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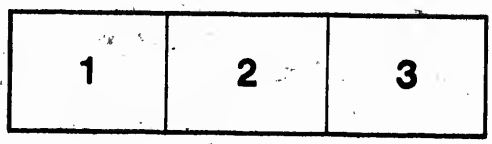

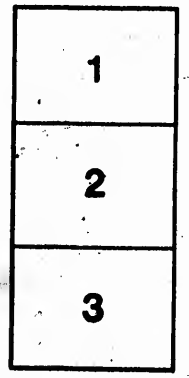

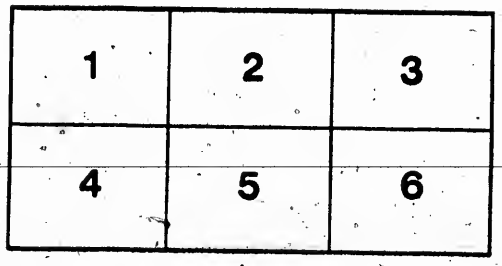

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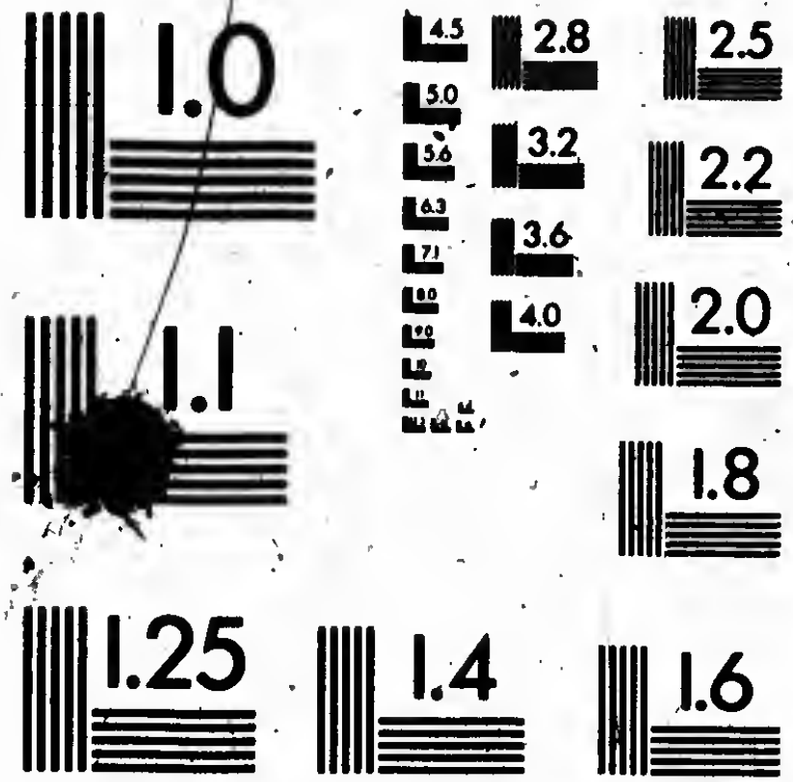

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THE DOMINION OF CANADA

AS A FIELD

FOR EMIGRANTS

FROM THE

UNITED KINGDOM,

BY

REV. D. M. MACLISE, D. D.,

PASTOR OF CALVIN CHURCH, ST. JOHN, N. B.

"Westward the course of empire takes its way;
The four first acts already past,
A fifth shall close the drama with the day:
Time's noblest offspring is the last."

BISHOP BERKELEY—*on the prospect of Planting Arts and Learning, in America.*

OTTAWA:

PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

1882.

READ AND CIRCULATE AMONG YOUR NEIGHBORS.

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READ AND CIRCULATE AMONG YOUR NEIGHBORS.

PREFACE.

The writer of the following pages deems no apology necessary for the secular character of the subject. He believes a clergyman is bound to aid his fellowmen by every proper means in his power, and if he has information from personal experience which is necessary to the well-being of others, it is his duty to impart that information to as large a number of people as possible, whether that information concerns time or eternity, or both. He believes the temporal condition of men has a potent influence for weal or woe, not only in this world but that which is to come. Peoples' places of residence and means of comfortable living have much to do with their well-being here and hereafter. He has reason to know that much misleading information has been widely circulated among the peoples of the old countries about this country as a field for settlement. He is anxious as far as he can to rectify the erroneous ideas which have been inculcated by interested parties, and to impart in as few words as possible enough reliable information to enable people to form correct conclusions as to where their future habitations should be located.

Should he succeed in his aim he believes he will have performed a more important public service than if he had written and published a score of Theological Essays, of which there is a plethora already.

"*Homo sum et humani, a me nil alienum puto.*"—Terence.

I am a man, and nothing that relates to man do I deem of no concern to me.

St. John, N. B., Aug. 3, 1882.

EMIGRATION.

Change is the common lot. There is nothing permanent on earth. A good homily might be written with this for the theme of thought. But I do not propose at present to write a homily. My object is *pro bono publico* materially, rather than morally or spiritually just now.

People, at least many of them, change their homes. May-day is usually a moving day among a great multitude of persons. Some move for the sake of change, others in the hope of bettering their condition. Some move next door, and some to distant lands. It is of the latter class I would speak. The movement with them is an important one, and should not be undertaken without due consideration and a careful compilation of facts as far as they can be reliably ascertained. All the future well or ill being of emigrants depends to a great extent on the wise or otherwise character of the change of location or country which they make. In order to do it wisely, people must have full and correct information on the subject, otherwise they are full as likely to go wrong as right, and having started wrongly often find it impossible to rectify their mistakes, and by force of circumstances are compelled to go on as they have begun.

Ever since the discovery of America many people have been led by circumstances to move from the old settled countries of Europe to the new land. For the last thirty-three years, or a generation of men, this emigration has been very extensive, and for the last few years increasingly so. Very much the larger portion of it has been going to the United States and a comparatively small portion to Canada. From forty to a hundred thousand have been going monthly to the neighboring Republic; less than that number yearly to Canada. They have been going *there* in multitudes, *here* in driblets. There are sufficient and efficient causes for all effects. This extraordinary disparity still exists, and will continue to exist, unless causes are brought into existence to prevent it. There were good reasons for this disparity up till the present time; these reasons no longer exist, but that is not enough to rectify the matter. It must be made manifest to the peoples in the old lands that the reasons for such a tide of emigration to the United States do not now exist, but that they *do* exist now as they never did before for turning that tide to Canada, and that the advantages are much greater as afforded by Canada to immigrants at the present day, than they are, or ever were, in the United States. If the real facts, "the true inwardness" of the whole subject were only fully and fairly made known to the populations of European countries, especially in the United Kingdom, and proper facilities afforded them for reaching the free and fertile lands of the Canadian Dominion, there would soon be such a flocking of the industrious surplus population of Europe to these shores, as was never before seen to any part of this continent. I propose to consider, briefly as possible, the causes which have hitherto led to such an influx of population to the neighboring Republic, and such a small number to ourselves; to show how it has come about that the causes for that great influx to the U. S. no longer exist, but that *a fortiori* they do now exist in Canada, and that intending emigrants should be fully and fairly informed of the facts, and that this would be only justice to all concerned, the emigrants, the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

The writer of this pamphlet has seen and examined both countries pretty thoroughly, and states only what he has seen, or learned from the most reliable sources, and is desirous of affording truthful, and entirely trustworthy information. In order to be in a position to afford this information he made an extensive tour through the North-West of both the United States and Canada a few months ago.

The Irish Land Question is at present the most pressing and agitating subject of all those which engage the attention of Great Britain and her Colonies. It is one that not only demands but commands attention. The interests involved are so numerous and so various, the people affected are so many and so antagonistic in their ideas as to their respective rights, the attempted enforcements of those rights are so violent and reprehensible, that the condition of affairs has become really serious and alarming. Some remedy is evidently needed. What that remedy is seems an important inquiry. The Government appears unable satisfactorily to solve the question. The Irish Land Act of 1870 has failed to accomplish its object by giving satisfaction to the parties concerned, and producing peace.

Mr. Sydney C. Buxton's article in the February, 1881, number of the *Contemporary Review*, presenting "The arguments for and against the three F.'s," renders it almost absolutely certain that the three F.'s scheme will fail to settle the questions at issue. The sixty-five arguments for, and the seventy-five against the three F.'s—Fixity of Tenure, Fair Rent and Freedom of Sale—as demanded by the tenants, are so directly opposed to each other that there does not seem to be much, if any, ground to expect that conclusions satisfactory to all concerned can be reached. I shall not attempt to discuss the reasonableness or otherwise of the three F.'s, or what is involved in that cabalistic symbol. I merely say I see no probability of the evil being remedied in that way. Another and a better way must be found.

Coercion, the strong arm of military power, has been suggested as the only possible way of repressing the agrarian outrages recently so prevalent. There is no question but that the Government has the *power* to put down the Land League rebellion by minie bullets, cannon balls and grape shot, but if that were done the evil would still exist, and in an intensified form, while multitudes of widows and orphans would have become a burden on the State, with undying hatred rankling in their hearts. Coercion, then, is not the proper remedy.

Expropriation has been proposed as a remedy for all the evils connected with the vexed question of land tenure in Ireland. This question, or the "abolition of landlords" has been ably discussed by the Right Hon. Lord Monteagle, in the February issue of the *Nineteenth Century*, 1881, in which he demonstrates that a wholesale "expropriation" of landlords is impracticable, unjust to landlords, demoralizing to tenant farmers and injurious to the laborers; that it would inflict financial loss on the State at first, and probably more serious evils in the future, and that it would be a revolution without adequate cause. Abolition of landlordism is not, therefore, the proper relief.

Emigration, on a large scale, has been suggested as the best, if not indeed the *only* means of meeting the exigencies of the case, and with that idea I entirely agree. I have carefully considered the question in all its aspects, and have come to the decided conclusion that *that* meets the case, and that *only*.

Mr. J. E. Tuke in a very judicious and reliable article in the same number of the *Nineteenth Century*, presents a large amount of important information on this subject of "Irish Emigration." I fully endorse the following opinion expressed by him in that and a previous publication.

"What seems to me to be needed is that families should be assisted to emigrate from *overcrowded* parts of Ireland under careful and systematic supervision, and that this oversight should not end in Ireland, but should be continued under the charge of properly qualified agents in Canada or elsewhere, whose object it should be to give assistance in the selection of land, or in obtaining employment for the emigrants."

This is what seems to me also to be needed, and with the article as a whole I fully agree, with very few exceptions mostly matters of detail. The ground for the principal one of these exceptions is rather implied than stated by Mr. Tuke in these words, "Without wishing to recommend the Canadian territory as a more suitable field for Irish emigration than that afforded by the United States, I shall refer to it chiefly in the following remarks," &c The evident implication here is that the United States does afford at least as good a field for Irish emigration as the Canadian Territory. To show that this is not the case is one main design of this present writing, and also that the Canadian territory presents a vastly better field for such emigration than any other country in the world at the present day. In endeavoring to do this I shall "nothing extenuate or set down aught in malice."

A very good and interesting paper appears in the February number of the *Nineteenth Century*, 1881, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Airlie, on "The United States as a Field for Agricultural Settlers." This article shows a very fair estimate of the condition, capabilities and advantages of that part of the United States which its author visited, and in regard to which he mainly limits his remarks, namely, Western Oregon and Colorado. It is, I think, much to be regretted that the Earl of Airlie, when he was in this country, did not make a much more extended tour visiting Canada, especially the great North Western portion of it. Had he done this he would doubtless have written an article very different from what he has done, and much more valuable to intending emigrants. What the Earl says about the region through which he passed, and with which he was so pleased, as to purchase land in Colorado for a relative, is in the main correct enough, but I think it should make intending emigrants pause long, and ponder well the matter, and seek accurate information about other places before they would decide on locating themselves either in Oregon or Colorado. I shall, however, give by and by the opinions of some American gentlemen of the highest character, standing and information on the subject in regard to these regions which will serve to show that the Earl had a rather roseate view of the country and received the most favorable accounts of it that facts would permit.

The Earl says with truth: "In order to get a homestead a man must now go very far west. He will in all probability not be very favorably situated as regards access to markets and consequently the prices he will obtain will be low." "Lastly, even in the remote North West a great part of the best lands has been already taken up along all railways. When I was returning from San Francisco to New York I met a man who told me that he had gone into the territory of Dakota to look for land and that there was no good land to be had except by purchase within 500 miles of Bismarck, which is the farthest point to which the Northern Pacific Railroad has yet been extended, and which is some 1,200 miles north-west of Chicago." "Land at some little distance from the existing railroads can be purchased, I believe, for about £5 an acre." Speaking of Colorado, he says, "Good land can be bought there at present for about $10 or a little over £2 an acre. The right to take water for irrigation from one of the canals costs about £1 an acre." This does not inform the reader whether it costs one pound a year, per acre, or whether that sum covers the fee simple and secures the right for all time. If the former and

it does mean it,—then it costs the farmer a high rent which he would be utterly unable to pay, and the labor of irrigation would cost him at least £1 acre more, probably double that sum. What the farmer would have left for himself after these and other necessary expenses would be hard to find. And after all this labor and expense what is the maximum product of wheat? The Earl informs us that "Mr. Barclay and Mr. Eaton both concur in stating that after the first year 25 bushels of wheat an acre may be fairly looked for on irrigated land in Colorado. In Western Oregon the average yield is put at 20 bushels an acre. In the North-Western States it is a good deal less. Sixteen bushels an acre is looked upon as a large crop in Minnesota, one of the great wheat-growing States. In Iowa it is less. In Dakota 25 and sometimes even 28 bushels are raised, but these cases are exceptional and are found on the monster farms, where the culture of wheat is brought to great perfection. From the best information I can obtain the average production of Dakota does not much exceed 15 or 16 bushels." Twenty to twenty-five bushels of wheat an acre after a summer's labor of irrigation and paying a pound an acre for the privilege is not a very inviting prospect for an emigrant, or anybody else. Why, even here in New Brunswick, where there are plenty of lands to be obtained without paying a penny for them, which need no irrigation but are plenteously watered without cost by the free rains of heaven and the copious dews, it is no uncommon thing to get from 30 to 35 bushels of wheat to the acre.

In the township of Percy, Northumberland County, Ontario, I saw a field of wheat some 25 or 30 acres, which Mr. Andrew Black, a Scotch farmer, told me produced, one third of the field 45 bushels, one third 55 bushels, and one third 65 bushels to the acre—the first part he had plowed twice, the second three times and the third four times; thus, each plowing produced an additional 10 bushels an acre, and demonstrated that good farming pays.

About the same time I saw within the corporation in the Town of Bowmanville, Ontario, a single acre of wheat, four town lots, accurately measured, which the owner harvested carefully and published the result of the product in the local papers, 75 bushels from that one acre. I knew these two men well, and I knew them to be strictly truthful—and such lands could be purchased to-day in Ontario, all cleared up, and with good dwelling houses and all necessary outbuildings, for $50 or $60, £10 or £12 an acre. I would much prefer to pay $100 an acre for such land to getting the best ranch in Oregon or Colorado that needs irrigation—and it nearly all needs irrigation—for nothing.

Homesteads may be obtained free still in Ontario, but the good land, as a general rule, is all taken up, and then the cost of clearing the ground from timber, stumps and stones amounts to more than would purchase and pay for a good, well-cleared farm, with house and all other accommodations. To men unskilled in the use of the axe and with a little capital, the wise course would be to buy out some old settler—and in this land of migration there are always plenty of people ready to sell out.

It is, however, to the great Canadian North West that the attention of emigrants should be especially directed. In it the facilities for obtaining homesteads free from the Dominion Government are practically unlimited. It is yet comparatively the "great lone land," but now that it is about being opened up by the Canadian Pacific Railway and other railways it will soon begin to fill up. The filling has already begun; colonies from various parts of the older Provinces are constantly starting for the North West and others in increased numbers from Europe. "First come, first served," will hold as true in this as in any case. Those who get on the ground first will have choice of location. This is by no means

an unimportant point, for although there are hundreds of millions of acres in the North West all equally good, and as good as any on which the sun shines, they are not all equally near the railroads. In this country land near a railroad is worth very much more than that at a great distance from it, especially in new sections where wagon roads have yet to be made.

In regard to the breadth of land that can be cultivated in Colorado, the Earl properly says it "is restricted by the amount of water which can be utilized for irrigation, and in the more settled parts of the state there will soon be very few streams remaining which are available for that purpose." It is well known that on all this continent the rain fall decreases as the country becomes denuded of its woods. The rain instead of being retained in the soil and slowly evaporating forming rain clouds while the ground is covered with wood flows off the bare surface into the streams and so on to the sea. The prospect is that all that region will eventually become a desert.

The Earl of Airlie further says in regard to Colorado, "The really good ranches are virtually in the hands of a few owners. In theory it is open to any one to turn out his cattle on the plains, but the water frontages have been bought up, and fenced off, and as the land is of no use without water for the cattle to drink, the man who owns the water frontage also practically owns the pasture adjoining it, so that if anyone now wishes to go in for cattle in Colorado, he must begin by buying out some one who owns a water frontage." This is quite correct, and should settle the question as to emigrants with small capital, for the Earl says I do not think that Colorado is a good place for the small capitalists, the man with £4,000 or £5,000 to enter upon the cattle business." Neither do I, nor any other business. He says "In Texas there are immense areas of fine pasture land as yet unoccupied. I should not, however, from what I have heard of the country advise anyone to go to Texas. The people in many parts of the state are very wild and lawless, and settlers in the southern part near the Rio Grande, are exposed to the depredations of the Mexicans who come across the frontier and carry off their cattle." I would not advise it either, both for those and many other reasons, one of which will be evident from the following item clipped from the New York *Scotsman* of the 5th of March in this present year of grace 1881:

"The Kansas State aid committee has adjourned after having distributed among 12,000 sufferers, from the short harvest of 1879 and 1880, 214,170 pounds of flour, 297,105 pounds of meal and $2,419 in money."

The United States and Canada as Fields for Immigrants from Europe Compared.

Before directly considering the productive qualities of the Canadian North West, let us take a few statements from a pamphlet published by the Board of Immigration for the State of Minnesota, the president of which was Governor John S. Pillsbury. The object is to show the superiority of Minnesota as a wheat producing region to the other States of the Union, and especially to compare wheat culture in the Red River Valley with the other States.

Page 16: "From the average of fifteen years ending with 1877, a yield of 17 bushels per acre may be assumed as the established wheat average of Minnesota.—The average yield in Wisconsin is reported

officially to be 13.04 bushels per acre. The largest known yield of Ohio, one of the leading wheat States, was 17½ bushels per acre, while the average for 10 years in that State as officially shown was but 10.55 bushels per acre. Illinois, according to high local authority produces from year to year not more than 8 bushels of wheat per acre. Only four States, by the census of 1850, reached an average of 15 bushels per acre, while the whole wheat area of the United States does not exceed *eleven* bushels per acre. The wheat crop of Minnesota for 1876, averages about 9 61-100 bushels per acre. This crop was a failure without a parallel in the history of Minnesota; yet our failure compares favorably with the average good crops of Ohio, Illinois or even Iowa, whose average in a series of seven years, as shown by her reports, was but 10 30-100 bushels."

The territory of the State of Minnesota embraces a small section of the Red River Valley, which is of about the average quality, not only of that valley, 75 miles wide and 400 miles long, the greater portion of which is Canadian territory, but also of about 8-10 of the whole North West. Now let us hear how this Minnesota Board of Immigration talks, and very properly too, of their little portion of that Red River Valley, and of just as good land Canada has in the North West, some 600,000,000 of acres. "Experience in the Selkirk Settlement in Manitoba, above and below Fort Garry, justifies the declaration that the soil of the valley is inexhaustable. There is no diminution in the yield of fields that have been cultivated continually for half a century. The peculiar characteristic of the climate of Northern Minnesota, dryness of the atmosphere in ripening and harvest time, is the secret of the excellence of their spring wheat, together with the silicious quality of their loamy soils. Messrs. Dypvick and Nuello raised 4,300 bushels of wheat last year from 130 acres—an average of a little over 33 bushels per acre. Wm. Crasswell raised 131 bushels from four acres—32¾ bushels per acre; John Mosher, an average of 30½; E. T. Olson, 15 acres wheat, 576 bushels, average 34½; O. Holman, 30 acres wheat,, 1,000 bushels; Henry Israelson, 72 acres wheat, 32 bushels per acre; Hans E. Bjerke, 15½ acres, 627 bushels, average 40½ bushels. This is the largest yield, with one exception, that we have heard of in the country this season." These products are stated as being exceptionally, indeed extraordinarily large for the United States, and are properly held forth as a strong inducement for people to come and occupy those amazingly rich plains; but what is the solitary exception in the United States in this little section bordering on the great Canadian North West is the normal condition of things in all that North West large enough for several European empires. Indeed, the highest average mentioned by the Board has often been greatly exceeded, not only in the North West, but many other parts of Canada, as I have previously stated, and I have not the slightest doubt that similar culture would produce similar results on tens of thousands of farms throughout the Dominion of Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Were the land in this Dominion only cared for and cultivated as much of it is in Great Britain and some places on the continent of Europe, the products would astonish the world.

This immigration manifesto was published three years ago, and the intending settler from Europe would now find it beyond his power to obtain any of those lands in the United States portion of the Red River Valley without paying a very high price for them.

