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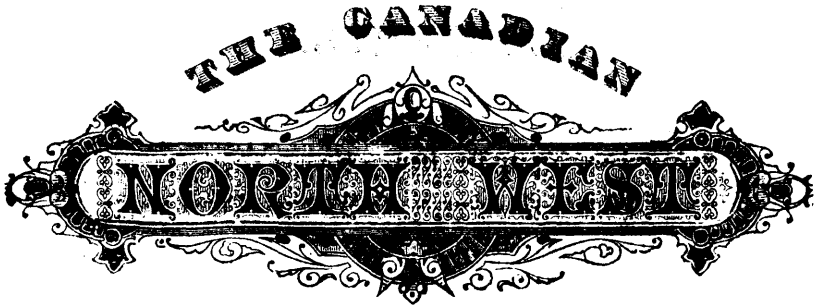
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DEVOTED TO THE

SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF MANITOBA AND THE NORTH WEST,

PUBLISHED BY

ALEXANDER BEGG,

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

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# THE CANADIAN NORTH WEST.

( WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, JANUARY, 1880.

ALEXANDER BEGG, PUBLISHER.

In presenting our readers with the first number of the CANADIAN NORTH WEST, we feel convinced that we will receive the support of every person having the interest of Manitoba and the North West at heart. Our object is simply to diffuse knowledge of a practical nature concerning the country, in order that it may prove of service to those who contemplate making their homes in our midst. In the selection of information on all subjects we intend to use great care, and, as will be seen by reference to our list of contributors, we have some of the best writers on our staff. With such men contributing their knowledge to this journal from time to time, we cannot fail to be an authority on all matters connected with the development of the country. If at any time it should become necessary for us to find fault, we will endeavor to do so in a way that will rather tend to remedy the evil than to cause any obstruction to progress. Our pages will be open at all times to aid and encourage any enterprise which, in our opinion, will advance the interests of the country; but, at the same time, we desire it to be perfectly understood that we will not allow ourselves, on any consideration whatsoever, to become the tool of any individual or corporation to further their own special interests, if by doing so we feel that we will be jeopardising the welfare of the community at large. In conducting this journal we will not allow ourselves to be biased by any political opinions. We have no political object in view in publishing this magazine, and, while we will be found supporting and aiding the federal and local authorities in the prosecution of public works and the development of the country, we will at the same time keep ourselves free to discuss such matters on their

own merits, without being hampered by party distinctions. In this way we hope to be of great service to the country; for, with the knowledge that no desire exists on our part to embarrass the Government, our views on any subject will be received with respect by the authorities at headquarters, and will naturally have considerable weight. The strife between political parties too frequently tends to embarrass and retard the progress of development in a new country, and to counteract this evil will be one of the objects of our publication. Large sums of money are annually expended by the Government, as well as by corporations and private individuals, on "immigration pamphlets," for the purpose of diffusing information in regard to the North West; but in a short time these books become useless, because they cannot keep pace with the rapid development and constant changes going on in the country. It is to take the place of such pamphlets that the CANADIAN NORTH WEST will be published in future from month to month. The progress and development of the country will be regularly recorded, and valuable information given in a concise and readable form. The intending immigrant, or the capitalist looking out for an investment, will thus be able to ascertain the state of affairs here as they are, and not as they used to be; and as it is our intention to circulate this journal extensively in the other Provinces of the Dominion, and also in Great Britain, the advantages to be gained by encouraging and assisting us in our work, can easily be calculated. As can be ascertained by looking over the pages of this the first number of our magazine, the information it contains is of a general nature, and our intention is in the future to keep fully up to the mark in this

respect. Our articles will be written with care, and with every attention paid to accurateness, so that our character as an authority on North West matters may be established and sustained. We have placed our subscription price at a low rate in order to secure a large circulation, and when it is considered that at the end of a year each subscriber will have a volume of nearly 500 pages containing most valuable information, it cannot but be

admitted that we have placed our terms at a reasonable figure. The CANADIAN NORTH WEST will be published during the first week of each month, and we will be happy to receive communications from individuals in any part of the country, showing the progress being made in the development of this vast territory. In every case the writer will be required to sign his name in full, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

## OLD TIME SKETCHES.

### N O . 1 .

#### THE BUFFALO HUNT.

We will suppose that all the hunters who intend to take part in the "Great Fall Hunt" have assembled together at the appointed rendezvous from which they are to start on their long journey over the plains. The camp is situated near the river, and the elevated plain on the immediate banks of the stream is covered with a motley grouping of carts, canvas tents, smoke brown leather *tepees*, and, in lieu of other shelter, small squares of cotton or rawhide stretched from cart to cart, or over a rough framework of poles. For miles around, the prairie is alive with ponies, hopped, tied to lariat-pins, or dragging about poles as a preventive against straying. Mingled with this kicking, neighing herd, wander hundreds of oxen, and patient, lowing kine, the youthful vivacity of which has given place to middle-aged steadiness. Through this compact mass of animal life gallop with a wild scurry, from time to time, half nude boys, breaking a narrow pathway in search of some needed ox or pony, or hurrying the whole struggling mass riverward. In the camp, the sole occupation of the day is the pursuit of pleasure. From every tent and shelter comes the sound of laughter; every camp fire furnishes its quota of jest and song. Here a small, but excited circle, gathered under the shade of a cart, are deeply interested in gambling by what is known as the "moccasin game." In an empty moccasin are placed sundry buttons and bullets, which,

being shaken up, involve the guessing of the number in the shoe. The ground is covered with guns, capotes and shirts, the volatile half-breed often stripping the clothing from his back to satisfy his passion for play, or staking his last horse and cart. There, another light-minded party are gambling with cards, the stakes being a medley of everything portable owned by the players. In many tents rum is holding an orgy, and the clinking of cups, boisterous laughter and song, tell of the presence of the direst enemy of the hunter. In another quarter, feasting is the order of the day, and the small stock of provisions designed to supply the family until the buffalo were reached, is being devoured at a sitting. About the many camp fires stand, or crouch, the wives of the hunters, busily engaged in culinary operations, or gossiping with neighbors, while their numerous, scantily-attired offspring play about in the dust and dirt with wolfish-looking dogs. The baby of the family, fastened to a board, leans against a cart wheel, doubtless revolving in his infantile mind subtle questions pertinent to babyhood. Gathered in a circle apart are likely to be found the aged leaders of the hunt, engaged in discussion of the weightier matters of the time; but, from the broad smiles lighting up their bronzed features at times, it is doubtful whether many of the subjects are relevant. Here and there can be seen long haired Paganinis drawing rude melodies from antiquated and fractured violins. About them are congregated crowds

of delighted hearers, suggesting new tunes, requesting the loan of the instrument long enough to show their skill, or, seized with the infection, suddenly breaking into an improvised break-down, or executing a *pas seul* the very embodiment of caricature. The evening, and well on into the night, is spent in boisterous dissipation, and the women disappear from the camp-fires, and betake themselves to tents out of harm's way. With the first glow of coming dawn the camp rouses itself into life and vigor again. The headaches and fevers engendered by the debauch of the previous night are carried patiently by their owners to the river's brink, and bathed in its cooling waters. The women once more appear about the camp fires, clad in dark blue calico, busied in preparations for the morning meal. Their lords stand moodily near to obtain a share of the heat; for the mornings are chilly and raw.

Immediately after breakfast of the day previous to that appointed for departure from the rendezvous, all the males of the camp repair to a point a short distance off upon the prairie, where, gathered in a huge circle, they proceed to the election of officers for the coming hunt. A chief and twelve counsellors are elected, and being necessarily men of experience, are chosen from the elderly men of the camp. Four captains are next elected from the middle-aged hunters, men of determined mould and tried courage, whose duty is to command the soldiers of the camp, who become the police of the hunt, mounting guard against the Indians, arranging the shape of the camp, keeping watch over private property, arresting offenders, etc. Lastly, four guides are elected, who are to lead the train in the direction indicated by the chief and counselors. This position, involving a thorough knowledge of the country, is always filled from the ranks of the older hunters, whose many years of service have rendered them acquainted with every foot of the territory to be traversed. The following code of laws, which varies a little, perhaps, in phraseology from year to year, but is generally of the following substance, is framed before the crowd disperses:

1. No running of buffalo is permitted on the Sabbath day.

2. No member of the hunt to lag behind, go before, or fork off from the main body, unless by special permission of the chief.

3. No person or party to run buffalo before the general order is given, in which the entire hunt may participate.

4. Every captain, with his men, to patrol the camp in turn, in order that a continued watch may be kept.

Penalties.—For the first offence, the saddle and bridle of the offender to be cut up.

2. The offender to have his coat cut up.

3. The offender to be publicly flogged.

Any penalty is foregone, however, if the guilty party pay a stipulated sum in money, meat or robes, for each offence. In case of theft, the perpetrator is to be taken to the middle of the camp, his name called aloud thrice, the word "thief" being added. The train now continues on its route until at length the scouts, who for days have been scouring the prairie in every direction, bring the welcome intelligence of the discovery of the main herds of buffalo. The line of march is at once turned toward the point indicated, and the laws against driving and leaving the main body are rigidly enforced. The long train moves cautiously and as silently as possible, advantage is taken of depressions in the prairie to keep the train concealed from the buffalo, and not a sound is raised that may give warning of its presence. Approach is made as closely as may be compatible with safety, always keeping to windward of the herd. Then, if a convenient locality is reached, camp is made, and busy preparations for the ensuing hunt begin. Guns are carefully scanned, powder flasks and bullet-pouches filled, saddles and bridles examined, and, above all, the horses to be used in the chase are carefully groomed, for highest among his possessions the plain-hunter ranks his "buffalo-runner." It is to him, like the Arab's steed, a daily comrade to be petted and spoken to, the companion of his long journeys and the means of his livelihood.

Before daybreak on the following morning, for a chase is seldom begun late in the day, the great body of hunters are off under the guidance of scouts in pursuit of the main herd. A ride of an hour or more brings them within, say a mile of the buffalo, which have been moving slowly off as they approached. The hunt, up to this time, has moved in four columns, with every man in his place. As they draw nearer at a gentle trot, the immense herd breaks into a rolling gallop. Now the critical and long-desired moment has arrived. The chief gives the signal. "Allee!" "Allee!" he shouts, and a thousand reckless riders dash forward at a wild run. Into the herd they penetrate; along its sides they stretch, the trained horses regulating their pace to that of the moving mass beside them; guns flash, shots and yells resound; the dust arises in thick clouds over the struggling band; and the chase sweeps rapidly over the plain, leaving its traces behind in the multitude of animals lying dead upon the ground, or feebly struggling in their death throes. The hunter pauses not a moment, but loads and fires with the utmost rapidity, pouring in his bullets at the closest range, often almost touching the animal he aims at. To facilitate the rapidity of his fire, he uses a flint-lock, smooth-bore trading gun, and enters the chase with his mouth filled with bullets. A handful of powder is let fall from the powder horn, a bullet is dropped from the mouth into the muzzle, a tap with the butt-end of the firelock on the saddle causes the salivated bullet to adhere

to the powder during the moment necessary to depress the barrel, when the discharge is instantly effected without bringing the gun to the shoulder. Sometimes it happens that in the excitement of the hunt accidents occur, and the ball intended for the buffalo strikes some unfortunate rider; at other times, guns explode, carrying away part of the hands using them; and then even the most expert runners sometimes find their way into badger holes, breaking or dislocating the collar bones of the riders in the fall.

The identification of the slain animals is left till the run is over. This is accomplished by means of marked bullets, the locality in which the animal lies, for which the hunter always keeps a sharp lookout, and the spot where the bullet entered. By the time the hunters begin to appear, returning from the chase, there have arrived long trains of carts from the camp, to carry back the meat and robes. The animals having been identified, the work of skinning and cutting up begins, in which the women and children participate. In a remarkably brief time the plain is strewed with skeletons stripped of flesh, and the well loaded train is on its return. Arrived at camp, the robes are at once stretched upon a framework of poles, and the greater part of the flesh scraped from them, after which they are folded and packed away for the final dressing. The choice portions of the meat are used in a fresh state, but large quantities are converted into pemmican, in which shape it finds its readiest market.

## THE PRODUCTION OF WHEAT.

### CANADIAN NORTH WEST VS. UNITED STATES.

We cannot exemplify the superiority of the North West as a wheat producing country better than by quoting from a letter recently written by the American Consul at Winnipeg, J. W. Taylor, Esq. He says:

"I find my best illustration that the climate is not materially different west of Lake Athabasca, in latitude 60

degrees, than we experience west of Lake Superior in latitude 46 degrees, in some personal observations of the north-western extension of wheat cultivation. In 1871, Mr. Archibald, the well-known proprietor of the Dundas mills in southern Minnesota, visited Manitoba. He remarked that the spring wheat in his vicinity was deteriorating — softening, and he sought a change of seed, to restore its flinty texture. He timed his visit to

Winnipeg with the harvest, and found the quality of grain he desired, but the yield astonished him. 'Look,' he said with a head of wheat in his hand, 'We have had an excellent harvest, in Minnesota, but I never saw more than two well-formed grains in each group or cluster, forming a row, but here the rule is three grains in each cluster. That's the difference between twenty and thirty bushels per acre.' More recently, Prof. Macoun, the botanist of the Canadian Pacific survey has shown me two heads of wheat, one from Prince Albert, a settlement near the forks of the Saskatchewan, latitude 53 degrees, longitude 106 degrees, and another from Fort Vermillion, on Peace river, latitude 59 degrees, longitude 116 degrees, and from each cluster of the two I separated five well formed grains, with a corresponding length of head. Here was the perfection of the wheat plant, attained according to the well known physical lay, near the most northern limit of its successful growth."

