

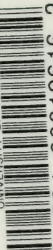
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A SHORT HISTORY



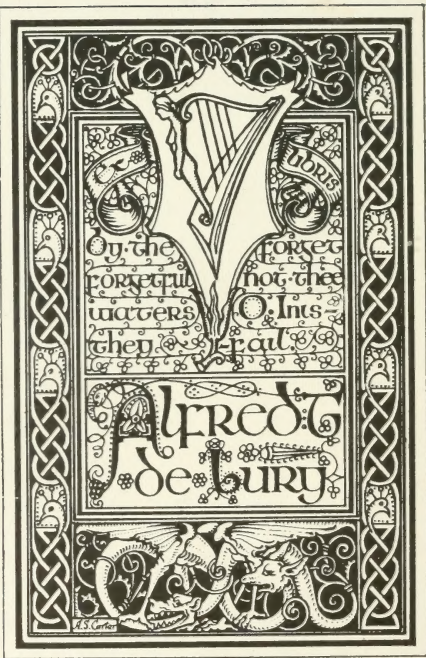
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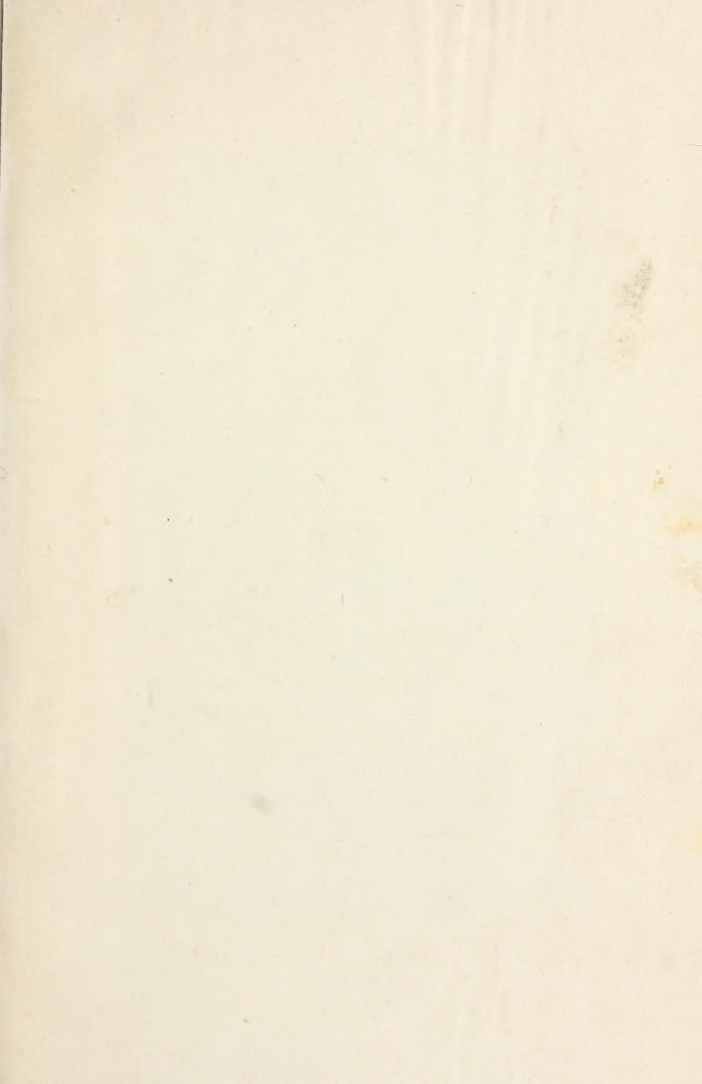
Alfred the Great



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KING EDWARD VII.

Gage's New Educational Series

THE
PRAIRIE PROVINCES

A SHORT HISTORY

OF

MANITOBA, SASKATCHEWAN, AND ALBERTA

BEING A REVISION OF "A HISTORY OF MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST
TERRITORIES"

FOR USE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

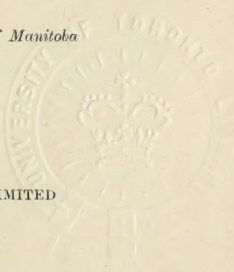
BY

D. M. DUNCAN, M.A.

FORMERLY OF THE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, WINNIPEG

Authorized for use in the Schools of Manitoba

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PREFACE TO NEW EDITION.

SINCE the publication of this book, under the title of "A History of Manitoba and the North-West Territories," many events of importance have happened in Western Canada, notably the formation of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. To meet the demand for an up-to-date history a thorough revision has been made. It is the hope of the author that "The Prairie Provinces" will be found to present the story of the West in a form at once complete and accurate.

The aim of this book — the method of treatment being suggestive rather than exhaustive — is to arouse in the boys and girls who attend our schools an interest in the history of the West. To appreciate our country's past is to take a long step toward the realization of its future.

In connection with the illustration of the work, author and publisher acknowledge indebtedness to Rev. Geo. Bryce, LL.D., Rev. R. G. MacBeth, Rev. J. A. Macdonald, and The Linscott Publishing Company, for permission to use illustrations controlled by them. By their courtesy the educational value of the book has been increased.

D. M. D.

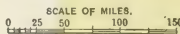
TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I. <i>Introduction</i>	9
CHAPTER II. <i>The Founding of the Hudson's Bay Company</i>	17
CHAPTER III. <i>The Rivalry of French and English on Hudson Bay</i>	25
CHAPTER IV. <i>Exploration</i>	32
CHAPTER V. <i>Exploration (continued)</i>	38
CHAPTER VI. <i>The Traders and the Indians</i>	46
CHAPTER VII. <i>The Rivalry of the Fur Companies</i>	53
CHAPTER VIII. <i>The Far North</i>	63
CHAPTER IX. <i>The Red River Settlement</i>	70
CHAPTER X. <i>Missions and Schools</i>	78
CHAPTER XI. <i>The Red River Rebellion</i>	85—
CHAPTER XII. <i>Early Conditions in the North-West Territories</i>	93—
CHAPTER XIII. <i>The Saskatchewan Rebellion</i>	102—
CHAPTER XIV. <i>The Organization of the North-West Territories</i>	113
CHAPTER XV. <i>Saskatchewan and Alberta</i>	120
CHAPTER XVI. <i>The Present North-West Territories and the Yukon</i>	123
CHAPTER XVII. <i>Our People</i>	126
CHAPTER XVIII. <i>Our Government</i>	136
<i>Bibliographical Notes</i>	147
<i>A Few Important Dates, 1600-1900</i>	148
<i>The Pronunciation of Proper Names</i>	150

ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE		PAGE
King Edward VII ..	<i>Frontispiece</i>	Queen Victoria ..	96
Landing of the First White Men	11	Foot Parade of North-West Mounted Police ..	99
Cabot, Cartier, and Champlain ..	13	Mounted Police Badge ..	100
Trading with Indians ..	15	Fort Qu'Appelle ..	105
Arms of Hudson's Bay Company	17	Major Steele ..	110
Prince Rupert ..	19	Hudson's Bay Company's Fort, Edmonton ..	111
Early Trading-Post ..	22	Government Buildings, North-West Territories ..	114
Le Moyne d'Iberville ..	25	North-West Mounted Police Barracks, Regina ..	117
Hudson's Bay Company's Ships	28	Winter Travel in the Yukon ..	124
Capture of Fort Nelson ..	30	On the Way to the Homestead ..	130
Junction of Red and Assiniboine Rivers ..	35	These Galicians are Canadians	132
Fort Prince of Wales ..	39	A Doukhobor Family ..	134
Sir Alexander Mackenzie	43	Parliament Buildings, Ottawa ..	136
Cree Indian ..	48	Manitoba Government Buildings	140
Assiniboine Indian ..	49	Legislative Buildings, Regina ..	142
Blackfoot Indian ..	50	Legislative Buildings, Edmonton	144
Indian Tepee ..	51		
Lord Selkirk ..	53	MAPS.	
Fort William ..	54	Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta ..	8
Seven Oaks Monument ..	59	Hudson Bay ..	20
Sir George Simpson ..	61	D'Iberville's Route ..	26
Sir John Franklin ..	63	Vérendrye's Route ..	33
Sir George Back ..	66	Hearne's, Mackenzie's, Thompson's and Fraser's Routes ..	41
Red River Cart ..	72	Location of Indian Tribes ..	47
Fort Garry ..	74	Selkirk Settlers' Route ..	56
Archbishop Taché ..	79	Athabaska District, etc. ..	64
Archbishop Machray ..	81	Military Officers' Routes ..	107
Rev. John Black, D.D. ..	83		
Rev. Geo. Young, D.D. ..	84		
Sir Garnet Wolseley ..	86		
Louis Riel ..	87		
Lord Strathcona ..	89		
Hon. John Norquay ..	91		

MANITOBA SASKATCHEWAN and ALBERTA.



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Longitude

West 108° fr

Greenwich 104°

100°

96°

92°



Greenwich

104°

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CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

DID you ever think how great the excitement would be, if some great captain should come back to England to-day and tell that he had discovered a large new land that had never been found by white men before? Such excitement the people of Spain and England and France felt, about four

The Great Discoverers. hundred years ago, when great adventurers like Columbus, and Cabot, and Cartier first came across the ocean from Europe, and returned with their most interesting stories of the marvellous country they had discovered.

The finding of a new world was sure to cause great excitement in Europe. In their homes, in their business places, on the street, men would be

sure to talk more about this great subject than about any other. The wealthy people, the young men who loved adventure, the watchful and progressive

Excitement in Europe. merchants, the nobility, and even the Kings of England and France gradually became aroused in regard

to the wonderful country across the ocean—the land of large rivers, of endless forests, of sea-like lakes, of vast prairies, of unknown wealth in fish, and fur-bearing animals, and minerals.

To this mysterious land came good missionaries, to bring the gospel and education and higher forms

Missionaries and Traders. of living; and keen traders and merchants, to become rich by trading with the Indians, chiefly for furs; and

bold adventurers who are ever ready to go into new and wild territories, partly for sport, partly for the joy of discovery, and partly from national pride in aiding to extend the possessions of their own country.

How strangely they must have felt, those brave men who first dared to cross the wide ocean to the unknown land! What hopes, what fears they must have had! The very mystery that was connected

The Wonders of Discovery. with every day's experiences was full of attraction. On the ocean they wondered day by day when

they would see the new land, and what kind of land it would be when they reached it. As they travelled

up or down the coast in search of openings into, or through, or past the land, which they at first supposed was only an island that lay between them and China, they watched and waited anxiously hour by hour to learn what they knew had never yet been learned. And as they made their way slowly into the two great openings which they found into the



LANDING OF THE FIRST WHITE MEN.

heart of the continent, one the St. Lawrence River and the other Hudson Bay, they saw new wonders every minute. They must have marvelled at the beauty of the thousand bays and islands; at the immensity of the country they were exploring; at the number of fish, and birds, and animals; at the size and number of the rivers; at the splendid trees that covered the eastern portion, which they

saw first; and at the habits of the uncivilized men who owned the country.

And how the Indians must have been surprised at the sights they saw when the white men first

came to their land! The ships in which the white men came were so large compared with their bark canoes; the guns and cannons made

such strange and awful sounds, and killed birds and animals so far away; the color and dress of the strangers were so unusual, and the articles they brought to show them were so beautiful in color and form, and their language was so entirely unknown to them, that the poor Indians must have supposed at first that these explorers were real gods who had come to see them. What strange tales they would have written, if they had known how to write! What wonderful stories they must have told to their Indian friends in the interior who had not seen the big ships, nor heard the new thunder, nor met the pale-faced gods who looked like men!