Drawbacks.—It has been said by some people that there are drawbacks of a discouraging nature in the North-West. Granting this to be so, let me ask where is the place and what is the condition in which it is not so? But let us look at these drawbacks and estimate their importance. One of them is the great distance that must be travelled in order to reach it. To which it may be said the distance is doubtless considerable, but it

is no greater, if as great, than it is to any other place at all suitable for emigrants. It is not half the distance that it is to Australia, etc., it is not as great a distance as it is to the City of New York. From Liverpool to New York (south course) is 3,052 miles, from Liverpool to Fort York, North West Territory via Hudson Strait and Rathlin Island is 2,941 miles, that is 111 miles less to Fort York than to New York, and then from New York to Minnesota, Dakota etc, will cost the emigrant much more than to New York. But it may be objected that there is no means of conveyance directly to Fort York, which, at present, is true, but should not and I think will not long be so. For at least four months in the year that route is quite open and safe as any route, and will, doubtless, ere long be utilized, even now explorations with a view to it are being made by competent parties. A steamer or two every week, one from Liverpool and one from some port in Ireland, each carrying about 1,000 emigrants would give quick and cheap transit into the very heart of the North West. A charter for a railroad from C. P. R. to Fort York has already been granted and, no doubt, will soon be built. That arrangement would shorten the distance both as to time and expense to one quarter of what it was to reach America not so very long ago. The Allan and Dominion Lines of steamers, however, carry passengers in as short time and at much lower rates to Montreal than any of the lines carry them to New York, while the cost from Quebec or Montreal is much less to the North West than it is from New York to the same places. The distance drawback is not, therefore, very formidable. Another is said to be *grasshoppers*. No doubt there are grasshoppers in the North West. I have never seen the country in which they are not. But it has been seldom that they have been sufficiently numeous to do any perceptible mischief, and as the country becomes settled and cultivated their effects will, no doubt, wholly disappear. They do not appear in the migratory form until about the middle of August and then continue only three or four weeks, the grain has been harvested by that time and only grass and herbaceous plants remain. In all their stages of larva, pupa and perfect insects, they are greedily devoured by fowls, especially turkeys, so that the farmer can fatten his flocks of fowls without expense when they happen to be plenty, which, however, is very seldom and only in exceptionally dry seasons. In several such seasons they were very plenty in Southern New York when I resided there. They were "thick as autumnal leaves that strew the brooks in Vallombrosa, where the Eturian shades high over-arch'd embower." You could hardly set down your foot without crushing them, and a cloud of them rose constantly in front of you as you passed along; but I was unable to see any damage done by them to the crops. They do not come from a distance; they are developed on the spot. The eggs are deposited in the ground in the fall, lie dormant during the winter and in the spring and early summer pass through the various stages of development. As the ground becomes more generally cultivated they will be largely destroyed in the egg, larva and pupa state, and then the fowls, especially the turkeys, will give a good account of those that come to maturity. The grasshoppers need frighten nobody.

Another drawback is said to be the *climate of the North West.*

I cannot represent better the "true inwardness" of the North West as to climate than by quoting a few of the statements of Professor John Macoun, F. L. S., a gentleman whose general intelligence, disinterested veracity and practical experience of and in the North West it would be difficult to equal.

Extracts from a report by Prof. Macoun, 26th December, 1879. "The absence of autumn rains in the west is a priceless boon, as it enables the farmer to thresh and harvest his grain without injury and besides gives him excellent roads when he needs them most.

"The progress of the seasons and the labors of the husbandman throughout the North West may be summed up as follows: Early in April the hot sun dissipates the slight covering of snow and almost immediately plowing commences. Seeding and plowing go on together as the ground is quite dry, and in a few days the seed germinates, owing to the hot sunshine. The roots receive an abundance of moisture from the thawing soil (below), and following the retreating frost through the minute pores opened in it by its agency penetrate to an astonishing depth (often two feet), all the time throwing out innumerable fibres. By the time the rains and heat of June have come, abundance of roots have formed and the crop rushes to quick maturity. It is just as much owing to the opening power of the frost as to the fertility of the soil that the enormous crops of the North West are due, and as long as the present seasons continue, so long will the roots penetrate into the subsoil and draw rich food from the inexhaustible reservoirs which I know are there.

"After the middle of August the rains almost cease, and for ten weeks scarcely a shower of rain falls, giving the farmer ample time to do all necessary work before the long winter sets in. These characteristics apply to the climate of the whole North West, and the same results are everywhere observed over tracts embracing 300,000 square miles of territory. One important result of this peculiar climate is the hardness and increased weight of the grain caused by it. Another, equally important, is the curing of natural hay, and our experience of the last two months (November and December) has been that the horses and cattle do better to collect their own food on the prairie than to be fed on hay. All stock-raisers know that it is not cold that injures cattle and horses, but those storms of sleet or soft snow, which are so common in Ontario and the Eastern Provinces (and States). Such storms as those are rarely seen in the North West, and the cattle are never once wet from November to April. Many intelligent persons are afraid of the winters of the North West, as they measure the cold by the thermometer rather than their own sensibilities. It is not by the thermometer that the cold should be measured, but the humidity of the atmosphere, as according to its humidity is its cold measured by individuals. All through the fall my men never noticed a few degrees of frost and it was no uncommon thing to see a man riding in a cart without his coat when the thermometer was below freezing point." J. A. Wheelock, Commissioner of Statistics for Minnesota, wrote as follows concerning the atmosphere of that State over 20 years ago:—'The dryness of the atmosphere permits a lower range of temperature without frosts than in most climates. The thermometer has frequently been noticed at 20 degrees without material injury to vegetation. In the damp summer evenings of Illinois and Ohio for example, the heat passes off rapidly from the surface of the earth and from plants. Frosts develop under such circumstances at a comparatively high temperature. The constant bath of moisture has softened the delicate covering and enfeebled the vitality of plants; and thus a fall of the thermometer which in Minnesota would be harmless as a summer dew, in Ohio would sweep the fields like a fire.'"

"What Wheelock says of Minnesota is equally true of the North West Territories, and more so, as they are drier than it. Dry air is a non-conductor of heat, and as the dryness increases with the lowering temperature, the increasing cold is not felt by either animals or plants, and we find a solution to the paradox that although water may freeze, vegetation is not injured except when a humid atmosphere is in immediate contact with it. The increase of dryness in the air has the same effect as an increase of warm clothing for man or beast, and we suffered less from a temperature 10 degrees below zero this winter, though lying in tents without fire, than we would have done in Ontario with 10 degrees of frost.

In conclusion, after seven years study of all available material and constant observation, I can state as a fact that our peculiar climate is caused by the great American Desert, which in fact commences at the 100 meridian, exactly south of our prairies, and extends with little interruption to the boundary of California. The winds passing over it descend on our interior plain, giving out heat and moisture in the summer and in the winter wrapping the whole country in a mantle of dry air which moderates the climate so much that without the aid of a thermometer no one would believe the cold was so intense. We then have a dry, clear, cold winter; a dry spring, with bright sunshine; a warm summer with abundance of rain, but not necessarily a cloudy atmosphere, and a dry, serene autumn, with possibly a snow storm about the equinox." An atmosphere like this, with a soil of abounding fertility, extending over a region of almost boundless extent, causes me to feel that the words of Lord Beaconsfield were those of a far-seeing statesman, and that our great North West is truly a land of "illimitable possibilities." From all that I have learned from people, from reading and from personal experience, not a little in the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada, I have come to the following conclusions: In Great Britain the thermometer never sinks so low as it does in the United States and Canada, but there the winters are more disagreeable and uncomfortable than here. Canada, as a whole, is colder than the United States as a whole, although in many parts of the latter the thermometer falls as low as any part of the former. For three successive days I have seen the thermometer stand at 25° or 26° below zero, and blowing a gale all the time, in the southern part of the State of New York. I have resided in all 13 years in Canada, 8 of them in St. John, New Brunswick, and 5 in Ontario, and I have never seen the thermometer more than 14° or 15° below zero. North America is, as a rule, except on the coasts of the Atlantic or the Pacific, about 10° colder in the winter than in similar latitudes in Europe, and in the summer about the same number of degrees warmer than in Europe. Clothing and means of heating houses are, however, accommodated to the circumstances of the case, so that no more discomfort is felt from cold in America than in Europe, nor any more in the North than in the South; not so much, indeed, as proper arrangements are made in the North, which are neglected because usually not needed in the South, and then when a cold snap comes, as it sometimes does, and oftener than is usually supposed, the people suffer terribly. There is in Europe generally a very exaggerated and mistaken notion about the cold of Canadian winters. It is usually supposed that it is almost at the risk of being frozen to death that one ventures out of doors in the depth of winter that it involves frozen toes and noses at least, and a chronic condition of shivering, and supreme discomfort. Nothing could well be farther from the fact. I have lived a good deal more than half my past life on this side of the Atlantic and never had my nose nor toes frozen yet, and have been out as much as most people in the coldest Canadian winters there have been within thirty years past, and have driven myself in my own open cutter or sleigh 70 miles in a single day and that one of the coldest of the season and enjoyed most thorougly the clear cold, bracing, exhilerating, health-giving atmosphere. I vastly prefer it to the damp, marrow-chilling, depressing, dark and dreary weather of the winters of the Fatherland. The Canadian winters need frighten nobody. The North West winters are the best kind of Canadian winters.

The United States as a Field for Settlement by Immigrants from the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

That the United States taken as a whole is a great, and good country there can be no question. It is great in its extent, and good in its qualities. It has almost every variety of soil and climate, and much of both is good. I would by no means underrate or depreciate its good qualities or characteristics. I have resided in the United States many years and like the country and the people. There was a time—a long time—from its first settlement until a few years ago, when, every thing considered, the United States presented a wider field and more advantages to all industrious comers than perhaps any other country in the world. But that time is past. When the country began to be opened up by railways in all directions, and especially through the great West, land of excellent quality could be obtained at a merely nominal price, $1.25, or 5 British shillings per acre, that was the Government price. Then immigrants could locate themselves almost where they pleased. It is not so now. The Federal Government has no more good land at their disposal, neither have the State Governments. It has all been taken up in one way or another by settlers, donated to Railway corporations or bought by speculators. There are now no desirable lands in first hands, nor attainable in any way without paying high prices for them.

Neither the Union Pacific, nor the Northern Pacific Railway, nor any other road running west of the Mississippi river, has opened up much good land, simply because it was not there to open. The greater portion of the country from that river to the Rocky Mountains, is a desert. A tract extending over ten degrees of latitude, from the border of Canada to Texas, and from two to four hundred miles wide, is entirely unfit for settlement. Samuel Griswold Goodrich, better known as Peter Parley, says of this region: "The soil of this is arid, sterile sand, almost destitute of trees, and even shrubs. Vast tracks consist of bare rocks, gravel or sand, presenting a few cactuses and other plants. Nearly the whole region is either destitute of water a part of the year, or presents the exhausted traveller only a brackish, or bitter draught. Many parts are whitened with saline efflorescence. It is unsusceptible of cultivation, yet in the rainy season it is traversed by full streams, and there are occasional patches which afford pasturage for herds of bison, droves of wild horses, and other animals." "The Indians possess all the good lands, and little remunerative space is left for the white settler. * * * It is not probable, however, that many will seed such a wilderness while so much fine land is open to settlement in Iowa and Missouri as at present." This was written for his Comprehensive Geography twenty-seven years ago, and is to be found on the 125th page of that work. The fine land in Iowa, etc., is not now to be obtained.

In Appleton's Cyclopædia, vol. xv., p. 716, the author of the article "United States" speaks of this region as "a lofty table land in the North West, utterly destitute of trees, scantily supplied with grass, and during a part of the year parched with complete drought." "The Pacific slope," he adds, "embracing the greater part of California, Oregon and Washington Territory and parts of New Mexico and Utah, is generally sterile. That part, however, between the coast range and the ocean, and the valleys between the coast range and the Cascade, and the Sierra Nevada,

are very fertile, and the same may be said of a few valleys and slopes along the Wasatch and Rocky Mountains, though these are better adapted to pasturage than anything else. The great inland basin of Utah, which includes, besides Utah, parts of New Mexico, California, Oregon and Washington, is probably the most desolate portion of the United States. It abounds in salt lakes, and there are only a few valleys where the soil acquires by irrigation enough fertility to afford a support for man. That portion of the basin of the Red River which belongs to the United States is confined to the small tracts in the northern part of Dakota and Minnesota it contains some very productive lands, especially in the river bottoms."

It cannot be reasonably supposed that this writer would misrepresent, or seek to depreciate this portion of the great country of which he was himself a native and a representative man. This great American desert really commences in the Canadian North West in a small triangular section covering a few thousand acres, and extending from the boundary line all the way to Texas, a distance of nearly a thousand miles, or over fifteen degrees of latitude. It will be observed that it is stated above that the only good land in all that immense region is in a small portion of the north part of Dakota and Minnesota, and that is where it borders on the Canadian North West. But what as to good land is the rare exception in all that great portion of the United States, is with very few exceptions uniformly the case in the North West of Canada. At the boundary line between the United States and Canada at 49° north latitude the fertile belt of the continent has just been reached. In all the States east of the Mississippi, as a rule, the land that is of any value for agricultural purposes has been taken up, so that immigrants have no chance of obtaining good fertile farms unless they are prepared to purchase them at high prices, which, would usually be far beyond their means.

Great and persistent efforts have for years been made by interested parties, railroad companies, land speculators, &c., in the U. S., by circulars pamphlets and wholesale advertisements, to induce people from the Father lands to come to, purchase and settle on their lands, and to a great extent they have succeeded. The representations by which they succeeded were very often gross exaggrations of facts. "The best lands in the world," "the only fault the land has is that it is *too* rich for some kinds of crops," "rich in minerals," "with no long winters," "with free passes over the railway, and long credits," "one tenth down the rest when it suits you," "the most healthy climate in the world," with these and such inducements as these placarded over the chief railway stations in Europe, and printed in hundreds of periodicals, and floods of pamphlets, people unacquainted with the real facts have been induced to go in thousands and tens of thousands to the Western and North Western States and invest their little alls. In some cases, especially from ten to twenty years ago, when good lands were plenty, settlers succeeded very well, but in many cases even then, and in most cases of late years, the result has been ruin. Poor land, unhealthy climate, loss of health, loss of crops and consequent discouragement, bring the poor, duped, over-confiding immigrants to broken hearts and paupers graves.

Some years ago the commonly among intending emigrants was "Kansas—Kansas—Ho for Kansas," and Kansas was held forth as the Eldorado of their hopes; and so it was with other Western States. Kansas and other States contain to-day tens of thousands who would gladly go back to their native lands or any other place if they could, but fever and ague, the *shakes*, as it is commonly called out there, and poor, unsaleable lands have produced their natural result—temporal ruin. Here

is a copy of a letter written by three respectable farmers in Kansas, and such a one might be, nay, has been written by multitudes more:

WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS,
April 27, 1876.

Editors Planters.

DEAR SIRS: A few facts from actual experience of farming in Kansas—the other side and the truth. We have been much amused by the gushing letters of some contributors to your valuable paper about this State, and think the actual experience of farmers like ourselves might be as valuable as the moonshine idea of men who never put a plow in the ground or raised a calf or wintered a Texas steer, or tried to watch a corn-field, or sell corn at ten cents per bushel. We came here four years ago, determined to like the country. We now believe it to be a delusion and a snare. We wanted cheap lands; we paid $1.25 per acre, but it has cost us in dead outlay, in money and in time, $5 to $25 per acre, and is all for sale, less than cost.

We came to find a great stock country, where the time of feeding might be short and cattle might live on the range all winter. We find it the worst hampered stock country we ever saw, and the grass nutritious and flesh-producing only three or four months of the year. We came to find a great wheat and corn country; we find that wheat raisers have not averaged their seed. Corn ranges all the way from *nothing* to fifty bushels per acre. We expected to find a tame grass country, but so far timothy, clover and blue grass failed, and the climate that kills wheat will kill them. We came here to find a salubrious and healthy climate; we find it sickly, and the rates of mortality last winter along the streams terrible, so much so that we came to believe what an old doctor told us: "That the most hardy could not expect to survive this climate fifteen years."

We came to the "sunny South," where the warm zephyrs ever blow; we find cattle freeze to death in every locality. We came to find a great fruit country; we find our peach trees dead in the ground. We came to find a bracing air; we have found it so that we have to brace ourselves at an angle of forty-five degrees to make headway against the wind. We came here to escape the oppression of the rich and the high taxes; our taxes range from 2.05 to 10 per cent. on real estate, and does not pay anything. We came to find homes for the homeless, and land for the landless; we have got homes, very poor ones, and the land we would be glad to get shut off at half price. In short, we have got the land, and it has got us in the very worst way, and every one is dissatisfied, unhappy, discouraged, and wants to get out of the country. We came to the country that was said to flow with milk and honey; we find it flowing with poverty and complaint. We find we must go where money is plenty, where labor is needed, and a market for our produce.

We live where every quarter section of land has been settled by good, energetic people, who have made every effort and universally failed; those who have done the most, and spent the most, are most completely floored. Such is our experience, after a fair, faithful trial of Southern Kansas. If you, Mr. Editor, can help us out in any way by advice or otherwise, you will oblige three farmers.

We have many friends East, and there are many coming West, who we earnestly hope will see these few lines.

We do not wish to see our friends made paupers by doing as we have done, neither ought any more capital to be wasted in this desert of a country. We can substantiate all we have subscribed our names to by

more positive proof if needed, and ask that this whole article may be published for the sake of truth.

Address— J. S. CALMER,
M. G. AVERILL,
J. T. DOUGLASS.

The foregoing was published in a Kansas newspaper, and entirely agrees with other descriptions. I have heard from people who resided there, and others who published their experiences. Prof. Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., speaking of the explorations, under the auspices of the U. S. Government, of the region between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, tells us these startling facts:—

"That the *western progress* of its population has nearly *reached the extreme western limit* of the areas available for settlement, and that the whole space west of the ninety-eighth parallel, embracing one half of the entire surface of the United States, *is an arid and desolate waste* with the exception of a narrow belt of rich land along the Pacific coast."

Gen. W. B. Hazen, U. S. A., an officer of high standing, in an official report to his Government, which was published in the New York *Tribune*, gives a long account for which I have no room here, but which entirely confirms all the above statements. I take from it only the following brief extract:

"My own quarters are situated on the second bench of the banks of the Missouri, at about fifty feet above the stream, and six hundred yards away from it; and to raise a flower-garden, ten feet by forty, the past two years, has required a daily sprinkling of three barrels of water, for which we were repaid by about three weeks of flowers."

"The site of this garden is supposed to be exceptionally fruitful, but I have before me a letter from Mr. Joseph Anderson, of St. Paul, Minn., who was hay contractor at this post in 1872. His letter states that in order to find places to cut the hay required by his contract this season, some 900 tons, he was compelled to search over a space of country on the north side of the river 25 miles in extent in each direction from the post, or some 400 square miles, and that there was none thick enough to be cut for as great a distance beyond. Respecting the agricultural value of this country after leaving the excellent wheat-growing valley of the Red River of the north, following westward one thousand miles to the Sierras, excepting the very limited bottoms of the small streams, as well as those of the Missouri and Yellowstone, from a few yards in breadth to an occasional water-washed valley of one or two miles, and the narrow valleys of the streams of Montana already settled, and a small area of timbered country in North Western Idaho (probably one-fifteenth of the whole) this country will not produce the fruits and cereals of the west for want of moisture, and can in no way be artificially irrigated, and will not in our day and generation sell for one penny an acre, except through fraud and ignorance, and most of that, here excepted, will have to be irrigated artifically. I write this, knowing full well that it will meet with contradiction, but the contradiction will be a falsehood. The country between the 100th meridian and the Sierras—the Rio Grande to the British possessions will never develop into populous States for want of moisture. Its counterpart is found in the plains of Northern Asia and in Western Europe. We look in vain for those expected agricultural settlements along the Kansas and Union Pacific railroads, between these two lines, and 20 years hence the search will be quite as fruitless. * * * My statements are made from the practical experience and observation of eighteen years military service as an officer of the army, much of which has been on the frontier,

and having passed the remainder of my life as a farmer. For confirmation of what I have said, I respectfully refer the reader to General G. K. Warren, of the Engineer Corps of the army, who made a scientific exploration of this country, extending through several years, and has given us our only accurate map of it; or to Prof. Hayden, for the past several years engaged upon a similar work. The testimony of Governor Stephens, General Fremont and Lieut. Mullans is that of enthusiastic travellers and discoverers, whose descriptions are not fully borne out by more prolonged and intimate knowledge of the country."

Such official accounts as these, made by men of such standing, means of information and disinterestedness, are of very great value, their importance cannot be easily over-estimated. They have no object to serve by making misstatements, and they would not make them if they had—they are above suspicion.

All this ought to be sufficient to convince intending emigrants that the United States have no longer any suitable field for their settlement and that they must look elsewhere.

I may perhaps here be permitted to say that my sole object in writing this is not to unjustly depreciate the United States, or unwarrantably exalt Canada, but to put as far as practicable before the people who require it, correct information on a subject of, to them, vital importance.

When I first read those utterances I could with difficulty believe them true, and that was a main factor in the combined reasons that led me to visit it and judge for myself, and then I found it true to the letter. Travelling over the Northern Pacific Railroad in October last to its terminus in Montana, I wrote the following, every word of which is sober truth.

From the eastern border of the Red River valley, say 20 miles east of Fargo, to Bismarck,

THE SOIL

is good, much of it unsurpassed. For about 150 miles from the commencement of the fertile belt on the eastern verge of the Red River valley the country seems as good in all respects as is to be found anywhere the world over. The soil is generally deep, dark, rich, and exceedingly rich to gratify the most exacting. It is well watered and has sufficient rain fall. Beyond that, or from 50 miles east of Bismarck, the rainfall is insufficient, and the ground becomes alkaline. Beyond the Missouri these conditions become much intensified so that the rainfall almost wholly ceases during the summer, and the ground is

SO ALKALINE

that it is covered with a white kind of soda as with a snow shower, and the little sluggish streams, where there are any, and the little ponds that are not wholly dried up, are thick with the saline excrescence, so that the water appears to be frozen, and it was not until I tested it that I could be persuaded it was not ice; but thus again it was demonstrated that often "things are not what they seem." This continues not only to the western boundary of Dakota but into Montana as far as I went, to Glendive on the Yellowstone, and how far beyond I do not personally know, although it is said to be to the base of the Rocky Mountains. Nor is this surprising, for we are now in the very heart of what has long been called the Great American Desert, about which from boyhood we have read in our geographies.

