

Hudson Bay Officers, and natives of the country, who have lived for long periods in the various sections. I have carried on this practice for a series of years, taking notes of the conversations. I have compared from time to time one man's statement with that of another, and I am to-day thoroughly convinced that the Saskatchewan Valley is destined to be the great field for emigration.

"The land in the Saskatchewan valley is on the whole very similar to that of Red River, though not quite so level.

"The thermometer falls lower in winter, but as there is very seldom any high wind, the cold is not much felt.

"The severe frost pulverizes the ground, and renders it easily ploughed in spring.

"Wheat grows there in great perfection, and is ready to cut from the middle to the end of August.

"The risk of early frost is chiefly confined to the neighbourhood of swampy flats. In general there is but little risk on the high ground.

"The grasshoppers that from time to time visited Red River, have never yet done any serious damage in the Saskatchewan Valley. In 1866 they came to Carleton, but did not spread beyond fifteen miles east. The Red River Valley has been exposed to the grasshopper in common with the prairie lands of the United States. We have reason to believe that the liability will cease, or at least decrease very much, when a large section of the country is under cultivation.

"I remain, Sir,

"Yours truly,

"JOHN McLEAN, D.D., D.C.L.,

"Archdeacon of Manitoba."

STATEMENT OF MR. G. B. SPENCE.

The following are notes of an interview of Mr. G. B. Spence, Collector of Customs at Winnipeg, Manitoba, with the Hon. J. H. Pope, Minister of Agriculture, at his office, on the 11th February,