Would you not like to learn the story of the four hundred years since Cabot and Cartier first came to Canada? Is it not very interesting to follow the changes that have taken place since the days when there were none but Indians in your country, and when there were no houses but the Indian wigwams? The history of your country will tell you this story and explain the nature of these changes.

The leading discoverers and explorers of Eastern Canada were John and Sebastian Cabot of England, and Jacques Cartier and Samuel Champlain of France.



John Cabot reached Newfoundland, or, as some writers think, the coast of Cape Breton, in 1497, five years after Columbus discovered America. Cartier came to Canada first in 1534. Finding a large river, which he named the St. Lawrence because he entered it on St. Laurent's Day, he sailed up its broad bosom as far as the present city of Montreal. He

**Cabot,
Cartier, and
Champlain.**

made three voyages in all. After his death the country was neglected for about fifty years, when Champlain began to lead in founding settlements in what is now Nova Scotia, and in exploring the unknown country beyond the farthest point reached by Cartier. He spent several years in travelling through the present Province of Ontario, and the country south of the St. Lawrence, where he discovered the beautiful lake that still bears his name. Champlain did more than any other man to arouse the French people to an interest in Canada, and to give the French nation a foothold in the New World.

The explorers of the interior of Canada and those who began to change the condition of Manitoba and the great country lying to the west and north-west of it, were the Jesuit Fathers and the fur traders. The Jesuit missionaries were good men, who risked their lives and endured great hardships in order to bring the Christian religion to the Indians and train them in habits that would make them more happy and more healthy.

The fur traders were not so unselfish. They pushed farther and farther into the country to find greater opportunities for making wealth. It is a pity that the traders' greed often robbed the missionaries' good work of its effects. They were unfair many times in dealing with the ignorant Indians, and cheated them by giving cheap beads and bright-

colored cloth for the most valuable furs. They did worse than this. They taught the Indians to drink "fire-water," and took advantage of them while they were under its influence. They also gradually drove the Indians from the country they had occupied, and did so by force, so that there are now very few Indians left to share the advantages of civilization which you enjoy.

Into the two great waterways to the heart of the continent, the St.

Lawrence River and Hudson Bay, came the French and the English, each race claiming as much as possible for itself. Naturally, both countries often claimed the same portions of the new continent, and the disputes about their claims led

to wars. In these wars each nation always tried to get the help of some of the Indian tribes, so that the Indians were encouraged to hate and to destroy one another.

Gradually both the English and the French explored North America and came towards the central



TRADING WITH INDIANS.

portion, now occupied by Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. The English came by way of Hudson Bay, and the French by the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes. Not only from Old England did the English come, but from New England many merchants came to trade with the Indians of the great country west of Hudson Bay.



CHAPTER II.

THE FOUNDING OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

THE French traders, who with great energy and courage were pressing westward, had by the middle of the seventeenth century penetrated the country beyond Lake Superior, and had there established several trading-posts. Two of these adventurous Frenchmen claim our attention, because through their influence was formed at a later date an English fur company which played a notable part in the work of securing Western Canada for the British Empire.

**Groseilliers
and
Radisson.**

Medard Chouart (Groseilliers), the first of these adventurers, came out from France in 1641, and a few years later was actively engaged in fur trading among the Indians of the Huron district. While in Montreal on one of his annual trips, Groseilliers fell in with two members of an old Huguenot family, Pierre and Marguerite Radisson, who had cast in their lot with the young colony. A partnership, having for its aim fur trade with the western



ARMS OF THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

Indians, was formed between Groseilliers and Radisson, a bond made closer by the marriage of the former to Marguerite.

In 1659, Groseilliers and Radisson made an expedition into the country west of Lake Superior. During the course of their wanderings they fell in with an Indian tribe named the Assiniboines, from whom they learned of a great bay to the north. The trip was a great success, and in the following year the fortunate traders returned to Montreal accompanied by three hundred Indians and having in their possession sixty canoes laden with furs. Radisson, satisfied with his good fortune, settled down with his family at Three Rivers; but Groseilliers within the next three years made two more trips into the western country. On the second of these he received more definite news of the great bay lying to the north, and of the route leading thereto.

Henceforth this restless adventurer had but one ambition, namely, to reach Hudson Bay and establish upon its shores trading-posts to which the western

Indians might bring their furs without making long journeys. To carry out such a plan the help of the French trading company was needed; but, unfortunately for France, all arguments failed to induce the governor to enter into the plan. And now Groseilliers, on the advice of Radisson, made a move

**News of
Hudson
Bay.**

**Groseilliers'
Ambition.**

which resulted in great advantage to British interests in North-Western Canada. He hastened to Boston, hoping to secure financial support for his enterprise. The traders of Boston, although unable to lend aid, advised him to apply to England. Upon this advice he finally acted, after making a



PRINCE RUPERT.

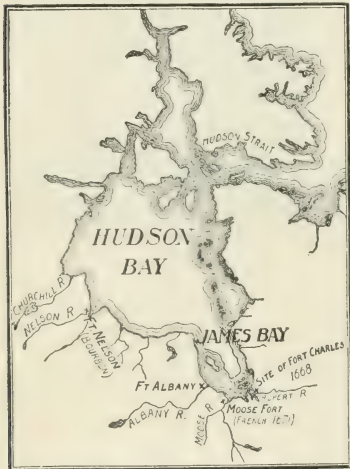
vain appeal to the court at Paris. A fortunate chance threw him into communication with Prince Rupert, a cousin of Charles II. This meeting resulted in the sending out of an expedition which realized the ambition of the persevering trader.

He Visits England.

In June, 1668, two small ships were placed at the disposal of Groseilliers and Radisson. The vessel carrying Groseilliers, after a two months voyage, sighted the entrance to the Hudson Strait; but her companion ship, being less fortunate, gave up the voyage and returned to England, thus depriving Radisson of the credit of

Voyage to Hudson Bay, 1668.

sharing in the undertaking. Passing through the strait, Groseilliers sailed south until he reached the lower end of the bay. Here a landing was made at the mouth of a stream called by the adventurers Rupert's River, in honor of the patron of



MAP OF HUDSON BAY.

the expedition. Groseilliers at once set his men to work upon the construction of a log fort, which, as a safeguard against Indian attacks, was surrounded by a high stockade. This, the first fort in the newly discovered territory, was called Fort Charles, in honor of the English

sovereign. Scarcely was their work completed when a small band of Indians appeared, who were greatly astonished to see white men so far north. Groseilliers lost no time in making known to them his object, and succeeded in exchanging some trifling gifts for furs. These furs would otherwise have passed into

The First Fort.

the hands of the French traders farther south. The Indians departed well pleased, promising to spread the news and to return with more furs in the spring. The settlers now made all possible preparations for spending the long, cold winter. Glad were they to welcome the return of warmer weather. True to their promise, the Indians returned in the spring in greater number, bringing so many furs that it was necessary for Captain Gillam, one of the party, to return with them to England. Groseilliers remained in charge of the fort. Two months later a strange ship sailed up the river, and Groseilliers was overjoyed to recognize among those on board his brother-in-law, Radisson.

Meanwhile, Captain Gillam arrived in London, and so delighted the promoters of the enterprise by his account of the successful trade in furs that Prince Rupert made application to the king for a royal charter. After some slight delay Charles II.,

in 1670, gave his assent to a document which incorporated "The
The Hudson's Bay Company
Founded, 1670. Company of Adventurers of Eng-
 land trading into Hudson Bay."

The charter granted a monopoly of trade in Hudson Bay and the lands drained by the rivers flowing into the bay. On the strength of this grant, the "Company of Adventurers" was able to retain control, down to the date of the cession of its lands to Canada, of the vast extent of territory between

Rupert's Land. Hudson Bay and the Rocky Mountains. To this territory was given the name of Rupert's Land.

The French in Canada had not lost interest in western trade. In 1671, Talon, the intendant of New France, jealous of the success of the English on Hudson Bay, sent an expedition



EARLY TRADING-POST.

overland, which succeeded in establishing a settlement on Moose River, not far from Rupert's River.

Arrival of the French. Groseilliers and Radisson were still at Fort Charles, along with Charles Bailey, who had been sent out by the Company as governor of Rupert's Land. The surprise of the English on learning of the proximity of their French rivals may well be imagined. The two French adventurers had not been getting on well with the governor, and the latter now became

suspicious of their loyalty. The outcome was that first Radisson, and later Groseilliers, went over to the French and made their way back to Quebec. Rivalry, however, influenced Governor Baily to make an expedition to Moose River, where

**Radisson and
Groseilliers
Desert.**

his trade with the Indians was so successful that he sailed on to the Chechouan (Albany) River. Although anxious to coast along the west shore of the bay to Port Nelson, where as yet there was no fort, he was prevented from so doing by an accident to his ship, which was caught in the floating ice.

But the Company was to hear more of the deserter, Radisson. After wavering for several years between England and France, during which time he made an unsuccessful application to the Company for employment, he at last gained support in Canada for another voyage to Hudson Bay. In 1682, he and his brother-

**Radisson in
the Service
of France.**

in-law sailed for Hudson Bay, and reached the mouth of a small river near the Nelson. Here they were surprised to find that the English, under Governor Bridgar, had built a fort. There followed a winter of treachery on the part of Radisson, which resulted in the capture of the Company's fort by the French. Early in the next spring, the successful traders sailed for Quebec, carrying with them a valuable collection of furs. Most of these were secretly landed at Three Rivers. So enraged

was their Quebec partner at being cheated out of his share of the profits, that Radisson and Groseilliers were forced to leave the colony.

Radisson made his way to Paris, where he was met by a representative of the Hudson's Bay Company and induced to return to England. In view of his previous career, therefore, it is not surprising that we find him, two years later, again on his

**Radisson Again
Employed by
the Company.**

way to Hudson Bay, this time in charge of the *Happy Return*. Entering the mouth of the Nelson, he found his nephew in charge of the fort, the name of which had been changed to Bourbon. The latter, after some hesitation, was influenced by his crafty kinsman to surrender to the English. This was the last great achievement of Radisson, for, although he lived until 1702, he was never again entrusted by the Company with any important commission.



CHAPTER III.

THE RIVALRY OF FRENCH AND ENGLISH ON HUDSON BAY.

THE treachery of Groseilliers and Radisson had the effect of rousing the French in Canada to action, Denonville, the governor, anxious to check the trade of the English on Hudson Bay, determined to make a general attack upon the Company's forts from the land side. He had no difficulty in finding among the daring spirits of the



LE MOYNE D'IBERVILLE.

time a suitable leader, in the person of Chevalier de Troyes. The latter was fortunate in securing as his lieutenants the three sons of a French nobleman, Charles le Moyne, the eldest of whom, Sieur d'Iberville, afterwards became even more famous than his commander.