It seems a great pity that such an extensive region of such deep and fertile soil (for it is manifestly rich in vegetable producing qualities)

should necessarily continue uninhabited, save by the antelopes, mountain sheep and buffaloes, the latter of which are being rapidly exterminated. This idea in the form of a question frequently forced itself on my mind. If the Creator did not design this country to be utilized by man, what did he make it for? If it was always so arid and sterile as now, whence came the magnificent and

IMMENSE VEGETABLE GROWTHS

that by their deposits through the ages produced this deep, dark, rich soil? There surely must have been a time and a very long time when it was not thus, when those broad valleys and wild plains were thickly covered with immense vegetable productions, and those immense lignite seams cropping out on the face of every declivity speak as with trumpet tongues and thunder tones of times long gone by when those bare, wide reaching regions waved with magnificent forests. But the fires from within—for much of the country there is volcanic—and the fires from without, and the overflowing floods, have swept them all away, leaving the soil and the lignite and the mound shaped cones, and the scoriæ to tell that once they were. And then the question came, can man do anything to

RESTORE THESE PLAINS

to fertility and adapt them to human inhabitation? And if so, what And this response would instantly arise: Yes, these treeless plains and verdureless valleys—verdureless save only for the pale-green sage bush—might be made to bloom and blossom as a garden that the Lord hath blessed. And how? The *modus operandi*, the process of reclamation, seems so prosaic, so plain, not to say self-evident, to the thoughtful mind, that the wonder is that it has not been not only thought of but accomplished, at least in its beginnings. The means are already provided. They are on the arid ground, ready when naturally applied to produce those desirable results. The means or causes are, at every suitable place all over the land, at the outlet of every valley, on those little streams not yet dried up,

DAM THEM UP,

as with mill-pond embankment, thus making thousands of ponds and little lakes. The summer heats will evaporate millions of tons of water out of every one of these lakes, which will fall in rain all over the land at intervals, and the accumulated waters will afford an abundant supply for irrigation, while the cultivation of the soil and the vegetable growths will not only retain the water as it falls, but absorb and again evolve it for further and frequent use. As this goes on, and the breadth of cultivated land increases, the moisture will increase, so that in time so many lakes will not be needed, and then the ground can be reclaimed by simply letting off the water. Then should an exceptionally dry season come, it can be stopped up and accumulated again as necessity requires.

What makes the difference as to rainfall in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Eastern Dakota, Manitoba and the Northwest of Canada generally, on the one hand, and Western Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Kansas, &c., on the other? The former have almost countless ponds and lakes, so that they have abundant rains; the latter scarcely any. If a comparatively similar lacustrine condition can be produced in the latter as in the former, a similar condition as to moisture must necessarily follow. It can be produced in Western Dakota. That it should be is self-evident.

WOULD IT PAY?

It would pay a thousand per cent. It would make worthless land immensely valuable. The United States Government should unite with the Northern Pacific Railway Company in doing the work and sharing the expense. They would be mutually benefitted, as they each own alternate sections along the whole line for 40 miles on each side of it; that is to say, a belt of land 80 miles broad across half a continent.

I need not, therefore, say that west of the Missouri River I consider the land from these causes wholly unfit for settlement at present.

As to the

COST OF THESE LANDS,

R. M. Newport, Land Commissioner, says of the land east of the Missouri River: "Prices are made according to location, that west of the Missouri River being placed at $2.60 per acre."

Men who have a good deal of money can get a good farm in Northern Minnesota or Eastern or Northeastern Dakota—not otherwise.

The great Dalrymple Farm, of 30,000 acres, is in Eastern Dakota, 18 miles west of Fargo, the finest farm perhaps in the world. On it I saw either 39 or 40 four-horse plows plowing two furrows each in one field, the driver sitting on a seat like that of a sulky and with his foot controlling a lever that controlled the plowing. It was plowing almost brought to perfection; I say *almost*, for I have no doubt that ere long it will be

DONE BY STEAM,

or better still and cheaper, too, by electricity. The sum of $390,000 was said to be the net profit on the wheat crop of the Dalrymple farm this year 1881. There are hundreds of millions of acres of as good land in the Canadian North West as the Dalrymple farm. To most men a quarter section or a half section—that is one quarter or half of a square mile, 160 or 320 acres—is an estate large enough for all their wants or capability of management, and these are to be had almost for the asking in the Canadian North West.

Canada as Field for Emigrants from Europe.

All the Dominion of Canada has much good land fit for settlement—some of it, as in New Brunswick and the great North West, to be obtained free by actual settlers. New Brunswick has been very much underrated abroad as a field for settlers. The soil is usually fertile, producing large crops of all kinds of cereals and vegetables. I never saw finer vegetable products than were exhibited last autumn in this city at the Provincial Exhibition. They were from all parts of the Dominion, even Manitoba, and there was nothing better than what was produced in this Province, and the only larger fruits I ever saw were some that grew on the Pacific coast in California, which were of mammoth proportions.

The lands in New Brunswick are, however, heavily timbered, and require a large amount of heavy work to clear the ground so as to be fit for cultivation. People brought up in the United Kingdom generally know little or nothing of the use of the axe in cutting down and cutting up great forest trees, and are, therefore, at a great disadvantage on a new farm such

as New Brunswick affords. It is all the same in all the Maritime Provinces, in Quebec and Ontario. In the North West, which includes Manitoba, Keewatin, the North West and Peace River Territory, there are hundreds of millions of acres of prairie land that requires only a light ploughing to fit it for raising most magnificent crops.

There are many people in all the Provinces east of Manitoba to the Atlantic who have fine well cleared farms who are desirous of selling out, and would sell at low prices in order to move to the North West and farm it on a large scale. Many of the people coming from the old countries across the ocean who have some means would do wisely and well in buying out those would-be migrators; they would avoid all the hardships and inconveniencies of a new country, about which they know nothing, and in many cases are not capable of undergoing; they would have houses and barns ready built, land cleared, fenced, and everything ready for them to go to work. I am strongly of the opinion that that would be the best policy for many people coming direct from the United Kingdom who have a little means, say one or two thousand dollars, two to four hundred pounds. People who have little or no funds, but have youth, strength and determination, should of course go to the North West, where, with industry, economy and perseverance, they may soon have houses and lands free of rent forever, such as they never saw or imagined. Such people could locate 160 acres as a homestead and go to work on the railroads, in making which thousands of able-bodied men will be employed at good wages, for at least the next ten years, each day's work bringing sufficient to pay for another acre of land or provide stock, &c., for what they already have. The man also with a family and a few hundred dollars can do the same with equal or greater facility; two or three of them could work the farm and the others make money as just indicated. In a few years they would be comparatively wealthy, that is to say, provided they were industrious and economical, temperate and moral people. Some people from the general worthlessness of their character are of no account anywhere, and such people are not wanted in the North West nor anywhere else in this country. Those also who have large means should go to the North West, as there they could purchase large estates for a comparatively small amount of capital that to their posterity would bring independent fortunes. In no other country in the world are there such grand opportunities for laying the foundations of fortunes as there are at the present time in the North West. A few thousand pounds judiciously invested now would pay better than anything of which I have any knowledge, and increase in value every year for at least half a century. Thus men of means could give all their children a fine property and have the pleasure and advantage of locating them near each other, instead of scattered the wide world over. Thus friendship instead of estrangements among relatives would be provided for and perpetuated, by many to be deemed no inconsiderable privilege.

The North West of the Dominion of Canada offers to-day the largest and best field for colonization that exists in the world, especially for the inhabitants of the British Islands.

The history of European emigration shows that colonization has succeeded only in climates like that of North America. Hot climates are unhealthy for Europeans. Africa is a failure in this respect; so in South America. Australia and New Zealand, so far as they have succeeded, did so by the most dazzling glare, but mainly fictitious lure, of gold. In former ages the richest countries were those in which nature's bounties most abounded, but now they are those in which man is most active and indus-

trious. In the North West the former condition exists in the highest degree, and all that is wanted for the latter is the introduction in sufficient numbers of the surplus population of the Anglo-Saxon race in Europe. There both the essentials of wealth will exist in the highest degree. The fertile soil insures abundant returns to the intelligent labors of the industrious husbandman.

Before proceeding to consider the productions of the Canadian North West, it may be well to ask and answer a question which has been often asked and not always correctly answered. "If the Canadian North West is the magnificent country it is now represented, how and why is it that its greatness and goodness have remained so long unknown to all the world?" Answer—It was not unknown to all the world. It was known to a large number of people, but they were people who deemed it for their interests to exclude all but themselves and their employes. The Hudson Bay Company held a charter, granted by Charles II. of England in 1670, of nearly all the North West British North America. The company had power to make laws, constitutions and ordinances and to enact pains and penalties for their violation. No other subjects of Great Britain than the few forming the company were at liberty to visit the ports, rivers, islands or territories granted, and all else were expressly forbidden to visit or trade within the company's wide domain, without their special license.

The company's main object was the obtainment of furs, and they deemed it important to their interests to exclude all others from their territories, and would not sell land to settlers, nor allow even squatters, except in the case of their own employes.

At the time of Confederation the Canadian Government purchased from this company the whole North West Territory, with the exception of a small reservation. Of course the whole is now open for settlement, the company being also anxious to dispose of what they still retain. Settlement on a large scale has, however, been hitherto prevented by want of access. But now that railways run into the territory, and the Canada Pacific is being made through the heart of the country to the Pacific ocean, and that other railways in all directions will soon follow, that great country is for the first time made accessible to settlers. It is a duty owed to the landless in the old countries to inform them of the opportunity now offered them to easily obtain an independent position in that great fertile, healthful land. To perform that duty I write this, as I have no personal or pecuniary interest in the North West.

Advantages of the North-West.

We are now prepared, it is to be hoped without either prejudice or fanaticism, to look at a few of the advantages or resources of the North West.

1st. Its geographical position and general character. That portion of the North West known as the Fertile Belt, the highway of the Canadian Pacific Railway, is bounded on the South by latitude 49°; West by the crest of the Rocky Mountains; North by parallel of latitude 55°; North East by Manitoba and Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba. Length from its Eastern boundary to Western about 800 miles; breadth Northward, 460 miles; area about 280,000 square miles, an area about equal to France and

Germany, or about six times the size of the "Empire State" New York. Thus the North West, in its Southern boundary, lies South of the most Southern part of Great Britain, is in the same latitude as a large part of France, all Belgium, and a large part of Germany, Winnipeg being about the same latitude as Paris, as any one may see by examining a map. It is, therefore, no Arctic region, but located near the middle of the temperate zone, only a little North of half way between the equator and the North Pole. The greater portion of this whole section is as rich in soil as any part of America, and has the very great advantage of being ready for the plow, without the delay, trouble and expense of clearing and taking out stumps and stones, which often costs in the older Provinces and the United States from fifty to a hundred dollars an acre. The less favorable portions are well adapted for stock raising, with the exception of a narrow strip running parallel with the United States boundary, which is a bare, treeless prairie, covered with only short grass, deficient in water, soil light and sandy. In so great an extent of country there is naturally a great variety in character and quality of soil. It would be absurd to expect it to be all equally good; that is a condition to be found no where in the world. Then there is the beautiful and fertile valley of the Peace River lying along the eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, but farther north, though its climate is equally fine, indeed in some respects superior. The snow fall is so light that cattle find abundant supplies all winter, and is just sufficient to afford protection to grass and grain. It has an area of 100,000 square miles or 64,000,000 acres. It is a wonderfully fertile region and abounding in minerals, coal and snow-white gypsum in apparently inexhaustible quantities, iron, gold, petroleum, well timbered, abounding with game, fish, &c. In climate, strange as it may seem, it is as temperate as many regions 1,000 miles south of it. It lies beyond the reach of the Canada Pacific Railroad, and for the present will not be accessible to settlers generally, nor until a railroad is made to and through it, which will doubtless be before long. It is too great and good a country to be allowed to remain isolated much longer. Indeed it has just been announced to the public that the Cochrane Ranch Company have been granted letters patent for the purpose of stock raising in that region. Their capital is said to be $500,000. This whole region and that around the Great Slave Lake is exceptionally favorable to cattle raising as well as farming on the largest scale. Its climate is peculiar. The prevailing wind is from the west and is of a dry warm character, rendering the climate mild, agreeable and very healthy, the inhabitants never suffering from colds or throat troubles; the reason probably being that the wind comes directly from the Pacific ocean, and its force broken and modified by the Rocky Mountain Range. A south wind in winter brings cold weather, contrary to almost all other places, and a north wind scarcely ever blows, so that houses are built facing the north. On the 27th of January last there were four inches of snow, and stock were living and thriving on the prairies without any other feed.

It is probable that this magnificent region of country will in a few years be largely taken up as cattle ranges of thousands of acres each, and that the Cochrane Company is only the pioneer of many others of a similar character.

The Canada Pacific Railway, as a physical and economic necessity, runs through about the middle of the great fertile belt, along the richest valleys, so that as a rule, the railroad lands are all first-class. The Union and Northern Pacific railways of the United States, westward of the Missouri River, pass through a desert for nearly 2,000 miles, without a single navigable river, without means for sustaining a population, while the

Canadian Pacific road passes in the same longitudes, through a country of unsurpassed richness. All explorers unanimously agree on this point. Captain Palliser, Professor Macoun, Archbishop Tache of St. Boniface in the N. W., Captain W. G. S. Pullen, R. N., Lord Milton, Mr. W. B. Cheadle, who accompanied Lord Milton, Rev. Dr. G. M. Grant, President of Queen's University, Kingston, Sandford Fleming, C. E., Mr. Dawson, Mr. Desbarats, Professor Daniel Wilson, Lord Dufferin, and the present Governor General, the Marquis of Lorne, all with one voice testify to the great superiority, in point of soil, climate and agricultural capacity of this vast prairie country, over that of any portion of the United States, which has grown so rapidly within the memory of men not yet old, from a fringe along the Atlantic coast to be a mighty nation, extending from sea to sea, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In days gone by, not very long ago, the United States occupied the proud position of being able to say, "Ho! every one that wants a farm come and take one," and it cried aloud this cry in almost all known languages. The people heard and heeded and came from the old countries in thousands and tens of thousands, and found that the country that promised so fair kept its promise, and so the country was filled up fast, and the nation grew great and strong. But now that encouraging cry has ceased and less liberal invitations have to be extended, because most of the public domain that is worth taking has *already been taken*, as the testimony of General Hazen, of the U. S. army, and many others amply proves. *Now*, for the *first* time, our vast virgin prairies are thrown open to the world, while there is very little if any good land in the United States available for settlement under the homestead laws, and railway lands which are for sale are poor in comparison with the North West and can only be purchased at high prices, varying from five to thirty or forty dollars an acre. While in the North West every emigrant, come of age, can obtain free, a farm of 160 acres, better far than any he ever saw. Let intending emigrants make a note of this and act accordingly, and not allow themselves to be deceived and imposed upon by interested parties, paid agents who flood Europe with pamphlets of the most glowing descriptions of their wares, the falsity of which is usually found out only when it is too late. There are tens, probably hundreds, of thousands of immigrants in Kansas, Missouri, &c., &c., lured thither by magnificent propositions and promises made but to be broken. "The best land in the world," "rich in minerals," for from $5 to $20 an acre, "with no long winters," "free passes over the railway," "one-tenth down the rest when it suits you," which usually is *never*, for loss of health, poor land, want of water, want of rain, and consequent want of crops, render *that* nine cases out of ten impossible, and who would, therefore, be glad to get off with the loss of all they possessed, if only they *could* get enough money to pay their way out of their misery, want and woe.

Productions.

We have come now to consider what is the main point in regard to the Canadian North West, namely, its

2nd. PRODUCTIONS.—*Wheat* is the special product, for *it* the country as a whole is particularly adapted. The largest average wheat product has been raised for 40 years without manure in the valley of the Red River, of any place in the world, the grain being of the choicest quality, and

weighing the greatest number of pounds (66) to the bushel, and commands a higher price because of its flinty nature, being, therefore, peculiarly adapted to the new process of milling—the patent process—which flour rules the highest of any in the market. Oats, barley, and in fact all cereals, grow in great luxuriance and of the best quality. It is said that maize or Indian corn does not do quite so well as in some other parts of this continent. The probability is that the kind tried was of that species adapted to a more southern climate, and that the kind of corn raised in New York, the Eastern States, Ontario and this Province of New Brunswick would do well. Southern corn will not ripen at all in northern New York and similar latitudes, while northern corn ripens well, and in October last I saw very excellent corn fully ripe from Manitoba at the Provincial Exhibition then held in this city, and the various specimens of other cereals and vegetables showed clearly the marvellous growths obtained in the Prairie Province. Potatoes attain the highest point of excellence in quantity and quality, the quality being as marked as the size. No such potatoes were ever grown in a southern clime. Melons ripen in the open air, and also tomatoes, all kinds of garden vegetables do well. Neither melons nor tomatoes will ripen in Britain without the aid of glass. Hops grow wild on the prairies in great profusion. To flax and hemp the conditions are especially favorable. The Menonites already grow the former largely, and it with its manufacture will soon become a great industry in the North West. All the ordinary small fruits, such as currants, strawberries, raspberries, etc., grow in great abundance spontaneously. Apples have as yet been little grown. Cattle grow fat without grain, feeding on the prairie grass, and the meat is said to be superior to that of the cattle fattened in the stables in the east or the fatherland.

The cultivated grasses, timothy, red top, clover, etc., do well, but they are little grown, so abundant is the supply of natural hay. Game is abundant, prairie chickens, ducks and geese, pigeons, patridges and grouse in great abundance are among the feathered tribe, while amoung the animals are deer, bears, wolves, foxes, wild-cats, rabbits, in amazing numbers and easily taken. Otter, mink, muskrat and beaver, etc., frequent the water courses, and buffalo in the western prairies.

Fish.—The larger lakes abound in white fish, a delicious article of food, weighing four or five pounds. In the rivers and streams abound pickerel, pike, catfish, sturgeon, gold eyes, etc., etc., and trout in the mountain streams.

Coal and Peat.—The Dominion Geological reports and the engineers' surveys inform us that the district through which the great railway passes, possesses one of the, if not the largest coal field in the world.

Between the 59th parallel and the North Sea it has been calculated that there cannot be much less than 500,000 square miles that are underlaid by true coal, the average breadth of which belt is about 280 miles. In addition to and in close proximity with the coal are rich deposits of iron ore. West of Edmonton to the Rocky Mountains is an area of, at least, 125,000 square miles of coal land, with seams of from two to eighteen feet thick cropping out in countless instances along the rivers' banks. North Saskatchewan, for over two hundred miles, the Pembina, Battle River, Red Deer Branch of the South Saskatchewan all show coal in great abundance. Specimens of coal from various sections of the Saskatchewan region were, two years ago, forwarded to Prof. Haanel of Victoria College, Cobourg, Ontario, for analysis with the most satisfactory results.

"Many other seams are found over a wide extent of country, and it is

but reasonable to infer that at least several of them, perhaps all of them will yield excellent fuel, for in the richest coal fields elsewhere there are no such abundant outcrops as here." This fact led many people not particularly posted on coal measures to doubt whether it could really be coal at all. The analysis by other chemists demonstrate the fact that it is not only coal, but that of the very best quality. Everywhere iron is found in conjunction with the coal.

In the gravel and sand bars of the North Saskatchewan and its tributaries, and on Peace River gold is found, and men with very poor appliances for finding it, obtain from $5 to $10 a day; it will doubtless be found in much larger quantities when the country becomes settled and more thoroughly explored, and with better facilities for obtaining the precious metal; but the main wealth of the country lies in the soil. There is a mine of wealth on every homestead of 160 acres that requires only industry to develop.

Limestone of fine quality is found in abundance in many places. Blue clay underlaying the soil makes good brick. White marl found in large beds makes pottery and also superior brick, similar to the famous Philadelphia or Milwaukee brick.

Salt springs are numerous, brine often yielding a bushel of salt to 30 or 40 gallons, sometimes overflowing considerable areas, and by evaporation leaving the soil covered with salt, forming occasionally mounds out of which the purest salt is shovelled.

Sheep do well, and have never been known to have any disease, and produce as high as eight pounds wool to the fleece.

Bees are very productive, the flora of the prairies being especially favorable to them.

Soil in the North West is, as we have said, of course varied, but exists on the prairies from 18 inches on the general average, to 8 or 10 feet deep on the river flats. The following is an analysis of a specimen of alluvial soil from Manitoba by Prof. V. Emmerling, Director of the Chemical Laboratory of the Agricultural Association of the University, Kiel, Holstein, Germany. He says: "The analysis of the Manitoba soil is now completed, and the result is in 100,000 parts—

	Manitoba soil.	Holstein soil.	Excess of properties of Manitoba soil.
Potash	228.7	30	198.7
Sodium	23.8	20	13.8
Phosphoric acid	69.4	40	29.4
Lime	682.6	130	552.6
Magnesia	16.1	10	6.1
Nitrogen	486.1	40	446.1.

To any one acquainted with the subject, this analysis sufficiently accounts for the popular experience of the remarkable production of wheat in Manitoba. Where nitrogen, potash, phosphoric acid and lime exist in soil to such an extent as shown above, good wheat must necessarily be produced—they are all important in the promotion of growth in the higher forms of vegetable life.

Here is another analysis by Dr. Macadam, Lecturer on Chemistry, in the University of Edinburgh.

Analysis of sample of Manitoba soil :—

Moisture		21.364
Organic matter, containing nitrogen equal to ammonia 23°		11.223
Saline matter :—		
Phosphates	0.472	
Carbonate of Lime	1.763	
Carbonate of Magnesia	0.937	
Alkaline Salts	1.273	
Oxide of Iron	3.115	
		7.560
Silicious matter :—		
Sand and Silica	51.721	
Alumina	8.132	
		59.853
		100,000

The above soil is very rich in organic matter and contains the full amount of the saline fertilizing matters found in all soils of a good bearing quality.

STEPHENSON MACADAM,
Lecturer on Chemistry, etc., M. D.

Some Towns of the North West.

It is not necessary that I should name and describe all the new towns or embryo cities of Manitoba, or the Canadian North West. The description of to-day would be inadequate for to-morrow, they are all young, hopeful and, no doubt most, if not all of them have a great future before them. I shall, therefore, do little more than name a few of them.

EMERSON

is the first to which you come by rail. It is just over the line of the Canada side, and here the baggage is examined. I had nothing contraband, and had no trouble, the Customs Officer was a young St. John man who remembered me very well and took my word for it that it was all right. Emerson covers a good deal of very level ground, and from the width of the streets and the style of the buildings, evidently expects to be great at no distant day, and the expectation will surely be fulfilled.

NO BETTER LAND

surrounds any city in the world than is this portion of the Red River valley, though it may occasionally be rather too wet.

It is the country that makes the cities. It is growing fast and extending its boundaries.

WINNIPEG

is, of course, the capital, both physically and politically. It is only seven years old, and its growth during that time is probably equal to anything on this continent during this period. On all sides new and many of them very fine buildings are rising, nearly all of them white brick, or at least cased in that material. Business houses, and residences now being erected, are very much superior to those erected three or four years ago, and as the population and the business increase so rapidly, several of the public institutions, as Bank buildings, have already

given place to others of much larger proportions; and others, as the Post Office, now quite inadequate to its requirements, must soon follow.