Mr. Taylor then goes on to quote from *Blodget's Treatise on the Climatology of North America*, as follows:—

"A line drawn from Thunder Bay, in Lake Superior, north-west to the Mackenzie River, at the 60th parallel, and from that point west to the Pacific coast, at the 55th, would include an immense district adapted to wheat, with only the local exceptions of mountains and worthless soils."

Referring to a speech delivered by him at a banquet given to the Imperial Commissioners, Messrs. Reade and Pell, in Winnipeg, he says:—

"I assigned Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and even southern Minnesota, to the zone specially adapted to corn, as the more southern States constitute a cotton zone; and observing the imperative natural restrictions in the Mississippi valley upon the successful production of wheat, I hazard the statement that three-fifths of the wheat producing belt of North America would be north of the international boundary."

And in support of this he continues:

"I will venture to illustrate the climatic influences which control the

problem under consideration by some citations from 'Minnesota: Its place among the States, by J. A. Wheelock, Commissioner of Statistics,' which, though published in 1860, is all the more an authority for the confirmation of twenty years. The general law of the limitation of wheat is thus luminously stated:

"The wheat producing district of the United States is confined to about ten degrees of latitude and six degrees of longitude, terminating on the west at the 98th parallel. But the zone of its profitable culture occupies a comparatively narrow belt along the cool borders of the district defined for inland positions by the mean temperature of fifty-five degrees on the north and seventy-one degrees on the south, for the two months of July and August. This definition excludes all the country lying south of latitude forty degrees, except western Virginia, and north of that it excludes the southern districts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, while it includes the northern parts of these States: Canada, New York, Western Virginia, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Red River and Saskatchewan valleys. In general terms, it may be stated that the belt of maximum wheat production lies immediately north of the districts where the maximum of Indian corn is attained."

"The argument for North-West British America, as well as for the State of Minnesota, cannot be more accurately epitomized than by the following summary of Commissioner Wheelock:

"1. That physical and economical causes restrict the limits of wheat culture to the seats of its maximum production, in less than one-third of the States of the Union, within a climatic belt having an estimated gross area of only 250,000 square miles, from which nine-tenths of the American supply of bread, and a large and constantly increasing amount of foreign food must be drawn.

"2. That, within this zone, the same climatic and other causes tend to concentrate the growth of wheat in the upper belt of the north-western States, always preferring the best wheat districts.



"3. That Minnesota and the country north-west of it is the best of these wheat districts, having the largest average yield, the most certain crops and the best and healthiest grains."

Mr. Taylor next proceeds to show the advantages of the British North-West as an agricultural country over the more southern territories of the United States, he says:

"Will the great interior of the continent contribute to our exportation of wheat and its flour? I refer to the territorial organizations of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Nevada. Let us take the most favored of all, Montana. Grand as are its resources, I am constrained to believe that only one-thirtieth of its surface is within reach of the unavoidable condition of irrigation, and that the mountains with their mineral wealth, and the uplands as grazing grounds for cattle and sheep, will be the chief theatre of industrial activity. After careful enquiry in 1868, as United States Commissioner of Mining Statistics, I committed myself to the following statement: 'The area of the territory (Montana) is 146,689,35-100 square miles, equal to 93,881,184 acres—nearly the same as California, three times the area of New York, two and a half that of New England, and yet no greater proportion is claimed by local authorities as susceptible of cultivation than one acre in thirty, or a total of 3,346,000 acres. Of course a far greater surface will afford sustenance to domestic animals. The limit to agriculture, as in Colorado and New Mexico, is the possibility of irrigation.'" In a late report of the National Geological Commission, I observe that Major J. W. Powell estimates the amount of land in Utah (with 84,476 square miles) that can be redeemed by the utilization of streams, but without the construction of reservoirs, as about 1,250,000 acres. How far east the necessity of irrigation exists I am not competent to determine. It was formerly fixed at longitude 98 degrees by Prof. Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute, but 101 degrees, or three degrees further west, especially west of Manitoba, is probably more accurate. Upon the limited areas available for

agriculture the crops are very remarkable, but their volume, of course commanding the highest prices, will be absorbed by miners and herdsmen in addition to the demands of towns and cities. In this connection I should not omit to add that the localities of central Canada on the line 1,600 miles northwest from St. Paul—Battleford, Prince Albert, Fort McMurray, Fort Vermillion, including the better known Fort Edmonton, are all west of longitude 105 degrees, and are in direct range with Denver City, Great Salt Lake and even Virginia City, yet, at none or the more northern positions is there any necessity of irrigation. It is the crowning feature of the 'fertile belt' which broadens with reduced altitudes and constant air currents from the Pacific coast, that the immense trapezoid, whose apex is bounded on the Mackenzie, has a sufficient quantity of summer rains for all the purposes of agriculture as organized in the Atlantic and Mississippi States."

Mr. Taylor concludes his letter in the following manly strain—manly because he has been fighting the battle of truth, according to his convictions, in favor of our North West as a wheat growing country, and against the prejudice of his own people. This is what he says:

"I have no pride of opinion as to the accuracy of an impromptu estimate of proportions north or south of the of the boundary. I would cheerfully waive it, confessing to an arithmetical inaccuracy, if assured of a general acceptance of the opinion with which the article of the *Pioneer Press* concludes, namely, that 'in the Hudson Bay Territory, outside of the old provinces, 200,000,000 acres are wheat raising.' That admission is more than enough to justify a railroad policy, which will push, within ten years, the locomotive from Winnipeg fully 1,200 miles beyond its present bourne on Red River."

In thus taking up the gauntlet in our defence, Mr. Taylor deserves the thanks of the people of this country, but looking at the matter in a broader sense, we feel that in thus coming out boldly with the truth—a

truth he has learned by his long residence and experience on the country he is in reality acting the part of a patriot to his own countrymen. He does not endeavor to decry the resources of his own country. Far from it. No man knows better than he the almost illimitable wealth of the United States, but he is also aware of the fact, and is man enough to not shut his eyes to its importance, that a comparatively small portion of his own country is adapted to successful wheat raising. He knows that there is every probability in the future that the United States will have to depend almost entirely on its more northern states and territories for a supply of wheat, and as the more southern portions of the Union become more thickly populated the demand for wheat will increase to such a degree that it is probable the wheat-growing States will be unable to supply it, and then will come the necessity of importing. Everything tends to show that what we now foretell is not at all improbable, taking into consideration the rapid development of the United States as a manufacturing power as well as a producer of other articles of commerce than wheat, such as cotton, sugar, tobacco, etc., and the consequent increase of population incidental thereto and corresponding increase of the demand for wheat. If we are correct in our hypothesis, it shows the great importance of the British North West, not only to Canada, but also to the United States, as a wheat producing territory, and Mr. Taylor in his defence of our land is only pointing out to his own people the necessity for cultivating friendly relations with us, and of prosecuting the means of communication with the British North West, so that when the time comes for them to require our grain, they may be in a position to obtain it.

EMERSON *Journal*:—“The prize wheat has already been beaten. Some wheat grown on the farm of Mr. Clark, about two miles from here, was tested, and found to weigh just 64½ pounds. The wheat was the red fern, the seed of which was obtained last year from Mr. Bradley. The variety seems to be a favorite on account of its heavy weight and large average.

## THE IMPERIAL COMMISSIONERS.

On the 27th October last, there arrived at Winnipeg, the commissioners appointed by resolution of Imperial Parliament at last session to inquire into the causes of the severe depression now hanging over Great Britain, and to suggest remedies therefor—having especial view to the agricultural phase of the trouble.

The commissioners were Messrs. Albert Pell, M. P. for Leicestershire, and Claire S. Read, M. P. for Norfolk. These gentlemen were accompanied by Finlay Dunn, agricultural editor of the *North British Agriculturist*, and special correspondent of the *London Times*; Robert Cox, a large manufacturer of Edinburgh; Wm. L. Barrington brother of the Lord Mayor of Dublin; A. Blyth, son of one of the heaviest grain merchants of Liverpool; Robinson Greenwood and his son, of Burnley, proprietor of one of the largest flour mills in the United Kingdom, and W. H. Gatty, of Leicester.

The object of their mission was described by a member of the party as follows:

“Mr. Reid, one of the members of the royal commission, has long held close relations with the British Government and with the agricultural committees of Parliament, and Mr. Albert Pell has been similarly devoted to agricultural interests, official information in regard to which was sought in their appointment as commissioners to visit America. The main object of this mission is to take observation of things in America; the capabilities of the country; the probable ability of America to permanently produce a surplus of bread and meat, and to obtain such other facts as may be useful in dealing with the people of England. The information to be obtained, while primarily for the Imperial Parliament, is anxiously awaited by the great agricultural societies of England and the people in general.

Messrs. Pell and Read made a tour of the province, and carefully noted the capabilities of the country for agricultural purposes. As we have already stated, they were men of practised

experience, sent by the British Parliament on a most important mission, and therefore their views in regard to this country will receive great weight at home in the old country. We will look forward to the official report of these commissioners with great interest, because we are inclined to think from their utterances, while in Winnipeg, that they will do justice to this country. We are not as a rule, however, in favor of reports compiled from a hasty survey of the land. Great mistakes are liable to occur, wrong impressions created, and injustice done, because sufficient time has not been taken to look into matters thoroughly. The Americans evidently were aware of the importance of creating a good impression on the minds of Messrs. Pell and Read, and took every pains to show them attention and display all that was possible in favor of their land. But as Mr. Pell remarked in his speech at a banquet tendered them in Winnipeg, the "Commissioners did not come to enjoy the hospitality of the people of the country;" they had another and a greater object in view. Mr. Read, on the same occasion, spoke to the following effect:

"Reverting to the subject of their mission, he said that there was no doubt that the farmers in England had suffered and must continue to suffer for some time. He did not see how they could improve in a hurry, for they have now had five bad harvests, the last being the worst; and it could readily be imagined that in these days, with short crops, there was, unfortunately, no counterbalancing advancing of good prices. The condition of the British farmer was, in truth, one far from flourishing. At present, almost the whole loss fell on the tenant-farmers. Agricultural laborers have never been so well employed and well paid as at the present moment. He had been very much pleased to hear the remarks of the U. S. Consul that evening, but did not quite agree with him in the portion of his speech wherein he spoke of Southern Russia as being the only great competitor which the agriculturists of the wheat belt on this continent had to fear. If Russia were the only competitor they had, then there was in

his (Read's) opinion little cause for fear. Before Russia can do much more than she is at present doing, as a producer of breadstuffs, she must give up some of her ambitious schemes. Her railways must be made less to subserve military than commercial needs. He had been seriously pained to hear that the people of this land were to compete with English farmers not only in grain supplies, but in meat supplies. But the time had not arrived yet. Farmers here must first give over their practice of burning their straw. They must cease to regard a manure-heap as a superhuman nuisance—they must not pull down their stables in preference to removing their dung hills. Then, when the superfluous fertility of their land has been reduced—when, as he had been told, the other day, it was found that their land would 'bear manure'—then they might probably turn their attention to the matter of meat. He had seen land in this district which his limited experience led him to believe the very best land for cultivation that the world ever produced. Everything seemed to favor the production of wheat—a favorable climate and a soil which was one large mass of rich alluvial, ready, apparently, to give the richest returns with the easiest work. He did not know what soil they could have better, or with more advantages."

Mr. Read's reference to the practice here of farmers burning their straw and making no use of manure on the land is true, and it certainly must have appeared strange to him, accustomed to regard manure as a most valuable assistant, to see it thrown aside almost in the light of a nuisance. It is indeed true that we have land in Manitoba which has been cultivated since the time of Lord Selkirk, in 1812, and which to this day has never received a particle of manure. After Mr. Reid's speech in Winnipeg we have every reason to expect that his official report will bear out the impression he formed so favorable to the climate and soil of Manitoba. In advance of the visit of the Commissioners to this country, we find the London, England, *Times* of the 24th Oct., speaking in the following strong terms in favor of the Canadian North West as a field for British emigration:

"It is unquestionable that the facility for acquiring land in the United States has been the main reason why agriculturists go thither. The same reason may be potential in the cases of any who may now think of improving their condition by a change of nationality. Liberal though the provisions of the United States homestead act are, yet they involve on the part of our countrymen who profit by them a renunciation of their birthright as citizens of the British Empire. This is a sacrifice even more keenly felt by most of them than the severance from the place of their birth and beginning life anew in a strange land. This consideration has induced many emigrants to prefer the long voyage to New Zealand or the Australian colonies to the far shorter trip across the Atlantic. The Dominion of Canada has always invited immigrants, but, till recently, that splendid country had nothing to offer which could rival the prairie States of the far west. All this is changed, however, and the emigrant can now find in Canada as great inducements to settle there as in Minnesota or any other State of the Union can offer. The Canadians, if more scrupulous, are less energetic in advertising their country than the citizens of the North American Republic. Conterminous with Minnesota is the Province of Manitoba. All that Mr. Andrews has said in favor of the former may be truthfully repeated with regard to the latter. The area of Manitoba is but small in comparison with that of some Western States; yet it is twice as large as Massachusetts, and it can support many millions of people, and furnish a large surplus of grain for exportation. Yet Manitoba is but a single province in a territory which is open and ready for settlement, a territory covering 380,000 square miles, exceeding in extent France and Germany combined, and equal in fertility to any corresponding tract on the globe. In the Canadian North West there is a Homestead Act under which the settler is treated still more generously than in the United States. He pays but \$10 for his title to the 160 acres which are granted to him on condition that he resides there three years, and he can obtain another piece

of equal value on paying \$1 an acre. At the period of obtaining the land absolutely, he must be a British subject by birth or naturalization; this provision is one which gives immigrants from the old country no concern. We do not advocate any measure of wholesale emigration, because we entertain the confident expectation that brighter days are in store for suffering agriculturists in this country. The present crisis will pass away, as other times of trial have done, and will leave behind it some profitable, if bitter and trying lessons. Yet our fellow countrymen who are discontented with their lot, who have a practical knowledge of farming, who possess a little capital, will do well to inquire whether the prairie lands of Canada are not superior in some respects to those of the United States."