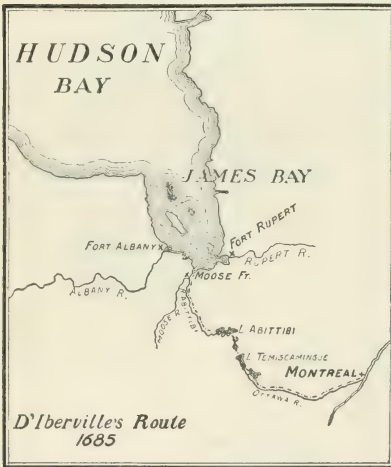
**The French
Active.**

In the spring of 1685, these daring Frenchmen were ready to set out. Reaching the Long Sault in April, they proceeded up the Ottawa in canoes, and

**De Troyes
and
D'Iberville
Capture the
Company's
Forts.**

made their way to James Bay, completing the entire journey in three months. The Moose River fort was made the first object of attack, and, as the Company's servants were better fitted for trading than for fighting, a surrender soon followed. De Troyes

took possession "in the name of His Most Christian Majesty Louis XIV." From Moose River de Troyes sent d'Iberville to the mouth of Rupert's River to seize an English ship which was there riding at anchor. This task success-



fully accomplished, d'Iberville joined his leader in an attack upon Fort Rupert, the garrison of which was only too glad to surrender. Elated by their success, the French set sail in the Company's ship for Fort Albany, the sole remaining post on the lower part

of the bay. The governor at Fort Albany, after withstanding a two days bombardment in which only one man was hurt, agreed to give up the post to the enemy. De Troyes was anxious to complete his success by making a descent upon York Factory, on the Nelson River, but the distance, two hundred and fifty leagues, forced him to abandon the idea. In August, he and d'Iberville returned to Montreal, taking with them fifty thousand beaver skins.

Great as had been the success of de Troyes, it was still incomplete as long as Fort Nelson remained in the hands of his rivals. So anxious were the French to gain this northern post, which could be easily reached by the Indians, and from which trade with the other points could be cut off, that

they offered to give all the forts on James Bay in exchange for control of the Nelson. Failing to arrange an exchange, d'Iberville, in 1694, sailed from Quebec in command of a small fleet, and, at the end of an uneventful voyage, dropped anchor off the mouth of the Nelson. After a stubborn resistance the English surrendered, and the French flag was hoisted over the fort, to which was again given the name of Bourbon. After spending the winter here, d'Iberville returned to Quebec, leaving the fort in charge of a small force of men. Not long were the French to remain in

**D'Iberville
takes
Fort Nelson.**

The Fort Re-taken. peaceful possession, for a year later they were forced to surrender to two ships sent out by the Hudson's Bay Company.

Fort Nelson had now come to be regarded as the commanding position on the bay; and, in 1697, its



HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S SHIPS.

occupants witnessed the deadliest struggle of the war between the French and English. In this year the French, bent upon a complete conquest of the bay, sent out a fleet of four ships, the largest, the *Pelican*, carrying d'Iberville, who was in command. Almost at the same time four of the Company's ships set sail from Plymouth. The English fleet entered the strait only a few

D'Iberville's Naval Victory. days in advance of the French. D'Iberville, on board the *Pelican*, managed to slip past his rivals, and was the first to reach the mouth of the Nelson. Here he waited anxiously two days for the remainder

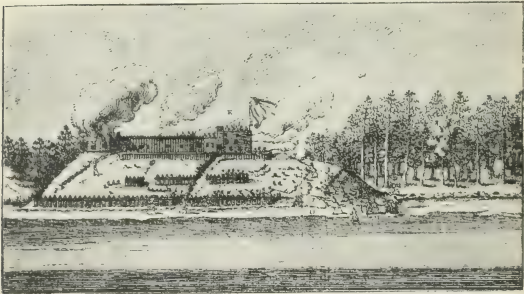
of his fleet to come up, and finally caught sight of three ships, which he hailed with delight, thinking them his own. Great was his disappointment to find that they carried the English flag; but, nothing daunted, he prepared his single ship for action. Then followed a desperate encounter, in which the French commander won for himself an enviable reputation for seamanship and courage. When the smoke of battle cleared away, one English ship remained, one having been sunk, and another having escaped. The French victory was made decisive by the surrender of the only remaining English ship. With night came a violent storm, which drove the two ships on shore. Here, in the morning, the shipwrecked Frenchmen gladly welcomed the approach of their other ships, which had with difficulty weathered the gale. Desperate as was their condition, d'Iberville's men made preparations for bombarding the fort, which Governor Bailey refused to surrender. So persistent, however, was the attack of the French, to whom in their wretched plight failure meant untold hardships, that Bailey was forced to submit, although he did so with all the honors of war. Thus Fort Nelson was again in the hands of the French, and again became known as Fort Bourbon.

**The French
again occupy
Fort Nelson.**

In the very year of d'Iberville's victory at Fort

**The Treaty
of Ryswick,
1697.**

Nelson there was concluded the Treaty of Ryswick, which for a short time put an end to the struggle. The treaty stated that each nation should retain the possessions which it had held at the outbreak of the war (1690), an arrangement which left to England only one post on the bay,—Fort Albany.



CAPTURE OF FORT NELSON.

Almost immediately, however, the two nations were at war again in connection with the Spanish Succession. The Peace of Utrecht, which

**The Peace
of Utrecht,
1713.**

again restored harmony, was more favorable to English interests. It was agreed that the French should leave the bay within six months, and arrangements were made for the appointment of a commission to settle upon a boundary between French Canada and the

British possessions on Hudson Bay. Although the Company failed to recover from France a settlement of its claim for damages done to its forts in time of peace, yet it was now free to resume, undisturbed, its trade with the Indians. For the next half century the returns from the fur trade made up for all the losses caused by the long struggle between France and England.



CHAPTER IV.

EXPLORATION.

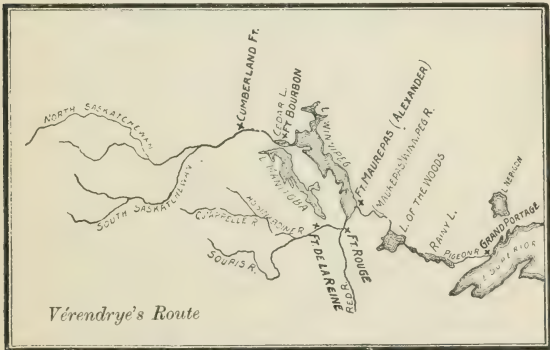
As has been previously noted, the French traders had become familiar with the land north and immediately west of Lake Superior. Trading-stations had been founded at Michilimackinac and on Lake Nepigon. The struggle carried on by d'Iberville with the English on Hudson Bay had for many years drawn the attention of New France from the Lake Superior district. The Peace of Utrecht removed this counter attraction, and both the government and traders of French Canada again became interested in the western country.

In 1728, there was in charge of the fort on Lake Nepigon an obscure trader, *Sieur de la Vérendrye*, who is now well known as the pioneer of western explorers. *Vérendrye*, who had heard from the neighboring Indians of the lakes and rivers to

**Vérendrye
Sets out for
the West.**

the west, was sure that he could discover the "north-west passage" to the "Western Sea," which had been the dream of so many of his countrymen from the time of Cartier. He accordingly made application for aid to the governor, at Quebec,

but the latter, although he favored the project, gave no assistance other than a license to trade with the Indians. Vérendrye gained some financial support from private merchants, and, in August, 1731, his party was ready to set out from Pigeon River (Grand Portage), about forty miles south-west of the Kaministiquia River.



The journey west was a slow one, occupying several years, because the explorers were forced to stop frequently and trade with the Indians. During the first season they reached Rainy Lake, where, at the head of Rainy River, they built their first fort, St. Pierre, near the site of Fort Francis. The following year, they descended Rainy River to the Lake of the Woods, on the west side of which a second fort, St. Charles, was erected. Another

year found them at Lake Ouinipegou (Winnipeg), which they reached by a river they called the Maurepas (the Winnipeg). Near the mouth of this river a fort was built, where Fort Alexander now stands.

Reaches

Lake

Winnipeg.

This for several years marked the western limit of Vérendrye's explorations, lack of funds forcing him to return east. In 1738, this persevering Frenchman, leaving Fort Maurepas, crossed the southern expanse of Lake Winnipeg and entered the Red River. This he followed to its junction with the Assiniboine, where the city of Winnipeg now stands. In the next stage of the journey he reached the portage used in crossing from the Assiniboine to Lake Manitoba, a spot now occupied by the thriving city of Portage la Prairie.

**Forts Rouge
and de la
Reine.**

During a long stay here, Vérendrye built Fort de la Reine; and in the same season members of his party constructed Fort Rouge at the mouth of the Assiniboine. At this point Vérendrye was summoned to Montreal to answer false charges brought against him by private enemies who had grown jealous of his successes. Although some slight justice was done him later, and his achievements were recognized by the French court, yet this faithful servant of France died with his dream of a journey to the "Western Sea" unrealized.



JUNCTION OF RED AND ASSINIBOINE RIVERS.

Vérendrye had worthy successors in his sons, who carried on the work from where their father left off. Crossing the portage to Lake Manitoba, they made their way to the Saskatchewan River, which they ascended. Their route was marked by the erection of Forts Dauphin and Bourbon. A few years later a relative of Vérendrye built a fort on the upper waters of the Saskatchewan, near the Rocky Mountains. In 1763, by the Peace of Paris, Canada was given to England. Thus France, by failing to support the brave Vérendrye, lost the honor of discovering the route to the Pacific coast.

With the passing of Canada to the English, French trade in the west quickly declined; and, save for a few daring spirits, no traders were to be found beyond the Kaministiquia. But the French were to have successors, if not more daring,

yet more persevering and shrewd. The breaking up of the regiments of Wolfe and Amherst gave to Montreal and Quebec a large increase in population, made up mainly of Scotch.

Scotch Merchants of Montreal. Many of these new settlers entered into the fur trade. Foremost among them was Alexander Henry, who, engaging the services of a French-Canadian guide, succeeded in opening up the old traders' route to the western shore of Lake Superior. Following Henry came another Scotchman, Thomas Curry. Curry, in 1766, pushed west along the Vérendrye route until he reached Fort Bourbon, on Cedar Lake, an expansion of the lower Saskatchewan. Two years later a third Scotchman, James Finlay, of Montreal, started out from Fort Bourbon and pressed on to the limit of the Vérendrye expedition.

There now appeared on the scene two Englishmen, Benjamin and James Frobisher, who introduced a trading policy which had an important effect upon the interests of the Hudson's Bay Company. In order to divert the fur trade from the Company's forts to Lake Superior, these clever

The Rivalry of the Fur Traders. traders built a post on Sturgeon Lake, an expansion of the Saskatchewan. From this they could easily make expeditions to intercept the Indians

on the way to the bay. The Company, however, was not to be outdone by its enterprising rivals,

for Samuel Hearne was immediately stationed at Sturgeon Lake. Here he built Fort Cumberland, about two miles below the Frobishers' post. The Montreal merchants in turn pushed north to the Churchill, or English River, constructing by the way a trading-post on Beaver Lake. Thus the two bodies of traders met in rivalry. Their rivalry resulted in evil and in good. In their desire to get furs the traders sometimes harmed the Indians by giving them "fire-water." On the other hand, in their search for new tribes the traders soon became familiar with the great prairie country in which we now live.



CHAPTER V.

EXPLORATION (Continued).