It has

SIXTY HOTELS,

which number is continually increasing, but as yet are quite unable to meet the demand, so they are all crowded. Some of them are good, some not so good, and several very inferior ones. Quite a number more are going up, and at least two of them much larger than any of those now in use.

Above all the present hotels ranks the Queen's which has become a favorite stopping place for visitors of the better class. It is located on the corner of Portage Avenue and Notre Dame street west, and is within three minutes' walk of the post office and convenient to all the business portions of the city. It is of brick, well lighted, well ventilated, well furnished and well conducted, and provided with every requisite for the convenience of guests, though I had to sleep the first night on the floor and also the first night after I returned from Brandon and the regions beyond. The Grand Central stands, I think, next in order to the Queen's, does not charge quite so high, and runs a free "buss" to and from the trains. In the "buss" to and from the Queen's the charge is half a dollar.

I had been told the North West was about equal to the Queen's. I looked at it but did not like it; it seemed inferior every way, and two gentlemen who stopped there a night left in the morning and went to the Grand Central and liked it. I mention these things for the information of people who may visit Monitoba. Another new hotel near the depot is of a lower price, and is said to be very well conducted. It would probably be found to suit the convenience of the majority of emigrants. It is named "The Planters."

There are

PLENTY OF CHURCHES

of the usual denominations, some of them very fine brick buildings, beautiful school houses, and a grand new building as to externals is nearly completed for Manitoba Presbyterian College, with which other colleges are affiliated. The Hudson Bay Company's store is a magnificent block of buildings, the plate glass windows are a wonder, and everything as to its furniture and fitting is solid, massive and costly. It is said there is nothing equal to it west of Chicago. We, Mr. David B. Murray, the Chief of Police, and myself, were kindly shown over the whole gorgeous establishment by the general manager, a very courteous gentleman, whose name I regret to have forgotten. Almost everybody was busy at big wages from two to seven and a half dollars a day, which last figures some bricklayers and plasterers obtained.

BRANDON

is the present passenger terminus of the Canada Pacific Railroad, 145 miles west of Winnipeg. This was written in Nov. last. The present terminus is about 300 miles west of Brandon. The rails are laid about 40 miles beyond it. Three miles were laid one day while I was there. They ask out there "who has not heard of Brandon, the famous valley city of the North West?" Pleasantly situated on the west branch of the Assiniboine on a slope of the Grand Valley "famous" they call it though I do not know for what it is famed. It commands an extensive view of the fertile prairie lands northward toward Rapid City and Minnesota, to the Brandon Hills southward and the valley of the Little Saskatchewan westward and surrounded by an immense region of as fertile land as any on which the sun shines, well watered and

good natural drainage, its position is one of the most promising in the North West.

LOTS

are selling fast, and though commenced only last summer it has already a large number of buildings. Messrs. Whitehead & Myers, lumber merchants, put up the first building, and as I had a letter of introduction from the Premier of Manitoba, Mr. Norquay, Mr. Chas. Whitehead showed me no little kindness. A number of branch roads will soon start from Brandon, the Souris valley and Bow River Branch is already surveyed and will be built next spring. There is coal on the Big Souris to which access is desirable, and besides the road will traverse a magnificent section of prairie country thus enabling a large number to settle along the railroad which will be just as good as the main line.

PILOT MOUND

is about 85 miles northwest from Emerson, started last summer and growing fast. The mound is 116 feet above the level of the plain and 100 farm houses can be counted from the town. It is for 25 miles surrounded by innumerable forests all of which it overlooks, and a more picturesque location it would be difficult to find between the Red River and the Rocky Mountains. The town is laid out at the base of Pilot Mound from which it takes its name on both banks of Pilot Creek, a beautiful stream of pure spring water. It is in the heart of a rich agricultural region, where there are grand opportunities for settlers.

Roseau—now known as

DOMINION CITY—

is situated on Roseau River at the crossing of the Pembina Branch of the C. P. Railway, ten miles north of the Canada boundary line, surrounded by one of the finest agricultural tracts on the continent. The banks of the Roseau River are heavily timbered with oak, ash, and poplar for a distance of 60 miles, where it takes its rise in Roseau Lake, which is surrounded by a comparatively inexhaustible forest of pine, spruce and cedar. From it a large supply of lumber will be obtained for many years, and will be manufactured at Dominion City, the logs being floated down the river, and thence shipped by rail, as may be required, to other places. It is, doubtless, destined to be an important town, and the admirable system of drainage established by the Local Government will soon render other hundreds of thousands of acres, hitherto unavailable, among the most productive lands in the Province. The settlers already there are mostly of a superior class of Ontario farmers.

NELSONVILLE

has been called the Queen City of Southern Manitoba. It is in the famed Pembina mountain country. It has now a three-run grist mill, a saw mill a shingle mill, five general stores, three hotels, five agricultural warehouses, a printing office, in which is published *The Mountaineer*, three churches—two brick, one frame—school-house, two livery stables, two blacksmith and carriage shops, etc., etc., an Orange Hall, a Masonic Hall, three resident ministers and plenty of other professional gentlemen, and last but not least, a Government Land Office, in addition to the private residences.

A branch of the Emerson and Northwestern Railway is already located to Nelsonville, and the Southwestern Railway is already bonussed for $100,000, and by January next will have its line completed to Nelsonville. It is the county town of North Dufferin. That region of country is well known for its superior agricultural advantages. Good water, good soil—it is good for settlers.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE

is an important and rapidly growing town nearly half way between Winnipeg and Brandon, the main line of the N. P. Railway, in the centre of what is called the Garden of Manitoba, and no garden anywhere could be richer or better land, much of which is under a good state of cultivation. It is laid out for a large city, which it will doubtless be before many years. The land here for a considerable distance around is taken up either by settlers or speculators, and the emigrant, unless he is in a position to buy out some settler, must go elsewhere in order to locate a farm to advantage. I interviewed here a settler, Mr. J. Stewart, who lives at High Bluff, just in sight. "Has been there 10 years; has 160 acres, 80 cultivated; this year raised 35 bushels to one bushel's sowing—not to the acre, it would be about 70 bushels to the acre, White Russian Wheat; some in our neighborhood have as high as 100 bushels oats to acre. Wheat, barley, oats, potatoes and all vegetables do well here. Come from township of Williams, Middlesex, Co., Ontario. Do much better here than there, though that was good." I think this region may well be designated the Garden of Manitoba, as many others reported almost similar results. There are farms for sale with the usual improvements, and men of some means could not do better than buy such farms, as they could take the whole price they would have to pay—from eight to twenty dollars an acre—off the farms in a single year, or at most two, and at the same time avoid all the inconveniences necessarily incident to a new settlement.

Pomeroy, Crystal City, Cartwright and a host of other new towns are all likely ere long to become places of importance, and it is claimed afford abundant facilities for profitable investments in their lots.

BRANDON.

I reached Brandon on the evening of the 24th October and remained till next day, and interviewed some farmers and others, of which the following is

THE SUBSTANCE:

Cornelius Williamson lives at Birtle, about 200 miles from Winnipeg, in a northern direction: Has three sections of land or 1920 acres, about 100 acres cultivated; has raised of wheat 45 bushels to the acre, maxmium, the lowest not much less; has been there three years; raised 80 bushels oats to the acre; potatoes and roots of all kinds do well. Average depth of soil 18 to 24 inches. Soil varies from sandy to heavy black loam; the sandy with limestone gravel sub-soil; some of it clay sub-soil. In a dry year prefer the clay, but in a wet one the gravelly sub-soil.

J. Arrison lives at High Bluff, Portage la Prairie: Has 500 acres; bought at $8 an acre five years ago; worth $10 now, as I have improved it somewhat; raise from 30 to 40 bushels wheat per acre; have raised 50 bushels; all but peas do well, they grow too rankly; potatoes from three to four hundred bushels per acre; have had over four hundred bushels; was born in Ontario; this is a much better country than Ontario for cattle as well as crops.

HORSES

raised here do much better than those imported. The native crossed with important heavy stock do best. Oats sometimes run up to 100 bushels per acre; they bring now a dollar a bushel; wheat 80 to 90 cents.

J. W. Paten lives at Rapid City: Owns 320 acres; got it as homestead 160 acres and paid one dollar an acre for preemption 160; have just sold it for $3,000. Raised 30 bushels wheat and oats 75 bushels to the acre. All kinds of crops grow immensely.

The next gentleman interviewed was Mr. Duncan Sinclair, Land Surveyor, and who has been 11 years following his profession in Manitoba and the Northwest. He is a man of much intelligence and a close observer.

MR. DUNCAN SINCLAIR,

said:—"I have been eleven years in this Territory engaged in the business of my profession. I have travelled over the country from the woody regions east of the Red River to Fort Carleton on the Saskatchewan, and to the 104th meridian of longitude, and to 70 miles North of Norway House on Nelson River, and northwest on the Great Saskatchewan to Pas, and Moose Lake northeast of it. From east of the Red River for 30 miles to the woody region the soil is of the very best quality, and to the west of Red River as far as Pembina Mountain, and southward as far as Fort Pelly, easterly of the Assiniboine River, the land may be considered first-class for agricultural purposes. On the west from Brandon to the Pembina Mountain and Fort Ellice, and as far as Carleton, the quality of soil slightly diminishes and may be considered a superior second-class, although in this last region there are many very superior sections. This year, on the Little Saskatchewan, my two sons, with fair average tillage, produced 32 bushels of wheat to the acre from seed sown the last week in April. Barley and oats only about the same; there was a failure of seed, and it was on new broken ground not well prepared. In order to raise a full crop the ground requires to be properly prepared, which often new broken ground is not, and then only half a crop need be expected. Equal crops on the Big Plain, the Shoal Lake and Bird Tail Creek districts. Turtle Mountain district about the same. Around the sources of the Little Saskatchewan there is abundance of lumber for not only its own settlers but also for a large district beyond, at prices varying from $20 to $30 per thousand, according to grade."

I had a letter of introduction from Sir S. L. Tilley which procured me ready access fo all officials and others in the North-West, and among other advantages procured, unasked, a letter from Mr. James Norquay, Premier of Manitoba. This procured me many kindnesses and courtiesses, among them a carriage to convey me to Brandon Hills, ten miles distant, to visit Rev. George Reddick, an old friend, but I decided to walk it in order to have an opportunity to carefully examine the soil, and go into the farmers' houses and see the way in which they lived. The parties I met and interviewed were considerable in number. I can only name a few of them, but they were all pretty much alike, all more than contented with their locations and prosperity. Three miles from Brandon Hills I went into the house of Ephriam Harris. He is from Fullerton Township, Perth County, Ontario; "has been here a year last spring; has 160 acres very good land, wheat a real good crop, not threshed yet, but computed at 35 bushels per acre. Oats excellent; sent some heads home to Ontario and they said they had never seen anything like them before; potatoes very good in quantity and quality. Well 22 feet deep; water abundant and excellent." I can bear testimony to its *excellency*. "No frost till after crops were all harvested. No grasshoppers, few musquitoes. Soil about 2 feet deep, black, heavy loam." I examined the soil in a plowed field and found it all that could be desired. The house is a comfortable story and a half squared timber house, and comfortable outbuildings.

Called in

WM. JOHNSON'S.

House is similar to that of Harris' but larger, as his family is larger. "Came from Dundas County, Ontario; have been here 2½ years; have 320

acres, homestead and pre-emption. Land good, No. 1; no better land in the North-West. Broken 55 acres, wheat crop excellent, oats do., potatoes beautiful, all kinds of vegetables good. Have used water from a well 6 feet deep; excellent soil from 9 inches on tops of knolls to 2½ feet, beautiful clay subsoil. This is about the average for 5 or 6 miles around; calculated 30 to 35 bushels wheat to the acre; not threshed yet." I can bear witness to the excellence of the potatoes, chicken, milk and butter, and, if the wheat product were equal to the appearance of the stubble, I should think the expected amount was under-estimated, as I never saw such stubble before. I think, however, there was not seed enough sown as it appeared rather thin. If farmers would cultivate their grounds more thoroughly, and sow about one-third more seed than what they do, I have no doubt they would raise at least 10 bushels an acre on the average more than they do.

The next house was my point of destination, that of

REV. GEORGE RODDICK,

from whom and his amiable wife I received a cordial welcome. Among many other things he said:—

"I am the first settler on the south side of the Assiniboine at Grand Valley. Came in the spring of 1879 from Pictou County, N. S., and brought a part of my congregation here as a colony. Took up one and a half sections for myself and family, to which I added 160 acres more by purchase from the Hudson Bay Co., at $5 per acre, 1120 acres in all. The first season I broke up only 10 acres, as buildings had to be erected. Next summer raised 250 bushels potatoes and 600 bushels grain, some of it on the first plowing, not back set at all or second ploughed. The grain was good and wheat averaged 20 bushels to the acre, oats 50 bushels, on the once ploughed ground. The third summer I broke 50 acres more. The crop is good, from which 1500 bushels at least will be produced, 1000 wheat and 500 of oats; and 250 bushels potatoes on a little less than an acre. Beets, onions and all other vegetables very fine. Have now 125 acres ready for the next crop. The crops of the neighbors have also been remarkably good. Never saw finer wheat growing. An Ontario man helping to harvest said he never saw the like of it in Ontario. Have not threshed yet, and grain may yield and probably will considerably more than I have stated. A farmer can

GET A BETTER START

in a prairie country in three years than he would in 20 years in a wooded country. With about $1,000 to start with a farmer can make himself pretty independent in three years; on the half of it indeed, or less. One in the neighborhood started with considerably less than $500, and is as independent now as any one in the community. Farms of 320 acres in the neighborhood could not now be purchased for $3,000. I would be very reluctant to take $10,000 for mine. I have not been on it three years yet. Have a fair proportion of poplar and oak on the Brandon hills close by. The poplar here is much superior to that which grows in Nova Scotia. It makes good lumber and excellent fire wood. We deem it worthless in Nova Scotia. The water in this district is, in general, good and can be secured anywhere by digging from six to thirty feet. In some spots a little alkali is found. Wages are good—a common laborer receives from $1.50 to $2 per day and board; carpenters $2.50 to $3; blacksmiths the same; bricklayers and plasterers, $4 to $6 per day; servants girls from $12 to $20 per month. Always a fair demand for grain and other produce; wheat, 80 cents to $1; oats, from 50 cents to $1. Canadian horses require great care, and plenty of grain the first year; after that they do well.

Horned cattle do well, the natural grasses being very nutritious. I have two span of Canadian horses and a French-Canadian pony for driving, and have no difficulty with them, two yoke of oxen, two cows, and a number of young cattle. I would advise a poor man to content himself with oxen for a few years, till he can raise a sufficient quantity of grain. I have been astonished at the speed and endurance of oxen in this country; a pair of my oxen have, besides farm work, travelled 1000 miles on the road in six months. The depth of black soil varies from nine inches to two and a half feet. In this locality the depth is two feet. The subsoil is a whitish clay. With pluck and perseverance, and dependence on the blessing of God, this is the country in which a farmer can soon make himself and family independent."

I have given Mr. Ruddick's statement on this subject in *full*, because it is the result of an educated, intelligent, reliable, experienced pioneer. The railroad will now obviate many of the difficulties which he and his family had to meet and overcome in reaching their present location, etc. His address is Brandon Hills, Manitoba. He is the postmaster, and will, I doubt not, afford any additional desirable information to intending emigrants; but I would suggest the propriety of all who may write him seeking information enclosing at least two 3 cent postage stamps, to pay for stationery and return postage. If Mr. R. gives his time and labor *pro bono publico* for nothing, it is as much as can be reasonably expected.

Next day after breakfast Mr. Roddick, with his French pony and buckboard, drove me across his farm, and up to the highest peak on the southern end of

BRANDON HILLS,

There we had a view of the land such as Moses had from the top of Nebo of the land of Canaan—better, I think, for Moses looked from outside the land, and his view was only one-sided, while we were in the centre of a most magnificent outlook. Thirty miles west the Turtle Mountain bounded the view, with the Big Souris, fringed with woods, flowing along its base. North, south and east the eye roamed over the boundless prairie, here and there dotted with lakes and the homes of settlers, patches of plowed land and hay stacks. I have never before or since had such a view of such a land. It was a grand circular segment of the land which the late Lord Beaconsfield with two words so admirably described, "illimitable possibilities." No two words in the English language, or any number of words, could *more* fittingly or *so* fittingly describe the Canadian North West.

Mr. Roddick brought me to Brandon to a political meeting, which afforded me a good opportunity to interview farmers. It was the 25th of October. The day was balmy as a day in June. The people had come early to attend to business first, and then hear speeches. There was quite a crowd for a "lone land," and some of them had come a long way—some from Brandon Hills, some from the Big Plains, some from the direction of Rapid City, some from various other places, but nearly all tillers of the soil. It was a golden opportunity to obtain reliable information and which would have required weeks of plodding, patient toil to have obtained equal results from the same people at their homes. Mr. Roddick knew most of them, and put me at once on a friendly, confidential footing with as many as I wanted. I can make only a few selections.

The first was

JOHN DORAN,

He settled near the west end of Brandon hills, and has been there two years and a half; came from Dundas County, Ontario. "I have taken with my family four sections—2560 acres—from the Dominion Government

and the Syndicate previous to any urvey. I have broken over 80 acres. The soil is deep, fertile and good, running from 12 to 36, and averaging from 18 to 20, inches deep. Crops excellent, exceeding anything I could raise in the county of Dundas on a good clay soil. The fact of having no stones or stumps, nor quack grass, nor other bad weeds, makes it very encouraging. Wheat, oats, potatoes, onions and all varieties of vegetables have been a decided and abundant success, with very little labor. Planted this year potatoes, plowing them in and giving them no more cultivation, and had a crop such as I have probably never seen. Dropped the seed in each furrow; 200 bushels on about three-fourths of an acre on the better cultivated ground about one half more. Wheat and oats are good, but have not yet been threshed. Calculate wheat from 30 to 40 bushels to the acre, oats about double that. The growth is so great as to make it unhandy on account of the length of the straw; when the ground comes to be better cultivated the products will be very great. I have 500 acres of very good land on the St. Lawrence in the township of Matilda, Dundas Co., and it cannot begin to compete or compare with this. Water good and abundant, dug 12 feet for a well. About as much alkali as is supposed to be good for the soil and the crops."

JAMES TOMLINSON

"Lives at Rapid City, been there two years, have 160 acres—land good, can't be beat, raised wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, etc.; wheat 40 bushels to acre, oats 60, all vegetables excellent. Soil from 12 to 18 inches, water generally good, some points a little alkaline, but by digging from 20 to 30 feet get excellent water always. I use it from a pond. Came from London, Ontario. Take the land and climate here they are better than at London. It is very healthy here. Have seen no grasshoppers to speak of, have seen four times more in Ontario."

JOHN MACDONALD,

from St. Thomas, Ontario. "Resided for three years on the Big Plains, 25 miles east of Brandon. I have 320 acres, and my family a section, 640 acres—in all 960 acres. Have broken about 40 acres myself. Wheat the first year, on the once plowed sod, 25 bushels, since then 35; oats, 50 to 75 bushels; potatoes, 300 to 350 bushels to the acre. Soil averages 18 inches of black loam, and subsoil 4 to 5 feet yellowish clay. Water first class; wells 5 to 32 feet deep all over the plain; water is beautiful, sweet, clear and abundant. A few mosquitoes. No grasshoppers to amount to anything. Healthy? Very much so. People do raise the same kind of crop year after year on the same soil. I don't consider it best to do it. There is ready sale for all kinds of crops. One dollar a bushel is the average price for all kinds of grain and potatoes on the Plain up to this time. Cattle? High. Cows from $55 to $65; paid $65 for a cow this summer. Oxen, fair, from $150 to $175; extra good, $200 a yoke. Horses? Any fair team from $300 to $450. Earliest plowing? In 1878 I plowed in March; generally 1st April to towards end of May for plowing and sowing. Every man I ever knew on the Plain is perfectly satisfied with his lot."

I am careful to quote the exact words of each one; and, while there is a variety of style of statement, each one expresses himself with accuracy and clearness, without any hesitation, prevarication or ostentation.

JOHN T. ARTHUR

came from Nova Scotia in April, 1880. "Live near the Assiniboine River. Have 320 acres homestead and pre-emption. Land good. Have broken 27 acres; raised wheat, oats and potatoes, all pretty good crops. They were injured by the overflow of the river, yet the wheat produced 30

bushels, oats 40, potatoes good quality. I like the country. I am well satisfied. Water is good; no alkali. I have two spring creeks. No early nor late frost. No grasshoppers or mosquitoes to amount to anything."

J. E. WOODWORTH

is from Cornwallis, Nova Scotia. "Came here last spring; have 320 acres —50 acres broken; oats on sod average 30 bushels; potatoes, 10 acres on sod, about 200 bushels to the acre. Things have done very well indeed. I am very much pleased with the present and with the future prospect. I did all this work personally with my own hands. Had little means of my own, but was assisted. I have built a good two story house, nearly finished;" and as he spoke he pointed it out close by, a large double two story house within the limits of the corporation. Mr. J. E. Woodworth's 320 acres will before many years be worth a large amount of money, as no doubt most, if not all, of it will be wanted for building lots.

The foregoing statements of farmers are probably sufficient, as all the others state substantially the same things, and I have given not only the names but P. O. addresses, so that if any one should desire corroboration on their own account, they can write to the parties mentioned and satisfy themselves. I shall now furnish the declarations of some gentlemen who are not farmers, but men of intelligence, observation and reliability. On the C. P. Railroad train from Brandon to Winnipeg, October 27th, I had a long conversation with

MR. JOHN PATTERSON,

of Winnipeg, Supervisor of Water Supply for the railroad. He said: "I pay laborers $2 per day; carpenters from $2.25 to $3, according to ability; farm labor is paid variously and is hard to get, from $25 to $40 a month and board for the summer; plenty of work in the winter, when men can make more than in the summer, especially those who can handle the axe. A good hewer can make from $3 to $5 a day."

Q—What is your impression of the country as a whole for emigrants, from the United Kingdom?

