

our own resources none will be left to us. Our causes for expenditure will increase while our means of meeting those outlays will decrease. Is there any reason why the other Provinces should have the entire control of their public lands, school lands, minerals, etc., while this Province should be utterly debarred from having the slightest voice in the management of those public matters here. If there is a good and valid reason why this should be so we will by moving in this matter discover it. Now that the matter has been clearly and forcibly brought to our notice it behooves us to unite in an agitation for our rights as a Province which will bring about such a result as will relieve us from an impending calamity. By an united effort the Dominion Government must be forced to face this matter, and by an equitable settlement of it relieve this Province from its present degrading position, and enable it to take the place amongst the Provinces of the Dominion to which its wealth and increasing importance entitles it.

OUR AUTONOMY.

From the West Lynne Times.

We have given a careful perusal to the six letters on the "Anomalous Position of Manitoba as a Province of The Dominion" recently issued as a supplement to the *Winnipeg Times*. We advise all those who have an interest in the welfare of the Province to read these letters attentively. The writer of the letters is evidently full master of his subject, and presents the case in language concise with figures that are indisputable and in a style within the comprehension of the ordinary reader. The first letter deals with the question of providing for the better self government of Manitoba and other Provinces in future. In order to do this the writer suggests that one of three courses must be adopted, viz: 1st. The Province must obtain the means of

revenue from the resources within its limits, such as crown lands, timber limits, minerals, etc., or the Dominion out of the public treasury must supply the necessary funds to carry on the machinery of Local Government and improvement, or lacking these two sources of revenue the people of the Province must submit to direct taxation. "It is a noticeable fact," says this writer, that while other Provinces were admitted into confederation, Manitoba was created a Province of the Dominion. Her limits were defined for her, her lands were retained for general purposes, and while she was saddled with an expensive form of local government she was not allowed an adequate amount for the carrying on of the same." This is true. Instead of being a Province, Manitoba was made in fact the colony of a colony. This writer further shows that as matters now stand it is doubtful if increased settlements is any advantage from a local standpoint, inasmuch as increased settlement requires increased expenditure. The utmost subsidy the Province can receive at any future time is \$400,000 upon the 80 cents basis. On investigation says the same writer 3,749,075 acres have been disposed of; 1,315,840 allotted as half-breed lands; 2,400,000 to the Hudson's Bay Co; 2,600,000 to schools, and to railways 3,000,000; in all 13,064,915, against a total area of 35,000,000; good lands within the Province, leaving 22,000,000 acres to be administered. There are, he estimates 200 millions of good land in the Dominion for which we have had to pay \$1,500,000 or 7½ mills per acre. If this Province and the others to be created had possession of and controlled their own lands it would make the Provincial Governments more active immigration agents than they are, the same as in other Provinces. In the short space allotted to an editorial, it is impossible for us to do justice to these letters in one issue. When it is considered that Manitoba since she became a "province" from 1872 to 1880 has paid