

RED RIVER MEMORIAL.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir Frederick Arthur Stanley, Baron Stanley of Preston, in the County of Lancaster, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Knight Grand Cross of our Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor-General of Canada, and Vice-Admiral of the same, in Council.

The memorial of the Council of the Winnipeg Board of Trade in Council assembled respectfully sheweth :—

That your memorialists consider it would be a great benefit to the Town of Selkirk, the City of Winnipeg and to the people resident in what is known as the Red River Valley, if the navigation of the Red River were so improved that boats drawing seven feet of water could freely navigate the same from its mouth to the international boundary, the improvements necessary being chiefly confined to the removal of the difficulties to navigation at the St. Andrew's Rapids, which are some twenty miles distant from the City of Winnipeg.

Your memorialists submit the following facts and reasons in support of their opinion :

(a) The development of the timber and natural resources of Lake Winnipeg and its tributary rivers.

(b) A reduction in the price of fuel to the people living on the Red River between Lake Winnipeg and the international boundary.

(c) The development of an export trade in lumber, iron ore, flag stone, etc., to the States of Minnesota and Dakota.

(d) Generally to create trade industries which will give employment to large numbers of men, and develop the resources of the country.

(e) Mr. F. Proudfoot, representing the owners of large ore deposits, says :—

“Already a company of capitalists in the city of Fargo have made definite proposals for the supply of 25,000 tons of iron ore, to be shipped annually for twenty-five years by the Red River to that place, but though the ore could be carried in flat-bottomed boats from the boundary line, it was found impossible to get it over the St. Andrews Rapids, and I deem it a fact which cannot be doubted, that if the river were made navigable this iron ore, brick clay, fire clay, and flagging stone, could be shipped by water to supply the many towns beyond the boundary, and this waterway could be made a source of wealth to the country.

(f) The dredging already done by the Government at the mouth of the Red River has been of so much benefit that the amount of