A—My impression is that any sober, industrious people can do well, and that while there are difficulties at first to contend with, as in all new countries, all careful and industrious people can make themselves independent in five years. Some seasons there is a little early frost in the low sections, not much this year; last year on the Red River some vegetables in gardens got killed before they were quite matured, but it did not reach farther west even then.

The track of the C. P. R. is laid about 125 miles beyond Brandon, and graded about 170 miles. The C. P. R. Southwestern is graded almost to the boundary of the United States. It runs from Winnipeg to Smuggler's Point, about 100th meridian. On the Air Line from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie they are laying the rails, 18 miles laid east from the Portage and 12 miles west from Winnipeg. The whole distance will be 54 miles to the Portage; it is now 68. They will take the rails from the old track. There is another road from Portage la Prairie by another company, to Gladstone, and is to go on to Prince Albert via Rapid City, etc., about 40 miles grading done, towards Gladstone. The South Western Colonization Road from Winnipeg to the Souris, passing through Headingly, crossing the Assiniboine at Nelsonville, Turtle Mountains, and on to the Souris coal fields. The coal is bituminous. The C. P. R. line breaks off four miles west of Brandon and goes to Souris coal fields. Another projected line is from Emerson to Portage la Prairie by way of Morris, taking in some of the best parts of the Red River valley.

It thus appears that the eastern part of the country will be at once well supplied with railroads and so it will be all over the country as soon as they are required.

D. B. MURRAY, ESQ.,

Chief of Police, Winnipeg, is from Pictou, Nova Scotia. He says:—"I have been here over eight years. I consider this a fine farming country. I have seen all kinds of cereals and vegetables of the first quality, and some of the latter of the most enormous growth; for instance: turnips over 36 lbs., potatoes averaging over 3 lbs., not one of them hollow, but sound and dry to the heart; cabbages 56½ lbs. each, a cucumber 8 feet long, and other things in proportion. The cucumber was of what is called the Snake variety. The people who cannot do well here cannot do well anywhere."

REV. JAMES ROBERTSON

had been pastor of Knox Presbyterian Church, Winnipeg, from its origin seven years ago till last summer, when he resigned to accept the superintendency of Home Missions in the North West, and since then has been travelling all over the country. I deemed his experience and opinion valuable and therefore asked him to write down in my note book his impressions, which he kindly did. I can here quote only his replies to my questions on the point which now occupies our attention. He said:—"I have seen potatoes weigh over 4 lbs., one 4 lbs. 2 oz.; turnips over 36 lbs.; cabbages 56 lbs. For raising cattle the country is very fine. Have seen wheat weighing 66 lbs. to the bushel, and the flour made from it was much better than from that grown anywhere else that I have seen. At present laborers get $2.50 a day; bricklayers get from $6 to $7 a day; carpenters from $3 to $4.

On the train from Brandon to Winnipeg Oct. 27th, I made the acquaintance of

AN ENGLISH GENTLEMAN

who had been some months prospecting in the North West, with a view of purchasing a tract of land in connexion with others in England. In compliance with my request, he wrote in my note book his opinion of the country as follows:—

Land, almost without exception, good. There is a difference of opinion as to what constitutes the best kind of land. Many prefer the heavy, and some the light soils. The latter seems to me the more easily cultivated, and gives quickest returns, but will most likely run out soonest. The great difficulty to contend with is the shortness of the working season. In spring, when the land is to be sown, it should have been previously broken and "backset" in the preceding autumn. The time must be very short for extensive sowing. It begins about the end of April, and the sooner it is over the better is the prospect for the ensuing crops. To grow a sufficiency of roots and potatoes, afterwards to prepare hay for the coming winter, to garner the cereals, store the roots, do the breaking and 'backsetting' and plow the stubble, must all be done by, at least, the end of October. This gives a very short season for so much work. Difficulty must also be looked for from the scarcity of farm labor, and how to keep a suitable staff for summer and winter operations. More than can be got would be too little for summer, less than half would be too much for winter. Cattle do well as far as I have seen and can learn. The country does not seem adapted for sheep. Any healthy man who will work will do fairly well; the man with working sons will do well. The climate is healthy.

(Signed) COLVILLE BROWN, M. D.,
Edin. University, F. R. C. S., Edin.

Two or three observations on this opinion may here not be out of place. 1st. The statement as to "the shortness of the working season" could not and would not likely be made by any but an Englishman who has been accustomed to see farming operations go on nearly all the year round. The season Dr. Brown has indicated as adapted to agricultural operations is a little over six months, and as a matter of fact it is about a month longer, as sowing usually commences at the middle of April—sometimes on the 1st of April—and plowing, &c., continues till about the middle of November, being about seven or seven and a half months of a working season, which is a fair average for this continent north of Mason and Dixon's Line. 2nd, Dr. Brown's expected difficulty from scarcity of farm labor applies only to farming on a large scale, not to the man on a quarter section who does his own work, while it shows that there is ample employment for the surplus labor of the old countries in the summer; while Mr. John Patterson, as I have already shown, states that laborers can make more in the winter than in the summer by lumbering, and that a good hewer can make from $3 to $5 a day.

It should also be remembered that sowing, reaping, mowing, raking, threshing, etc., are all done by improved machinery, greatly reducing the amount of needful manual labor, while plowing is generally done two furrows at once, thus saving the labor of a man on every plow; and, further, when it becomes known abroad that a large amount of farm labor is wanted in the North West, the supply will soon equal the demand. As to the country not being adapted to sheep, I suppose the idea suggested itself from the fact that high lands in the old countries are usually employed in sheep raising, as they will pick up a living where other animals won't, and therefore the idea has arisen that sheep will do well only on high land. The North West is not generally high, but level, and to many will appear for the above reason not adapted to sheep, but practical experience has demonstrated quite the contrary, proving that sheep do remarkably well, being free from all epidemics, growing to a large size, producing unusually heavy fleeces, while the mutton is of a superior quality, as I can attest from personal observation and experience. With the remainder of Dr. Brown's opinion I am in entire accord.

In the Queen's Hotel in Winnipeg, I formed a pleasant acquaintance with

M. M. COPE, ESQ.,

Grain merchant of Caerlleon, Monmouthshire, England. He had just returned from a somewhat extended tour through Manitoba and the North West territory. He gave me a good deal of valuable information which I deemed important on several accounts, among which is the fact that he cannot be charged with "having an axe to grind" by speaking favorably of the country. I therefore requested him to write his views in his own way for whatever future use might seem proper. He kindly complied, and the following is what he says:—

"I left home for a sea voyage, August 10th, by counsel of medical adviser, suffering as I was from a painful and serious malady. I resolved to visit the United States, making Chicago the western terminus. Arriving at Chicago I felt a strong desire to visit Milwaukee, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and the North-west States, especially Dakota. Was much impressed with the prosperity of the people of the U. S., and determined to look into the matter with the view of giving information to such as desired to emigrate or whose position demanded immediate attention. Holding

SEVERAL PUBLIC POSITIONS,

I am fully acquainted with the deplorable condition of the agriculturists of the United Kingdom. I visited the above towns, obtaining much valuable information from a commercial and agricultural point of view. Much astonished at the enormous flour manufacture of Minneapolis; saw the whole system was becoming revolutionized, American millers monopolizing the wheat market so far as best quality was concerned, leaving the second quality and inferior for exportation to Great Britain. Rumors of a 'boom' in the Canadian North West determined me to go to visit Dakota on the line of the N. P. Railroad to Bismarck, especially the neighborhood of Fargo, Castleton, etc.; satisfied farmers were making good headway; saw no signs to the contrary; land good for many miles in all directions, but became somewhat poorer farther west, more suitable for stock-raising. Proceeded

UP THE RED RIVER VALLEY

to Winnipeg; land wet and marshy for many miles, but fine alluvial soil, only requiring draining. The valley, extending 200 miles by 40 to 50 wide, is probably unsurpassed in fertility. Made acquaintance with Mr. Park, Haddington, Scotland, who had just purchased 3,000 acres of land in Dakota near Mapleton and proposed placing the whole under cultivation, spending $50,000 in machinery and stock. Arriving at Winnipeg, saw the "Boom" was a reality. Resolved to remain and traverse the Province, also some parts of the Northwest Territory; distance travelled 700 miles.

"As a result of tour, decided (Park and self) to combine our strength and influence to form a

COLONY OF ENGLISH AND SCOTCH FARMERS,

and obtain, if possible, a township of land for the purpose. The Syndicate and the Dominion authorities gave every encouragement, and I hope to complete arrangements for that purpose before returning to England, which I propose to do in November. I am convinced of the superiority of the Province of Manitoba and the North West Territory in yield and quality of grain, also climate, and of the ability of the products to compete successfully with any part of the world. I consider that the great bulk of

THE WHEAT CONSUMED IN GREAT BRITAIN

will, eventually, be raised in the Canadian North West, and will be conveyed to Liverpool and other ports *via* Hudson Bay and Thunder Bay at a lower freight than from the Northwest States of America. I can, with confidence, report on my return to England in favor of Manitoba and the Canadian North West as the best field for emigration in the North American continent.

(Signed) M. M. COPE."

"WINNIPEG, Oct. 22, 1881.

The parts of Dakota and Minnesota which Mr. Cope saw and examined are by far the best parts of those States, and the land around Fargo, Castleton, etc., is really very fine, one would think all that could be desired except perhaps that it is rather wet sometimes. Mr. Cope was very favorably impressed with the Northwestern United States, as any sensible man would be, but when he came to see and compare both sections, the U. S. and the Canadian North West, he gives the latter the decided preference, as most sensible men would do. The following is the statement of the

REV. JAMES ROBERTSON.

"At the request of Dr. Maclise I write here a few statements in reference

to Manitoba and the North West. I came to the country in January, 1874, and have resided in Winnipeg ever since. I have travelled through the country as far west as Fort Ellice and east to Rat Portage. The soil along the Red River can scarcely be surpassed in fertility. In Kildonan are found farms which have been cropped since 1812, and even though no manure has been employed, the land yields 25 to 30 bushels to the acre of wheat yet, with very little cultivation. Such a system as "rotation of crops" was never thought of. Wheat stubble was plowed under and wheat sown again. This extreme fertility does not extend more than 30 miles east or west of the Red River. The soil, however, as far west as I have travelled is very superior, and in many districts very heavy. At Portage la Prairie, Big Plains, Minnedosa, Brandon Hills, Pembina Mountains, Millbrook, etc., I have conversed with farmers by the dozen who estimate that the average yield of wheat is from 25 to 35 bushels to the acre, of oats 45 to 50, and of other grains in proportion.

"In no country have I seen finer potatoes, turnips, carrots and the like, and the yield is very large. In the township of McGregor I saw this fall a patch of onions about fifty feet square that produced fifty bushels. In northwestern Manitoba, the soil is

LIGHTER THAN IN THE EAST,

but it is yet fertile and with judicious cultivation cannot fail to repay the labors of the husbandman. There is a good deal of low land in several parts of the province, but it is all easily drained and cannot fail to make the best kind of farming land. In several places there have been fears entertained that wheat would not ripen—in fact, it has been frozen ere it was ripe. Drainage and cultivation will cure all this. Northwest of Minnedosa I saw two fields of wheat. The soil was the same, and the wheat sown the same. On the side of one field there was a drain to take away surface water; the other patch was without any drain. The undrained land was sown three or four days earlier than the drained land, and yet the wheat on the drained land was cut on the 13th of August, fully ripe, while the wheat on the undrained land was not ripe till the 23rd of August. The first frost in Manitoba in the autumn of 1881, was on the night of the 6th of September, and was not of any account. In some parts of the country there is found

SOME ALKALI

in the soil. This is confined, however, to a few localities, and I am told that manuring completely corrects its effects. I have been through a good part of Ontario, especially the Northern portion, and there is no part that is equal, much less superior, to Manitoba in fertility. There is not much wood found in the country. The greater part of the prairie was, however, once covered with a dense forest, but owing to the prairie fires it has disappeared. When the country becomes settled these fires will cease, and the trees planted or now existing, owing to their repaid growth, will soon give a large supply, while from

THE EXTENSIVE COAL FIELDS

on the Saskatchewan, and the large pine forests on the Upper Saskatchewan, settlers can now be supplied with fuel and timber without much difficulty. The winters deter many from making this part of the world their home. I have spent eight winters here and would just as soon live here as in Ontario. The registering of the thermometer is no indication as to the effect of the frost on the system. The atmosphere is very dry, and hence frost is not felt severely. I have ridden

THOUSANDS OF MILES

here in winter, sometimes when the thermometer was 30° or 35° or even 40° *below zero*, and I never had an inch of my skin yet frozen. One requires, however, to be careful of the extremities and exposed parts, if he would escape being frost-bitten. Winter sets in about the middle of November and continues till the beginning of April. The fall of snow is light, averaging in depth only 10 or 12 inches. The settlers during the whole winter are able to attend to their work, there being few days that are thought so cold or stormy as to detain them indoors. In all the districts I visited I found the people generally contented and hopeful. From Ontario and the other Provinces of the Dominion, from England, Scotland, Ireland, and the United States, I found representatives, and there was general contentment with their position. Many who came early are independent, while others are in comfortable circumstances. There is provision made for

SCHOOLS,

and the Government and people are putting forth laudable efforts to give the rising generation the benefit of a good common school education all over the country. In Winnipeg and St. Boniface are two colleges, and higher education is attended to there. Several years ago the University of Manitoba was incorporated, and its examinations are held every summer. The progress of education made in the University is very marked, and when it is remembered that one eighteenth of all the land in the North West is set apart for educational purposes, it will be seen that the future is assured. There is

NO STATE CHURCH

in Canada, but all the Protestant churches are putting forth laudable efforts to care for the spiritual welfare of the people. There is no settlement where the Gospel is not preached. The Presbyterian Church has about 150 preaching stations, and in the great majority of its 36 or 38 district fields ordained ministers are settled. The settlers are of the very best class—quiet, law-abiding, moral, religious. They are intelligent, well read, progressive. The Sabbath is well observed, and the people attend on the means of grace. There are hardships to be endured in this country such as are incident to

EVERY NEW COUNTRY,

but take the country all in all and I know of no land to which I would rather advise people to emigrate from the crowded countries of Europe. The climate is good and the country well adapted to be the home of a vigorous race.

(Signed) JAMES ROBERTSON."

"WINNIPEG, Oct. 28, 1881.

I have now given you all the testimonies that I deem necessary to show the goodness of the Canadian North West.

I have stated averages of products rather than the maximum in any case, as for instance, potatoes are put at from 250 to 400 bushels per acre. There are, however, many who have obtained much larger results, as A. Gillespie Greenwood, 560 bushels per acre three years in succession; John McLane, Portage La Prairie in the same years 1877-8-9, 600 bushels to the acre, in 1880, 500 bushels; J. D. R. M'Donnell, Cook's Creek, in 1877, [illegible] bushels; William Starr, Assiniboine, in 1879, 550 bushels, and in 1880, [illegible] bushels per acre, etc. John Bedford, of Emerson, 1000 bushels of potatoes to the acre; Neil Henderson, of Cook's Creek, 1000 bushels, and [illegible] measuring 5 inches diameter. J. W. Adshead, of St. Charles, has raised 150 bushels of oats to the acre; Alexander P. Stevenson, Nelsonville,

100, two years in succession; Thomas Dalzell, High Bluff, 95, and George Ferris, St Agathe, 100, in 1878, and 150 bushels to the acre in 1879; J. H. B. Hall, Headingly, 100 in 1880; A. V. Beckstead, Emerson, 100 to the acre and many others an equal amount. W. H. J. Swain, of Mooris, had citrons weighing 18 lbs. each; Philip McKay had carrots 4 inches in diameter and 14 inches long, cabbages 20 in diameter solid head and 4 feet with the leaves on, his onions have measured 16 inches in circumference and cauliflower heads 19 inches in diameter, and many others like them. While of 200 reports received by the Department of Agriculture last year from settlers in the Canadian North West, not one was unfavorable. That I have under rather than overstated the possibilities of products in the North West will appear evident from the following, taken from Appleton's New American Cyclopaedia, 1st Edition, Vol. IX, article Hudson's Bay Territory, p. 329: "Where farming is well conducted 56 bushels of wheat have been grown to the acre, and 40 on new land is common, potatoes grew to a prodigeous size, and Swedish turnips have reached as high as 70 lbs. Indian corn succeeds much better than in Canada, it is usually planted about May 23, and hardly ever fails to ripen. Onions reach extreme dimensions. Melons grow well in the open air," etc.

Culture and care have of course much to do with farm products everywhere, and those who cultivate most carefully have as a rule the largest results.

Conclusion.

In former communications, written some months ago, and before I had seen the Canadian Northwest or the corresponding region in the United States; depending on the accuracy of the statements of others, I described the Canadian Northwest as very much preferable as

A FIELD FOR IMMIGRANTS

from the old countries to the Northwest of the United States. I was desirous of seeing both and judging for myself so that I might do no injustice by over-estimating the one or under-estimating the other. I also desired to see them that I might be enabled to give reliable information, as far as I could, to the people in Europe who intend to emigrate somewhere, and now that I have seen both I re-affirm all I have stated. It seemed and still seems to me that the claims, advantages and capabilities of the great Canadian Northwest have not been adequately made known to the crowded populations in the old lands. It is a matter of the gravest importance to people who contemplate going out from the land of their birth, and of their fathers' graves, to some new land, to found for themselves and their families new homes, which in all probability would be the homes of their posterity for all coming time, that they should obtain, before making the decisive movement, such accurate, full and truthful information on the subject as would enable them to decide aright. This information I have sought to the best of my ability to afford. I have spoken plainly of things as I have found them. I have tried to do justice to the Northern Pacific Railroad and its great territory. I have "nothing extenuated, nor aught set down in malice." I have given credit when and where it seemed due. So in regard to the Canadian Northwest. I found it also a great land, much greater than the other in extent and in its good qualities, taken as a whole, and in all its parts. It is at least as good for hundreds of millions of acres of it as the best of the eastern and north-

eastern portion of the former, while it is free from the two great faults, aridity and superabundant alkali, of an immense region thereof.

The amount of land available for

HOMESTEADS AND PRE-EMPTION

in the Canadian Territory is also vastly greater than in the other, while what has to be purchased, whether from the Syndicate or the Dominion Government, can be obtained at a very much lower price than in the U. S. Territory. I need not recapitulate, I have said enough, if it is heeded, to inform and direct men rightly in this important matter. I have stated only what, from personal observation and experience, I know, or of which I have been satisfactorily informed, by men of reliability, sagacity and practical experience.

I have been asked by a good many people: "Do you think I should go and settle in the Northwest?" I reply: you must judge for yourself. I do not desire anybody to leave this Province or any of the other Provinces of the Dominion and go to the Northwest. I had no such object in writing. I think industrious people can do well in any or all of the older Provinces, and people who are not industrious and careful will not do well anywhere. My object, as I have stated, was and is to give reliable information to the people in the old countries who desire and need to emigrate.

It may, however, not be impertinent or improper to indicate

SOME CLASSES OF PEOPLE,

wherever located, who should not emigrate, and some classes who should.

People who are comfortably situated, whether on farms or in other employment, as a rule should let well enough alone, attend faithfully to the duties of their several vocations, and remain where they are. This is especially true of those who are rather advanced in years. It is difficult to change old habits, and there are always difficulties, expenses and privations in moving to distant regions, and particularly to new settlements. There may, however, be exceptions to this general rule. For instance—a farmer wherever he may reside in an old settled country, who has a large family growing up, the majority being boys, may have a very good farm and be succeeding very well, the farm may be just large enough for one; it may be worth $10,000. The boys cannot all always remain on the homestead; they must sooner or later go out into the world to work their way, and then they may and are very like to become scattered far and wide, in time become alienated and unknown to each other. I think it would be wise and well for that family to sell out at a fair price, and remove to the Northwest. With that amount of money, supplemented by the proceeds of the sale of stock, etc., each male member of the family could obtain a section of land, 640 acres, a farm three or four times the size of the homestead and have plenty remaining to give each one an excellent outfit. Then they could be located in one community and perpetuate their fraternal relations while life would last, and their children after them.

I think all

THE LANDLESS IN THE OLD COUNTRIES,

instead of remaining there quarrelling about a little petty patch of ground and struggling vainly to pay rack rents, should, as soon as practicable, emigrate to the Canadian North West and make for themselves and their posterity better homes than they ever saw, free of rents forever, and obtainable now in sufficient amount, almost "without money and without price." I think everybody in every country who cannot obtain fair and full employment at fair compensation, and who are willing to work and save and conduct themselves properly, should go to the Canadian North West. Ablebodied, healthy men and women of the class just indicated,

can hardly fail to do well. Farmers, laborers, mechanics of all kinds of the class just indicated, will find full employment at more than fair wages.

Clerks, salesmen, and professional men of all classes had better be careful about moving to the North West without a previous satisfactory engagement, as it seems to me that in these occupations the supply is greater than the demand, as, indeed, it appears to be everywhere else.

I cannot but think that if correct information on this subject were freely circulated among the peoples in the mother country, they, instead of going elsewhere, as they have been doing for a century, would come

FLOCKING IN MULTITUDES

to develop the capabilities, and "illimitable possibilities" of the Canadian North West, so that the designation, "Great Lone Land," would soon become a misnomer.

There need be no fear of crowding it in this generation. Settlements have hitherto been effected only on the borders of the land. The great valley of the great Saskatchewan River, which will be the great wheat raising region of the Northwest, has scarcely yet been reached. There is room in it alone for millions—enough to constitute a nation. It abounds with coal and almost all other kinds of minerals, as well as a most fertile, well watered soil, and a most healthy climate, and even that great central section is a mere fragment of the whole. Ere many years elapse the whole country will be covered with

A NETWORK OF RAILROADS.

The route to be opened to Europe through Hudson's Bay and Hudson's Straits will soon bring emigrants into the very heart of the Northwest, and carry its almost countless millions of bushels of wheat to feed the hungry millions of the Old World. The Syndicate, even if it desired it, can have no monopoly of the carrying trade. They will, ere long, have, to contend with sharp competition from many other great carrying companies; even now other railroads are becoming numerous and formidable.

Land will not always, it will not long, remain so easily obtainable as it is now. The lands along not only the main line of the C. P. R., but along its branches and the other railroads, will be rapidly taken up and rapidly increase in value. That appreciation of value is now rapidly going on as far as the roads are made, and as the lands continue to be taken up that increase will progress in almost geometrical proportion. As the country becomes known, now that it is for the first time rendered accessible, the influx of population will increase year by year, and, before many years elapse, people will probably have to pay for lands ten times the price for which they are now attainable within easy distances from the railroads; "*verbum sat sapienti*"—a word to the wise is sufficient.

