

the demand this year has been ten-fold greater than ever before. There are in Ottawa ten mills, with an annual productive capacity of 180,000,000 feet. They have been run this season night and day. Two others are in erection, one of which is intended to manufacture annually 60,000,000 feet. The Bronson's mill, which I visited, ran 180 saws, employed 100 men at home and 600 in the forest. It runs from seven and a half to eight months in the year. There are also at various places in the vicinity four or five other mills. It is estimated that 30,000,000 feet now lie in the docks at Ottawa, all of which the owners or contractors wish to get out before the close of navigation, which will be soon after the middle of November. Should the demand continue it will be shipped by rail to Prescott and thence east or west by the Grand Trunk.

"Besides this manufactured lumber there is 16,000,000 or 20,000,000 cubic feet of square timber, cut and squared in the forests, floated into the Ottawa at full length and made into rafts for the Quebec market. It is there sawn into deals or three inch plank and sent to England. A few rafts are floated down to Burlington and manufactured there. Contractors who lease limits of government land are now, however, preparing to manufacture rather than to send out whole timber.

"With the increased appliances of modern ingenuity, the great demand from the States and the growing army, now, as I have said, 10,000 strong, ruthlessly cutting down the tall pines of a century's growth, this region, vast as it is, must one day be exhausted. I should say that most of the manufacturers here are American, and that Ottawa has much the air of a new western city."

3. RED RIVER TERRITORY—ITS RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES.

The *Nor-West* is publishing a series of articles on the present and future of the Red River Territory, its resources and capabilities, with a view of offering reliable information to intending immigrants; and as the territory is probably destined to play an important part in the future of this continent, and its value is but little understood even in Canada, we think it desirable that they should be re-published.

The first attempt to found a colony in that part of Rupert's Land now occupied by the Red River Settlements, was made in the year 1812, under the patronage of Lord Selkirk. In giving a brief sketch of the early history of the settlement, we cannot do better than give a curtailed quotation from the "Rise, progress and present state of the Red River Settlement," by the late Alexander Ross, published in London 1816, whose long and intimate connection with the country gave him ample opportunity for collecting reliable information. He says: "The colonists consisted of several Scotch families, who after they had reached the spot which was to be their future home, they were met by a large party of half-breeds and Indians, in the service of the North West Company, and warned not to attempt to establish a permanent settlement. They were conducted by a number of those wild and reckless children of the prairie to Fort Pembina, a post of the Hudson Bay Company, where they passed the winter in buffalo skin tents, and soon adopted the habits of life belonging to the savage and half savage natives by whom they were surrounded. In May 1812, the emigrants returned to the neighborhood of Fort Douglas, about two miles below the present site of Fort Garry, and here commenced their agricultural labors. In the fall of the year they again sought refuge at Fort Pembina, and after a winter of much suffering, revisited in the spring of 1814 the scene of the previous year's attempt to plant themselves on the banks of Red River, with a determination to make it a permanent residence. His Lordship had established a general store of goods, implements, ammunition, clothing and food, at Fort Douglas, from which the impoverished emigrants were supplied on credit. In July, 1818, several French Canadian families, under the guidance of two Priests, arrived in the Colony. In 1820, the foundation of a Roman Catholic Church was laid near the present site of the Cathedral of St. Boniface, and in the fall of that year a minister of the Church of England visited that country, encouraged by the Church Missionary Society. In 1821, the Northwest and Hudson's Bay Companies united, and from that time the condition and prospects of the Red River Settlement became more encouraging and their progress slow but sure. In 1823, the population of the Colony was about 600; twenty years afterwards it had increased to 5,143, and thus assumed an important, though not a prominent position among Christian communities, in the midst of barbarous and savage races."

