

# THE RAILWAY DISALLOWANCE QUESTION IN MANITOBA.

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When the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met in Winnipeg a month ago, many of its members expressed a desire to obtain in a concise form some of the information supplied to them verbally relating to the question of disallowance by the Dominion Government of charters granted by the Legislature of Manitoba to railroad companies to construct railway lines within the original Province of Manitoba. Since then many applications have been made from other quarters of a similar nature, and it is to meet the demand that this pamphlet has been prepared. It is hoped that the facts submitted will give to persons residing outside Manitoba a fair and clear understanding of the true position in which our people are placed regarding this question, and will explain the unanimous action taken by our Provincial Legislature to assert our constitutional rights as a Province having every privilege and right possessed by the sister Provinces that constitute the Dominion of Canada.

## THE LEGAL QUESTION.

The letters of Mr. F. Beverley Robertson in the *Mail* (dated January 29th and February 7th, 1887) proved clearly that, when the Canadian Pacific Railway contract was made, it was understood by both parties to the contract that the Province of Manitoba was not affected more than the Provinces of Ontario or Quebec, and that there was no intention to create a monopoly in Manitoba. *This position was admitted to be correct by the Minister of Justice when waited upon by the Manitoba delegates May 3, 1887, in the following words: "There is no legal or constitutional reason to prevent the Province chartering railways to the boundary; it is a*