#### IMMIGRATION IN 1880.

Professor Macoun, in the lecture which he recently delivered in Winnipeg, stated that next spring thousands of immigrants will pour into the interior by way of the Assiniboine river. Since that statement was made the Government have undertaken the removal of certain obstructions in the navigation of that stream, and by so doing they are performing a very important step towards facilitating immigration next season. Over 200 miles of mud travel will be saved by this water route, and this of itself will prove a great boon to the immigrant. During last summer several steamers plied between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, and in the early part of the season they ran as far as Fort Ellice. It is expected, however that by the removal of some boulders which obstruct navigation when the water is low, steamers will be able next summer to run as far as Fort Ellice until late in the fall. If this expectation is realized, it will have the effect of settling up a fine tract of country lying beyond the present limits of the Province of Manitoba. Of this new territory Professor Macoun thus speaks:

"See what a country is thus opened up! South of the Assiniboine and east of Qu'Appelle there are from six to eight millions of acres in this one

block, outside of Manitoba, and being, for the greater part, first class land. This is only to the 103rd meridian, where, you know, coal has been found, and which discovery will undoubtedly draw large numbers out there by Rock Lake next year. And this is only one part of the land to which I wish to direct your notice hereabouts. Passing from the Manitoba boundary over the Bird Tail Creek, out by the Pheasant Mountains, you have a belt of country extending to the 105th meridian, and to the north of Qu'Appelle, containing not less than 10,000,000 acres. There is no finer region in the North-West than will be found north of Qu'Appelle in this quarter. Perhaps next year I may be able to tell you of other great tracts of valuable land which are now being explored, and of which, therefore, I do not wish to anticipate the reports. I speak only of my own explorations. Here are 16,000,000 of acres in two blocks, and it only takes us to the 105th meridian."

Here we have a tract of country twice the size of Manitoba as it is to-day within easy reach of Winnipeg. Now, who will say that there is no land to be found in this part of the Dominion fit for settlement? Yet we have heard it stated that all the country of easy access to the immigrant has been taken up by speculators and settlers. We will now suppose a farmer landed in Winnipeg and anxious to obtain a farm and settle upon it with as little delay as possible. He collects all the necessaries he requires for starting in his new home, and then having placed them on board a steamer at the levee in Winnipeg, he takes passage, and in a few days he finds himself landed on the border of the land which has been so well described by Professor Macoun. The immigrant, moreover, will not be likely to find himself alone; he will have others accompanying him on the boat to the land of promise we are at present referring to. We have not the least doubt that hundreds, and probably thousands, of people will avail themselves of the opportunity next summer to go beyond the limits of Manitoba, because they will not have to travel hundreds of miles over the plains to reach their destination. The immigrant, however, need not go so far as the point

spoken of by Professor Macoun. He can find plenty of land nearer the boundary of Manitoba, and consequently nearer the line of settlement. The Little Saskatchewan River, which falls into the Assiniboine about 150 miles from its mouth, *i. e.*, Winnipeg, passes through a splendid country already containing many settlers, and which is bound to settle up rapidly during the next few years. It is unnecessary for us to describe other localities in this vast territory; those we have mentioned are sufficient for the purpose of this article. Mr. Brydges, Land Commissioner of the Hudson's Bay Company, has lately published a pamphlet, from which we make the following quotations in regard to the cost of transport for crop. He calculates on the completion of the Canada Pacific Railway from Lake Superior as far west as Fort Ellice within two years from now, and on that he bases the following figures:

The transport of grain from Fort Ellice to Thunder Bay, and the placing of it into elevators at the latter place 15 cents per bushel—certainly not over 20 cents.

Propellers taking it from the elevators, and passing through the lakes and the enlarged Welland canal, will deliver it in Montreal at 10 cents.

From Montreal to Liverpool the average freight taken at 57s. sterling a quarter is equal to 15 cents.

Total cost of transport of grain from as far west as Fort Ellice to Liverpool, 45 cents per bushel;

Or to Montreal 30 cents;

Or to Toronto probably a few cents less.

It is not likely that north-western wheat will be quoted at less than \$1 per bushel in the Ontario and Quebec markets for some time to come, and therefore it can be easily seen that wheat raising in this country is a profitable undertaking, especially when it is considered that the yield per acre seldom goes under 30 bushels. The Government, therefore, are acting wisely in preparing the way for immigration in advance of the railway, and by utilizing the River Assiniboine they are taking means to settle the country without having to wait for the iron horse. The railroad is generally found

leading the way for settlement, but in this country we have the rule reversed, and it cannot but produce good results, for when railways reach the settlements there will be a local traffic ready waiting for them. All this, however, shows the great necessity for pushing on the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway westward from Red River, and also the prompt completion of the line to Lake Superior. Here we find every probability of a rapid settlement of the country extending for hundreds of miles west of Winnipeg by means of the natural or river channel, and as soon as that settlement has taken place, the necessity for railway communication with the east as a means of transport for crop will be felt. No time should therefore be lost, so that when the road between Lake Superior and Red River is completed, there will be a feeder leading into the wheat country ready to supply it with a sure and paying traffic. The sooner the wheat fields of the North West are tapped, the more expeditious will be the building of the whole line from the Atlantic to the Pacific. We are glad to note from the following that the Dominion Government is alive to the importance of opening up a way through our own territory for immigrants at as early a day as possible:

"Work will be actively pushed this winter with over 1,000 men. It is confidently expected that by next July a route will be opened up from Prince Arthur's Landing to Manitoba. One hundred and ninety miles of the railroad will be ready for traffic, ending at Lake Waubagen, where a steamer, which will be built by the contractors this winter, will connect with a seven mile portage between that lake and the Lake of the Woods. There is a good road across the portage. The Lake of the Woods steamers will then connect with Rat Portage, from which place the Canada Pacific Railroad will again connect with Winnipeg. This will be the cheap route. A new channel has been pointed out by Major Farijan, civil engineer, on the inside route. It only requires the removal of a few boulders to be navigable. Owing to low water and little current this may prove a valuable discovery. The scenery is said to be magnificent.

The wood docks are pretty well cleaned off along the route, and several of the wood-burning steamers are obliged to burn coal."

#### A WORD OF WARNING.

One of the most important points to be regarded by those who have charge of emigration matters is to avoid everything that may tend to mislead emigrants. It ought to be remembered that people do not sever old ties or bid adieu to the land of their birth without a pang. If they find, however, on their arrival in the new country, that false inducements have been offered to tempt them to leave their old home, they will naturally resent it as an outrage, and the evil effect of their complaints written back to their friends will be difficult to counteract. It too frequently happens that agents, eager to show some fruits of their works, make representations which they are not warranted in doing, in order to induce people to emigrate, forgetting that in this they are injuring rather than benefiting the country they are supposed to represent honestly. We are aware that it is sometimes a difficult matter for the Government to control their agents, but as this system of misrepresentation, which is too often indulged in, is a serious matter, some plan might perhaps be adopted to prevent it. It is well known that American agents are not, as a rule, over scrupulous in using dishonorable means to attract people to the particular localities they are working for. It is also well known that hundreds and thousands of people who have been led to settle in parts of the United States by these agents, have discovered when too late that it would have been better for them if they had remained in their old home. Either the climate or the land has not turned out, to be as represented, or perhaps the peculiar advantages of the country as promised have not been realized. The consequence of this is that reports of American agents are looked upon with suspicion in many parts of Canada and Europe, and the large immigration going on in the United States is kept up only by the

employment of an almost innumerable class of paid agents, who are ever active, and whose operations are extended all the world over. A great proportion of these agents, however, are employed by private companies in order to sell their lands, and the expense of sustaining them is immense. There is no necessity for the Dominion to spend so much money on immigration agents, neither need false statements be resorted to for a temporary gain. The Canadian North West does not require glowing efforts of the imagination to advertise it—the truth need only be told, and every immigrant who settles here and is satisfied will cause others to follow in his steps. Every immigrant, if properly treated, can be made an effective emigration agent, so that if we have only a thousand settlers during a season, we will have ten times the number the succeeding year. We do not propose to teach the Government their duty in the premises, but we desire to draw their attention to the fact that the utmost caution is necessary on the part of their agents when representing matters in connection with immigration to the North West. We wish to see the character of the Canadian immigrant agents without suspicion, and this of itself, in striking contrast with the wiles and deceit practised by American agents, will do more towards the promotion of immigration to this country than the expenditure of large sums of money. We were grieved to see by late telegraphic despatches that a number of people had been brought out last month (December) from the old country, some of them being destined for Manitoba. This was an act of cruelty and injustice, and whoever is to blame for it ought to be severely punished, if it is possible to do so. We are glad to observe that the Dominion Government have at once taken the matter in hand, for the purpose of investigating it thoroughly, and we feel sure that, knowing the importance of keeping faith with immigrants, they will make an example of whoever is at fault, in order to deter others in the future from practising such deception. It is a cruelty to bring immigrants here late in the fall, or during the winter. There are six good months in

the year, from April to October, during which there need be no hardships to immigrants in sending them out to the North West. Let the winter months be employed by agents in making preparations for the spring and summer work. We commend the action of the Department of Agriculture in at once putting a stop to deception, and we have every confidence that they will follow it up in the future by keeping a watchful eye over the actions of their agents, so that immigrants will feel safe in trusting themselves to the care of Canadians.

In our next number we intend to give some valuable hints for intending immigrants to ponder over, and which will prove of use to them when settling in the North West.

### MANITOBA SOIL.

As bearing on the particular advantages of Manitoba for the cultivation of wheat, the following analysis of a specimen of the alluvial soil from the prairie of the Province of Manitoba is given. It is by Prof. V. Emmerling, Director of the Chemical Laboratory of the Agricultural Association of the University of Kiel, Holstein, Germany:

(Translation of Letter to Senator Emil Klotz)

KIEL, 29th April, 1872.

“HON. SENATOR :

“The analysis of the Manitoba soil is now completed, and the result is in 100,000 parts:—

Potash.....	228.7
Sodium.....	53.8
Phosphoric Acid.....	69.4
Lime.....	682.6
Magnesia.....	16.1
Nitrogen.....	486.1

“Yours truly,

(Signed), V. EMMERLING.”

(Extract from Letter of Senator Emil Klotz to Jacob E. Klotz, Agent for the Dominion Government.)

“KIEL, 4th May, 1872.

“After considerable delay, I succeeded in obtaining the analysis of the Manitoba soil from Prof. Emmerling, Director of the Chemical Laboratory of the Agricultural Association of this place, and hope it may be of service to

you. Annexed I give you an analysis of the most productive soil in Holstein, whereby you will see how exceedingly rich the productive qualities of the Manitoba soil are, and which fully explains the fact that the land in Manitoba is so very fertile, even without manure.

"The chief nutrients are, first, nitrogen, then potash and phosphoric acid which predominates there; but what is of particular importance is the lime contained in the soil, whereby the nitrogen is set free, and ready to be absorbed in vegetable organisms. The latter quality is defective in many soils, and when it is found defective recourse must be had to artificial means by putting lime or marl (a clay which contains much lime) upon the same.

"According to the analysis of the Manitoba soil, there is no doubt that to the farmer who desires to select for his future home a country which has the most productive soil and promises the richest harvest, no country in the world offers greater attractions than the Province of Manitoba, in the Dominion of Canada."

THE MANITOBA EXHIBIT.

The Manitoba Exhibit at the Dominion Exhibition in Ottawa last September was certainly a very complete collection of the products of this country, but at the same time the samples shown did not do justice to the capabilities of the Province in the way of production. Thousands of people in Ontario viewed the exhibit, and were surprised at the excellence and variety of the products shown, but they were more astonished when told that the samples had been gathered at least three or four weeks before their maturity, and that most of the grain had been threshed by means of the flail, as threshing machines had not commenced working when the exhibit left Manitoba early in September. We merely refer to the Manitoba exhibit at this time in order to give a list of the products of which it was composed, so as to show what can be produced in the North West.

GRAINS.

White winter or fall Barley,  
Wheat, Rye,  
Red Spring Wheat, Peas,  
Oats, black & white, Wild Rice.

ROOTS.

Potatoes, Beets,  
Turnips, Mangal Wurtzel,  
Carrots,

VEGETABLES.

Cabbages, Parsnips,  
Cauliflower, Okra,  
Onions, Celery,  
Rhubarb, Artichokes,  
Capsicums or Peppers, Tomatoes,  
Vegetable Marrow, Asparagus,  
Green Peas, Corn,  
Radishes, Beans,  
Salsify, Citrons,  
Leeks, Water Melons,  
Khol Rabi, Musk Melons,  
Squash, Cucumbers,  
Brussels Sprouts, Scotch Kale,  
Pumpkins.

PLANTS AND HERBS.

Nasturtium, Summer Savory,  
Sunflower, Labrador Tea,  
Hops (wild), Cultivated Mustard,  
Thyme, Tobacco,  
Sweet Marjoram, Sugar Cane,  
Parsley, Wild Rye,  
Mint, Flax,  
Sage, Canary Seed,  
Coriander,

FRUITS.

Apples, 8 varieties, Cranberries,  
Sand Cherry, Currants,  
Wild Grapes, Raspberries,  
Plums,

GRASSES.

Bone Grass, June Grass,  
Scotch " Bush "  
Blue " Early "  
Red Top Grass, Wild Vetches,  
Buffalo " Timothy,  
Blue Joint Grass, Rye,  
Ridge Hay, Clover (Red and  
Colony " White).  
Upland "

NUTS.

