

### CHARACTER OF THE LINE.

The entire line is to be laid with steel rails of the best quality, and all important structures are to be of a permanent character. Care has been taken to secure the lightest possible gradients, those on the line from Winnipeg to Thunder Bay being only 26 feet to the mile: in this respect the Canadian Pacific will compare most favorably with all other trans-continental lines.

It is also to be noted that the entire mountain section on the Canadian Pacific Railway is embraced within a distance of about 600 miles, whereas that of the Union Pacific, covers a distance of 1250 miles, and at a much higher elevation. Ample provision has been made against trouble from snow on the Prairie section, by making the road-bed sufficiently high to almost entirely avoid cuttings.

### CHARACTER OF THE COUNTRY TRAVERSED.

The greater portion of the road south and east of Lake Nipissing traverses an old and well developed country, commanding the immense lumber traffic of the upper Ottawa Valley.

From Callander westwards, and throughout the whole of the Lake Superior section, the road runs through forests of valuable timber, which will furnish fuel, and lumber for building purposes to settlers in the prairie section; and passes through most valuable mineral lands, abounding in silver, iron and copper ore.

The 800 miles of road west of the Red River runs through one of the finest agricultural countries in the world, the settlement of which has been hitherto impeded by the want of railway facilities, but is now making rapid progress. It is estimated that 20,000 immigrants have arrived in the North-West during the past season. The country is a gently undulating prairie, well watered throughout. Wood is plentiful along the streams, and the soil is uniformly deep and rich, and fully equal to the best agricultural lands in any part of the United States. Practical farmers reckon a moderate average crop at 28 bushels wheat, 49 barley, and 56 oats per acre. The wheat commonly grown, and known as "No. 1 hard," commands a higher price than the ordinary quality of wheat. The soil is also exceptionally favorable to the growth of potatoes, turnips, etc.

Independent testimony to the agricultural capacity of the country will be found in the reports of the tenant farmers from the Old Country who visited the North-West two years ago, as well as in the letters of the Special Correspondents who accompanied the Governor-General of Canada on his recent Western tour.

The mean annual temperature of Winnipeg does not differ materially from that of Chicago, St. Paul or Montreal, and the air is pure and dry.

On the Western Section of the line, that part between the Rocky and Cascade Mountains has not been thoroughly explored, but coal is known to exist there, and the mountains may be found rich in gold and other precious metals.

On the Pacific Slope, immense forests of valuable timber and extensive coal fields are known to exist.