It is now well known that northwest of Minnesota the country reaching from the Selkirk Settlement to the Rocky Mountains, and from lat. 49 deg. to 54 deg. is as favorable to grain and animal production as any of the Northern States; that the mean temperature for spring, summer and autumn observed in the forty-second and forty-third parallels in New York, Michigan and Wisconsin, has been accurately traced through Fort Snelling and the valley of the

Saskatchewan to latitude 55 degrees on the Pacific coast. Of the present community of the Settlement, numbering over 10,000, about 5000 are competent to assume any civil or social responsibility which may be imposed upon them. The accumulations from the fur trade during fifty years, with few excitements or opportunities of expenditure, have secured general prosperity, with frequent instances of affluence; while the numerous churches and schools sustain a high standard of morality and intelligence. The present agriculture of the Settlement confirms the evidence from a variety of sources, to which we shall afterwards refer, that the districts west and north west of the Red River valley are well adapted to settlement. For the production of wheat, barley, rye, oats, peas, potatoes, vegetables, etc., the region in question will be unsurpassed by any other area of similar extent on the continent, and capable, it is estimated, of feeding forty millions of people. A writer eloquently remarks:—"Are these innumerable fields of hay for ever destined to be consumed by fire, or perish in the autumnal snows? How long shall these superb forests be the haunts of wild beasts? And these inexhaustible quarries,—these abundant mines of coal, gold, silver, lead, sulphur, iron, copper, salt and saltpetre,—can it be that they are doomed to remain for ever inactive? Not so, the day will come when some laboring hand will give them value; a strong, active and enterprising people are destined to fill this spacious void. The wild beasts will, ere long, give place to our domestic animals; flocks and herds will graze in the beautiful meadows that border the numberless mountains, hills, valleys and plains, of this extensive region."

There are three religious denominations here, which are divided as follows:

FAMILIES AND CHURCHES.

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|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Roman Catholics, | 554 families, | 3 Churches. |
| Episcopalian, | 383 | " 4 " |
| Presbyterian, | 60 | " 2 " |

exclusive of the settlement of Prairie Portage and the Indian missionary village. Education is in a far more advanced state in the colony than its isolation and brief career might claim for it under the peculiar circumstances in which the country has been so long placed. There are seventeen schools in the settlement, generally under the supervision of the ministers of the denomination to which they belong. One of the Episcopalian clergymen remarks, "On the ground of education, let none fear to make trial of the country. The parochial school connected with my own chapel is equal to most parochial schools which I have known in England, in range of subjects superior to most, though in method and in the apparatus of the school necessarily a little inferior."

At present there is a great want of good tradesmen in the settlement, especially blacksmiths, carpenters and masons; also, a good tanner and one or two boot and shoemakers, and a tailor, would also do well to save the importation of this bulky and necessary article. There are among the principal merchants several who would no doubt be glad to assist in giving a start to such tradesmen coming to settle among us. Our next article will commence with our resources and their means of development, beginning with Agricultural Industry.

VIII. Papers on Physical Geography & Statistics.

1. THE CLOVE ISLANDS.

The Chinese traders appear to have been the first who made the natives of the Moluccas acquainted with the use and value of the article that grew with such abundance on their islands. These traders transplanted the clove-tree to China, where it seems to have flourished in great profusion. Through the Chinese the spice eventually found its way up the Red Sea, and through Alexandria to Eastern Europe, where it was held in great esteem by the Greek physicians in the seventh century, by whom it was prescribed both as a food and a medicine.

In the year 1511, the Portuguese discovered the Moluccas, and, taking possession of the principal islands of the group, soon established a monopoly of the new spice in Western Europe. This profitable trade, however, they only retained for a short time, for the Dutch, who, in the pursuit of gain hesitated at no moral or political crime, were not slow in finding a cause of quarrel with their wealthy rivals, their first overt act being to take forcible possession of all the Portuguese spice islands. Had their aggressive tyranny ended here, there would have been very little to complain about; but no sooner had they obtained possession of the entire group, than to prevent all possibility of rivalry in the spice trade—and particularly as regarded cloves, which were indigenous on all the islands—they systematically destroyed every clove tree that could be found in the Moluccas, except those growing in the most fertile