THE criticism had been made of the Hudson's Bay Company, that it confined its trading to the coast of the bay and failed to explore the interior of the country. It was further urged by critics, that the Company had failed to assist in the discovery of a north-west passage to the Pacific. At last, however, a man was found, one Samuel Hearne, who, by reason of his long experience in the fur trade and his familiarity with the life of the Indians, was specially suited

**The Hudson's
Bay Company
Criticized.**

for introducing a change in the policy of the Company. At Prince of Wales Fort, a stone structure built, in 1734, at the mouth of the Churchill River, Hearne had learned from the Indians of a great river to the north, from which they brought samples of copper. In 1769, Hearne was instructed to set out for the interior, to proceed to the Athabaska country and thence north in search of the unknown river. It was hoped that the expedition would clear up the mystery of the passage into the western ocean.

In November, therefore, a start was made, but the unfortunate explorer was forced by the desertion of his guides to return to the Churchill. In no way disheartened, Hearne set out again in February of the following year with a party of five Indians. After travelling seven months, during which he



FORT PRINCE OF WALES.

suffered the greatest hardships, he had the misfortune to break his quadrant; and, deciding that without this instrument it would be useless to proceed farther, he turned back and began his weary tramp to Hudson Bay. Despite the discouraging outcome of his two efforts, Hearne made, in December of 1770, his third attempt to reach the Coppermine River. Proceeding due west to the point where the Montreal merchants had reached

the Churchill, he turned north. In June he met a party of Copper Indians, who were delighted to learn of the object of the expedition.

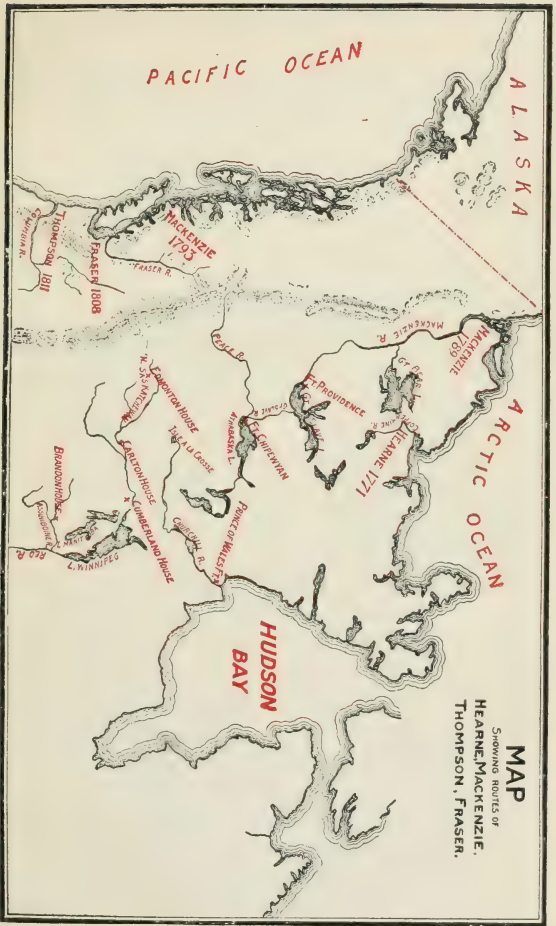
**Hearne
Discovers
the
Coppermine
River, 1771.**

On July 13th, Hearne arrived at the Coppermine, down which he passed to the Arctic Ocean, the descent of the river occupying only five days. Having taken possession of the new country in the name of the Company, the happy explorer began his return trip, which was not concluded until June of 1772, some time being spent among the Indians on the north side of Lake Athabaska. Thus, through a worthy representative, the Hudson's Bay Company satisfied its critics and won a reputation for energy and enterprise.

From the journeys of Hearne date the expansion of the Company's trade. During the next twenty-five years extensions were made south and west, and the most suitable points seized upon for trading-stations. Among the most important posts

built were one on Rainy Lake and another at Ile à la Crosse, near Lake Athabaska. **Brandon House and Edmonton House.** Brandon House on the Assiniboine, and Edmonton House and Carlton House on the north branch of

the Saskatchewan, were the outposts of the West. Within half a century the influence of the Company (which had been accused of confining its trade to the shores of Hudson Bay) extended from Rainy Lake



PACIFIC OCEAN

ALASKA

ARCTIC OCEAN

HUDSON BAY

MAP
 SHOWING ROUTES OF
 HEARNE, MACKENZIE,
 THOMPSON, FRASER.

to the foot of the Rockies. The centre of this vast district was Cumberland House on Sturgeon Lake.

Roused by the success of their rivals in trade, the Montreal merchants, headed by Frobisher and Simon McTavish, decided upon union. In 1784, the North-West Company was formed and its first

**The North-West
Company
Founded, 1784.**

meeting held at Grand Portage, on Lake Superior. Two enterprising Americans, Pond and Pangman, who had been overlooked in this union, formed a rival company, in which was included a young Scotchman named Alexander Mackenzie, who afterwards became famous as an explorer. Common interest soon led these two companies to unite against their more powerful rival on Hudson Bay.

Mackenzie, who had already given evidence of great ability, was placed by the new company in charge of the Athabaska district, with headquarters at Fort Chipewyan, the most important point in the north. But Mackenzie had in mind something more attractive, to him at least, than fur trading. He had heard from Indians how Samuel Hearne had discovered the Coppermine and descended it to the Arctic Ocean, returning by way of Lake Athabaska; and his mind was set upon reaching the Arctic Ocean, and perhaps the Pacific, by another river of which rumor had come to him. In June,

1789, Mackenzie set out with three canoes from Fort Chipewyan, and in nine days reached Slave Lake by way of Slave River.

Discovery of the Mackenzie River, 1789.

Leaving several of his party to build Fort Providence, he continued his journey by a river which proved to be the object of his search, and which now bears his name. Forty days after starting, the expedition reached the Arctic Ocean. The return trip was made without delay, in order that Fort Chipewyan might be reached before the close of the season.

Not satisfied with his great achievement, Mackenzie now made a voyage to England in order that he might acquire the mathematical knowledge necessary to enable him to make accurate observations in his explorations. In 1792, he returned to Canada and, going to Fort Chipewyan, at once entered into careful preparations for the voyage which was destined to realize his life's ambition. Setting out in October, he ascended the Peace River as far as the most westerly trading-station then established. Here he intended to pass the winter, so that an early start might be made in the



SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE.

spring. By the beginning of May the voyage was resumed. As the party neared the mountains, the difficulties of navigation became very great, the

**Mackenzie
reaches the
Pacific, 1793.**

travellers having in some places to draw the canoes up stream by grasping the branches of trees. The discouragement of the men was only overcome by their leader's great courage. Struggling on over the height of land, they at last found themselves, to their great delight, on the banks of a navigable stream flowing down on the west side of the mountains. Down this river, since named the Fraser, they made their way, in spite of dangerous rapids and hostile Indians. Finding that this route was too long, Mackenzie left the river at a spot afterwards marked by the erection of Fort Alexander, and by a cross-country journey of sixteen days reached an arm of the sea. To mark the goal of this great expedition, the following words were written upon the face of a rock: "Alexander Mackenzie, from Canada, by land, the twenty-second of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three." The return to Fort Chipewyan was made without mishap. The dream of the noble Vérendrye had been fulfilled in the discovery of "La Grande Mer de l'Ouest."

Two other names should be mentioned in connection with western exploration, those of Simon Fraser and David Thompson. Fraser, an employe

of the North-West Company, following the route taken by Mackenzie, descended, in 1808, from the Rockies to the Pacific coast by the river which now bears his name.

Fraser and Thompson. Thompson, who had been sent out from England in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, finding that his position offered no scope for his ability, made a successful application to the North-West Company for employment. After spending two years in visiting the forts of the latter company and definitely noting their location he, in 1811, made his famous journey to the Pacific coast. He ascended the north branch of the Saskatchewan, crossed the Rockies on horseback, and in canoe descended the Columbia to its mouth, only to find that he had been preceded by two American explorers, Lewis and Clark, who had reached the coast six years earlier.



CHAPTER VI.

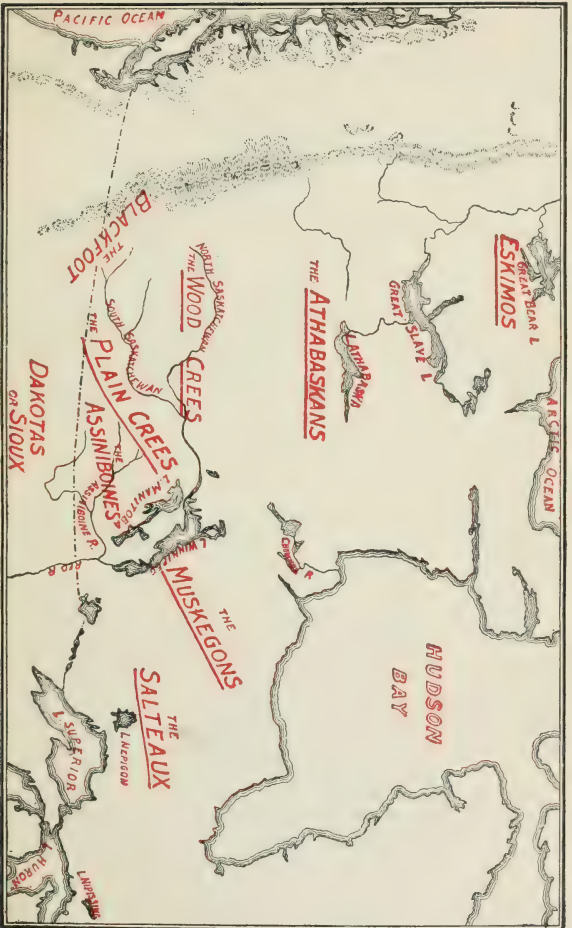
THE TRADERS AND THE INDIANS.

THE early explorers of Eastern Canada, Cartier and Champlain, found themselves among Indians of the great Algonquin nation, whose territory extended from far south to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and north of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers, even to the prairies. To the west, above Lakes Nipissing, Huron, and Superior, dwelt a hardy branch of the Algonquins, called the Ojibiways or Chippewas. These seem to have been a warlike tribe, capable of protecting themselves even against the attacks of the fierce Iroquois and Sioux.

In their new climate the Ojibiway section of the Algonquins became a separate people, called the Crees. A band of these, emigrating from the neighborhood of Sault Ste. Marie, were found later in great numbers about Lake Nepigon, and were known as the Salteaux. The Crees extended west as far as Lake Winnipeg, and north to Hudson Bay. On account of the swampy nature of the land which they occupied, they were called the "Crees of the Muskegs," or "Muskegons."

**The
Algonquin
Nation.**

**The
Salteaux
and
The "Mus-
kegons."**

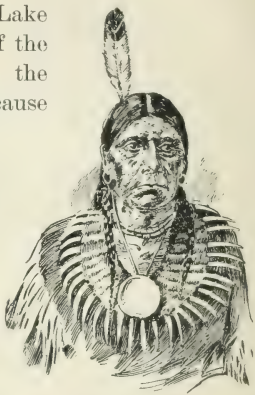


MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF INDIAN TRIBES.

Stretching west from Lake Winnipeg, along the banks of the North Saskatchewan, were the Wood Crees, so called because they clung to the wooded

**The Wood
and
Plain Crees.**

shores of the lakes and rivers. These resembled their Ojibiway ancestors more than did the Muskegöns. To the south of the Saskatchewan were found the Plain Crees, who were wanderers forsaking canoe for horse.



CREE INDIAN.