Hazel.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Butter, Single Yarn,  
Cheese, Flannel,  
Flour, Home-made Carpet.  
Stocking Yarn,



## AMONGST THE BIRDS THERE WERE

Swans,	Black Ducks,
Crow Ducks,	Canvass - back
Loons,	Ducks,
White Partridge,	Pelicans,
Cock of the Woods,	Gray Owls,
Blue Jay,	Prairie Chickens,
Brown Owl,	Cranes,
Widgeon Ducks,	Plover, &c.

THERE WERE ALSO SAMPLES OF  
Brick, Pottery and Stone.

## AND AMONGST THE FURS WERE

Lynx,	Mink,
Badger,	Otter,
Fisher,	Wolf,
Silver Fox,	Wolverine.
Red Fox,	Beaver.
Cross Fox,	Bear,
Muskrat,	Skunk,
Kitt Fox,	Ermine,
Marten,	Buffalo,

and a variety of other articles which it is not necessary to enumerate here.

The above will give some idea of what can be produced in this North West.

### IMPORTANCE OF THE SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY AS A FEEDER TO THE CANADIAN PACIFIC.

The Pembina Mountain district is one of the most fertile portions of this Province, and contains a large number of the best class of settlers. The South Western Railway will prove a most important feeder to the Canadian Pacific, inasmuch as it will penetrate this fine country, and serve as an outlet for the large surplus of grain which will be raised in that locality.

Evidently the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Co. are aware of the importance of this section, because they are at present projecting a line to tap it and compete for its trade. Without the South Western, the American road will be likely to have it all its own way, as it would not have any strong competition in that direction. The South Western, however, will act as a direct feeder, and will be the means of allowing the Canadian Pacific to come into close competition with the American lines. The

St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway have built a bridge at Grand Forks across the Red River, and intend pushing forward their line to St. Joe, on the boundary line, next season, for the purpose of securing the trade from our South Western territory, but our lines will prevent their obtaining a monopoly. For our part, we wish the South Western road every success. We feel that it will prove a great boon to the country and a profitable investment if prosecuted in the interest of our national line.

We propose, in a future number, giving a sketch of the country through which it will pass and the territory it will penetrate, but in the meantime we wish to show the influence it is likely to have on the future welfare of this city. The construction of a road from here south west secures to a great degree the position of Winnipeg as a railway centre in the future. So long as the Government do not build a railway from the vicinity of Portage-la-Prairie to St. Joe, Winnipeg becomes the centre of competition for freights from the west and south west between the Canadian and American lines.

Here in this city will be the point of distribution. Grain coming from the west will be brought to Winnipeg, for there will be no competition in freights westward. Here the battle of rates will be fought out, and if the Americans are the lowest then the traffic will go *via* the United States; if the Canadian route is the cheapest then it will go to Thunder Bay. People in the south western portion of the Province will be able to send their grain to Winnipeg to be forwarded by Canadian Pacific to Lake Superior, or they will be able to ship it *via* the United States.

The effect of having two roads centering in Winnipeg—one from the west and the other from the south west—will make this a depot for grain. Elevators will be built, dealers will locate here, and while this city will be the distributing point for exports, it will also become a centre of supply to the west for imports.

We will, hereafter, deal with other projected lines of railway in this Province and in the North West.

## CITY OF WINNIPEG.

We have not space enough in this number to do justice to the capital of Manitoba, but will refer more fully in a future number to its progress and prospects. It is situated at the junction of the Assiniboine with the Red River, and was formerly known as Fort Garry. In 1869 it contained less than 500 of a population, and to-day it is estimated at 10,000. Its streets are broad and well planned, with roomy sidewalks laid in almost every part of the city. Main street is the principal thoroughfare, and contains many handsome buildings built of brick, some of the stores being superior to anything west of St. Paul, and doing a business of over a quarter of a million each per annum. There is a good market and city hall; several fine places of worship, the finest of which is Knox church. There are three banks, the Merchants, Ontario and Bank of Montreal, and several insurance companies have established agencies in the city. The fire department consists of two Silsby steamers, and hook and ladder truck, with a brigade of forty-five men. Tanks have been placed at convenient points along the streets, and as they are always kept full of water there is a never-failing supply in case of fire. The assessment of the city property sums up to between three and four million dollars, and is increasing rapidly every year. Winnipeg can boast of three daily papers, two morning and one evening. We have already shown in another article why Winnipeg is likely to be a railway centre in the future, but we would draw attention to the fact that, being at the junction of the Assiniboine with the Red River, it must be for some time the centre for the distribution of supplies for the west. Passengers and goods destined for the North West must be transferred from the railway to the steamboats at Winnipeg, and this of itself will tend to increase the importance of the capital as a distributing point, even after railways have been constructed westward, for the water route will compete with the railroad for some years to come in this country. We will refer at greater length to Winnipeg in a

future number, but we felt that we could not give it the go-by altogether in this our first issue.

We regret that in this number we are unable to notice Selkirk, Emerson, Portage-la-Prairie and other flourishing towns. We intend, however, to keep our readers posted regularly in regard to the progress of these and other places in Manitoba and the North West, and will feel obliged for any reliable information that may assist us in showing the outside world what is being done in building up centres of trade in this country. Our whole object is to circulate information concerning the progress of the Canadian North West, not only in the agricultural districts and settlements, but also in the cities, towns and villages, so that any assistance rendered us in the collection of news will be gratefully received, and will be used to the advantage of the country. We advise parties, however, to adhere strictly to what they know to be the truth, for if we should find ourselves imposed upon by any of our correspondents, we will decline any further communications from that source.

## ADVICE TO IMMIGRANTS.

Take with you in bank notes and coin when you start on your journey only such money as you may require to use on the way. Get a bank draft or bill of exchange for the balance of your funds, so that in case you lose it you will be able to replace the lost draft or bill by a second one from the bank where you obtained the first. A draft or bill of exchange given in this way by a bank is good only to the person to whose order it is made payable, and is therefore the safest way of carrying money. There are three banks in Winnipeg, the Merchants Bank, the Bank of Montreal and the Ontario Bank, any of which can cash such drafts or bills of exchange as we have described. We give this advice to immigrants, because there are many traps laid by sharpers to despoil the unsuspecting traveller on the road, and because it has too frequently happened that immigrants have lost their all by

having the gold or bank notes which they were carrying stolen from them in an unguarded moment. Once stolen, such money is almost impossible to recover; whereas if it had been in the form of a draft or bill of exchange, the thief would get no benefit by his theft, and the traveller, instead of suffering total loss, would only have to undergo the inconvenience of waiting for a second or duplicate draft or bill to cover the amount of the one stolen. We cannot too strongly caution immigrants against trusting plausible fellow travellers, or against allowing themselves to be drawn into games or making bets with strangers along the route of travel. Their best plan is to attend to their own business, and if drawn into conversation with others to be constantly on their guard. They cannot be too suspicious of strangers, for the more suspicion they have, the more guarded they will be. If obliged to ask for information let them do so from some one of the employees of the railroad or steamboat on which they may be travelling: this is always the safest plan. There is not now so much danger from gamblers and sharpers on the route through the United States to Manitoba as there used to be, but at the same time it is well to be always on your guard, and it is just possible the advice we now give, and the caution we offer, may be of service to some of those who intend coming to the North West to settle.

## COAL-BEARING DISTRICTS OF NORTH AMERICA.

BY J. W. TAYLOR.

In determining the districts in the comparatively unexplored west where, by physical analogies, coal-bearing measures are likely to be developed, it will be convenient to take for a starting point the Laurentides Hills, or the Laurentian chain of mountains. They are described in Campbell's School Geography as a rugged range, with an average height of 1,300 feet, skirting the north bank of the St. Lawrence river, in the lower part of its course, and extending from Labrador to the vicinity of Quebec, where they leave the river, but still keep nearly parallel

with it, until about thirty miles west of Montreal, when, skirting the Ottawa for about 100 miles, they cross it and curve round to near Kingston and into Northern New York, whence the range extends northwestward to the shores of Lakes Huron and Superior, which are skirted on the north. In the same general direction the Laurentian formation may be traced to the shores of the Arctic Ocean, along the eastern borders of the Lake of the Woods and Lakes Winnipeg, Athabasca, Great Deer, Great Slave and Great Bear. Constantly associated with the crystalline, trappean and metamorphic rocks which characterize the Laurentides, long ridges of granite often intrude with many evidences of eruptive or igneous agencies. With their curved line of 3,000 miles, like a scimitar with the handle resting on the coast of Labrador, and the point touching the Arctic coast, on the eastern border of the interior basin of the Mackenzie river, they constitute a "plutonic chain," a "main axis of dislocation," to repeat terms used by Prof. David Dale Owen in his survey of northern Minnesota in 1850, from which southward and westward geologists trace the later sedimentary rocks, especially those fertile and valuable deposits of limestone, which are characterized as silurian and devonian.

Sir Roderick Murchison has frequently advanced the opinion that the productive gold districts of the world occur where the silurian, and perhaps the lower strata of devonian, rocks are in contact with, or have been penetrated by green stones, porphyries, serpentine, granitic and other rocks of the primary formation. Gold, especially when traced to its original matrix, is found to occur chiefly in veins or lodes of quartz rising from beneath and cutting through the secondary strata or beds of which the surface was previously composed. Indeed, as English explorers trace this contact of primary and silurian formations along the basins of the Lake of the Woods and Lakes Winnipeg, Athabasca and Slave and the channel of the Mackenzie river to the Arctic Ocean, it becomes an interesting problem for future solution whether the auriferous deposits of Alaska and British Columbia may not

be extended with various degrees of productiveness along the flanks of the crest which separates the waters of the Gulfs of Mexico and St. Lawrence from those of the Arctic Ocean and Hudson's Bay, quite as the discoveries of this century have followed the Ural mines eastward through Siberia to the Pacific.

But we must avoid digression. The general mineral wealth of the Laurentides is a fruitful topic, but its consideration must yield to the inquiry of their relation to coal-bearing districts.

Above the granitic intrusions of the Laurentian chain, although broken and tossed by volcanic upheaval and mineral infusions, geologists identify the earliest sedimentary formation—known as Permian or Cambrian—but closely following it are the silurian strata of Quebec, New England and New York, now classified into a dozen lithological groups, until we reach southeastwardly the chambers of the coal chiefly in the mines of Cape Breton and Nova Scotia, and partially in New Brunswick, while southwestwardly, hardly 300 miles distant from Montreal, the devonian or carboniferous formation of Pennsylvania, with its wealth of anthracite, is reached, and its development west of the Alleghanies, with less valuable deposits of bituminous coal, can be followed through Ohio, Kentucky and other districts of the Appalachian chain.

We have traced the Laurentides due north west from Lake Superior, with a sharp angle of deflection from its eastern direction; but it may not generally be known that not far from Thunder Bay a granitic cape plunges south west through Northern Minnesota and is visible above the drift of the glacial period at St. Cloud, Redwood, on the Upper Minnesota, and even to the north west angle of Iowa, at Sioux Falls. From this primary formation, with a general direction of south east, the bluffs of the Minnesota and Mississippi, reveal the silurian strata of the New York geological survey, and after passing Illinois and Iowa we reach again the carboniferous formation. The analogy to the geological interval between the primary or Laurentian Adirondacks of Northern

New York and the coal bed of the Alleghany range, has been satisfactorily established by Owens' survey, nor is the distance greater—about 300 miles on an air line in each case.

Let us push our geological analogies in another direction. How is it north and west? In the vicinity of Otter Tail Lake and on the upper rapids of the Red River of the North, Prof. D. D. Owen discovered ledges of limestone in place, containing fossils which he identified with the lower silurian rocks of New York and the magnesian limestone of the Mississippi bluffs near St. Paul, while below Pembina other limestone rocks revealed fossils of a still later epoch, two degrees higher in the scale of Owen than the limestone ledges at St. Paul. "About twenty miles below [north of] the mouth of the Assiniboine," Owen informs us, "a considerable amount of rock has been quarried, containing fossils identically the same which occur in the lower part of F. 3 in Wisconsin and Iowa [the bluffs at St. Paul are F. 1 on the Professor's scale], in the blue limestones of Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, and also in the lower silurian of Europe. The *coscinopora* is precisely the same as the coral which is particularly characteristic of the lower beds of the upper magnesian limestone of Wisconsin." I reproduce these observations of thirty years ago not for their novelty, but to illustrate more recent discoveries in the fertile belt of Central British America.

The extension of settlements to the Black Hills and of the Northern Pacific Railroad beyond the Missouri river, have developed immense beds of lignite coal—characteristic of the tertiary formation—and Canadian exploration has traced these beds north to the valley of the Souris or Mouse river, and thence westward near the International Line to the Rocky Mountains, where they join the broader carboniferous formation which flanks the Rocky Mountains from New Mexico in latitude 35° to the mouth of the Mackenzie river in latitude 70°.

But between the silurian development of the Red River district and the immense Saskatchewan basin, and the cretaceous and tertiary formations,

which contain these beds of lignite, where are the devonian rocks — the true coal measures? Can these be a total fault? It seems incredible; and with the progress of exploration and settlement, I shall confidently anticipate that they will be discovered and exploited for the coming population of the great northern interior of this continent.