There is plenty of room for farmers, laborers and mechanics, who can work and are willing to do it, and the compensation is very good. Laborers $2.50 per day; carpenters $3 to $4; bricklayers and plasterers $5 to $7; servant girls $10 to $20 a month in Winnipeg, Brandon, etc. Farm labor $30 to $50 for the summer, while in the winter if they are used to the axe they can earn high wages in the woods.

What about timber for buildings, fences, firewood, etc., is often asked. I reply, the country as a whole is not well wooded, millions of acres have no wood, so it is in Great Britain and other countries, yet there is a great deal of wood in the North West along the streams, the lakes, and on the hills there is much wood which will last with care for many years, meantime large numbers of trees should be planted, they will grow rapidly and soon make an abundant supply. In addition to this the country is heavily wooded from the eastern boundary of the Red River Valley to the western boundary of Ontario, and it abounds with minerals. The Canada Pacific

R. R. runs east through the heart of this wooded country, and when completed, as it will be in about another year, it will bring abundance of all kinds of wood for all purposes, while from 50 to 100 miles in breadth of the country east of the Rocky Mountains is very heavily timbered, and when the Rail Road is completed through it, which will probably be within this present year, 1882, the supply will be practically inexhaustible, while the supply of coal, leaving only from 3 to 5 per cent of ash, is known to exist in inexhaustible quantities, *coal* of the first quality, not poor trashy lignite as in Dakota and Montana. There is thus no region of country on all this globe whose prospects for fuel are better than the Canadian North West. It would take an octavo volume of no inconsiderable size fully to tell the story of this country, which was long misrepresented as fit only for the homes of the bison, the bear, and the wolf.

I have tried to give such information as I supposed would be instructive and useful, and that I know to be truthful, to the people of the Old Countries who are contemplating migration or emigration. I have not indulged in flights of fancy, nor of rhetoric, nor sought to round a period at the expense of simple fact. I have aimed at presenting what I knew, or thought I knew the people of the United Kingdom needed, and wanted, "a plain unvarnished tale" of sober, calm, veritable, yet intelligent, intelligible and sufficiently detailed observations and experiences. And in concluding I shall only repeat that when the late lamented Benjamin Disraeli said of the North West, "It is a land of illimitable possibilities," he described it in two words as no other two words in the language, nor any other number of words could describe it. "It *is* a land of illimitable *possibilities*, it is new, it requires development, roads must be made, houses must be built, the land must be cultivated, but the land is there for cultivation in quantity and quality, as it is to be found no where else. It needs no laborious and costly clearing of timber, stumps or stones; it has no malaria, it has inexhaustible supplies of minerals of all kinds, of animals, fowls, and fish, but its main mines of wealth are in its boundless breadth of unparalledly abundant and fertile soil, making it the future granary of the world.

It is to be hoped and expected that a Railroad will soon be made to Fort York or Churchhill on Hudson's Bay, that in connection with it there shall be a line of steamers, carrying at a cheap rate immigrants and others from the Old World into the very centre of this wonderful land, and carrying the products of the soil and of the mine back to feed the hungry millions of Europe, and supply their factories with materials for the employment of millions more.

Thus will the vexed questions which are causing such fierce and bitter antagonisms between landlords and tenants be solved and settled, and millions of the poor and dependent made prosperous and happy.

APPENDIX.

Dominion Lands Regulations.

The following Regulations for the sale and settlement of Dominion Lands in the Province of Manitoba and the North-West Territories shall, on and after the first day of January, 1882, be substituted for the Regulations now in force, bearing date the twenty-fifth day of May last:

1. The surveyed lands in Manitoba and the North-West Territories shall, for the purpose of these Regulations, be classified as follows:—

CLASS A.—Lands within twenty-four miles of the main line or any branch line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, on either side thereof.

CLASS B.—Lands within twelve miles, on either side, of any projected line of railway (other than the Canadian Pacific Railway), approved by Order-in-Council published in the *Canada Gazette*:—

CLASS C.—Lands south of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway not included in Class A or B.

CLASS D.—Lands other than those in classes A, B, and C.

2. The even-numbered sections in all the foregoing classes are to be held exclusively for homesteads and pre-emptions.

a. Except in Class D, where they may be affected by colonization agreements, as hereinafter provided.

b. Except where it may be necessary out of them to provide wood lots for settlers.

c. Except in case where the Minister of the Interior, under provisions of the Dominion Lands Acts, may deem it expedient to withdraw certain lands, and sell them at public auction or otherwise deal with them as the Governor-in-Council may direct.

3. The odd-numbered sections in Class A are reserved for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

4. The odd-numbered sections in Classes B and C shall be for sale at $2.50 per acre, payable at the time of sale:

a. Except where they have been or may be dealt with otherwise by the Governor-in-Council.

5. The odd-numbered sections in class D. shall be for sale at $2 per acre, payable at time of sale:

a. Except where they have been or may be dealt with otherwise by the Governor-in-Council.

b. Except lands affected by colonization agreements, as hereinafter provided.

6. Persons who, subsequent to survey, but before the issue of the Order-in-Council of 9th October, 1879, excluding odd-numbered sections from homestead entry, took possession of land in odd-numbered sections by residing on and cultivating the same, shall, if continuing so to occupy them, be permitted to obtain homestead and pre-emption entries as if they were on even-numbered sections.

PRE-EMPTIONS.

7. The prices for pre-emption lots shall be as follows:
For lands in Classes A, B, and C, $2.50 per acre.
For lands in Class D, $3.00 per acre.
Payments shall be made in one sum at the end of three years from the date of entry, or at such earlier date as a settler may, under the provisions of the Dominion Lands Acts, obtain a patent for the homestead to which such pre-emption lot belongs.

TIMBER FOR SETTLERS.

14. The Minister of the Interior may direct the reservation of any odd or even numbered section having timber upon it, to provide wood for homestead settlers on sections without it; and each such settler may, where the opportunity for so doing exists, purchase a wood lot, not exceeding 20 acres, at the price of $5 per acre in cash.

15. The Minister of the Interior may grant, under the provisions of the Dominion Lands Acts, licenses to cut timber on lands within surveyed townships. The lands covered by such licenses are thereby withdrawn from homestead and pre-emption entry and from sale.

Useful Information for Settlers.

A settler may obtain a grant of 160 acres of land free, on *even-numbered* sections, on condition of three years' continuous residence and cultivation, and payment of an office-fee amounting to ten dollars; and he may purchase on reasonable terms adjoining portions of sections by "pre-emption" or otherwise.

A settler should obtain from the Local Dominion Lands Agents general information as to lands open for settlement. The marks on the accompanying Map show certain lands taken up, and, therefore, not available for settlement. Of course, other lands may have been taken up since its compilation. Exact information can, therefore, only be obtained at the Local Land Offices, which are shown on the Map.

All *even-numbered* sections (except 8 and three-quarters of 26, which are Hudson's Bay Co.'s Lands) are open for entry as free homesteads or as pre-emptions, unless already taken up by settlers.

Odd-numbered sections (with the exception of 11 and 29, which are School Lands) for 24 miles on each side of the Canadian Pacific Railway, may be generally stated to be Railway Lands, purchasable from the Company, and not open for homestead and pre-emption. There are also other Railway Lands, which have been appropriated in aid of similar undertakings. (See Official Land Regulations, next chapter.) Beyond the limits of the land granted to such enterprises *odd-numbered* sections may, if surveyed, be purchased direct from the Government, on terms stated in the Regulations referred to.

A settler in Manitoba may commence on comparatively small capital; that is, enough to build one of the inexpensive houses of the country, to buy a yoke of oxen and a plough, his seed grain, and sufficient provisions to enable him to live for one year, or until his first crop comes in. With a little endurance at first, from this point he may attain to a position of plenty and independence.

On the other hand, a settler may take with him to Manitoba or the North-West Territories considerable capital, and invest it in large farming

operations, either in wheat growing or stock raising, both of which he will probably find very profitable.

The settler requires either a team of horses or yoke of oxen, a waggon or a cart, a plow and harrow, chains, axes, shovels, stoves, bedstead, etc., which he can obtain for about $300, or £60* stg. A primitive house and stable may be built for £30 more. The cost of necessary provisions for a family would be from £18 to £20. The cost of these several items may vary with circumstances, either being more or less; but a settler who goes on his farm sufficiently early to plant potatoes and other crops may live at very little cost.

Or the sum of £125 stg., which is in round numbers about 600 dollars of Canadian currency, would enable a farmer to begin on a moderate scale of comfort. That sum would be divided, perhaps, in some cases, as follows:—

One yoke of oxen, $120.00; one waggon, $80.00; plow and harrow, $25.00; chains, axes, shovels, &c., $30.00; stoves, bedsteads, &c., $60.00; house and stable $150.00; provisions, $135.00. In all $600.00.

Of course, a capital of £200 (or $1,000) would enable a farmer to start in better style and with more comfort; but many have started with much less, and are now well off. For instance, the Red River cart, which costs from fifteen to twenty dollars, and one ox, might do all the teaming required on a small farm to begin with, and after the first "breaking" one ox could do all the plowing required for a family.

The German Mennonite settlers who came to Canada from Southern Russia a few years ago—that is, the poorer families of them—started with very much less; and they are to-day very prosperous, and raise large crops of grain, besides growing flax, of which they export the seed. They are also well supplied with live stock.

The Mennonite outfit for one family, averaging five persons, consisted of one yoke of oxen, one cow, one plow, one waggon, and one cooking stove—the whole obtained at a cost of $270.00, or £54. This comprised the outfit of one family, and in the case of the poorest, two families clubbed together to use one outfit. The cost of provisions for subsistence of one family for a year was $93 (£18.15) the provisions consisting almost wholly of flour, pork, and beans. No money was expended on the buildings in which they first lived. These consisted for the first year of brush, laid sloping on poles and covered with earth. This fact is stated to show from how small a beginning a settler may successfully start and attain plenty; but, seeing that the log or frame house of the country can be built at so moderate a rate, probably few settlers from the United Kingdom would be willing to do as the Mennonites did. Many a man will, however, make a hard struggle for independence, and find both his labour and his hardships sweetened by the consciousness of the daily steps he is taking towards that end. It may further be mentioned that, for some years to come, there will be railways and public works in progress, on which the poorer settlers may work for a part of the time at good wages, and so obtain means to tide over the first difficulties of a settler's life with more comfort. The settler is held to have "continuously" resided on his homestead, if not absent more than 6 months in any one year.

The settler from older countries should be careful to adapt himself to those methods which experience of the country has proved to be wise, rather than try to employ in a new country those practices to which he has been accustomed at home.

For instance, with respect to plowing, or, as it is called "breaking"

NOTE.—The £1 sterling is set down in round figures at $5, for convenience, which is sufficiently exact for the purpose of this paper.

the prairie, the method in Manitoba is quite different from that in the old country. The prairie is covered with a rank vegetable growth, and the question is how to subdue this, and so make the land available for farming purposes. Experience has proved that the best way is to plow not deeper than *two inches*, and turn over a furrow from twelve to sixteen inches wide.

It is especially desirable for the farmer who enters early in the Spring to put in a crop of oats on the first breaking. It is found by experience that the sod pulverizes and decomposes under the influence of a growing crop quite as effectually, if not more so, than when simply turned and left by itself for that purpose. There are also fewer weeds, which is of very great importance, as it frequently happens that the weeds which grow soon after breaking are as difficult to subdue as the sod itself. Large crops of oats are obtained from sowing on the first breaking, and thus not only is the cost defrayed, but there is a profit. It is also of great importance to a settler with limited means to get this crop the first year. One mode of this kind of planting is to scatter the oats on the grass, and then turn a thin sod over them. The grain thus buried quickly finds its way through, and in a few weeks the sod is perfectly rotten Mr. Daley, near Bigstone City, in the vicinity of Bigstone Lake, sowed ten acres of oats in this way. He put two bushels and a peck to an acre. In the fall he harvested 420 bushels of oats, which he found to be worth enough to pay for the breaking and give him $75 besides. This is a practical reported experience. There is also testimony from other farmers to similar effect.

The settler should plant potatoes the first year for his family use, and do other little things of that kind. Potatoes may be put in as late as June the 20th. All that is required is to turn over a furrow, put the potatoes on the ground, and then turn another furrow to cover them, the face of the grass being placed directly on the seed. No hoeing or further cultivation is required except to cut off any weeds that may grow. Very heavy crops of fine potatoes have been grown in this way.

Before the prairie is broken the sod is very tough, and requires great force to break it; but after it has once been turned the subsequent plowings are very easy, from the friability of the soil, and gang plows may easily be used.

On account of the great force required to break the prairie in the first instance, there are many who prefer oxen to horses; and there is also a liability of horses becoming sick in Manitoba when first taken there from the older parts of the continent, until they become accustomed to the new feed and the country, especially if they are worked hard.

It is for this reason that oxen, which are not liable to the same casualties as horses, are better suited for breaking the prairie. A pair of oxen will break an acre and a half a day, with very little or no expense at all for feed. Mules have been found to do very well, and they are considered well adapted for prairie work.

Distances on the Map, in miles, may be ascertained approximately by counting the Townships to be passed over and multiplying the number by six.

Lands of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

The Company offer lands in the Fertile Belt of Manitoba and the North-West Territory, for sale, on certain conditions as to cultivation, at the price of $2.50 (10s. stg.) per acre, one-sixth payable in cash, and the

balance in five annual instalments, with interest at six per cent., a rebate of fifty per cent., for actual cultivation being made as hereinafter described.

The ordinary conditions of sale are :—

1. That all improvements placed upon land purchased shall remain thereon until final payment for the land has been made.

2. That all taxes, and assessments lawfully imposed upon the land or improvements shall be paid by the purchaser.

3. The Company reserve from selection at the above price all mineral, coal, or wood-lands, stone, slate, and marble quarries, lands with water power thereon, and tracts for town sites and railway purposes; and, as regards lands having some standing wood, but not hereby excluded from selection, the purchaser will only be permitted to cut a sufficient quantity for fuel, fencing, and for the erection of buildings on his land until he shall have received the final conveyance thereof.

4. The mineral and coal lands and quarries, and the land controlling water power, will be disposed of on very liberal terms to persons giving satisfactory evidence of their intention to utilize them.

5. The purchaser will be required, within four years from the date of the contract for the purchase of the land, to bring under cultivation, and sow and reap, a crop on one-half of the said land, except when otherwise expressly agreed and declared in the contract by reason of any special obstacle to such cultivation. Dairy farming, or mixed grain and dairy farming, to an extent to be agreed upon, will be accepted as the equivalent of cultivation, entitling the settler to the rebate.

6. A credit of $1.25 (5s. stg.) per acre will be allowed for all land so cultivated during four years.

7. A reservation of 100 ft. in width for right of way, or other railroad purposes, will be made in all cases.

8. If the purchaser of a section, or part of a section, being a *bona fide* settler resident upon the land purchased, or upon an adjoining section, fails to carry out in their entirety the conditions of his contract with respect to cultivation and cropping, within the specified time, the Company reserve the right, in their own option, to diminish the quantity to be conveyed to him, under his contract, to such extent that he shall not be entitled to demand a conveyance of more than double the quantity cultivated and cropped, the quantity which he may so demand not to exceed one-half of the quantity mentioned in his contract, and, if not exceeding 160 acres, to be taken in the quarter section in which the greater part of such cultivation and cropping has been done; or, if in excess of 160 acres, then such excess to be taken from an adjoining quarter section; and as to the portion of the land contracted for, which the Company shall decide not to convey to such purchaser, his claim to the same shall be forfeited, and such portion shall not be conveyed to him by the Company; and thereupon the price shall be adjusted as if the contract of sale had originally been made for the portion actually conveyed to the purchaser.

The object of the foregoing clause is to prevent the Company's lands from falling into the hands of speculators to the disadvantage of the actual settler; but, as respects *bona fide* settlers, the purpose and aim of the Company is to afford them every possible consideration and facility.

9. Special contracts will be made for tracts exceeding one section, for settlement purposes or for cattle raising.

10. Liberal rates for settlers and their effects will be granted by the Company over its railway.

11. The land grant bonds of the Company will be received at 10 per cent. premium on their par value with accrued interest, in payment for lands, thus further reducing the price of the land to the purchaser.

For further information, apply at the office of the Company, Bartholomew Place, London, England; to John H. McTavish, Land Commissioner, Winnipeg, Manitoba, to the Secretary of the Company, at Montreal, Canada, or to Alexander Begg, Bartholomew Place, London, England.

GEORGE STEPHEN, *President.*

CHARLES DRINKWATER, *Secretary.*

It will appear, from a comparison of these conditions of sale by the Pacific Railway Co. with the Dominion Land Regulations, that if a family of four adults desire to settle together they may obtain a really large estate on very moderate terms. For instance, each of the four members of the family may settle on the four free homesteads, of 160 acres each, in any even-numbered unoccupied section. Each may then purchase another 160 acres at $2.50 (10s. stg.) per acre from the Pacific Railway Co. in the adjoining odd-numbered sections. This is the same price as that offered by the Government in classes A, B and C, with the exception that the Pacific Railway Company offer a rebate of $1.25 (5s. stg.) per acre, within four years following the date of purchase, on condition of cultivation. The settlers, while building on the homesteads and making cultivation thereon, would be able, within the time mentioned, also to cultivate the whole or the greater part of the Pacific Railway lands. The office fee for entering Government Homesteads is $10 (£2 stg). A family of four could, in this way, in four years obtain a large estate of 1,280 acres of probably the richest wheat growing land in the world, at a merely nominal price, and thus secure a position, not only of comparative, but of substantial, wealth. Farmers with sons can with great advantage avail themselves of these conditions, and have the advantages of neighbourhood in settling together.

In cases where it is an object for families with means to take up and farm more extensive tracts of land, the regulations would also admit of this. For instance, two brothers might take up as free homesteads two quarter sections of any Government lands, and pre-empt the other two quarter sections, thus obtaining a whole section (or 640 acres) for their homesteads and pre-emptions. They could then purchase the whole of each of the four adjoining odd-numbered sections of Railway lands, and thus obtain between them a large estate of 3,200 acres. By cultivating the odd sections and getting the rebate, this estate could be purchased on exceedingly moderate terms; while the rule of the Pacific Railway Co., to insist on cultivation as a condition of sale, will act as a powerful dissuasive to acquiring lands for mere speculation. The actual settler for some years to come, will have large tracts of land to choose from. The arrangement we have indicated is especially desirable for settlers from England with means.

The land policy of the Government of Canada, combined with the advantages offered by the Pacific Railway Co., is the most liberal of any on the Continent of North America.

Liberality of Canadian Land Regulations.

The Canadian Land Regulations having been very generally represented to be more onerous and less liberal than those of the United States, it is proper to point out to intending settlers that ten dollars ($10) covers the whole of the office fees in Canada, either for a pre-emption or a homestead; while in the Western States there are three fees, one of eight dollars, payable on entry, another of eight dollars for a commission, and another of ten

dollars when the patent is issued, making twenty-six dollars ($26.00). In some of the States the fees are thirty-four dollars ($34.00). The U. S. lands are sold at $2.50 and $1.25 per acre. These prices are nearly the same, but the difference is favourable to Canada.

In fact, it is repeated that not on the Continent of America, and it is believed not elsewhere, are the Land Regulations so favourable as in Canada.

It is provided by the Canadian Naturalization Act that aliens may acquire and hold real and personal property of every description, in the same manner and in all respects as a natural-born British subject.

The only disqualification of aliens is that they are not qualified to hold office under the Government or to vote at Parliamentary or municipal elections.

The oath of allegiance required of aliens who desire to become British subjects simply expresses fidelity to the Queen and Constitution, without any discrimination against the nation from which such aliens come.

To take up United States Government land, however, the following oath is requi[illegible] be taken by a British subject :—

[illegible]RICT COURT,
.....[illegible]..... Judicial District, } State of.....
County of.....

I ..... do swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America, and that I do absolutely and entirely Renounce and Abjure forever all Allegiance and Fidelity to every Foreign Power, Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to *Queen Victoria, of Great Britain and Ireland*, whose subject I was. And further, that I never have borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the degrees of Nobility of the country whereof I have been a subject, and that I have resided within the United States for five years last past, and in this State for one year last past.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court } .....
this.....day of.....18..... } .....
.....Clerk.

Hudson's Bay Company's Lands.

Section No. 8 and three quarters of Section No. 26 in the greater number of Townships are Hudson's Bay Company's lands, and all settlers must be careful not to enter upon them unless they have acquired them from the Company. The prices vary according to locality. Mr. C. J. Brydges is the Land Commissioner of the Company. His official residence is at Winnipeg, Man., and applications may be made to him.

Under agreement with the Crown the Hudson Bay Company are entitled to one-twentieth of the lands in the "Fertile Belt," estimated at about seven millions of acres.

NOTE.—In every fifth Township the Hudson's Bay Company has the *whole* of Section 26.

School Lands.

Sections No. 11 and 29 in every Township are School Lands. That is, the proceeds of their sale are to be applied to the support of education. They are not obtainable at private sale. When disposed of it will be by public competition, at auction. All squatters on these lands, therefore, will have to pay for them the price they bring by auction when sold, or they will pass by such sale out of their hands.

Lands at Private Sale.

The settler may sometimes find it convenient to buy lands, partially improved, with buildings and fences upon them of private proprietors. It very frequently happens that half-breed or other lands may be obtained on moderate terms.

Railways and Rivers.

Manitoba has already unbroken connection by Railway to all parts of the Continent of America; and the Canadian Pacific Railway is already pushed nearly three hundred miles west of Winnipeg, and will reach the Rocky Mountains in about one year. The Canadian Pacific Railway connection between Thunder Bay and Winnipeg and is now open for traffic, that arduous work being completed. This gives independent Canadian communication between the Eastern Provinces and the North-West during the season of navigation. Other lines of railway within the North-West are being pushed rapidly forward.

Colonisation Railways are being projected in every direction; and it is proposed to open up another outlet to Europe *via* Hudson's Bay.