**The
Blackfoot
Indians.**

Close to the Rocky Mountains, where the South Saskatchewan takes its rise, dwelt the Blackfoot Indians, who were probably of the Algonquin race.

French travellers early came across a new tribe of Indians from the western shore of Lake Superior. These, because of their likeness to the Five Nation Indians, they called the "Little Iroquois of the West." Being a nation of allies, they were named

**The Dakotas
or Sioux.**

Dakotas, but more familiarly Sioux. The popular theory regarding these Indians is that they ascended the Mississippi with the Iroquois, and that on arriving at the mouth of the Ohio the nation divided, one

part turning north-east, the other north to the district of the Dakotas, west of the Great Lakes. The Dakotas, whose country extended south of the boundaries of Manitoba and Assiniboia, were very fierce, earning the title of "Tigers of the Plains."

At an early date, before the traders reached the country, a feud broke out among the Dakotas, which resulted in a split in the nation.

One section, moving north, settled on the Assiniboine, and became known as the "Sioux of the

The Assiniboines. "Stony River" (the meaning of "Assiniboine" in Cree). These were soon on friendly terms with the Crees, learning their language and in many cases inter-marrying with them.

North of the Crees, the country was occupied by the Athabaskans. These, beginning at Hudson Bay, dwelt along Churchill River, Lakes

Athabaska and Slave, and the Peace River. They were much less warlike than their neighbors, but were great travellers. A tribe related to the Athabaskans, the Sarcees, lived near the Blackfoot

The Athabaskans.

Indians. The Eskimos, or Innuits, inhabited the Arctic coast, all the way from Labrador through



ASSINIBOINE INDIAN.

the district of the Coppermine into the Alaskan peninsula.

In the early years of the fur trade, the Hudson's Bay Company confined its trading to the shores



BLACKFOOT INDIAN.

of the bay, and the French traders, with few exceptions, dealt with the Indians at Lake Nepigon. Thus the latter were compelled to make very long trips to reach the trading-posts. Sometimes it took two or three months to accomplish the journey. The tribes which came to York Factory from the far interior, usually assembled at Lake Winnipeg. From

this meeting place they would make their way, in number sometimes exceeding a thousand, down

Long Journeys. the Nelson River to the Company's fort. The hardships of the journey were so great that they were often

forced to throw away many of their furs, retaining only the lighter and more valuable ones. Such an effect had one trip upon some that they never fully recovered, and could not, under any circumstances, be persuaded to pass through the same experience.

On arriving within sight of the fort, the Indians usually discharged their fowling-pieces; and the salute was returned at the command of the chief factor by firing several small cannon. While the squaws and younger men unloaded the bundles of furs, the chiefs in charge of the expedition



INDIAN TEPEE.

were ushered into the trading room, where pipes and tobacco were immediately forthcoming. After

**At the
Trading-
Posts.**

a preliminary smoke the business of trading was proceeded with. The furs were weighed and their value estimated.

At first the articles used in exchange were trinkets of trifling value, such as beads and similar ornaments; but later a new policy was

adopted, and such things were given as would assist the Indians in their hunting.

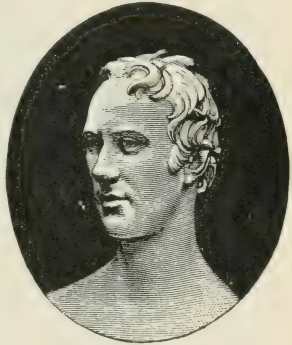
The greatest curse connected with the traders' dealings with the Indians was the sale of intoxicating liquors. On the whole it was the policy of the Hudson's Bay Company to discourage this evil practice, but competition made it more and more common. It was when the three
"Fire-water." great companies, the "Hudson's Bay," the "North-West," and the "X Y," were rivals for the trade of the West that the Indians suffered most from the use of "fire-water," while the perils of the trader's life became consequently greater. With the union of the companies the evil almost disappeared.

One of the most striking features of the history of the North-West is the absence, save for an occasional massacre, of Indian wars,
The Indians all the more striking in contrast
Friendly. with the experience of western settlers in the United States. This must be attributed, to a great extent, to the good judgment of the officers of the fur trading companies. The Indians seem to have quickly realized that it was to their interest to remain on friendly terms with the traders.

CHAPTER VII.

THE RIVALRY OF THE FUR COMPANIES.

THE union of the Montreal traders had been brought about in 1784 under the name of the North-West Company. The new company offered a successful opposition to the Hudson's Bay Company, not only in fur trading, but also in the exploration of the West. Yet the union had a few determined opponents, who succeeded



LORD SELKIRK.

in organizing a small company, which, from the mark upon its goods, came to be called the "X Y." This new organization built a trading-post within a mile of the North-West Company's station at Grand Portage. Later both concerns moved their headquarters to the

**The
"North-West"
and "X Y"
Companies.**

Kaministiquia. In 1801, Alexander Mackenzie, who had never been able to get on with Simon McTavish, the ruling partner in the older company, threw in his fortunes with the smaller body, which was in consequence known as "Sir Alexander Mackenzie and



FORT WILLIAM.

Company." And now a period of the keenest rivalry set in. Fortunately for the interests of the trade and the welfare of the Indians, the man who had been the cause of the friction died, in 1804. With the removal of Simon McTavish steps were at once taken to unite the "North-West" and the "X Y" Companies, under the name of the former.

With the union began a period of great activity both in trade and exploration. To this period belong the journeys of Simon Fraser and David Thompson. The united strength of the late rivals made possible the establishment of a great trading-post at the mouth of the Kaministiquia, to which was given the name of Fort William, in honor of one of the

Fort William. partners, William McGillivary. The transportation of goods from the East was made easy by the use of a vessel on the route from Lake Erie to Sault Ste. Marie, and of a schooner on Lake Superior, running

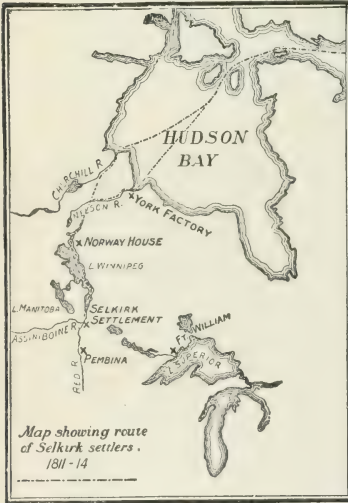
between the St. Mary River and Fort William. The Red River country was occupied in earnest, and at the junction of the Assiniboine and Red Rivers was built Fort Gibraltar, probably the first building erected upon the site of the present capital of Manitoba.

Meanwhile, the attention of Great Britain had been drawn to Western Canada by the publication of a book describing the travels of Mackenzie. Among those who became interested in this remarkable

Lord Selkirk. book was the Earl of Selkirk, who saw in the Red River district a favorable field for colonization. Selkirk had early manifested a sympathetic interest in the peasantry of both Scotland and Ireland, and had already, in 1803, brought out eight hundred settlers to Prince Edward Island. The success of his first venture encouraged him to attempt the planting of a colony in the very heart of Canada. Knowing that any scheme of colonization would meet with the strong opposition of the fur companies, he adopted the plan of gaining a grant of land from the Hudson's Bay Company. The area secured consisted of about one hundred and ten thousand square miles on the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. This district was to be called Assiniboia. In 1811, the first group of settlers, seventy in number, sailed for the new land and arrived safely at York Factory. The winter was spent in building boats and making other

The Selkirk Settlement, 1811-1814.

preparations for the long journey inland. Early in July the party left York Factory, and by way of the Nelson River and Lake Winnipeg reached in the autumn the scene of their new life.



Despite the difficulties of the journey and the hardships endured in the early years of settlement, three more bands of colonists reached the Red River between 1812 and 1814, the total number of arrivals being about two hundred and seventy. The governor of the colony was Miles Macdonald, a captain of the Canadian militia.

As was expected, Selkirk's colonization scheme met with the bitter opposition of the North-West Company. This opposition had begun in England, where Alexander Mackenzie, having acquired stock in the Hudson's Bay Company, opposed the grant of land to Selkirk, and later did all in his power to discourage

colonists from coming out. The Nor'-Westers saw in the whole plan merely a device of the Hudson's Bay Company to ruin their trade. They, moreover, questioned the claim of the Company to the Red River district, urging that they themselves had entered into the country immediately after the withdrawal of the French traders who discovered it. It was natural, therefore, that the anger of the Nor'-Westers should hurry on a struggle between the two companies.

**Opposition
of the
North-West
Company.**

The years 1812 and 1813 passed without any serious trouble. The winters were spent by the colonists at Pembina, a famous buffalo ground, where Fort Daer was erected. In order to provide for the support of his growing colony, Miles Macdonald in 1814 issued a proclamation forbidding traders to take any provisions out of the country during the year. Learning that the officers of the North-West Company had no intention of obeying this proclamation, the governor ordered the seizure of their stores from a fort on the Souris River. Indignant at this high-handed action on the part of their rivals, the partners of the North-West Company met at Fort William, and decided upon a course of action which boded ill for the young colony. Two partners, Duncan Cameron and Alexander Macdonald, were sent to Fort Gibraltar to break up the settlement.

Their object was accomplished, partly by persuasion, partly by force. Under promises of land in Upper Canada and the payment of wages due from the Hudson's Bay Company, over a hundred of the settlers were enticed into deserting their homes. Failing to bribe the remainder, the Nor'-Westers had recourse to violence. Macdonald was arrested and sent to Montreal for trial, while the wretched settlers were driven to their boats, in which they escaped to a place of refuge at Jack's River (Norway House), on Lake Winnipeg.

Deliverance was near at hand. Colin Robertson, an officer of the Hudson's Bay Company, arrived from the East. On learning what had happened, he at once proceeded to Jack's River and brought back the refugees. These, while returning, were joined by a party of ninety new colonists, who had been sent out under Robert Semple, a newly appointed governor. Fort Douglas, two miles below the Forks, had already been begun, and was now completed. In 1815, Robertson captured Fort Gibraltar, which, however, he soon restored to its owners. The following year, Governor Semple, feeling that some decisive action must be taken, again seized Fort Gibraltar and despatched Cameron to England by way of York Factory. Despite the opposition of Robertson, Fort Gibraltar

**The Colony
broken up
by the
Nor'-Westers.**

**Governor Semple
Restores Order**

And Destroys Fort Gibraltar.

a crisis was fast approaching.

The Nor'-Westers were making careful preparation for striking an effective blow at the Red River colony. Two expeditions were to be sent against it, one from Fort William, the other from Fort Qu'Appelle. The half-breeds from Qu'Appelle, under their leader, Cuthbert Grant,

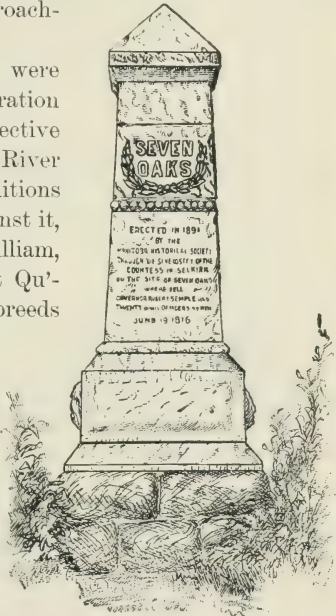
**Seven
Oaks,
1816.**

governor Semple and twenty of his men in a skirmish at Seven Oaks, near Fort Douglas, and captured the

fort. The only place of refuge open to the expelled settlers was Norway House.

