

sesses the resources wherewith to pay for them.

The following is taken from appendix "C," in the evidence adduced before the Committee of the House of Commons upon the Hudson's Bay Company in the month of June last, showing the number of Indians dependent upon them for supplies :—

Thickwood Indians on the East side of the Rocky Mountains	35,000
The Plain Tribes, Black Foot, &c.....	25,000
The Esquimaux	4,000
Indians settled in Canada.....	3,000
Indians in British Oregon and the N. W. Coast	80,000
	147,000
White and half breeds in the Hudson's Bay Territories.....	11,000
Total.....	158,000

These are supplied with goods brought via Hudson's Bay; with the exception of some small portion of country immediately on the Pacific coast, which is supplied with goods &c. via Cape Horn. With a route through Canada we would not only supply the British Territories along the Pacific coast, but also the Russian possessions on the north.

From the shores of Lake Huron to those of the Pacific the Hudson's Bay Company have a series of Forts or chief trading depots, upon which smaller forts are again dependent. Each chief Fort has therefore dependent upon it for supplies the number of Indians as follows :—

LAKE HURON.	
La Cloche Fort Indians	150
Little Current	500
Mississaga 150, Green Lake 150,	300
White Fish Lake	150
Sault St. Marie	150
	1,250

At the Sault St. Marie, more than double the number ought to be set down.

NIPISSISING.	
The forts there about	350

LAKE SUPERIOR.	
Batchewaning 100, Maimainse 50	150
Michipicoton	300
Pic 100, Neepigon, 250	350
Fort William 350, Pigeon River 50 ...	400
	1,850

LAC LA PLUIE.	
Fort Frances	1,500
Fort Alexander.....	300
Rat portage 500, White Dog, 100.....	600
Lac du Bonnet.....	50
Lac de Bois Blanc, 200, Shoal Lake 200	400
Total on Lakes in Canada.....	4,650

Assiniboine and Red River, Winnipeg and Manitoba.....	10,000
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SASKATCHEWAN.	
Fort Edmonton	7,500
Carlton 6000, Fort Pitt 7000	13,000
Mountain House.....	6,000
	31,150

These are called the Tribes of the Plain.

North and West of the Saskatchewan, and along the slopes of the Rocky Mountains, the tribes denominated the "Thickwood Indians," these number 35,000; thus we find 66,150 souls on this side the Rocky Mountains, dependent upon the Hudson's Bay Company for the necessaries of life, which can be more speedily and readily supplied by a Canadian Company.

If the traders of Canada and the North West Company of Montreal, carried on a traffic with the shores of the Pacific, and with the Arctic seas, from the year 1763 up to the year 1821, and when the population of Canada did not much exceed that of our large cities at present, a period when steam was unknown and the difficulties of transportation existed in all their primeval wildness,—surely we can do so now, when those great obstructions to their enterprise have long since been removed, and our population, our wealth, our power are increased ten thousand fold. It is a well established fact that the greatest difficulties to be surmounted by these enterprising men, existed between Montreal and Lake Huron. From that Lake to the Pacific shores, the route was comparatively facile, and easy of transportation, and steam now bears us to the head of Lake Superior. Thence our route is easy to the Pacific shores.