The River system of the Canadian North-West is of vast extent, and among the most remarkable in the world. The Red River, which rises in the United States, is 665 miles long, and it is navigable from Moorhead to Lake Winnipeg. This lake is 240 miles long, and is navigated to the mouth of the great Saskatchewan river, which takes it rise in the Rocky Mountains, its total length being about 1,200 miles, navigable as high as Fort Edmonton, almost under the Rocky Mountains.

The Assiniboine is a river about 800 miles long, draining a vast extent of country, which discharges into the Red River at Winnipeg, and is navigable as far as Fort Ellice, and at favourable stages of water for many miles higher up.

There are numerous other rivers and lakes which cannot be described here for want of space. Those above are mentioned as the principal channels already utilized for opening up the country.

The settler will perceive that with such a system of rail and water communication there can never come any question of want of markets. The Home market, however, from the large influx of settlers and the immense construction of public works, will absorb all the produce for many years to come.

General Directions.

The intending settler in Manitoba is advised not to encumber himself with very heavy luggage unless it is absolutely necessary. Cumbrous and heavy articles of furniture such as chairs, stoves, tables, etc., would probably cost as much in transport as they would be worth, and things of this sort can be obtained reasonably in Manitoba. But beds (unfilled), bedding, and clothing of all sorts should be taken. Agricultural implements (which should be of the kind adapted to the country) would be better purchased after arrival; also tools, unless those belonging to special trades.

Sometimes, however, when a settler engages a car specially to take up his effects, he may find it convenient to put everything in, and there is very frequently an economy in this kind of arrangement.

Individual settlers are allowed 150 lbs. weight of luggage, and parties going together may arrange to have their luggage weighed together, and so have the whole averaged, but everything over 150 lbs. weight is charged, and this charge, in the case of freight of the kind referred to, is often found to be expensive.

Settlers can now go by rail and steamer on Lake Superior all the way from Halifax or Quebec on Canadian, soil at much lower rates to Winnipeg than they can from New York, and are not troubled by Custom House officials.

Settlers going by way of the United States Railways must see that their personal luggage is examined by the U. S. Customs officers at Port Huron, after crossing the Canadian frontier at Sarnia, and previously that their heavy freight has been bonded.

At Emerson, an agent of the Canadian Government will be found, Mr. J. E. Tetu, and he will assist in discharging any bonds of immigrants' effects, and otherwise give information how to proceed.

At Winnipeg there is also a Canadian Immigration Agent, Mr. Wm. Hespeler, to whom immigrants may apply on arrival.

All intending settlers will obtain either from the Government Immigration Agents, or from the Land Officers, directions as to where to go and how to proceed to select land, if their point of destination is not previously determined. There are also Government Land Guides who will direct parties of settlers to their particular localities.

All settlers are especially advised to look very closely after their luggage and see that it is on the trains or steamboats with them, properly checked. Very great disappointment and loss have often occurred from neglect of this precaution. It is better for the immigrant not to proceed until he knows his luggage is on the train.

Settlers' effects, including their cattle in use, will be passed free through the Custom House, and any necessary bonding arrangements will be made, which will thus prevent any delay, inconvenience, or loss occurring. Each passenger, before his departure from the port in Great Britain, should be provided with address cards and he should see that one is fastened to each of his pieces of luggage.

Immediately on the arrival of settlers in the Canadian North-West, the Dominion Government agents will see them properly accommodated, and will give them every information to assist them in choosing a good locality to settle in.

For rates of passage, either ocean or inland, it is better to apply to the agents of the steamships or the nearest Dominion Agent, or some accredited agent of the Government, who will give all information and directions.

The following are the officers of the Dominion of Canada in Great Britain:—

LONDON.....SIR ALEXANDER T. GALT, G. C. M. G., &c., High Commissioner for the Dominion, 10, Victoria Chambers, London, S. W.

MR. J. COLMER, Private Secretary, (Address as above.)

LIVERPOOL.....MR. JOHN DYKE, 15, Water Street.

GLASGOW.....MR. THOMAS GRAHAME, 40 Enoch Square.

BELFAST.....MR. CHARLES FOX, 29, Victoria Place.

DUBLIN.....MR. THOMAS CONNOLLY, Northumberland House.

The following are the agents of the Canadian Government in Canada:—

QUEBEC.....MR. L. STAFFORD, Point Levis, Quebec.
TORONTO.....MR. J. A. DONALDSON, Strachan Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.
OTTAWA.....MR. W. J. WILLS, St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway Station, Ottawa, Ontario.
MONTREAL.....MR. J. J. DALEY, Bonaventure Street, Montreal, Province of Quebec.
KINGSTON.....MR. R. MACPHERSON, William Street, Kingston, Ontario.
HAMILTON.....MR. JOHN SMITH, Great Western Railway Station, Hamilton, Ontario.
LONDON.....MR. A. G. SMYTH, London, Ontario.
HALIFAX.....MR. E. CLAY, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
ST. JOHN.....MR. S. GARDNER, St. John, New Brunswick.
WINNIPEG.....MR. W. HESPELER, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
EMERSON.....MR. J. E. TETU, Railway Station, Emerson, Manitoba.

These officers will afford the fullest advice and protection. They should be immediately applied to on arrival. All complaints should be addressed to them. They will also furnish information as to Lands open for settlement in their respective Provinces and Districts, Farms for sale, demand for employment, rates of wages, routes of travel, distances, expenses of conveyance; and will receive and forward letters and remittances for Settlers, &c.

☞ Maps and Pamphlets will be furnished gratis and post-free on application, by letter, addressed to Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada.

Rates of passage by Dominion Line sailing between Liverpool, Quebec and Montreal in summer, and Liverpool and Portland, Maine, in winter, calling at Belfast on the passage from Liverpool:—

Cabin passage tickets.....$50.
Return do do.....$90.
Children under 12 years half fare, under 1 year free.

Steerage from Liverpool to Quebec or Portland.

Agricultural laborers, mechanics and their families.....£4.
Female domestic servants.....£3.

The above are on Government warrants, or assisted passages, others 6 guineas, but when prepaid in Canada.....$25
Intermediate.....£8.

These rates pay from London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Belfast, Bristol, Cardiff, Londonderry, Queenston, Galway.

By the Allan Line from Liverpool or Londonderry to Quebec. Cabin £15 or $75, and £18 sterling or $90 according to accommodation. Intermediate £8 8/ or $42, prepaid in Canada $40, children from 1 to 12 years half fare, under 1 year £1 1/ or $5.25. Steerage £6 6/ or if prepaid in Canada $27, children from 1 to 12 years half fare, under 1 year £1 1/ or $5.25. Children and others not provided for in the Certificate of the friends whom they are accompanying must pay the usual cash rates at port of embarkation.

From Glasgow to Quebec,—Cabin £12 12/ or $63, children under 12 years half fare. Intermediate £8 8/ or $42, prepaid $40. Children from 1 to 8 years half fare, under 1 year £1 1/ or $5.25.

From Liverpool or Queenstown to Halifax,—Cabin £15 or $75, and £18 or $90. Children from 1 to 12 years half fare, under one year free. Intermediate, adults over 12 years £8 8/ or $42, prepaid $40. Children from 1 to 12 years half fare, under one year £1 1/ or $5.25. Steerage, adults over 12 years £6 6/ or $27, if prepaid in Canada. Children from 1 to 12 years half fare, under 1 year £1 1/ or $5.25. Servants in cabin £14 or $70.

An experienced Surgeon is attached to each steamer of both Lines.

Assisted passage rates from Quebec to Winnipeg,—all rail $21.64, via Lakes Huron and Superior, $16.64. The latter is rail to Collingwood, then steamer to Prince Arthur's Landing, thence rail to Winnipeg, and is all through Canadian territory, and in the summer time is much the more comfortable way, takes only from one to two days longer and saves all trouble about bonding goods, and Custom House Officials. Cabin passengers are, of course, furnished with everything. Intermediate passengers are furnished beds, bedding and other requisites. Steerage passengers require to provide their own beds and bedding, and eating and drinking utensils, but these with the exception of bed clothes, can be hired on board, at a charge of 88 cts. for each adult, and 44 cts. for children.

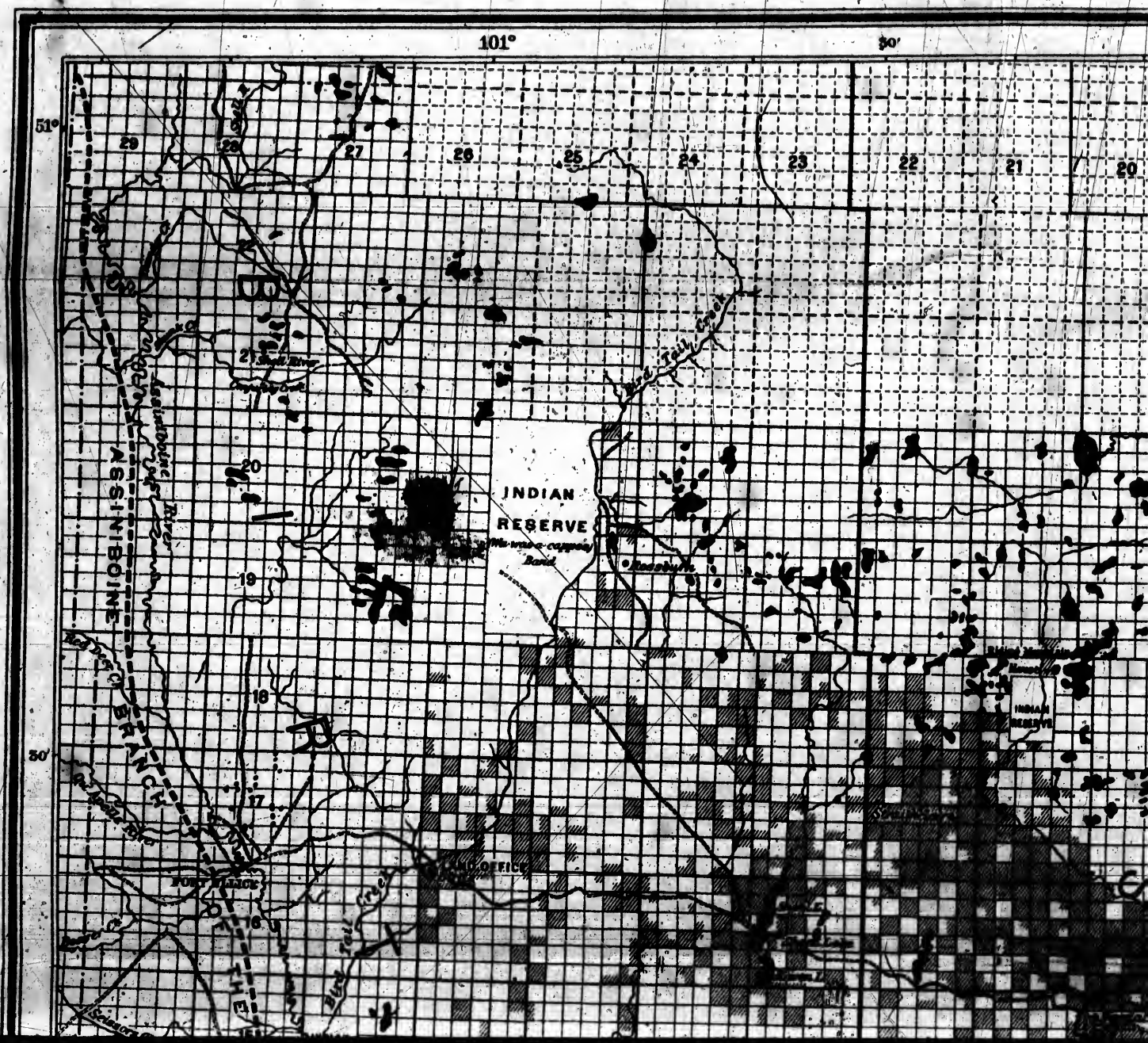
Large and heavy articles should not be taken, they would cost more for freight than they would be worth.

Cabin passengers are allowed 20 cubic feet, Intermediate 15, and Steerage 10 cubic feet of baggage Free, all over that is charged one shilling sterling per foot for ocean freight, and the usual rates by rail.

Every thing that is needed can be purchased when wanted in the Dominion, far more suitable, and at much less cost than they can be brought as extra baggage, especially when railway carriage is long, as to the North-West.

All are well supplied with good, wholesome, well-cooked food.

DOMINIC


101°
30'
51°
30'
29
28
27
26
25
24
23
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21
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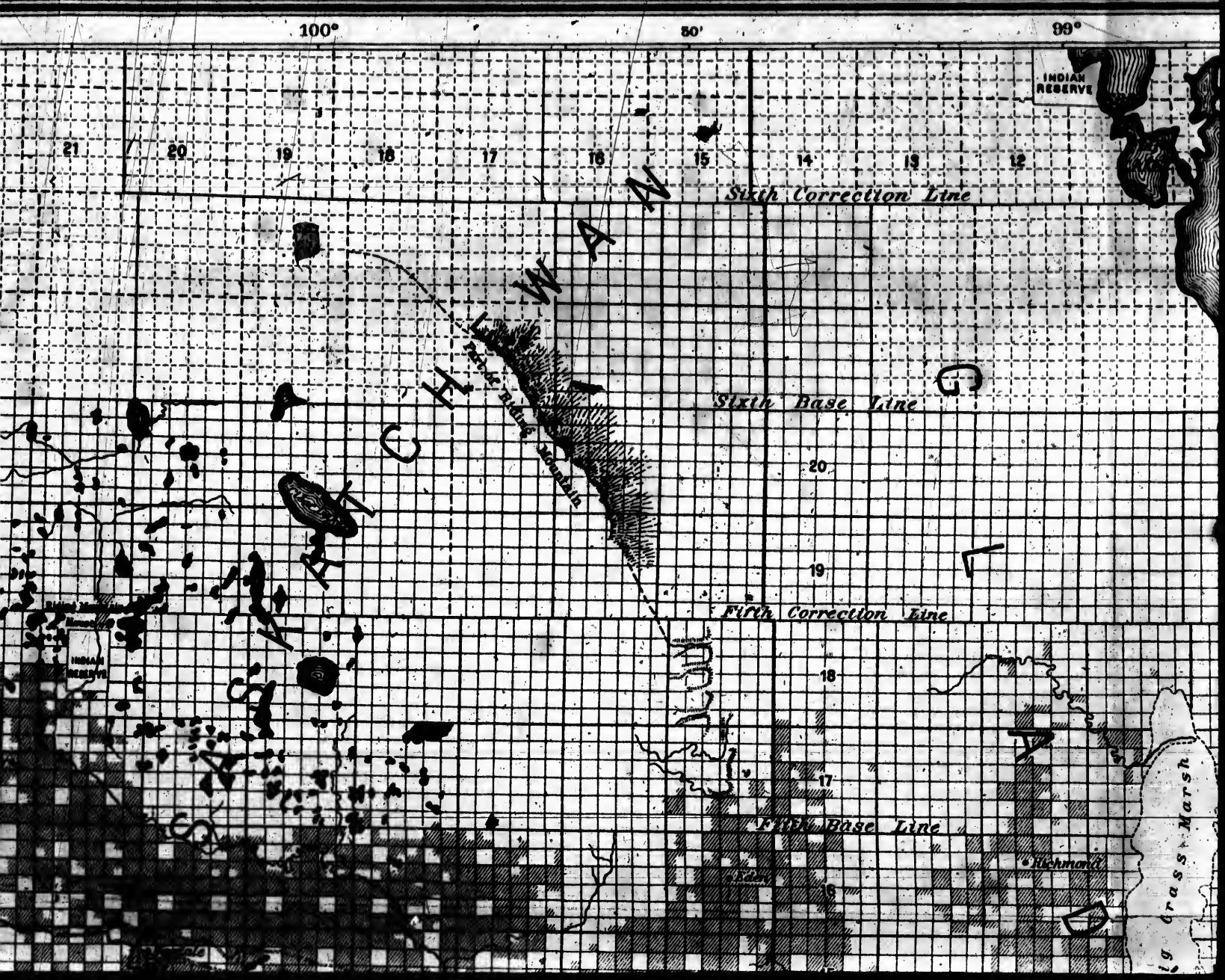
18
17
16
15
ASSINIBOINE
INDIAN
RESERVE
Mountain
Band
Big Tail Creek
Big Tail Creek
INDIAN
RESERVE
POST OFFICE

MAP OF A PORTION OF THE P

—SHOWIN

OMINION LANDS SURVEYED, AND DISTINGU

PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOR THE INFOR

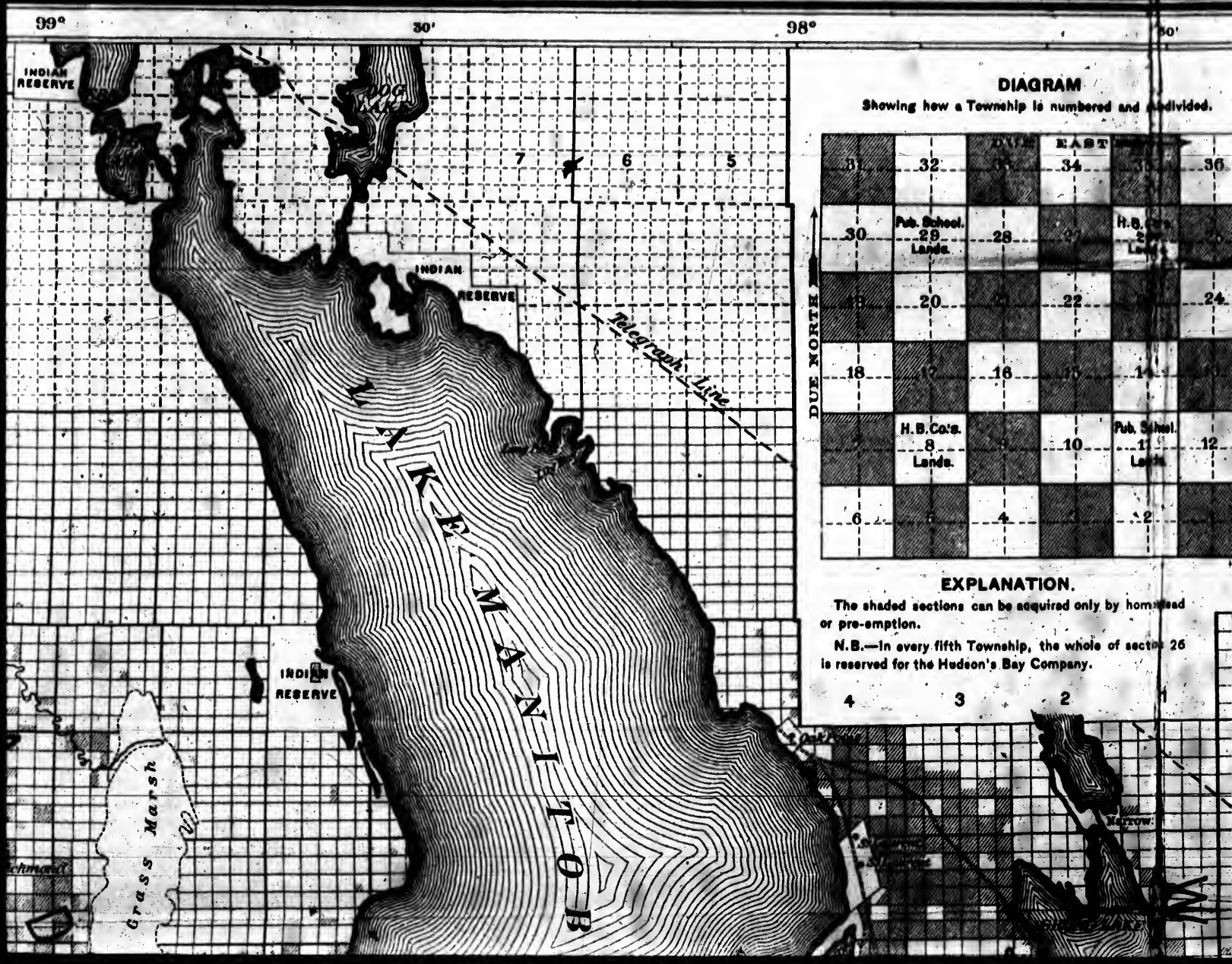


THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA,

SHOWING—

STINGUISHING CERTAIN LANDS DISPOSED O

FOR THE INFORMATION OF INTENDING SETTLERS, JANUARY 12th, 1882.