Not long, however, was the outrage at Seven Oaks to remain unavenged. A report of his colonists'

was torn down and the material used to strengthen Fort Douglas. Semple's actions were unwise and



SEVEN OAKS MONUMENT.

sufferings had reached Lord Selkirk in the year before the crisis, and he had determined to visit Canada. Confirmation of the bad news, which he received on his arrival in Montreal, made him eager to bear aid to the colony on the Red River. He straightway made application to the Government

of Lower Canada for protection against the lawlessness of the Nor'-Westers.

Failing to secure this, he determined to take action himself. He enlisted as new colonists some ninety men of the de Meuron and Watteville regiments, which had just been disbanded at the close of the war with the United States. In June, 1816, the expedition set out from Montreal for York (Toronto), and from that point marched north to the Georgian Bay. Thence Sault Ste. Marie was reached by water. It was the intention of Selkirk to proceed to the extreme end of Lake Superior, where Duluth now stands, and thereby avoid Fort William; but the receipt of news of the fight at Seven Oaks and of the second breaking up of the colony, led him to alter his course and make for the headquarters of

the Nor'-Westers. Arriving in August at the mouth of the Kaministiquia, he pitched his camp opposite the fort and

at once demanded the release of the prisoners taken at Fort Douglas. This demand was instantly complied with, and the Earl then determined to

Selkirk to the Rescue.

At Fort William.

arrest certain of the partners who had been guilty of causing the attack upon the Red River colony. Acting in the capacity of a magistrate, he sent these down to York, Upper Canada, for trial. By the time affairs were settled at Fort William it was too late to proceed to the Red, but early in the following spring the journey was completed.

Immediately upon his arrival at Fort Douglas, Lord Selkirk began his work of restoration. The unfortunate refugees were again brought back from Norway House and restored to their lands. In order to secure the future safety of the colony, a

**At Fort
Douglas.**

treaty was made with the Indians. This

was signed by Ojibiway, Cree, and Assiniboine chiefs. To the restored settlement was given the historic name of Kildonan. His mission fulfilled, Selkirk returned by way of Pembina to Upper Canada, where he was called upon to defend himself against several charges of false arrest brought forward by some partners of the North-West Company. On these charges the Earl was found guilty, owing probably to the influence exerted by the



SIR GEORGE SIMPSON.

Nor'-Westers even in the Canadian courts of law. Deeply disappointed, Lord Selkirk left Canada in 1818, never to return.

Just as the death of Simon McTavish had made possible the union of the North-West and "X Y" Companies, so now the removal of Lord Selkirk caused much of the ill will existing between the Hudson's Bay and North-West Companies to disappear.

**Union of the
Hudson's Bay
and
North-West
Companies,
1821.**

In 1821, these latter companies united under the name of the older organization. The first governor was a young Scotchman named George Simpson, who, during a short service in the English company in the Athabaska district, had given evidence of remarkable executive ability and strength of character. Norway House became the centre of trade for the united company.



CHAPTER VIII.

THE FAR NORTH.

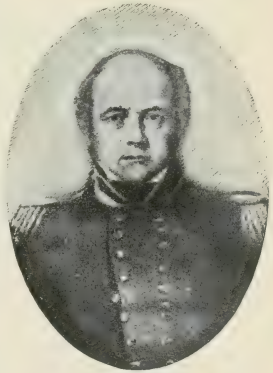
FROM the days of Cabot and Cartier the finding of a north-west passage to the Pacific had been the ambition of many daring mariners. During the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries voyage followed voyage—each, by the discovery of a new strait or bay, adding to our knowledge of the Arctic regions. Vast sums of money and many valuable lives

**The
North-
West
Passage.**

were spent in the search. Of the Arctic expeditions, those

which were made by land are of interest to us, for they helped to open up our north country, in parts of which valuable minerals have since been found.

In 1819, John Franklin and Dr. Richardson sailed from England, having in view a journey to the Arctic coast through Northern Canada. The first winter was spent at Fort Chipewyan and the



SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

second at Fort Enterprise, north of Great Slave Lake. In the following spring the explorers de-

**Franklin
and
Richardson.**

scended the Coppermine River to the Arctic, and coasted eastward as far as Cape Turnagain. Three years later Franklin made his second journey, this time wintering at Fort Franklin, on Great Bear Lake. Here the party divided, the leader himself descending the Mackenzie and tracing the coast west to Return Reef. Meanwhile Dr. Richardson worked his way east until he reached the mouth of the Coppermine, which he ascended, rejoining Franklin at their winter quarters.

In 1833, Captain Back was sent out to look for one John Ross, who three years earlier had gone by sea in search of the north-west passage. Back

**Captain
Back.**

wintered at Fort Reliance, on Great Slave Lake, where he received news of the safe return to England of the missing explorer. Determined, nevertheless, to complete his journey, he pressed on to the Arctic by the Great Fish, which is now called the Back River.

The directors of the Hudson's Bay Company now began to display an active interest in these Arctic discoveries. Their charter required of them a support of the work of exploration. Moreover, England had become enthusiastic over the remarkable achievements of Franklin and Back. In 1836, therefore, the Company ordered Governor Simpson to prepare and

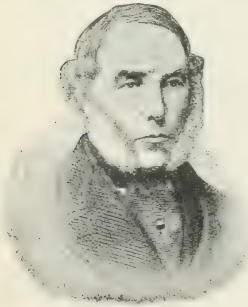
send out an expedition in search of the long-sought passage. Two competent officers of the Company,

**Simpson
and
Dease.**

Peter Dease and Thomas Simpson, were chosen to conduct the enterprise. A start was made from Norway House.

The party wintered at Fort Chipewyan, and early in the spring paddled down the Mac-

kenzie and from the river's mouth westward. Return Reef was passed, and Simpson made his way on foot to Cape Barrow. The explorers wintered at Fort Confidence, and the following summer found them on their way down the Coppermine. Cape Turnagain marked the limit of this journey, but before returning Simpson took possession of Victoria Land in the name of the Queen.



SIR GEORGE BACK.

In a third and final trip Simpson and Dease passed Cape Turnagain and reached Cape Britannia.

**The Fur
Traders on Lake
Athabaska.**

We have already noticed that, after Canada passed into the hands of the English, the attention of the fur traders was centred in the

district about Lake Athabaska. Samuel Hearne, on his return from the Coppermine River, had spent part

of a season among the Indians on the north shore of the lake. It remained, however, for the Montreal merchants to open up this new region to trade, and the man chosen for this work was the daring Peter Pond, who, in 1778, built the first trading-post on the Athabaska River, near the lake. Ten years later Fort Chipewyan was erected, the famous starting-point of explorations directed west to the Rockies and north to the Arctic Ocean.

It was natural that traders who had become familiar with Athabaska Lake should pass on up the Peace River. The first to do this was a French-Canadian, who established Fort Vermilion. Later were built, farther up the river, Forts Dunvegan and McLeod.

**The
Peace River.**

About seven years after Pond entered the Athabaska district, Cuthbert Grant, the father of the half-breed leader in the skirmish at Seven Oaks, extended the fur trade to Great Slave Lake. When the two great companies united, they built a large trading-post on Great Slave Lake, called Fort Resolution. Another important point on the lake was Fort Providence, founded by Mackenzie on his return from the Arctic Ocean.

**Great
Slave Lake.**

About 1796, a North-West Company trader, named Livingstone, built the first fort on the Mackenzie River. That this pioneer work was attended

with great danger may be judged from the fact that this unfortunate man was murdered by the hostile Eskimos. The next fort erected on the Mackenzie was Fort Simpson, which was and still is the centre of trade for the district. Other important places in the same neighborhood were Forts Franklin and Good Hope, the former built for the accommodation of the great explorer, the latter to meet the demands of the ever extending fur trade.

The union of the North-West and the Hudson's Bay Companies was followed by a rapid extension of trade in the Mackenzie River district. John Bell, an Arctic explorer of some experience, built a fort on Peel's River. In 1846, Bell descended the Rat River and discovered the Lower Yukon. This new region was occupied by the erection of La Pierre's House and Fort Yukon. When the United States bought Alaska from Russia in 1867, these points were given up by the Company. The whole district has since been abandoned by the fur traders as unprofitable.

Situated at the junction of the Mackenzie and Liard, Fort Simpson became the base from which the latter river, one of the swiftest and most dangerous of the Rocky Mountain streams, was explored. The first post built on the river was Fort Liard, at the

Forks of the east and west branches. In 1834, Chief Trader John McLeod succeeded in forcing his way up the west branch, and discovered Dease River and Dease Lake, from which the Liard takes its rise. Four years later, Robert Campbell established a trading-station on Dease Lake, and in the same season, crossing the mountains, reached the Stikine River.

In 1840, Campbell was again sent out by the Hudson's Bay Company. Ascending the north branch of the Liard River to Lake Francis, he made his way by Finlayson River to a small lake of the same name, occupying the height of land. Crossing this, he found himself looking down upon a large river, which, as a tribute to the Governor of the Company, he called the Pelly. After descending the stream a short distance, he retraced his course to the Lower Liard. Not until eight years later did Campbell make the journey which rendered

The complete his already extensive
Yukon River. travels. From the height of land
he descended the Pelly to its junction
with the Lewes, where he built Fort Selkirk. After
a year's delay, he descended the now famous Yukon
River to Fort Yukon, from which point he made
his way down the Porcupine to the mouth of the
Mackenzie. Great was the surprise of his friends
when he arrived at Fort Simpson, coming up instead
of down the stream.

CHAPTER IX.

THE RED RIVER SETTLEMENT.

THE discontinuance of hostilities after the disaster at Seven Oaks afforded the settlement on the Red River an opportunity to develop, but development was very slow. The population of the colony at this time consisted of two hundred Scotch and Irish settlers, about the same number of the de Meurons regiment, together with such French traders and half-breeds as had found their way to the Forks. For a

Early Hardships.

few years disaster followed disaster, until the very existence of the settlement was threatened. In 1818, an incursion of grasshoppers completely destroyed the crops, and the unfortunate farmers were forced to resort to Pembina in search of the buffalo, as they

The Grass- hoppers.

had done in the early winters. It was not until three years later that the destructive invaders took their departure and the settlers beheld in a rich harvest the tardy reward of their toil.

In 1821, the population of the colony was increased by the arrival of a party of Swiss, who came in by the York Factory route. These immigrants, though clever watch and clock makers and musicians, were

poor farmers, and unfortunately agriculture was the only occupation open to them. The new arrivals, as well as the de Meurons, did not make successful settlers; and it required only another disaster, which befell them five years later, to drive most of them

The Flood of 1826. from the Red. In the spring of 1826, the rivers, by reason of a

heavy fall of snow in the previous winter, overflowed their banks, and the water swept over the fields of the colony, forcing the owners to betake themselves to Stony Mountain, Bird's Hill, and other elevations. The unfortunate colonists returned after the water had subsided, only to find that their houses and stables had been swept away by the flood. This experience was too much for the Swiss and de Meurons, who left the Red and moved south into Minnesota. The population of the colony was at this time about fifteen hundred.

After the flood, the young colony entered upon a period of comparative prosperity. It had passed, between 1814 and 1826, through hardships which we, in this age of plenty and ease, find it hard to realize. It is equally difficult for us to imagine the simple

Agriculture. and uneventful life of the colonists during the next twenty-five years. Farming was almost the sole industry, buffalo-hunting, except in times of distress, being left to the half-breeds and Indians.

