200,000 in 1857. Iowa increased 300,000; Wisconsin, 350,000; Illinois, 500,000 in six years. Under the Company there has been no increase of population in their territory, though the prairie lands are equally good in both; while the States of Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa, suffer much from fever and ague, unknown in Minnesota or the Red River and Company's lands.

On the Pacific coast, where we have the finest harbours, rich lands, valuable coal mines, with plenty of timber and fish, there has been no