

great lakes, its position is of the first importance, and not excelled, or indeed, equalled, by any other place. The export crop of wheat alone for 1887 is ten million bushels, to which may be added four millions more of oats, potatoes, barley, flax and several thousand beef cattle. Remember this is entirely the surplus of one Province, Manitoba, (except the bulk of the cattle which are from Alberta) and that Manitoba in July, 1887, only had one hundred and eight thousand people, and four hundred and fifty thousand acres under crop; remember also that in 1881, only six years ago, the Province did not grow enough wheat to feed itself, yet, now it is taxing to the utmost the fullest traffic resources of the greatest railway on the globe to carry its wheat surplus alone. The increase of population in 1887 was twelve thousand, and present advices show an enormous prospective advance for 1888. The increase of acres for crop of 1888, as given by four hundred Government correspondents, is thirty thousand acres, and the amount of fall ploughing was quite up to the average so that the export of wheat for 1888-9 will be much greater than that of 1887-8. Besides the flour and wheat, coarse grain and roots, Manitoba is already sending east, cattle, hogs and dairy products, all of which the west produces in as good or better quality and cheaper than Old Canada. In 1886, Manitoba exported seven thousand live hogs, and made five hundred thousand pounds of cheese. These are figures of promise, and those persons who have not looked into the matter may doubt, when told that Fort Arthur must yet be larger and a far more important city than Duluth, as the latter handles only the traffic of a portion of two or three States, whereas Port Arthur tolls the whole trade of four or five vast Provinces, quite as fertile, or more so, than those tributary to Duluth. The great and growing west in turn will consume vast quantities of Algoma products which must be manufactured at or near Port Arthur, such as pulp, and paper made from poplar wood, iron in various forms, manufactured from iron ores, mined in this vicinity, lumber and wooden ware, agricultural implements, and as Port Arthur and vicinity is well supplied with water power, extensive flouring, oatmeal and oil mills, also various other factories for working up the products of the fertile prairies must be built and established here; in addition to all these are the smelting works, foundries and other industrial operations caused by the development of our mineral resources, most of which in turn will find consumption in the west, all of which shows in the near future, Port Arthur must be one of the most important cities and manufacturing centres on the great lakes.

#### THE BANKING FACILITIES

of Port Arthur are now utterly inadequate to the demand for a more extensive monetary system to carry over the heavy wheat shipments which are now stored here to the extent of nearly three millions of bushels awaiting the opening of navigation, and which must quadruple itself in