The farms almost all faced the river, having a

frontage of ten chains and a depth of two miles. In some cases these narrow strips were subdivided among several sons in a family, each retaining a river front. It is little wonder that people from the East spoke of the inhabitants of the colony as "farming on lanes." Absurd as this division of the land



RED RIVER CART.

appeared, it carried with it many advantages. As a well was a rare luxury, the river was the only unfailing source of water supply. The Red, too, furnished much more tempting fishing than it does to-day. Perhaps the greatest gain from the narrowness of the land holdings was the compactness of the

settlement, which added to the safety of the settlers in time of danger, and tended to promote the social, educational, and religious life of the community.

As might be supposed, the farming in the early years was very primitive. The implements were of the crudest kind, the spade and the hoe being the only available instruments for planting and sowing.

The grain was cut with sickle or cradle and threshed by means of flails. The "quern" was used in crushing the grain into flour.

Some Crude Implements.

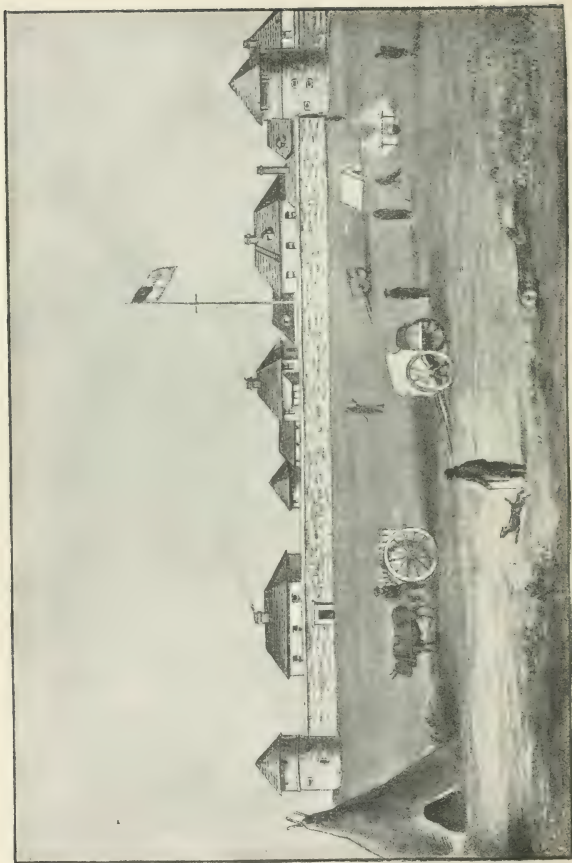
This machine consisted of two flat stones, between which the grain was ground to a flour—not always white, as we are told. But changes took place even in this out-of-the-way settlement. The hoe gave place to the wooden plough, the sickle and cradle to a crude reaper. The flails were forgotten in the use of the two-horse treadmill. It was not long before the Hudson's Bay Company had a windmill erected at Fort Douglas, and a clever settler, imitating this, built several throughout the community.

A like simplicity marked the government of the colony. After the death of Lord Selkirk, his heirs became the nominal rulers of the settlement, but

Government.

in reality its management rested with the Hudson's Bay Company. The local governor of the Company, therefore, represented British law in the country. It was not long before a change was necessary, and a council of English- and French-speaking settlers was appointed, under the title of the Council of Assiniboia. Unfortunately, this body, being appointed by the Company, was not representative of the mass of the people, a circumstance which later on caused trouble.

The commerce of the settlement was carried on



FORT GARRY.

under the greatest difficulties of transportation. There were two routes by which goods were brought in. One of these, of course, began at York Factory. From this point, the huge York boats, each manned by a dozen men, made their wearisome way up the Nelson River and down Lake Winnipeg. The other route lay through United States territory. From St. Paul or St. Cloud, in Minnesota, merchandise was carried to the colony in primitive carts. The latter route was often rendered dangerous by the attacks of unfriendly Indians.

The Hudson's Bay Company, to which the executors of Lord Selkirk had sold out their interest in the Red River lands, determined to enforce its monopoly of trade by suppressing all free-traders. The Council of Rupert's Land, therefore, imposed a duty of twenty per cent. on all imports, exempting from taxation those settlers

**The Hudson's
Bay Company
enforces
Trade
Monopoly.**

who took no part in trading in furs. This action aroused bitter resentment among both English- and French-speaking half-breeds, who were dependent for their livelihood upon trade. Petitions were sent to the British Government, one signed by over nine hundred French half-breeds, praying that they might be granted freedom of commerce. No immediate

satisfaction was given to the petitioners, and the agitation in the colony went on until finally a trifling incident precipitated a crisis. A French trader, named Sayer, who had bought some goods with the intention of making a trading venture on Lake Manitoba, was arrested by the Company and imprisoned in Fort Garry. On the morning of the day fixed for Sayer's trial, several hundred armed French Métis, under the leadership of Louis Riel, whose son some years later disturbed the peace of the colony, crossed

the river from St. Boniface and surrounded the court house. De-
“Le commerce est libre.”

spite the protest of the magistrates, the prisoner was seized and carried off by his compatriots, amid shouts of “Le commerce est libre!” “Le commerce est libre!” “Vive la liberté!”

In 1857, a clergyman named Corbett, settled at Headingly, was imprisoned for having made extravagant statements against the Company. A mob, believing that Corbett was innocent, broke into the jail and liberated him. One James Stewart, who

with several companions had taken
Lawlessness. part in this episode and had been

arrested on the charge of jail-breaking, was in turn set free by his friends. Such incidents as these indicated the weakness of the Hudson's Bay Company's administration of the Red River colony, and also the growing determination of the colonists to enjoy freedom of trade. It was evident that the

time had come for the North-West to be withdrawn from the control of a fur company.

The opportunity came at last. Rupert's Land was secured to the Hudson's Bay Company by charter, while all territory outside of that limit was held merely by a license, which had been renewed every twenty-one years. A few years before 1859, when the license would expire, the directors made application for a renewal. In this

The Purchase of Rupert's Land. step they now met with strong and effective opposition on the part of the Canadian Parliament. A representative of Canada, Chief Justice Draper, before a committee of the British House of Commons, urged that the natural western boundary of Canada was the Rocky Mountains, and that Canadian settlements should be extended into the North-West. The committee recommended that the petition of the Canadian Government should be granted. It was not, however, until 1869, two years after confederation, that the transfer of the Hudson Bay territory to the Crown was arranged, the actual change not taking place until the middle of the next year.

The Company was to surrender its rights in Rupert's Land, receiving in exchange the sum of £300,000. The Company was allowed to select a block of land near each of its posts, and was further granted one-twentieth of the area within the "Fertile Belt," that part of Rupert's Land lying south of the north branch of the Saskatchewan River and west of Lake Winnipeg.

CHAPTER X.

MISSIONS AND SCHOOLS.

WE have now followed the history of the North-West from the founding of the Hudson's Bay Company down to 1867, the year of confederation, when it was felt by many statesmen that the Dominion of Canada should include our great prairie land. Up to this point our attention has been fixed upon exploration, trading and settlement. Foremost came the explorer whose motive was to discover and claim new territory in the name of his sovereign. Following closely upon and sometimes even accompanying the explorer came the trader, eager to make gain out of the fur trade with the Indians. Behind the trader, feeling his way more cautiously, came the settler in search of a new home. Important as are the achievements of all of these, yet a history of our land would be far from complete were no mention made of a pioneer whose aim in coming to the rude settlements of the Red River valley was nobler than that of explorer, trader or settler, namely the missionary.

The Missionary.

Students of Canadian history are familiar with the picture of those heroic pioneers of Christianity, the Jesuits, struggling through the frozen snows of

Acadia, wading the swift rapids of the Ottawa, or penetrating the forest wilds of the Huron land. A member of this order,

Père Messenger, who ac-

companied as

The chaplain the Vé-

Jesuits. rendrye party

of 1731, was the first

Christian priest to visit

Rupert's Land. Five

years later a second

priest, attached to an ex-

pedition under Véren-

drye's son, was killed by

the Sioux Indians a little

west of Lake Superior.



ARCHBISHOP TACHÉ.

In 1818, the Roman Catholic Church made its first permanent establishment in the country, when the Rev. Joseph Norbert Provencher arrived at the Red River settlement, which was to be the scene of his untiring labors for thirty-five years. His work lay at first among the French-Canadians and the disbanded soldiers of the de Meuron regiment. A church and mission house were built on the east bank of the Red River, where it receives the waters

of the Assiniboine; and to the new **St. Boniface.** colony was given the historic name

of St. Boniface. Upon the death of Bishop Provencher, in 1853, Bishop Taché, who had for several

years been in charge of the missions farther inland, came to St. Boniface to enter upon a work which has made him a well-known figure in the religious and political life of the West.

But the Red River mission was only a small part of the work undertaken by the Roman Catholic Church. As early as 1842 a priest visited the Saskatchewan valley and the English River district, founding a mission station at each point. Ile à la Crosse, the point at which Bishop Taché labored for several years, was the centre of the missionary system, which quickly extended into the Athabaska district and even down the valley of the Mackenzie. The work of the missionary was rendered difficult by the tendency of the Indians to travel about the country on hunting expeditions. In order to keep in touch with his converts the priest was forced to follow them in their wanderings, although by every means possible he tried to encourage them to settle down and till the soil.

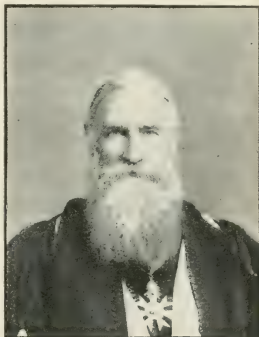
Prior to the year 1820 no Protestant missionary had entered the country, although the original settlers claimed that Lord Selkirk had promised them a Gaelic-speaking minister. During this year there arrived, as chaplain of the Hudson's Bay Company, an Anglican clergyman, the Rev. John West, whose service was gratefully received by many of the

Indian Missions.

A Protestant Mission.

colonists. On the west bank of the Red River, two miles below the Assiniboine, a rude school-house was erected, which served also as a church. After a ministry of three years Mr. West returned to England.

In 1825, the settlement welcomed the arrival of the Rev. William Cochran, who is commonly recognized as the founder of the Anglican Church in Rupert's Land. During the forty years of his



ARCHBISHOP MACHRAY.

faithful service, the work of the Church was widely extended. The position of the settlements, scattered along the two rivers, made a series of missions a necessity. Mr. West's chapel was replaced by

**The
Founding of
the Anglican
Church.**

what was known as the "Upper Church," the present St. John's Cathedral. About six miles farther down the Red was erected the "Middle Church," later called "St. Paul's." Fifteen miles below Upper Fort Garry Mr. Cochran built the "Lower Church," which has given place to the fine stone structure known as St. Andrew's. Evidence of this pioneer clergyman's interest in missions is found in the erection of a

church at the "Indian Settlement," the parish of St. Peter, and of another among the Crees about Portage la Prairie. In 1865, Mr. (then Archdeacon) Cochran died, only a few days before the arrival of Dr. Machray, the newly appointed Bishop of Rupert's Land. Bishop Machray's scholarship and missionary zeal made him an invaluable factor, not only in the religious but also in the educational life of the country.

