

"communications, and for which she will provide the means of local administration.

"Your Committee apprehend that the districts on the Red River and the Saskatchewan are among those likely to be desired for early occupation. "It is of great importance that the peace and good order of those districts should be effectually secured. Your Committee trust that there will be "no difficulty in effecting arrangements as between Her Majesty's Government and the Hudson's Bay Company by which those districts may be "ceded to Canada on equitable principles, and within the districts thus "annexed to her, the authority of the Hudson's Bay Company would "of course entirely cease." And Mr. Cardwell concludes by asking whether the Government of Canada are prepared to assist in those negotiations with the view of accepting the government of any portion of the territory, and undertaking the duties contemplated by the Committee in case sufficiently favorable terms can be obtained; and he suggests that if prepared so to do, it would be desirable that some person duly authorized to communicate the views of the Canadian Government should be sent to England for that purpose.

The Committee of Council recommend that Mr. Cardwell be informed that the Government of Canada is more than ever impressed with the importance of opening up to settlement and cultivation, the lands lying between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains. The great extent of these lands and their adaptability for settlement are now established beyond a doubt; and it is not to be contemplated that a region so fertile and capable of sustaining so vast a population, should longer be closed to civilization for the benefit of a trading company, however long established and respectable that Company may be. The rapid progress of British Columbia adds to the expediency of opening without delay an overland route to the Pacific, and gives feasibility to the hope long cherished by many that the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans ere many years elapse, may be connected by one direct line of Railway through British territory from Halifax to British Columbia. The close relations springing up between the Red River settlers and the Americans of Pembina and St. Paul, and the removal of many Americans into the territory, render it doubly expedient that a settled government under the British Crown should be established in the country at an early date. The effort now being made with every prospect of success, by the governments of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island for the Union of all these Provinces under one government, presents another strong reason for settling now the future position of the North-West Country, more especially as the parties to the proposed British American Federation have unanimously agreed that the people of the North-West Territory, and of British Columbia, and Vancouver may at any time join the Federation on equitable terms, and the whole of British America thus become united in one system of government under the protecting rule of Great Britain.

The Government of Canada is ready and anxious to co-operate with the Imperial Government in securing the early settlement of the Territory