

the hub of a great number of Railway and Steamship Corporations) which has recorded wonderful developments since 1849, when it had a white population of only 5,000. In 1851 the Sioux Indians ceded to the United States all their lands between the Mississippi and the Big Sioux. Since 1851 the growth of Minnesota has been rapid; admitted to the Union September 21st, 1857, population then only 150,092. One of the first and most progressive Acts of this State was when in 1858 it guaranteed a first bond issue of \$2,275,000. to encourage railway construction. The first Railway in Minnesota was a ten mile road from St. Paul to St. Anthony, finished in 1862; between 1864 and 1872 a Congressional land grant of 9,992,042 acres was given. The increased mileage from 1869 to 1879 was at the rate of over 200 miles per annum.

There are five navigable rivers within the State, with a water line of 1,532 miles. The Mississippi and Red Rivers are navigable to St. Paul about 230 days in the year, and the Railway system of Minnesota is so far extended that all water routes are connected by rail, thus affording economical and direct transportation to all parts of the North West, and all available to feed the Lake to Ocean speedy navigable waterway proposed by the Great Lakes and Atlantic Canal and Power Company, Limited.

Topography of Minnesota, Minnesota is one of the new States of the United States, only partly developed, but is bound to become one of the leading producing States of the Union. It is situated nearly in the centre of the Continent of North America on the highest plateau of land lying between the Gulf of Mexico and the Hudson Bay, and forms the watershed of the great river systems of the country.

There are 700 small lakes in the State, varying from one to thirty miles in diameter, while several of them have an area of from 100 to 400 square miles. The Mississippi River rises in Lake Itasca and flows for nearly 800 miles through the State receiving the Minnesota River at Fort Snelling about five miles above St. Paul.

The Red River of the North rises in Elbow Lakes, turns Southwest, and North and empties into Lake Winnipeg, which has an outlet into Hudson's Bay.