But, for the present, public attention is directed to the lignites of the west. In the vicinity of the Rocky Mountains they have long been noticed and described by travellers. The lignite beds of the Upper Missouri were noticed by Lewis & Clark in 1803 and 1804; those of the Laramie plains, now in Wyoming, by Fremont in 1842; those of the Ratn Mountains, in New Mexico, by General Emery, in 1848. Recurring to North West British America, Sir George Simpson in his *Overland Journey Across the World* in 1841-2, described "a seam of coal near Fort Edmonton ten feet deep, which had been traced for a considerable distance along both sides of the North Saskatchewan river." But the reader cannot fail to be interested in some notes of Sir John Richardson's observations and inquiries upon the subject of coal in the valleys of the Mackenzie and Peace rivers. "The coal when recently extracted from its bed," he observes, "is massive, and most generally shows the woody structure distinctly. Different beds, and even different parts of the same bed, when traced to the distance of a few hundred yards, present examples of 'fibrous brown coal,' 'earth coal,' 'conchoidal brown coal' and 'trapezoidal brown coal.' Some of the beds have the external characters of a compact bitumen but they generally exhibit on the cross fracture concentric layers, although from their jet-like composition the nature of the woody fibres cannot be detected by the microscope. Some pieces have a strong resemblance to charcoal in structure, color and lustre." In 1845, Sir John Richardson thus speaks of the Arctic slope of Central Canada in a communication published in the *Journal of the Geographical Society*. "These countries, explored by the expeditions of Sir John Franklin and Captain Back are rich in minerals;

inexhaustible coal fields skirt the Rocky Mountains through twelve degrees of latitude; beds of coal crop out to the surface on various parts of the Arctic coast, and the Mackenzie river flows through a well-wooded tract, skirted by metalliferous ranges of mountains, and offers no obstruction to steam navigation for upwards of 1,200 miles."

The Geographical Survey of Canada, now in progress under the direction of Mr. Selwyn, has reduced the imperfect testimony of travellers to a scientific certainty. In two successive reports Dr. G. M. Dawson has embodied valuable information in regard to the coal deposits of Vancouver Island, which extend to Bellingham Bay, Washington Territory, and quite recently, of Queen Charlotte's Island, which is also developed in the Aleutian Islands and probably on the mainland of Alaska. The coal in the latter localities is anthracite, while the deposits at Nanaimo, on the eastern coast of Vancouver and at Bellingham Bay, in Washington Territory, are a superior quality of bituminous. San Francisco and California finding the Mt. Diablo deposit insufficient and inferior in quality, rely almost exclusively upon the mines at Nanaimo and Bellingham.

This paper should not close without some reference to recent intimations from Dr. Bell in regard to the geological indications north and east of the Laurentian chain. South and west we have ascended the geological horizon, until we have recognized more extensive formations of coal than the continent of Europe has disclosed; and all analogy would suggest similar formations with corresponding developments in the opposite directions. Such discoveries we now hear to be in reserve for us, when Dr. Bell's reports shall be fully published. The whole vicinity of Hudson's and James' Bays consists in all probability of extensive districts of silurian and devonian origin and characteristics, and if so, they will, like the equivalent regions of Northern Europe, be found rich in coal and iron, with sufficient capacity for agriculture to bring the new North East of the continent into the circle of the world's activities.

### CHARTER GRABBERS.

The granting of railway charters is a matter of deep importance to this country, and the Government cannot be too careful in considering any applications made to Parliament of this nature. In the first place, the immediate and future welfare of our great national line, the Canadian Pacific, has to be protected, and in the next, the Government ought to guard against placing the control of railways in this country in the hands of a few mere speculators. Already in Manitoba we have had some experience in this connection, for of several charters granted for railway purposes in this Province not one has been made use of practically to this day. The danger of granting charters to men of straw is that by so doing men of capital may be shut out or prevented from taking hold of the work by the exorbitant demands of those who hold power from Parliament over the enterprise. We would not be doing our duty to the country if we did not offer this word of caution at the present time, for it is more than probable that Parliament will be besieged during the next few years by fortune hunters in the shape of charter-grabbers, and it is for the Government to carefully watch over such proceedings in order to guard their good name and protect the enterprises which they will be called upon either to assist or encourage in the North West. Another feature of this charter-grabbing is that men who obtain control of public undertakings merely for the purpose of speculation will more than likely sell their rights to the highest bidder, without taking into consideration the motives of those to whom they sell. If the purchasers are men who intend honestly to carry on the work, well and good, but if they purchase the charter in order to delay or defeat it, then there is no calculating the amount of harm that may be done. For instance, a rival company, perhaps controlled by American interests, may see proper to purchase a charter from the speculators who hold it for the purpose of delaying the construction of a railway line in opposition to them, or they may even build it and afterwards control it for their purposes. In such

a case there can be no idea of the complications which might arise in the way of the Government to prevent them carrying out their general railway policy in the North West. We are of opinion that men seeking charters from Parliament for railways, or in fact for any public works, should first be called on to give some good guarantee of their ability (so far as capital is concerned) and their honesty of purpose to carry on the work, and in this way charter-grabbing might probably be checked, if not stopped altogether.

### THE SUBJECT OF TIMBER AND WOOD.

The Government are taking every precaution to preserve the timber of this country from wanton destruction. An agent, Mr. Jas. Anderson, has been appointed, and his office can be found in the Dominion Lands office, Winnipeg. Mr. Anderson is instructed to look after the timber and wood interests of the Government, and is authorized to grant permits for the cutting. A settler on Dominion lands is allowed 10 cords of wood for his own use, free, as well as sufficient timber to build a house if he has not the requisite wood and timber on his own land. Each person taking up a homestead is allowed the privilege of purchasing 20 acres of wood land in addition, at the belt rate, according to its location, so that no settler need be without wood, although probably in some instances he may not be able to obtain it in close proximity to his farm. In most cases, however, he can secure it sufficiently near to be of service to him.

Referring again to the Government regulations, anything over the quantities allowed free the following prices are charged by the Government.

Cord Wood, 15 cents per cord.

Fence Rails, \$2.00 per 1000.

Fence Posts, 1 cent each.

House Timber, 1 cent per lineal foot.

A form of application for a permit can be obtained from Mr. Anderson and if it is for free cutting, a fee of 50 cents will be charged, but if it is otherwise 50 per cent. of the sum charged by the Government will be demanded.

before the permit is granted. The following is a copy of the permit.

No. ....

PERMIT TO CUT TIMBER ON CROWN LANDS.

I, James Anderson, Crown Timber Agent, by virtue of power granted to me by the Right Honorable the Minister of Interior, do hereby permit..... to cut and take, and have for his own use from..... the following quantities of timber:

- ..... Cords of Wood @..... per cord.
- ..... Fence Rails @..... " 1000.
- ..... Fence Posts @..... " 100.
- ..... House Timber @..... " lineal foot.

And, I hereby acknowledge the receipt of..... dollars on account. The balance to be paid, and an affidavit of the quantity cut to be made at....., on or before the first day of May, 18..... Such permit to be liable to forfeiture for nonfulfilment of any of the conditions set forth in the Order of Council of January 17th, 1876, or of this permit and the holder of this permit, should he not fulfil such conditions, will be subject to the penalties of the Dominion Lands Act, 1879, for cutting without authority.

Granted under my hand and the seal of the Crown Timber Office, Winnipeg, this..... day of....., 1879.

Signed, JAMES ANDERSON, Crown Timber Agent.

This Permit expires on May 1st, 18.....

The party who obtains the permit is then required to sign the following :

I,..... acknowledge the receipt of a Permit, No....., from the Crown Timber Agent, and I accept the conditions therein, and hereby engage myself to fulfil them.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this..... day of....., 18.....

Witness.....

Until the present regulations in regard to the cutting of timber and wood were enforced, there was a great deal of wanton destruction going on. Parties have been known to cut down trees and allow them to rot, and Indians frequently felled large timber, merely for the sake of using the branches, leaving the trunks to decay because it was to much work to chop them up. Indians are now confined to cutting wood on their own reserves, and the white man is kept in check by a system of permits. In a country like this, where the woods are of so much value, it is of great importance that they should be preserved as much as possible, and the Government are certainly to be congratulated on their action in enforcing timber regulations. Manitoba is called the Prairie Province, and the North West is characterized as being short in the matter of wood, but the idea should not be allowed to go abroad that we suffer, or are likely to suffer, from lack of fuel. Late discoveries

point out the fact that coal will in the future supply the wants of the population in districts where wood is scarce. In order to show, however, that the country is not altogether short in timber and lumber, we subjoin a list of the saw mills in operation at present in Manitoba and the North West, with their capacity for sawing, and motive power.

Fort Alexander mill, Winnipeg River, steam, 8000 feet per day.

Pine Falls mill, Winnipeg River, water, 10,000 feet per day.

Big Black Island mill, Big Black Island, steam, 8000 per day.

Bad Throat River mill, Bad Throat River, water, 10,000 per day.

Sandy Bar mill, Sandy Bar, steam, 6000 per day.

Belmont mill, Nelsonville, steam, 6000 feet per day.

Mountain City mill, Mountain City, steam, 4000 feet per day.

Lizard Lake mill, Lizard Lake, steam, 2000 feet per day.

Boyne mill, Boyne River, steam, 3000 feet per day.

Preston mills, Preston, steam, 5000 feet per day.

Point du Chene mill, Point du Chene, steam, 6000 feet per day.

Rapid City Mill, Rapid City, steam, 7,500 feet per day.

Balkwill mill, near Rapid City, water, 2000 feet per day.

Rolling River mill, Rolling River, water, 6000 feet per day.

Totogon mill, Totogon, steam, 10,000 feet per day.

Portage mill, Portage la Prairie, steam, 7000 feet per day.

High Bluff mill, High Bluff, steam, 10,000 feet per day.

Gladstone mill, Gladstone, steam, 5000 feet per day.

White Mud River mill, White Mud, water, 6000 feet per day.

Grassy River mill, Grassy River, steam, 5000 feet per day.

Squirrel Creek mill, Squirrel Creek, steam, 2000 feet per day.

Morris mill, Morris, steam, 3000 feet per day.

Dick & Banning mill, Winnipeg, steam, 10,000 feet per day.

Brown & Rutherford mill, Winnipeg, steam, 10,000 feet per day.

Notre Dame street mill, Winnipeg, steam, 3000 feet per day.

Macaulay mill, Winnipeg, steam, 25,000 feet per day.

Joseph Whitehead mill, St. Boniface.

Capt. Moore mill, Prince Albert, N.W.T.

McLeod mill, Edmonton, N.W.T.

The following is a list of mills projected and in course of erection :

Edmonton, Hudson's Bay Co.

Prince Albert, " " "

Rapid City, " " "

Biding Mountain, " " "

Bird Tail Creek, D. W. Cummings.

Tanner's Crossing, J. W. Armitage.

Little Saskatchewan, Roberts & Whimster.

Bird Tail Creek, Donald Gunn.

Big Plain, Hudson's Bay Co.

Big Plain, Wm. Hardy.

Lake of the Woods, Keewatin Lumber Co.

Some of the above mills are completed, but their capacity has not been entered at the office of the Government Timber Agent.

In addition to the above, a mill is being completed at the Lake of the Woods by

the Keewatin Lumber Co., on a very extensive scale, which will be able to supply Manitoba with a large quantity of lumber as soon as the C. P. R. is completed from there. It must not be forgotten also, that the country lying between the Red River and Lake Superior abounds with splendid timber, which will supply the North West with lumber as soon as the Canadian Pacific is built to carry it into the interior. This is one more reason why the line between here and Lake Superior should be completed at as early a date as possible.

## PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION IN MANITOBA.

BY REV. W. CYPRIAN PINKHAM.

The system of public education which was inaugurated in 1871 is becoming year by year of greater value to the country. Considering all that the Province has suffered from repeated grasshopper visitations, and the difficulty of obtaining funds from a population, many of whom found the resources at their disposal for establishing themselves in a new country very limited indeed, it is really surprising that the organization and support of schools should have received such a large share of attention, and that educationists in Ontario should be able to say of a system which has been scarcely nine years in operation: "So far as public school education is concerned, the residents of Manitoba can obtain in the towns and villages, and in many of the rural districts, quite as good advantages for their children as in many of the older provinces." It is a most gratifying fact that, as soon as they become established in their prairie homes, our settlers almost invariably set about the organization of school districts and the establishment of schools, and the result is that schools are now in operation in townships which two or three years ago were without a settler, and much of the land in which was still wild. Visitors to the capital of the Province are struck with the imposing appearance which our school buildings make, and to the credit of the city trustees it must be said that they are leaving no means untried for securing

the utmost efficiency in the various schools under their jurisdiction.

The body entrusted with the administration of the Public School Act is the Board of Education. The Board consists of twenty-one members appointed by the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council, viz.: twelve Protestants and nine Roman Catholics. The appointments are for three years, provision being made for the retirement of seven members each year, who, however, are eligible for reappointment. The Board is empowered to resolve itself into two sections, consisting of the Protestant and Roman Catholic members respectively. Each section has one of its members for its executive officer, with the title of Superintendent. It has the entire management of all the schools of its denomination throughout the Province. It makes all necessary arrangements for the grading and licensing of its teachers, and for the withdrawal of the license upon sufficient cause. It selects all books, maps, etc., to be used in the schools under its jurisdiction, and has power to appoint inspectors, to define their duties and provide for their remuneration. The organization of school districts and the opening of schools rests practically with the people directly interested. The Board of Education has invariably given the utmost encouragement to settlers desirous of establishing schools, and information as to the steps to be taken can at all times be obtained from the Superintendents. After the formation of a school district the freeholders and householders meet at the call, by printed notice, of the Superintendent, for the purpose of electing three trustees, who thus become the guardians of the educational interests of the district—to appoint auditors, and to vote the sum of money to be raised by assessment on all the real and personal property of the district to supplement the Government grant. This grant amounts now to a little over one hundred dollars per annum to each school carried on for the full twelve months. The meeting can, if it pleases, authorize the trustees to borrow a certain amount of money for the erection of a school house, etc. At the annual meeting, which takes place on the first Monday



in February in all the school districts in the Province, the trustee whose term of office has expired retires, and there is a new election to fill his place; the retiring trustee is eligible for re-election. After the first meeting, ratepayers only, *i.e.*, persons residing in the district and who have paid their school tax for the previous year, are entitled to take part in the proceedings or to be elected as trustees. If such meeting refuse to vote a sum of money to carry on the school, no school can be opened for that year, unless a motion to raise money be adopted at a subsequent meeting. The powers and duties of trustees are clearly defined by statute. The Protestant section of the Board of Education, in its programme of examination for teachers, adopted a pretty high standard. Its examiners are professional men of high standing in the province, almost all of whom have been at some time or other engaged in teaching. Its teachers bear excellent moral characters, have as a rule a high sense of duty, and seem most anxious to come up to the standard which our modern ideas require in the profession.

