

"Lord Dunmore, who spent the summer of 1862 in British territory, north-west of Minnesota, lately passed through St. Paul's on his way to London. Here he fully confirmed the intelligence of gold discoveries on the Saskatchewan River, east of the Rocky Mountains. In his own language, 'A rush may be expected from England and Canada next summer (1863).'

"An overland emigration in that direction has already commenced, and will pass from St. Paul to Red River, over the route of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad."

*From the COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA LAND OFFICE to EDMUND RICE, Esq., President of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Office.*

*"St. Paul, Jan. 24, 1863.*

"I have the honour to inform you, under the Act of the Legislature of March 10, 1862, that not less than 100,000 acres of school lands shall be appraised and offered for sale at public auction, on or before the 1st day of November, 1862; eighty seven thousand eight hundred and thirty-two and  $93/100$  ( $87,832\frac{93}{100}$ ) were offered for sale, of which thirty-eight thousand one hundred and forty-seven and  $13/100$  ( $38,147\frac{13}{100}$ ) acres, sold for two hundred and forty-two thousand five hundred and thirty-one, and  $60/100$  dollars ( $242,531\frac{60}{100}$  dollars); the average price per acre being over six and  $35/100$  dollars ( $6\frac{35}{100}$  dollars). The average distance of the lands from any public conveyance to market is not less than twenty-five miles.

"I would also state that the demand for these lands is such that the State will have another general sale as early as May in the present year."

*From the Hon. EDMUND RICE, President of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, to THOMAS RAWLINGS, Esq., of London.*

*St. Paul, Jan. 30, 1863.*

"I have the honour to send you herewith a map of the State of Minnesota, with the lands certified to this Company indicated thereon. These are the 307,200 acres mortgaged to trustees to secure the payment of 1,200,000 dollars, of 7 per cent. bonds, dated June 2, 1862.

"You will observe their proximity to the railroad and to the Mississippi River, none of them being more than fifteen miles therefrom.

"Their identity is certified under the seal of the Department of the Interior.

"I enclose also an official description of the lands embraced in each township, as returned by the Surveyor-General's Office by the Government Surveyors, who are sworn officers. I also enclose an official statement of the Commissioner of the State Land Office, showing the amount realized for school lands sold by him at public auction in October last.

"These lands were granted by the United States for the purpose of maintaining schools, and consist of the 16th and 36th sections in each township.

"Of course, they can be no better than the railroad lands, and in one respect they are not so valuable, because they extend to all parts of the State, whereas the railroad lands are all within fifteen miles of the line. \* \* \* \*