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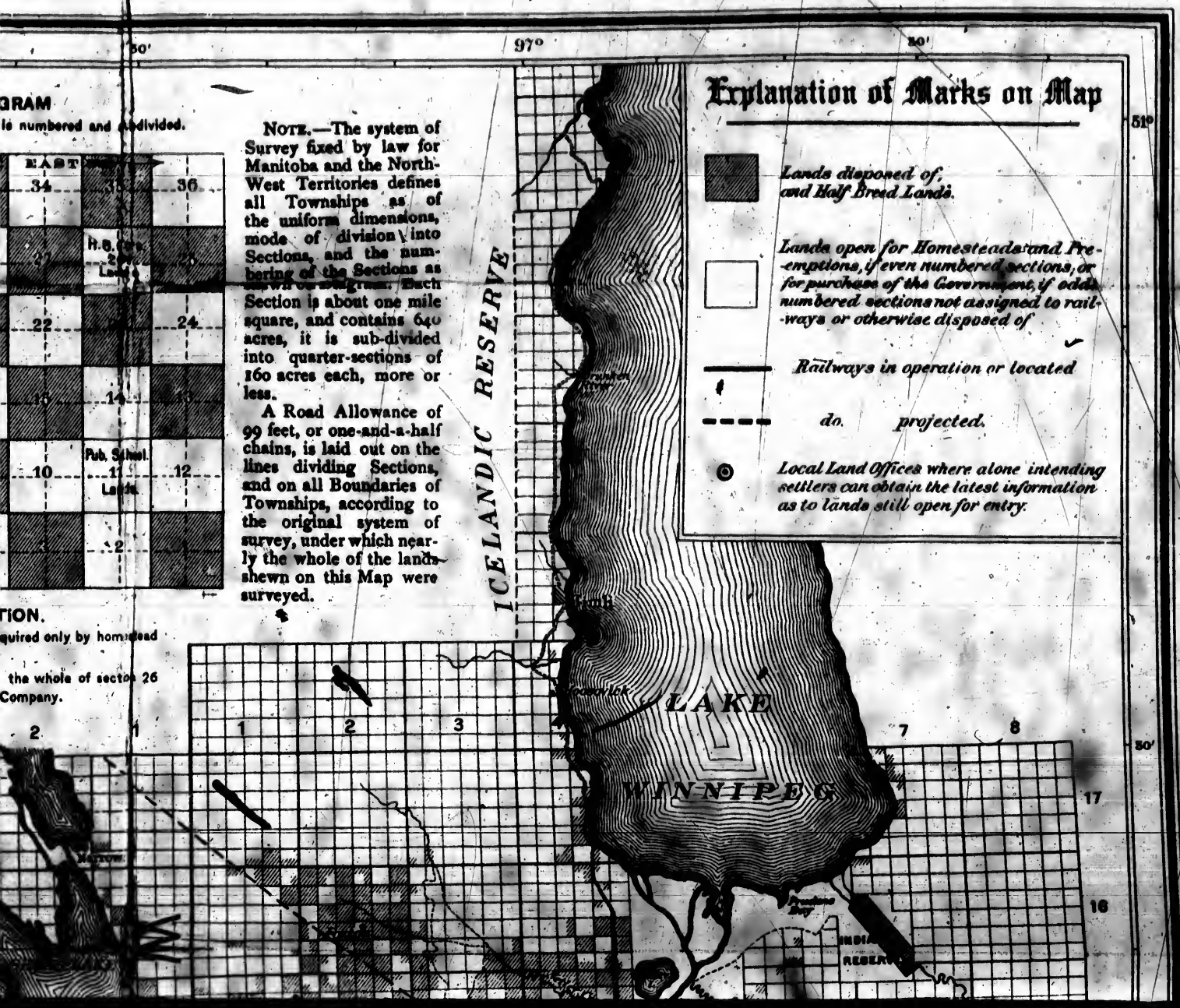
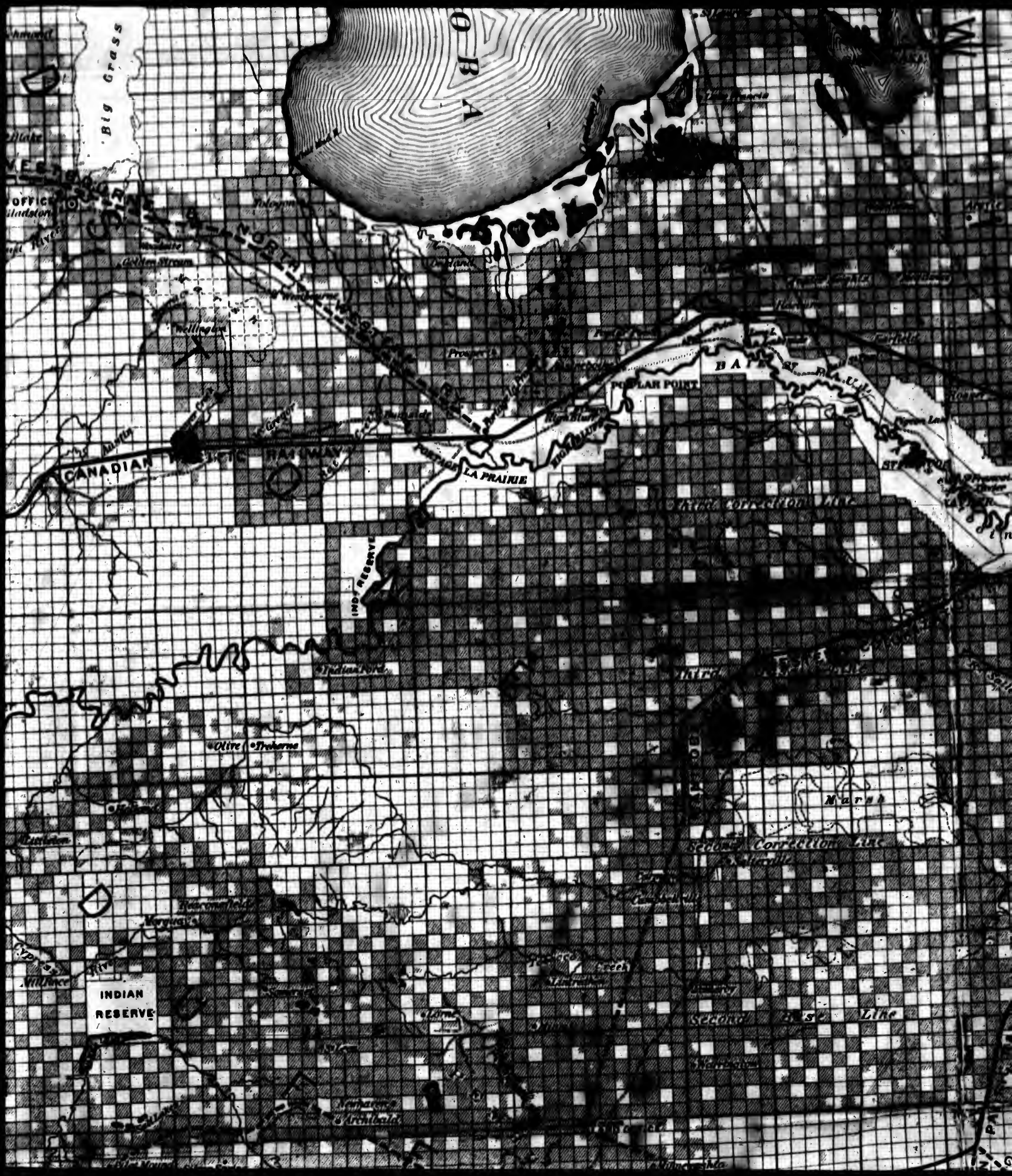


NOTE.—The system of Survey fixed by law for Manitoba and the North-West Territories defines all Townships as of the uniform dimensions, mode of division into Sections, and the numbering of the Sections as shewn on diagram. Each Section is about one mile square, and contains 640 acres, it is sub-divided into quarter-sections of 160 acres each, more or less.

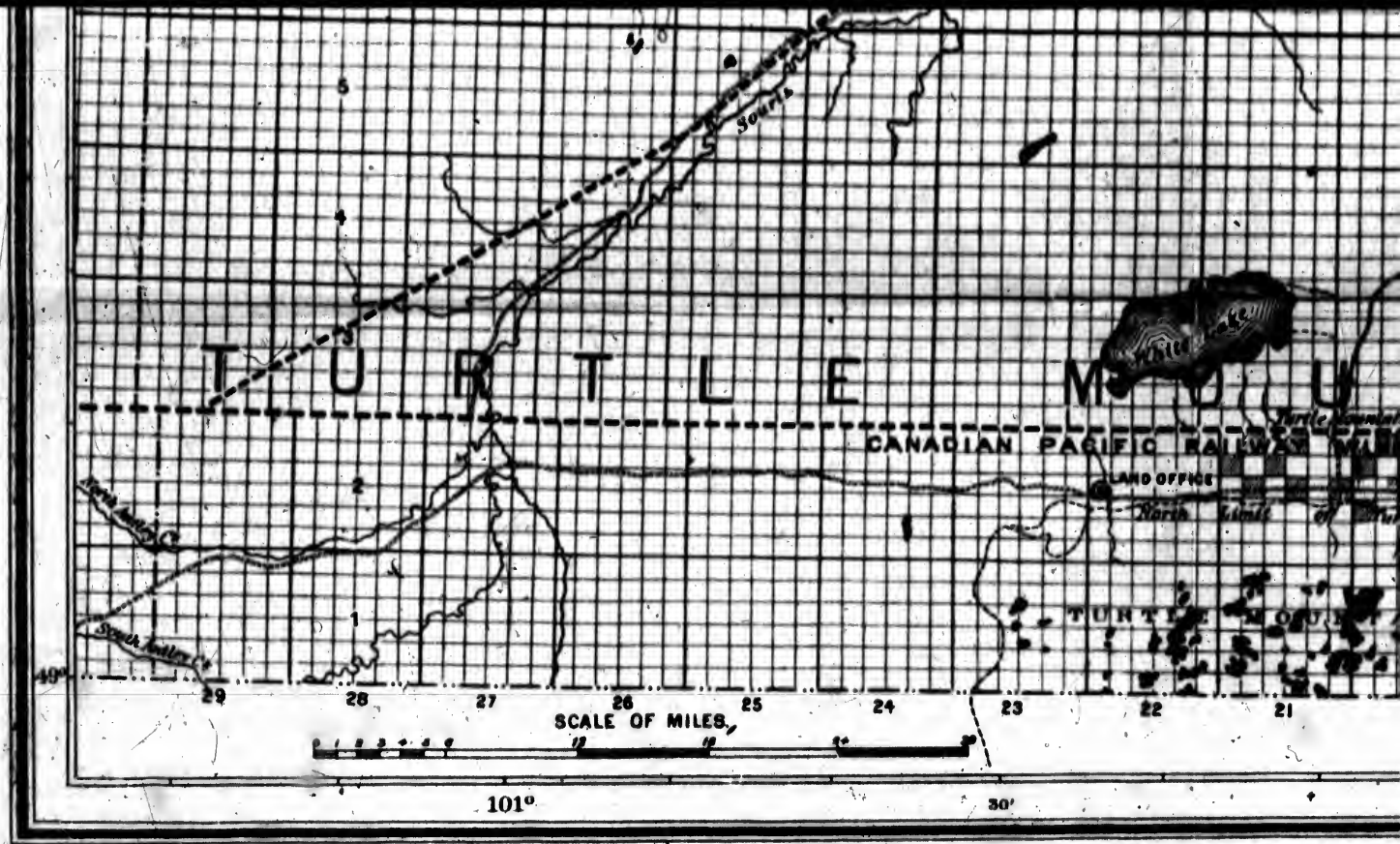
A Road Allowance of 99 feet, or one-and-a-half chains, is laid out on the lines dividing Sections, and on all Boundaries of Townships, according to the original system of survey, under which nearly the whole of the lands shewn on this Map were surveyed.


Boundary between Manitoba and N. W. Territory
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
INDIAN RESERVE
INDIAN RESERVE
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
BOURIE BRANCH
Assiniboine
River
Souris
River
50°
30'
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4


Fifth Base Line
PORTAGE
Correction Line
LAND OFFICE
Fourth Base Line
CANADIAN
Third Correction Line
LAND OFFICE
FOURTH BRANCH
Third Base Line
Assiniboine
River
Second Correction Line
INDIAN
RESERVE
Second Base Line

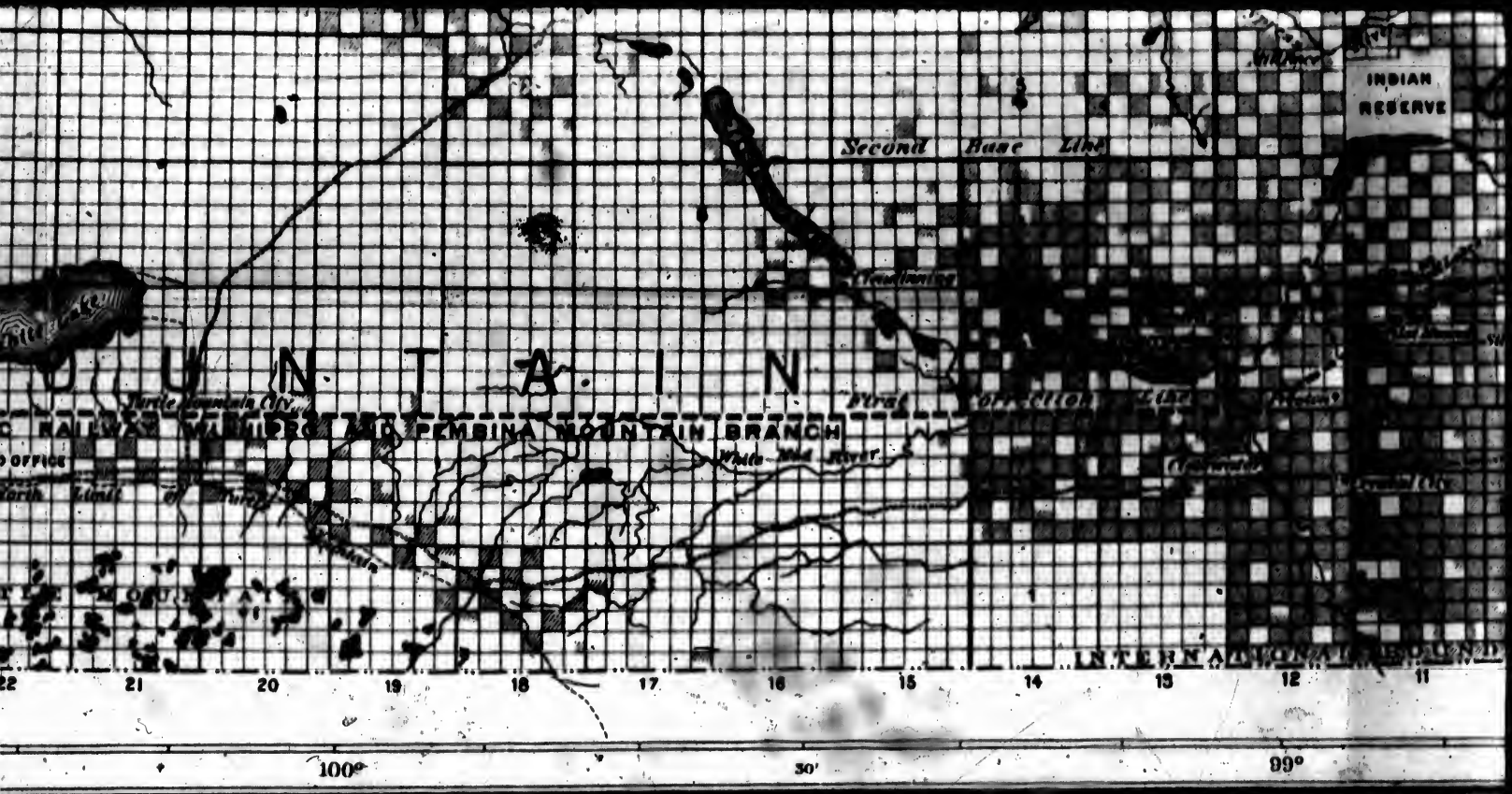

Big Grass
POPLAR POINT
CANADIAN
LA PRAIRIE
Olive
Treherne
Marsh
INDIAN
RESERVE


INDIAN
RESERVE
Victoria
WINNIPEG
ST JAMES
LAND
OFFICE
A.C. Church
Property
LORETTE
ST ANNES
SAINT
Red
River
Otter River
Rat River
East
Dufrost
Notre
Lake
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
50'
50'

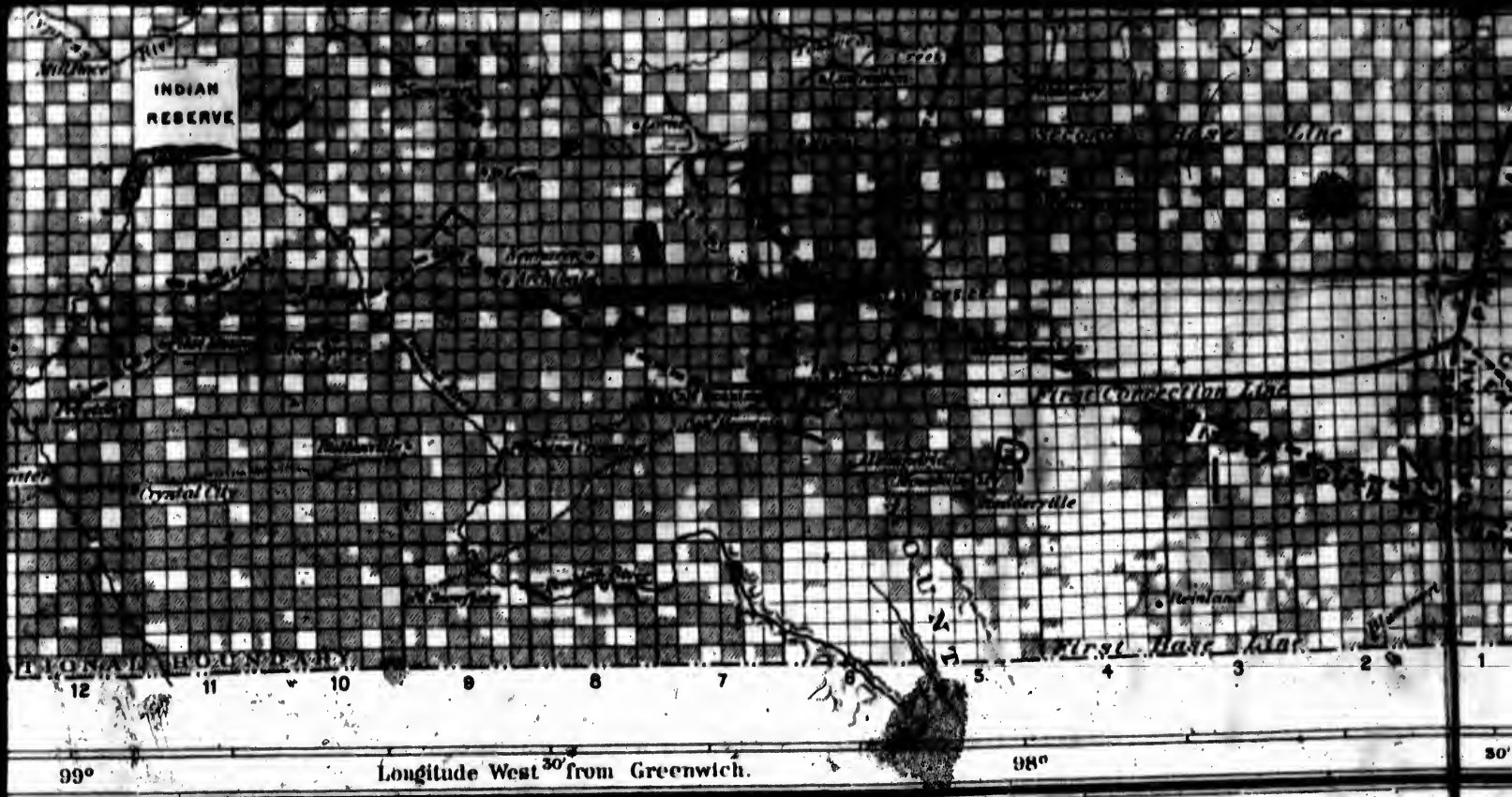


THE BURLAND LITHOGRAPHIC CO MONTREAL

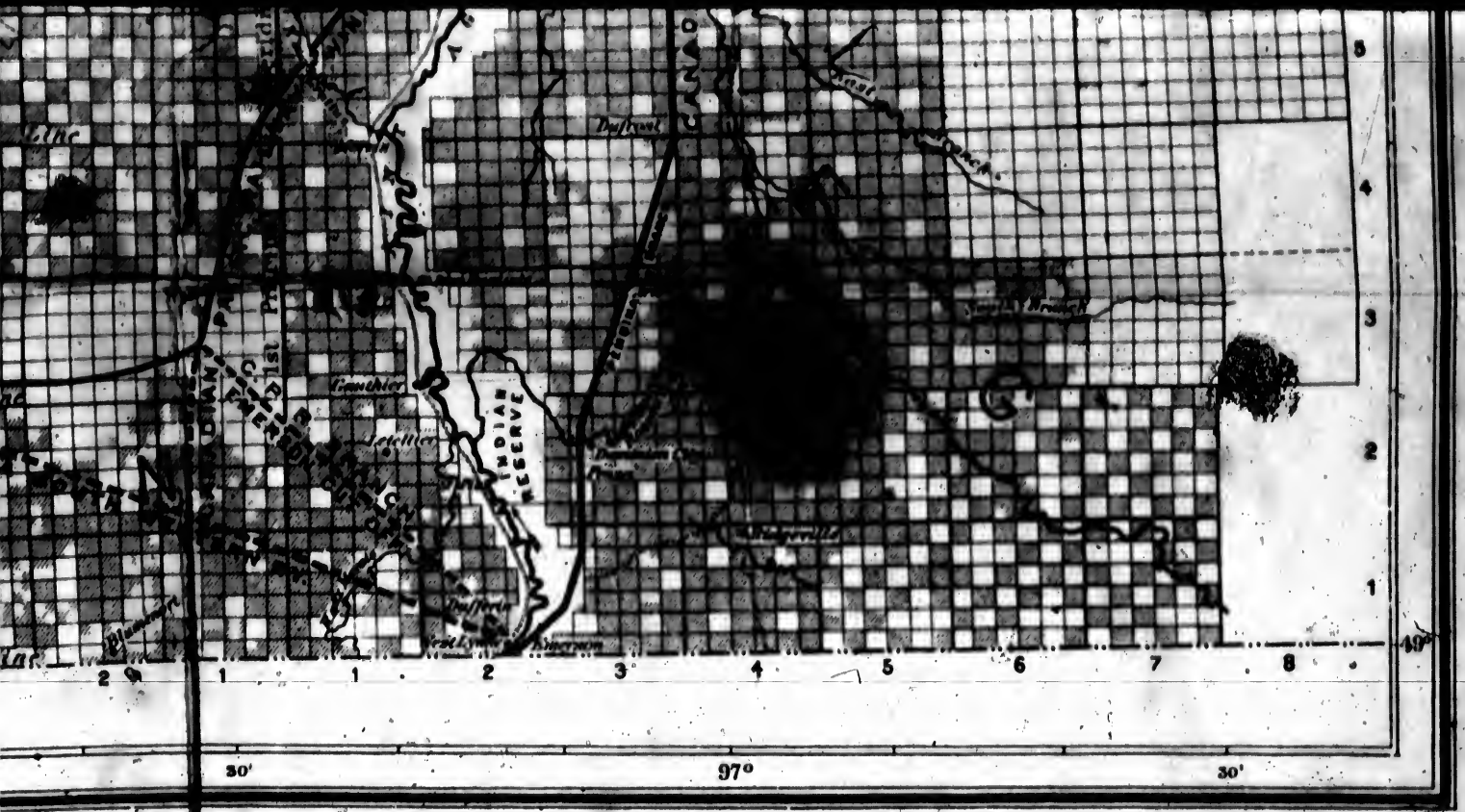
☛ *The intending settle*



intending settler will note this Map contains only the Lands Surveyed in part of the Province



rt of the Province of Manitoba. There is an almost illimitable extent of Lands for Settlem t f



for Settlement further West.