

the best and safest highway between Asia and Europe, she will see traffic from both directed to her coasts. With a hand upon either ocean she will gather from each for the benefit of her hardy millions a large share of the commerce of the world. To the east and to the west she will pour forth of her abundance, her treasures of food and the riches of her mines and of her forests, demanded of her by the less fortunate of mankind. I esteem those men favoured indeed who, in however slight a degree, have had the honour, or may be yet called upon to take part in the councils of the statesmen who in this early era of her history are moulding this nation's laws in the forms approved by its representatives. For me, I feel that I can be ambitious of no higher title than to be known as one who administered its Government in thorough sympathy with the hopes and aspirations of its first founders, and in perfect consonance with the will of its free parliament. (Cheers.) I ask for no better lot than to be remembered by its people as rejoicing in the gladness born of their independence and of their loyalty. I desire no other reputation than that which may belong to him who sees his own dearest wishes in process of fulfilment in their certain progress, in their undisturbed peace, and in their ripening grandeur. His Excellency concluded by proposing the health of Mr. Brydges, who was, he said, equally at home as the King of the Fur Traders, the King of a Railway, or the King of a Club. (Applause.) I ask you to drink to his health in flowing bumpers.

SPEECH OF MR. BRYDGES.

Mr. Brydges in responding begged to thank His Excellency most warmly for the very kind manner in which he had proposed the toast. It might be interesting to His Excellency to hear something of the country which he travelled over before he met His Excellency at Qu'Appelle, and which was through what is known as Southern Manitoba, passing through the Mennonite reserve, Pembina Mountain, and Turtle Mountain, towards the Souris River. That was a different route to the one followed by His Excellency to Qu'Appelle where they met. That country I found to be teeming with a large and industrious population. I found farms there of an extent which would rival any I am acquainted with in the Province of Ontario. I saw fields of wheat ready for the reaper, and many of them in the latter parts of the journey being gathered into stacks waiting to be threshed either for the consumption of the people of this country or to be carried beyond its borders to feed the populations of the old world. In many places I was surprised to find that I could count with the eye twenty farm houses in sight at one time surrounded by fields glowing with the harvest which they were about to reap. (Loud cheers.) I was told by many of the farmers that they were unable to break as much land as they were desirous to break,