At the present time there are nearly 120 Protestant school districts in the Province, and this number will in all probability be doubled within the next two years. The following summary shows the number of Protestant schools in operation each year since Confederation:—

Year.	No. of Schools.	Total Attendance.
1871	16	816
1872	17	1095
1873	17	1108
1874	22	1248
1875	26	1595
1876	30	1600
1877	38	2027
1878	50	2670
1879	100	

The experience of each year brings to light defects in our system, and discloses circumstances not as yet provided for, but as we look back over the past we cannot help feeling grateful for the measure of success which has been granted to us.

The following gentlemen constitute the Board of Education, *viz.*:

#### PROTESTANT SECTION.

The Most Rev. the Metropolitan of Rupert's Land, Chairman of the whole

Board and of the Protestant section, &c., Bishops' Court, Winnipeg.

The Rev. W. Cyprian Pinkham, Superintendent of Education for Protestant Schools, Education Office, Winnipeg.

The Rev. J. Robertson, Winnipeg.

The Rev. J. F. German, M.A., Winnipeg.

The Rev. Professor Hart, M. A., Winnipeg.

The Rev. Canon O'Meara, M.A., Winnipeg.

The Rev. Alexander Matheson, Springfield.

Stewart Mulvey, Esq., Winnipeg.

Hon. Lieut.-Col. Kennedy, Winnipeg.

Hon. William Hespeler, Winnipeg.

W. B. Hall, Esq., Headingley.

W. J. James, Esq., Portage la Prairie.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC SECTION.

His Grace the Most Rev. Archbishop Tache, Chairman, St. Boniface.

A. A. C. Lariviere, Esq., M.P.P., Superintendent of Education for Roman Catholic Schools, St. Boniface.

The Rev. Father Lacombe, Winnipeg.

The Rev. Father Dugas, St. Boniface.

The Rev. Father Lavoie, Winnipeg.

E. W. Jarvis, Esq., Winnipeg.

A. Kittson, Esq., Winnipeg.

A. McKay, Esq., Lake Manitoba.

Pierre Delorme, Esq., St. Norbert.

## THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN MANITOBA.

BY REV. W. CYPRIAN PINKHAM.

For upwards of half a century missionaries of the Church of England have been laboring in what used to be known as the Hudson's Bay Territory. The first of these was the Rev. John West, who arrived at York Factory from England in 1820. The first Episcopal visit was made by Dr. Mountain, Bishop of Montreal, about the year 1844. On the 21st May, 1849, Her Majesty by Her Letters Patent founded the Bishopric of Rupert's Land, embracing an area extending from the coast of Labrador to the Rocky Mountains in the one

direction, and from the northern boundaries of Quebec, Ontario and the United States, to the Arctic Sea on the other. The first Bishop of Rupert's Land was the Right Rev. D. Anderson, D.D., whose memory is still warm in the hearts of the older settlers of the country. In 1864, Bishop Anderson resigned his office and returned to England. He was succeeded in 1865 by the Right Rev. Robert Machray, D.D., the present Bishop, during whose episcopate the growth of the Church has been both rapid and substantial. One of his first acts was to revive and increase the efficiency of St. John's College. In 1867, the Diocesan Synod was established, which is now rapidly becoming a very important body. In the year 1873 this synod adopted a canon providing for the division of the diocese into four, and the establishment of a provincial organization with the Bishop of Rupert's Land as the metropolitan. The present diocese of Rupert's Land embraces the Province of Manitoba with the District of Cumberland, except the sub-district of Fort la Come, Swan River, Norway House and Lac la Pluie. Missionaries in full orders are laboring in the following localities, viz.: Touchwood Hills, Cumberland, Devon, Fort Alexander, Fairford, St. Peters, Fort Frances and Islington, and there are a number of catechists and school-masters in connection with these.

For many years past the following settlements along the Red and Assiniboine rivers have been centres of church work, with resident clergymen and regular services, viz.: Mapleton, St. Andrew's, St. Paul's, St. James', Headingley, Poplar Point, High Bluff, Portage la Prairie and Westbourne. The parish of St. John, which formerly embraced the City of Winnipeg, has the cathedral, the mother church of the diocese. It is governed by statutes, drawn up by the Bishop and presented to the synod, by whom they have been accepted. Manitoba enjoys the distinction of having the only cathedral constitution, strictly speaking, in North America. The cathedral foundation consists of a dean and canon, its object being, as stated in statute 1, "to secure a body of presbyters who, whilst they shall carry on regularly the services in

the cathedral church and take charge of the souls within the cathedral parish known as St. John's, may be a council for the bishop, as far as he may see fit; may assist him as much as lies in their power in the mission work of the diocese around the cathedral, including at present, while the country is not filled up, new settlements in the neighborhood unprovided with the means of grace, and in the educational work of St. John's College, more especially in the theological school of the same; and may have the cathedral in such order that the bishop and the diocese may be able, as at ordinations, meetings of synod or other occasions in connection with episcopal or diocesan objects, to have divine service conducted becomingly and to edification." It is provided that the chapter shall consist of a dean and six or more canons. A professorship of pastoral theology in St. John's College will probably be attached to the deanery, but as there is no endowment yet provision is made for the bishop being for the time dean. The first and second canonries are attached to the arch-deaconries of Manitoba and Cumberland respectively. The first is still held by the Bishop of Saskatchewan; the third and fourth canonries are attached to the professorships of systematic and exegetical theology. The fifth, which is attached to the professorship of ecclesiastical history, and has been mainly endowed by the bishop, is at present held by him. The interest of the additional endowment goes to the further endowment of the chair. The sixth canonry is attached to a professorship of music and the precentorship, but has not yet a sufficient income to be filled.

The Parish of Holy Trinity, Winnipeg, entirely supports its rector, the Rev. O. Fortin, B.A. Its growth is most gratifying. The northern part of the city, embracing Point Douglas, has been formed into the Parish of Christ Church, the incumbent of which is Rev. Canon Grisdale, B.D. The western portion is included in the Parish of St. James, of which the Rev. W. Cyprian Pinkham has been for eleven years the incumbent.

One of the most important bodies which the rapidly increasing needs of the church in this diocese has called

into existence is the mission board. It consists of the bishop and his archdeacons, and other elected members of the executive committee of the diocesan synod as ex-officio members, and ten additional members elected as follows:

"A list shall be prepared by the secretary of the synod after Easter containing all who have given \$2 or upwards to the Diocesan or Indian Mission Fund since the previous Easter. Every such donor shall have a right to vote for ten or fewer gentlemen on the list. Every donor of \$5 shall have two votes for each of ten or fewer, and every additional \$5 shall give in like manner an additional vote. In case of an equality of votes the other members of the board shall decide who shall be declared elected. If from any cause there should occur a vacancy in the number of the elected members, the mission board shall fill the place by themselves electing another of the qualified subscribers." The mission board has the management of the diocesan fund, from which grants are made to the various parishes and missions of the diocese, in accordance with certain regulations adopted by the synod. It arranges for services in the various new missions of the diocese, and nominates clergymen to fill any mission when the people guarantee the sum required in order that such a step may be taken.

The rapid settlement of the country during the past few years has laid new responsibilities upon the Church, and she has not been idle. Although receiving almost nothing in the way of pecuniary assistance from the Church in Canada, she has tried, as far as the men and means at her disposal would allow, to so extend her ministrations as to embrace as many of the new settlers as possible. For the first three or four years the Cathedral Clergy, assisted by others in the neighborhood, and by the Divinity Students of St. John's College, have conducted services at Woodlands, Victoria, Cook's Creek, &c. Springfield and Sunnyside have been supplied weekly from St. Paul's, and services have been taken more or less regularly at Clandeboye, Totogon, Woodside, Stinking River, Roseau, &c.; &c. Emerson almost from its beginning has had its resident clergyman,

appointed by the Mission Board, and the Boyne and Pembina Mountain was formed into a mission two years ago; and there is also only one clergyman of our Church still in that field, whereas there ought to be three at least. Morris used to receive occasional visits from the missionary at Emerson; for the past year services have been taken there regularly every fortnight, chiefly by Rev. Mr. Pinkham and his brother.

The following arrangements, to take effect as soon as possible, have recently been made by the Mission Board, viz:

The transfer, with his own consent, of the Rev. S. Pritchard, of St. Paul's, to the charge of the Missions on the east side of the Red River; St. Paul's to be worked from the Cathedral; and the appointment of resident clergymen for Morris and Rapid City, and the Sioux Reserve on the Little Saskatchewan.

It is hoped that in less than three months the Victoria group of missions will be similarly provided for, and that a better arrangement for working Ossowo, &c., will soon be effected.

St. John's College, of which mention has already been made, is in a most flourishing condition. The bishop is chancellor and also warden of the college and head master of the college school. It is one of the three colleges in affiliation with the University of Manitoba, and it has a theological faculty for granting the degrees of B.D. and D.D. It has in connection with it a ladies' school, in which the higher education of girls is very thoroughly provided for.

The Church of England in Manitoba is making vigorous efforts to rise fully to its duties and responsibilities in so promising a field. Perhaps I cannot do better than close this article with a quotation from the bishop's address to the synod in 1877:

"Especially would I thank my reverend brethren the clergy for the unbroken loyalty of their conduct, not to me, but to the church, and for their submission of any preferences they may have of their own to the use of the diocese. There is a great field opening before us here, needing men of faith and prayer—men of a loving self-

denying spirit. In all our work we shall need the sympathy and cordial help of all our people: This can only be secured by every one forgetting self and sinking his own private conceits and joining hand-in-hand with his brethren in working with all his might for his Lord. If we honor God and think first of exalting Christ in all our ministry and Christian life, then God will work in us and with us and we shall both enjoy His peace ourselves and be blessed by Him in our labors for His glory."

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

BY REV. JAS. ROBERTSON.

This church is represented in Manitoba and the North West by the Presbytery of Manitoba. There are twenty-seven ministers and missionaries connected with the Presbytery, and actively engaged in Christian work. Religious services are conducted at over 100 different points, and there are between 1100 and 1200 families connected with these congregations and stations. The growth of the church in this country has been rapid and highly satisfactory. As is well known, a large proportion of the immigrants coming to the North West are Presbyterians. In many localities they constitute one half of the population, and in some districts even a higher percentage. Up to the present time the church has supplied every settlement with ordinances, and from the spirit shown by the Presbytery of Manitoba, it would appear as if that body was determined to keep pace with the occupation of the country. The number of ministers may be confidently expected to be increased next spring, and efforts are on foot to secure a Superintendent of Missions. The Presbytery encourages groups of stations to call a minister of their own, and whenever they subscribe a minimum amount of \$300 per annum, the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly supplement this amount, so as to give a salary of \$700 to unmarried ministers, and \$900 to married ministers. Commendable efforts are put forth to erect churches in towns

and country districts, and with marked success. Comfortable churches have been erected at Emerson, Morris, Portage la Prairie, Selkirk, Gladstone, and a number of rural districts. The edifice erected by the congregation of Knox Church, Winnipeg, is a credit to the body and city. Efforts are made to aid new districts in erecting churches by grants from a fund for the purpose. Prudence and vigor characterize the operations of the church in the North West, and it is to be hoped that the future will show as good a record as the past. Several of the ministers of this church render efficient and valuable aid in connection with the educational interests of the country. They are members of the Board of Education and the Council of the University of Manitoba, and materially assist in the examination and executive work of these bodies.

The church maintains Manitoba College, in the city of Winnipeg. The college was established in 1871, and has steadily progressed since that date. There are between 50 or 60 students in attendance this session. The college is affiliated to the University of Manitoba. The subjects of instruction are those comprised in the usual arts course, and several of its students are undergraduates of the University of Manitoba, and proceeding to their degrees. Provision is also made for the training of candidates for the ministry. Although the college is connected with the Presbyterian church the instruction is thoroughly non-sectarian. The following constitute the staff of instructors:—Rev. Geo. Bryce, M.A., LL.B., Professor of Science and Literature; Rev. Thos. Hart, M.A., Professor of Classics and French; Rev. John Black, D.D., Lecturer on Biblical Criticism; Rev. Jas. Robertson, Lecturer on Systematic Theology; Mr. A. Campbell, Elementary Tutor.

Mr. R. Keith exhibited last fall two onions grown by David Stewart, Totogan, one of which weighed 22½ ounces and the other 19 ounces. They were to be taken to the old country by Mr. Robert Campbell, who left for Scotland not long since.

## THE METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA.

BY REV. J. F. GERMAN.

The following are the names and addresses of the ministers of the Methodist Church of Canada in Manitoba and the North West Territory. Any of these ministers, upon being communicated with, will be pleased to give such information as he can to intending settlers.

