

shores of the great Northern Lakes for advantageous commercial position, and will compete successfully with all other places on these Northern shores as a great commercial emporium, draw thitherward ships that will yet be richly freighted with the varied mineral resources of the great mining regions around Lake Superior, command a large share of the lumber trade of the North, and of the extensive through traffic that will be developed as the tide of emigration rolls on, and the Red River Territory and the fertile valley of the Saskatchewan become thickly peopled with industrious settlers.

CONCLUSION.

In the foregoing pages, there has been presented a brief account of the progress of this railway enterprise, and an unvarnished description of the numerous villages and towns to be benefited thereby; with a consideration also of the wealth of the varied natural resources of the lands along which the iron bands of this line are stretched. It has been seen that this undertaking will communicate manifold blessings to the communities located along the vast extent of country traversed; developing manufactures, stimulating agricultural enterprise, whereby there will be a higher cultivation, increased production, and marshes converted into arable land; affording accessibility to markets, and by so doing enlarging the profits of the tillers of the soil, and leading to an immense increase in stock raising and wool growing; and aiding powerfully in building up the commercial importance, not only of the Queen City of the West, but also of many thriving towns and villages. It has also been seen in these topographical sketches, that the extent, variety, and value of the timber and cleared lands; the abundance of water power in the multitude of streams and rivers, the host of mill privileges, the great opportunities for grain and lumber trading, the facilities and outlets for commercial enterprise, the diversity of public works, the openings for the various mechanical and manufacturing industries, and the healthy spirit of progress now pervading all sections of the country under review, afford inducements for settlement to the skilled mechanic, to those seeking desirable farm homesteads, to the farm servant, to lumbermen, and workmen of divers kinds, and in an especial manner to the capitalist and manufacturer; and, doubtless, as the railway intercourse diffuses throughout the Dominion the information here sought to be conveyed, there will gradually result therefrom a large influx of population to the districts described, and a more extensive investment of capital in lands and timber, and in the various branches of industry—such as will bring round an era of more rapid prosperity than has even yet been manifest in those splendid