

he resources of it. In looking at the map, the Province of Manitoba, as at present defined, is but a square on the great checker-board. Its present boundaries may be thus indicated: Beginning at the southeast corner of the prairie about where the international boundary line intersects the 96th meridian, it follows the same northerly for a distance of 90 miles; thence it runs due westerly 130 miles; thence southerly until it intersects the boundary line. The shape is that of a parallelogram. It is proposed to extend the limits of the Province to the waters of Lake Superior, but the Province of Ontario objects to this. It is, therefore, probable that the extension east will be limited to the Height of Land, midway between the 90th and 91st meridian of west longitude.

The following extract from the Report of the Delegates of the Executive Council to Ottawa, with regard to the claims of Manitoba upon the Dominion, will convey a good idea of the future extent of the Province:

"Commencing at a point where the western boundary of the Province of Ontario intersects the boundary line between the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada, thence due north along the said western boundary of the Province of Ontario to Hudson's Bay; thence north-westerly along the shore of the said Bay to the parallel of 60 deg. of north latitude to the meridian of 100 degrees of west longitude from Greenwich; thence due south along the said meridian of 100 degrees of west longitude to the boundary line between the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada; and thence easterly along the said boundary line between the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada, to the place of beginning."

Now, the area of the Province is equal to 9,000,000 of acres. The area, when the proposed enlargement takes place, will be about 279,000 statute square miles, or about 178,700,000 acres—an extent of country nearly equal to the two oldest Provinces of the Dominion, and more than twenty-five times that of Manitoba as at present constituted.

It will then possess a seaport on Hudson's Bay, and should the eastern limit be fixed on Lake Superior, the Province would have a lake port there. There will still remain territory enough to form three first-class Provinces west of the 100th meridian and east of the Rocky Mountains.

The following, from a pamphlet published by the Dominion Government, may be relied upon as generally accurate:

"The soil of Manitoba, which is mostly prairie, and covered with grass, is a deep alluvial deposit of unsurpassed richness. It produces bountiful crops of cereals, grasses, roots and vegetables."

The extension of the western boundary of the Province will include the Little Saskatchewan river, on the banks of which is the colony of Mr. John Ralston. This settlement by next year will comprise 200 families. It was got up through the exertions of Mr. J. Ralston, well known in the Ottawa valley for his enterprise. Mr. Ralston has had his town surveyed and laid out. He has named it Almonte, after the thriving town in Ontario. Being admirably situated for manufacturing purposes,