John F. German, M.A., Winnipeg.  
 Edward Morrow, M.A., "  
 John A. McCamus, "  
 Wilbur W. Andrews, Plympton.  
 Wesley Casson, Selkirk.  
 William T. Dyer, Rockwood.  
 Charles Mearing, Meadow Lea.  
 James M. Harrison, High Bluff.  
 John W. Bell, B.D., Nelsonville.  
 Charles E. Blakely, Pomeroy.  
 George Young, D.D., Emerson.  
 Andrew Stewart, B.D., Crystal City.  
 Arthur B. Haines, Morris.  
 William Halstead, Portage la Prairie.  
 William R. Morrison, Palestine.  
 John Walton, Salisbury, N.W.T.  
 Thomas Lawson, Rapid City, N.W.T.  
 H. Rose, Birtle (Shoal Lake), N.W.T.  
 Andrew W. Ross, Beren's River.  
 Orrin German, Norway House.  
 Enos Langford, Oxford House.  
 Arthur Whitesides, Edmonton, N.W.T.  
 Jas. A. McLachlen, Victoria, N.W.T.  
 Henry Steinhauer, Whitefish Lake,  
 N. W. T.  
 John McDougall, Morley, N.W.T.  
 Henry M. Manning, Fort McLeod,  
 N. W. T.

## THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE NORTH WEST.

Nobody can be surprised to hear that the Catholic Church is established in the Canadian North West. It would be, on the contrary, a matter of astonishment, if, unlike herself, the mother-church had not been the first in the field, and if her zealous missionaries had not been among the pioneers in this vast and important region.

Two centuries ago this country was unknown, and its access a quasi impossibility. Nevertheless, the voice of the Catholic priest resounded in the

immense forest and unbounded prairies, and was echoed by the icebergs of Hudson's Bay. Yes, in going back two hundred years, we find the Catholic religion in the far west with its apostles and martyrs. Father Dalmas was deeply engaged in the study of Indian languages, to enable him to preach the gospel to the savages of Hudson's Bay, when he was killed about the year 1690. In 1736, the zealous Father Arnaud fell a victim to the cruel and treacherous Sioux. A tribe of this barbarous nation called the "Sioux de Canots" ("Canoe Sioux") was marauding in the vicinity of Lake of the Woods, when they met a party of Canadians accompanied by Father Arnaud, and massacred the whole of them. The good Father was found, his breast open, an arrow through his head, a knee and hand resting on the ground, and the other hand raised towards Heaven, no doubt to implore forgiveness for his murderers, and mercy for himself and his companions.

The conquest of Canada by England interrupted the Catholic missions in the North West. The help and encouragement afforded by the French Government was stopped. The religious orders, which had furnished a host of indefatigable missionaries, were suppressed, and their property confiscated by the new rulers. The wealthiest French Canadians left the country; the remainder of the population, ruined by the war, required all the energy and devotedness of their secular clergy to enable them to overcome the difficulties of all sorts by which they were surrounded.

For about seventy years there was no missionary in the North West. In 1818, the good work of the previous centuries was resumed. Two French Canadian priests, from Quebec, embarked in a frail birch canoe, and following the old route pursued by their predecessors, they travelled up the Ottawa, down the French river, then along the shores of Lake Huron and Superior. At this last place they started a mission, then under the care of some of their *confreres*. Thence they proceeded to the Lake of the Woods and Winnipeg river, went up the Red river, and on the 16th July

landed at Fort Douglas, now Point Douglas of the city of Winnipeg. Soon after, the Catholic missionaries crossed to St. Boniface, and there they planned and began the powerful organization which has been developed since.

It was the seed of the gospel which cast deep roots in the rich soil of the Red River valley, and has secured the growth of the noble tree whose branches extend over Manitoba and the North West, and gives a rich crop of religious, educational and charitable fruits.

The first church, the first college, the first hospital in this country, are due to the zeal of the Catholic missionaries.

Now public attention, not only in America, but even in Europe, is fixed on the Canadian North West, and as there are likely Catholics who wish to come to this country it is important that they should know the situation of their church, and what facilities they will find here to accomplish their own duties, and to secure for their children the kind of education true Catholics appreciate above all other advantages.

The object of our journal being to make known the resources of the country and the attractions it offers to all classes of good citizens, we thought it our duty to give a series of articles by which Catholics may be made acquainted with the condition of their church in our midst.

The Catholic church has completed her organization in this part of British America by the creation of an Ecclesiastical Province with the Archbishop of St. Boniface as metropolitan. Said Province comprehends the Archdiocese of St. Boniface, the diocese of St. Albert, the Apostolic Vicariate of Athabasca, Mackenzie, and the Apostolic Vicariate of British Columbia. The last division lying outside of the limits of the country we have in view, is merely mentioned here, and our attention directed to the three other divisions of the Ecclesiastical Province of St. Boniface.

The Diocese of St. Albert occupies the portion of the North West watered by the different branches of the Saskatchewan, the Churchill river, and the part of the Athabasca river which runs from its sources to the first rapid

below the mouth of the little Riviere a la Biche.

The Apostolic Vicariate of Athabasca-Mackenzie comprehends the balance of the lands watered by the immense river Mackenzie, and its large and numerous tributaries. Therefore the portion of the Ecclesiastical Province of St. Boniface west of the Rocky Mountains extends from the gigantic chain to the eastern boundary of Keewatin, and from the American line to the Arctic Sea.

This vast extent of country, under the jurisdiction to-day of several prelates, was formerly entrusted to the care of the Bishop or Archbishop of Quebec. In 1844 it was detached from the Old Metropolis of Canada, and created an Apostolic Vicariate. In 1849 a regular Episcopal See was erected in the country, under the name, first of Diocese of the North West, and subsequently Diocese of St. Boniface. The province of the latter name was formed in 1871, shewing all along a regular development, notwithstanding all the impediments encountered necessarily under the circumstances.

The Catholics have no missionary stations in the north-east extremity of the country. All their establishments lie south-west of an imaginary diagonal line, which could be traced from the intersection of the 49° latitude, with 90° longitude, to the intersection of the 70° latitude, with 130° longitude; that is to say, on a triangle with a basis of about two thousand miles, and sides of fourteen and eleven hundred miles respectively. Such is the field in which we shall study the action of the Catholic clergy.

Mr. Frederick Salters, of St. James' parish, has raised from his market garden this season over 30,000 heads of cabbage and cauliflowers, 10,000 bunches of celery, and potatoes, carrots, beets, parsnips, onions, turnips, etc., in quantities unknown — and all from a patch of ground a little over ten acres. He has also sold 5,000 bunches of celery to Mr. Saunders, huckster. What he can't grow in the vegetable line isn't worth growing.

## ROBBED WHILE DRUNK.

This is the story we unfortunately hear too often in our midst. Some stranger has arrived in the city, and has fallen in with those whom he takes for friends, and consequently, the social glass is indulged in. The stranger, happy in having arrived at his journey's end, becomes happier still under the influence of whiskey, and from friends those into whose hands he has fallen soon become boon companions. The result is more than likely a debauch, and the night is spent in fun and frolic; it seems to our stranger that he has all of a sudden become acquainted with a lot of jolly good fellows, and of course he cannot refuse his confidence to such disinterested friends. They tell him of innumerable chances for making a fortune in the new land, and in his rather exalted state of mind he believes them, and in return tells them that he has a considerable amount of money about him, probably showing them at the same time the pocket in which he keeps it. The spree is kept up with full vigor until late in the night, and our stranger goes to bed happy—so happy, indeed, that he falls into a sound slumber at once, from which he does not waken until late the next morning. His first thought on awakening is his money—his first act is to search for it—but it is gone, and he finds himself all at once converted into a stranger indeed in a strange land, without a dollar to pay for his next meal. He then remembers his friends of the previous night—he finds them and states his loss—but he is surprised to observe that their manner has become wonderfully cool towards him, and of course they know nothing about the lost money, nor do they seem to care about assisting to find it. He next applies to the police, and is obliged to describe his companions of the previous night. Sometimes it happens that the money is found on one of the jolly good fellows with whom our stranger had been drinking, but generally it is lost forever, never to be recovered, and then the unfortunate victim finds himself on the street, looking for work to pay for his food in a strange land, a poorer, but probably a wiser man than when he arrived. This is no fancy sketch, but is of frequent occurrence here, and in

support of this we refer anyone to the newspapers of the day published in Manitoba.

Our readers, however, especially those living at a distance, must not conclude from this that Manitoba is a very wicked place—on the contrary it is notable for the law-abiding character of its citizens, and, for a frontier country, is remarkable for the orderly conduct of the people. This can be readily understood when it is remembered that we have so far been blessed with a superior class of settlers, and have had a very small proportion of roughs and desperadoes in the large immigration that has taken place here. In striking contrast to many of the pioneer settlements of the Western States, where we so often hear of deeds of violence and lawlessness, we find Manitoba enjoying perfect security to life and prosperity. But there are always a few men of the vilest stamp frequenting some of our taverns, and these are generally on the look out for a stranger to sponge on him, and to take advantage of him, if he is foolish enough to allow himself to be cajoled by them. Now the safest plan for the immigrant is to avoid intoxicating drink altogether; he can get along very well in this country without it; there is no reason whatsoever for him to indulge in the use of it here—and he will get on much better altogether without it. His head will be clear; he will avoid any traps laid for him, and he will go to work at once without losing valuable time.

## THE SEASONS, ETC.

As we intend to give particular attention in the future to matters connected with the climate of Manitoba and the North West; we will merely give a hasty sketch for the present, of the seasons, rain, fall, frost, etc.

The seasons are as follows:—*Spring*—April and May. Snow disappears rapidly, and ground dries up quickly, sowing commences from the middle towards the end of April, and finishes in the beginning of May. *Summer*—June, July, August, and part of September. Weather bright and clear with frequent showers—very warm at times during the day—night cool and refreshing—

harvesting commences about the end of August, and ends about the middle of September.

*Autumn.*—Part of September and October.

Perhaps the most enjoyable season of the year—The air is balmy and exceedingly pleasant. At this period of the year the prairie fires rage, and the atmosphere has rather a smoky appearance, not disagreeable, however.

*Winter.*—November, December, January, February, March.

In the early part of November, the Indian summer generally commences, then follows the loveliest portion of the season, which usually lasts from nine days to a fortnight. The weather warm, the atmosphere hazy and calm, and every object appearing to wear a tranquil and drowsy aspect. Then comes winter, generally ushered in by a soft fleecy fall of snow, succeeded by days of extreme clearness with a steel blue sky and invigorating atmosphere, not too cold. In December the winter regularly sets in and, until the end of March, the weather continues steady, with perhaps one thaw in January, and occasionally snow-storms. The days are clear and bright, and the cold much softened by the brilliancy of the sun.

The winter nights of Manitoba are really splendid, generally with a clear and starlight sky, and when the moon throws her full orbéd face towards the earth, the scene is one of peerless grandeur. The cold, as a general thing, is not as much felt by individuals as in Quebec and even parts of Ontario, on account of the stillness of the air and brilliancy of the sun.

In the winter the frost penetrates on exposed places to the depth of from three to four feet, that is where the earth is lightly covered with snow. Where it is covered with snow, it is seldom frozen deeper than eighteen inches. Vegetation begins and progresses before the frost is all out of the ground; sowing is generally commenced when it is thawed to the depth of six inches, at which time the surface is perfectly dry. It is a fact that this frost helps the growth of crops, owing to the heat of the sun by day causing a continual evaporation from the underlying strata of frost.

The rain-fall of Manitoba is peculiarly favorable to agriculture. In the spring and summer there are refreshing showers

at short intervals, and what is termed a dry season is seldom or ever known.

During the harvest time, it seldom happens that farmers are annoyed or put back by wet weather, while during the time the crops are growing their eyes are gladdened by the fresh invigorating showers so peculiar to the country, and this feature of itself is perhaps one of the greatest boons known to the agriculturist.

We have the testimony of the Hon. Mr. Sutherland, Senator, who has lived in the Province for over fifty-three years, that he has never known an epidemic in Manitoba. The country places are entirely free from fevers, agues and other ills, and since the City of Winnipeg has been thoroughly drained, there have been few cases of sickness within its limits. Mr. Sutherland also states, that small-pox has never been known within the limits of the Province. During 1877-8. while that loathsome disease was prevalent amongst the Icelandic settlers on Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba was spared the scourge. For this extreme healthfulness of our country, we have much to thank the Almighty—we consider this healthful state of the climate of Manitoba as of paramount importance to the farmer, for what to him are fair fields and meadows, beautiful crops and the acquisition of wealth, if to attain them he is obliged to sacrifice his own health and that of his family? The dryness of the air, the character of the soil, which retains no stagnant pools to send forth poisonous exhalations, and the almost total absence of fog or mist; the brilliancy of the sunlight; the pleasing succession of its seasons, all combine to make Manitoba a climate of unrivalled salubrity, and the home of a healthy, prosperous and joyous people.

#### PARAGRAPHS.

Stobart, Eden & Co., have at their store twelve potatoes, brought from their farm at Duck Lake, N.W.T., aggregating a weight of seventeen pounds.

Mr. John Higgins, of Winnipeg, had a patch of tomatoes 20x60 feet, from which, after supplying his family, he sold 2,500 lbs. of the fruit. And yet some people say that tomatoes won't grow in this "chilly region."



We have received from Mr. Thomas Wells, of Greenwood, two remarkable stools of barley. One has no less than twenty-four heads, the heads averaging sixty grains each, making a return of 1,440 fold.

Albert Brazier left at this office in September, a pumpkin weighing forty pounds. The seeds, which cost twenty-five cents apiece, were planted on the first of June, so that some pretty tall growing was done in the meantime.

In the garden of Mr. John H. McTavish, at Fort Garry, a castor-oil plant in September attained a height of about seven feet—grown from a bean planted in June last. The plant was a stately one of magnificent proportions, and was an ornament to the plot in which it had thriven so remarkably.

*Marquette Review*: "Mr. Vay, of High Bluff, has just got through his threshing and reports thirty-one bushels of good wheat, sixty-five bushels of black oats, and thirty-five bushels of barley to the acre, off land cropped successively for eighteen years. This is a good fair sample." Those eastern editors who are fond of alluding to the "chilly region" above the 49th parallel will please post this in their hats.

We have been shown a sample of spring wheat brought from the farm of Donald McLeod, of Edmonton, by Capt. Smith of Springfield, which will compare favorably with any ever shown on Canada or anywhere else. It is wonderfully plump and bright, and is an incontrovertible evidence of the richness of the soil in the Edmonton region, which, it is claimed, will grow as fine wheat as can be produced in any part of the world.

Mr. H. Rose, an Englishman, who went to High Bluff four months ago, is putting up a new mill and building a nice residence. Mr. J. C. Ball, of Totogan, is also finishing his store at High Bluff. The crops out in that direction are said to be "things of beauty" in the eyes of the farmers; oats especially being wonderfully good. It is said that the yield will run up to sixty and seventy bushels to the acre, while in some cases it will go as high as one hundred, and perhaps more.

The *International* states that Mr. Stevens, tp. 2, range 7, obtained from seven and one-half bushels of oats sown on an average of eighty bushels to the acre; but as the weight of the grain was forty pounds to the bushel, this would make an average of ninety-four bushels to the acre. Mr. S. Ray, of the same township, had a yield of thirty-five bushels to the acre of wheat that weighed sixty-six pounds to the bushel. Truly it may be said of this country that nature is in such good humor that she has only to be tickled with a plow to laugh herself into a harvest.

## REVIEWS.

*The Great Fur Land*: We have received a copy of this work, written by our old friend Major Robinson. Many of our readers in Manitoba will remember the Major when he occupied the position of Acting American Consul at Winnipeg, previous to the coming of J. W. Taylor, Esq. Well, Major Robinson has written a book containing sketches of his experiences in the North West. It is well written, the scenes are vividly described and the characters of the people faithfully delineated. Numerous illustrations adorn the book and, on the whole, it is a credit both to Major Robinson as an author and to Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons as publishers. We are indebted to Major Robinson for the greater portion of the sketch in this number entitled "The Buffalo Hunt."

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

I desire to publicly acknowledge the courtesy and liberality of the following Railways towards me when I had under my management the Manitoba Exhibit:—The St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba; the Chicago, Minneapolis & St. Paul; Chicago & North Western, and Grand Trunk Railways carried the products free over their lines. I found the officers of these roads to be courteous gentlemen, and they assisted me in every way to forward the two cars containing the exhibit as speedily as possible. In fact, it was owing to their exertions and the interest they took in the matter that the Manitoba products arrived in such good condition at Ottawa. I must also include so far as courtesy and attention is concerned the officers of the Michigan Central and St. Lawrence & Ottawa Railways, and although these lines made a charge for carriage, it was a small one in comparison to the usual rates. I take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the kindness and liberality of these Railways.

•ALEXANDER BEGG.

Dec. 26th, 1879.

## TRANSACTIONS IN DOMINION LANDS.

To those contemplating removal to Manitoba and the North West—to the land of “illimitable possibilities,” as Beaconsfield aptly puts it—it may prove of practical value to know, somewhat in detail, the extent and direction of settlement in this new country. There is a vague notion abroad upon the public mind in the eastern provinces that Manitoba and the North West are already full; that at least all the good land has already found its way into the hands of actual settlers and speculators. This impression is industriously endeavored to be confirmed and fastened upon immigrants by interested holders of railway and other lands in the United States; through which country, unfortunately, all who come here are at present obliged to pass.

The figures given in this article ought, we are inclined to believe, to have the immediate effect of setting the intending settler right on this matter. They ought, they no doubt will, convince him there is still room in this country for him, his friends—“his cousins and his aunts,” etc.

In order to fully appreciate the figures, it is necessary that the intending settler should fasten upon his mind the fact that we have a wide-spread domain of unparalleled fertility—“a grand level plateau, of forest, prairie and stream of 84,000 square miles or 54,000,000 acres.” The most of it is pronounced by good authorities to be “a deep rich black loam, unequalled in quality and fertility and apparently inexhaustible,” and capable of sustaining a population of from twenty-five to thirty millions of agriculturists and workmen.

Through the courtesy of the Dominion Lands Officials we are enabled to present the transactions in Dominion lands from the establishment of the office in 1872, till the 31st of October last, as follows:

STATEMENT showing total acreage of land disposed of since establishment of Dominion Lands offices at Winnipeg in 1872 to October 31st, 1879.

YEAR.	Homesteads No. of acres.	Pre-emptions No. of acres.	Sales No. of acres.	M B Warrants No. of acres.	F T Culture No. of acres.
From establish- ment of office in 1872 to October 31st, 1875.....	485,760	163,313	55,191	135,116	
31st October 1876..	55,520	42,080	28,273	27,680	480
31st October 1877..	131,901 50	98,809 02	160,395 76½	12,318 13	1999 55
31st October 1878..	280,022 28½	251,192 49½	132,344 96½	13,433 60	5598 28
Totals.....	953,203 78½	550,394 51½	376,204 73	118,547 73	8077 83

It will be seen that the homestead and preemption and forest tree culture claims amounted, from the establishment of the office in Winnipeg to the 31st October, 1878, to 1,511,674 acres against 572,828 acres sold for cash and upon which military bounty warrants were placed, thus showing that up to nearly the close of 1878, at least land speculators had not operated extensively in Dominion lands.

We now propose to give a statement of the transactions in Dominion lands for 1878-9, from the first of November of the former till the 31st of October of the present year. In order to trace the drift of settlement it will be necessary to indicate the territory embraced within each district. The Emerson district comprises all lands for sale and settlement in townships 1 to 7 inclusive, in ranges 1, 2 and 3 west, and townships 1 to 7 inclusive east of the principal meridian, except townships 5, 6 and 7, ranges 7 and 8, and the south east quarter of township 7, range 6, which have been added to Winnipeg district.

The following statement shows the quantity of land entered in the district above described during the year ending 31st October last.

## STATEMENT of business of Dominion Lands office at Emerson, for year ending October 31, 1879.

MONTHS.	Homesteads.		Pre-emptions.		F. T. Culture.		Sales.		Mil. Warrants	
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.
Nov. 1878	19	3042	17	2720	1	160	2	800	0	0
Dec. 1878	12	1920	9	1440	0	0	1	640	2	480
January, 1879	8	1280	6	960	0	0	6	1700	0	0
February	7	1120	6	960	0	0	1	320	0	0
March	36	5760	33	5280	2	320	8	1296 18	0	0
April	54	8640	49	7680	3	480	9	2080	1	160
May	54	8640	50	8000	10	1600	31	17989 92	1	320
June	54	8640	18	2880	11	1760	5	2100 94	5	800
July	69	11040	31	4080	59	9440	71	25994 34	11	3360
August	34	5120	5	480	0	0	10	2226 91	1	160
Sept.	701	102400	17	2640	0	0	48	5520	0	0
October	6	800	5	640	0	0	18	3685	0	0
	1054	158402	245	37740	86	13760	210	64363 29	21	5280

Dufferin district, having its office at Nelsonville, in the Pembina Mountains, comprises all lands open for sale and settlement in townships 1 to 7 inclusive west of range 3 west. The following is the statement for the year for this district :

## STATEMENT of business of Dominion Lands office at Nelsonville for year ending Oct. 31, 1879.

MONTHS.	Homesteads.		Pre-emptions.		Sales.		Mil. Warrants		Wood Lots.	
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.
Nov. 1878	39	6240	33	5280	14	2890 85	1	160	18	300
Dec. 1878	22	3520	23	3680	7	2246 80	4	640	19	370
January, 1879	16	2516	13	2080	6	1440	6	320	6	120
February	14	2240	14	2240	6	1601	2	320	4	80
March	71	11360	70	11200	5	960	3	480	10	196
April	257	41120	249	39840	35	7563 89	4	640	23	650
May	304	49640	269	43040	30	9390 15	1	160	14	270
June	136	21760	101	10160	28	8322 67	2	320	14	280
July	105	16800	67	10720	64	21400 36	12	1920	23	440
August	12	1920	11	1760						
Sept.	9	1440	7	1120	1	160				
October	11	1760	11	1760	2	320				
	996	159316	868	138880	198	56595 72	29	4640	141	2700

The following statement indicates the extent of settlement west of the Province line: It is called the Little Saskatchewan district and comprises all lands west of range 12, or Province boundary, in townships 11 to 22 inclusive :

## STATEMENT of business of Dominion Lands office at Little Saskatchewan for year ending October 31, 1879.

MONTHS.	Homesteads.		Pre-emptions.		Sales.		M. B. & P. Warrants.		Wood Lots.	
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.
November, 1878	35	5600	33	5 280	21	7200 43	3	480		
December, 1878	24	3840	24	3 840	7	1800	5	800		
January, 1879	10	1600	10	1 600	9	3920				
February	16	2560	16	2 560	16	7203 30			12	240
March	32	5120	33	5 280	18	4284 96	14	2240	4	80
April	284	45240	139	22 240	53	15867	6	960	4	80
May	260	41600	30	4 800	31	10825 10			6	120
June	179	28640	62	9 920	18	5121 84			16	320
July	149	23840	17	2 640	26	9519 62	13	2074 69	9	180
August	17	1518 25	10	880	2	240	1	160	3	60
September	23	2560	15	1 598 25	8	584 80				
October	24	3440	7	720	5	100			8	160
	1033	162558 25	396	61958 25	214	65977 05	42	6714 69	62	1240

The following statement indicates the operations in Dominion lands at the Winnipeg office. This district is described as comprising all lands open for sale and settlement north of the township line between townships 7 and 8 and east of Lake Manitoba, and the range line between ranges 5 and 6, together with the Settlement Belt and all lands claimed under clauses 31 and 32 of the "Manitoba Act." The small amount of business shown for the year in this district is owing to the fact that most of the territory is included in the Half-breed and original railway reserves, and does not include lands in the settlement belt, or those claimed under the Manitoba Act.

STATEMENT of business of Dominion Lands office at Winnipeg for year ending Oct. 31, 1878.

MONTHS.	Homesteads.		Pre-emptions.		F. T. Culture.		Sales.		Mil. Warrants	
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.
November, 1878	10	1600	8	1280	0	0	18	2356 75	3	450
December, "	8	1280	6	960	0	0	5	670	1	160
January, 1879	4	640	1	160	0	0	25	600	0	0
February "	4	640	3	400	0	0	4	341 45	3	480
March "	12	1920	11	1760	0	0	19	2402 32	0	0
April "	17	2720	7	1120	1	160	29	1064 74	1	160
May "	25	4000	14	2240	0	0	11	3398 40	0	0
June "	5	800	0	0	0	0	4	665 15	0	0
July "	24	3840	0	0	0	0	17	2394 45	1	160
August "	55	4400	42	3360	0	0	1	160	0	0
September "	10	800	3	240	0	0	4	640	0	0
October "	15	1400	4	320	0	0	2	190	0	0
	189	24040	99	11920	1	160	130	14863 26	9	1440

The Portage la Prairie district comprises all lands open for sale, and settlement north of the township line, between townships 7 and 8, and west of Lake Manitoba, to range 12, inclusive, and south of the third correction line, to township 7, and south of third correction line, west of province line. The following table exhibits the business of this district for the year.

STATEMENT of business of Portage la Prairie Dominion Lands office for year ending Oct. 31, '79.

MONTHS.	Homest'ds		Pre-cmt'ns		Sc'p & C'sh		M. B. War.		Wood Lots		No. of Acres for F. T. Culture	Total No. of Acres.
	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.	No.	Acres.		
November, '78	20	3200	18	2880	2	320			34	717		9117 40
December, "	17	2720	17	2720	2	640	1	160	11	213		6153
January, 1879	4	640	4	640	1	160	1	160	8	169		1769 50
February "	2	320	2	320	1	160			1	20		820
March "	13	2080	10	1600	6	1048	1	160	3	60		4948
April "	70	11200	37	5920	6	2560	1	160	2	40	1 0	20040
May "	41	6560	15	2400	5	800			1	23		9783
June "	34	5440	9	1440	4	560					160	7600
July "	44	7040	8	1280	12	3294 70	2	320	1	20		11934 70
August "	2	160	1	80	2	320						560
September "	1	160			1	160	1	160				480
October "									1	20		20
	248	30520	121	19280	42	9922 70	7	1120	62	1282	320	71525 60

The transactions at the various offices for the year ending, 31st October last, may be summarized as follows :

Winnipeg, 14,863 sales,	ACRES.	Emerson, 64,363 sales,	ACRES.
" 1,440 warrants,		" 5,280 warrants,	
" 24,040 homesteads,		" 158,402 homesteads,	
" 11,920 pre-emptions,		" 37,740 pre-emptions,	
" 160 forest tree culture.		" 13,760 forest tree culture,	
<b>Total, 52,423</b>		<b>Total, 279,545</b>	

ACRES.		ACRES.	
Nelsonville, 78,735 sales,		Portage,	9,922 sales,
" 4,640 warrants,		" "	1,120 warrants,
" 159,316 homesteads,		" "	39,520 homesteads,
" 138,880 pre-emptions,		" "	19,280 pre-emptions,
" 16,640 forest tree culture,		" "	320 forest tree culture.

Total, 398,211

Total, 70,162

ACRES.	
Little Saskatchewan, 65,977 sales,	
" 6,714 warrants,	
" 162,558 homesteads,	
" 61,358 pre-emptions,	
" 160 forest tree culture,	

Total, 296,967