The Anglican Church, like the Roman Catholic, found its greater work outside the settlements, in ministering to the needs of the Indians. Of twenty-four clergymen fifteen labored in the interior, scattered here and there between Moose Factory, on James Bay, and the Yukon. Of these, eleven were

The natives of Rupert's Land, speaking one
Missionary's or more Indian tongues, and therefore
Hardships. peculiarly fitted to endure all the hardships and privations of western missionary experience. The difficulty of their work was increased by the necessity of tramping for days, often on snowshoes, to meet straggling bands of Indians. With these they lived in their humble wigwams, helping them in their search for food, and day by day teaching them the Gospel.

Naturally the disappointment of the Selkirk settlers at not receiving a Gaelic-speaking minister was very great. So liberal, however, was the spirit in which the clergymen of the Anglican Church

modified their form of worship, that most of the Presbyterians gave their support to the chapel built by Mr. West. Yet the agitation among the settlers never wholly ceased until, in 1851, the Presbyterian Church of Canada was prevailed upon to send out a minister, its choice being the Rev. John Black. Fully three hundred Presbyterians left

**The
Presbyterian
Mission.**

St. John's
and rallied
about the



REV. JOHN BLACK, D.D.

newcomer, and three years later the Kildonan church was built. The missionary spirit of the Presbyterians soon manifested itself in the sending forth of the Rev. James Nisbet to found a mission in the Saskatchewan Valley, on the site of Prince Albert.

A fourth church, the Methodist, had as early as 1840 taken part in the missionary work among the Indians at Norway House and

**The
Methodist
Mission.**

on the Saskatchewan. The year 1868 witnessed the arrival of the Rev. George Young, the most notable

representative of this denomination in the Red River settlement.

The missionaries of all denominations gave themselves in a spirit of self-sacrifice to the laborious,



REV. GEO. YOUNG, D.D.

and often dangerous, mission of carrying the

The Early Schools.

message of the Gospel to colonist and native alike. But another, and equally great, service they rendered in undertaking, almost unaided, the work of education. Closely connected with every mission station the school was to be found.

Out of the humble schools attached to the three oldest mission churches grew the colleges of St. Boniface, St. John's, and Manitoba.



CHAPTER XI.

THE RED RIVER REBELLION.

THE transfer of Rupert's Land from the Hudson's Bay Company to Canada, which had been arranged for and only required the Queen's proclamation, met with a local opposition which unfortunately grew into rebellion. During the late summer of 1869 the Canadian Government began to make preparations for taking over the new territory in December. Col. J. S. Dennis, a Dominion land surveyor, was instructed to proceed to the Red River and begin a general survey. While obeying his instructions, Col. Dennis gave warning that such action would have a disturbing effect upon the half-breeds. The warning proved to have been reasonable, for scarcely had the survey been begun, when a party of French half-breeds, headed by Louis Riel, interfered and stopped the work. It was evident that many of the settlers had the impression that their claims to the land upon which they had settled were to be disregarded by the Canadian Government.

In September, the Hon. William McDougall was appointed Lieutenant Governor of the North-West Territories, his term of office to date from the day

on which the transfer was proclaimed; and he at once set out for the Red River, arriving at Pembina on October 30th. Meanwhile Riel, who now had a following of three or four hundred men, and was determined to oppose the entry of the newly appointed governor, had blockaded near St. Norbert the road leading into the settlement. Ambroise Lepine, who had charge of the military operations,



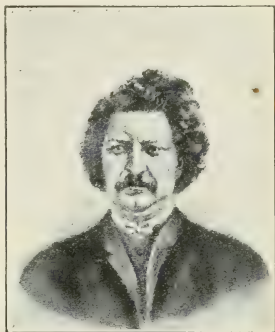
SIR GARNET WOLSELEY.

was dispatched to Pembina to instruct McDougall not to enter the country, and these instructions were, fortunately for all concerned, observed. Col. Dennis, however, made an attempt to raise a force among the English and Scotch settlers to bring in the governor in spite of the rebels. His failure brought to light the fact that, while these men had held aloof from Riel and his followers, they were not disposed to undertake to suppress the rising. They had not been consulted in the great change which had been made, and could not therefore be expected to take an active part therein.

The Governor Stopped at Pembina.

In November, Riel, anxious to secure more comfortable quarters, seized Fort Garry, from which he

Riel Seizes Fort Garry. issued a proclamation to the inhabitants of Rupert's Land, requesting them to send twelve representatives to act in a common council with the French half-breeds. Although the council met, the adverse elements of which it was composed failed to agree to anything. From this



LOUIS RIEL.

point the situation became more strained and Riel's conduct more high-handed. All suspected of opposing Riel and his followers were arrested; and the stores of the Hudson's Bay Company were freely used by the usurping rulers. A "provisional government" had been established, with Riel as president and O'Donoghue as treasurer.

A "Provisional Government."

On the first day of December, McDougall issued what purported to be the Queen's proclamation, appointing him governor, and another authorizing Dennis to raise a force to suppress the rebellion. The attempt of Dennis to carry out these instructions

proved a failure, and forty or fifty men who had gathered at the house of Dr. Schultz to protect some government stores, were disarmed by a force of three hundred Frenchmen and imprisoned in Fort Garry. Dr. Schultz,

**Dr. Schultz
Arrested.**

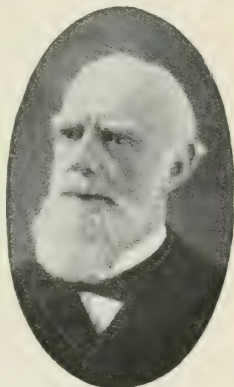
who was among those arrested, proved impatient of restraint, and, improvising a rope from a buffalo robe, succeeded in making his escape. After hiding for a time at the house of one of the Kildonan settlers, he made his way to Duluth and thence to Eastern Canada.

Meanwhile, McDougall had returned to Ontario, and the Government had sent out a special commissioner, in the person of Donald A. Smith, now Lord Strathcona, whose experience and tact it was

**Donald A.
Smith.**

hoped would put an end to the existing difficulties. Immediately the effect of his presence was seen in the gathering of a convention of forty members, French and English equally represented. A Bill of Rights was drawn up and preparations made to send delegates to the Government at Ottawa. After the dissolution of the convention Riel and his council continued to rule, and there was every promise of a speedy settlement of all grievances. Many prisoners had been liberated during the sitting of the convention, and now the remainder would have been set free but for an ill-timed movement against Riel's government. A party of about one hundred men from up

the Assiniboine had gathered at Kildonan, hoping to be there reinforced, but had been persuaded to return home. As they were making their way across the prairie, they were suddenly arrested by Riel and imprisoned; and four of them, including Major Boulton, were sentenced to death. Anxious, however, to secure recognition of his government, Riel announced that he would spare the condemned men if the people would send representatives to a convention. It now seemed as if a peaceable settlement of all difficulties was to be reached, when suddenly the whole community was shocked by the announcement of the execution of one of the prisoners. On the 4th



LORD STRATHCONA.

**The Murder
of Thomas
Scott.**

of March, after a mock trial, in which the prisoner had no opportunity of putting in a defence, Thomas Scott was led out in front of the fort and shot.

Riel had taken a fatal step, for from the moment of this tragedy the sentiment of the community had turned against the "provisional government."

When the news of Scott's death reached Ottawa, all thought of conciliation was dismissed by the

Canadian Government. Col. Wolseley was dispatched with an armed force to the scene of the rebellion. Following the old fur traders' route, the expedition arrived at Fort Garry by the end of August.

Col. Wolseley. It was found that the three rebel leaders, Riel, O'Donoghue, and Lepine had fled to the States. The rebellion was over. Col. Wolseley called upon Donald A. Smith to act as administrator of the Government until the arrival of a regularly appointed governor.

Even while the force under Wolseley was on its way to the Red River, the Manitoba Act was passed and Manitoba thereby received into the Dominion

The Manitoba Act, Confederation as a full-fledged province. By a provision of the Act one and a half million acres of land were set apart to satisfy the half-breed claims. Most of the demands made by Riel and his followers were readily granted. Many men who had come west under Col. Wolseley settled in the new province; and, with the restoration of order, a stream of immigration began to flow, which, in a

The Organization of the Province. few years, converted the little Fort Garry settlement into the populous capital of Manitoba. Close behind the military expedition came the first governor of the province, the

Hon. Adams G. Archibald. No time was lost in taking the necessary steps for the organization of a

provincial government. Twenty-four electoral districts were formed, each of which was to send a representative to a legislative assembly. A council of five was selected to advise the governor

The history of Manitoba since Confederation has been mainly the history of immigration. So rapidly did settlers press west, that a great need arose of inlets



HON. JOHN NORQUAY.

for population and merchandise, and outlets for the products of the country. Although for a while the flat-bottomed, stern-wheeled steamer did good

service on the Red River, a railway soon
Progress. became a necessity. The first road to connect Winnipeg with the outside world was a branch line from Pembina, built in 1878. In 1885, the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed and the isolation of the North-West became an experience of the past.

Manitoba, in spite of the rapid growth in population

and general prosperity, has not been free from difficulties. A dispute over the boundary between Manitoba and Ontario, involving the district in which Kenora is situated, was finally settled in favor of the latter province. Another serious question

Provincial Rights. was that presented by the virtual monopoly which had been granted by the Canadian Government to the

C. P. R. The rapidity with which the province was filling up with settlers made clear the necessity of opening the country to more railways. The Provincial Government, therefore, under the leadership of the Hon. John Norquay, urged the withdrawal of the monopoly. Provincial rights were finally recognized, and with the abolition of all restrictions other railroads entered the province. The development of a great railway system has assured the prosperous growth of Manitoba and the North-West Territories.



CHAPTER XII.

EARLY CONDITIONS IN THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

THE Red River Rebellion was no sooner suppressed and peace restored than immigration set in towards the West. As a result of the passing of the Manitoba Act a new order of things was created and a different authority established. This had the effect of making the half-breeds discontented. Many of them left their lands and, going westward, sought new homes

**A Rush
of
Immigrants.**

and greater freedom in various places in the West and especially along the Saskatchewan. Their place was quickly taken by settlers mainly from Ontario. For the most part these came through the United States by rail as far as possible, and, crossing the border, made their way across the prairies in their canvas-topped wagons, commonly known as "prairie-schooners." It was not long before many persons of British, German and Scandinavian descent found their way into the country. The stream of immigration quickly flowed beyond the bounds of the new Province of Manitoba, and settlements were soon found in the vast territory lying between Manitoba and the Rocky Mountains.

The district organized in 1870 into the Province of Manitoba was but a small part of the great area known as the North-West. As soon as settlements had been formed therein, it was very necessary that steps should at once be taken to afford protection to

**Early Govern-
ment of the
Territories.**

the people and to administer the laws. The Federal Government accordingly provided for the temporary government of the unorganized territory by the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, who was to be assisted by a council appointed from Ottawa. Laws were made to govern trade and to suppress the liquor traffic with the Indians. A few years later a resident lieutenant governor was appointed and also a council to assist him. Provision was made for the election of additional members. As soon as the number of elected members reached a certain limit, the council was to be replaced by a legislative assembly.

The early governors of Western Canada were brought face to face with many difficulties, and one of the most serious of these was the support of the Indians. The buffalo, their main source of food, was fast disappearing and it was for the Government to take action with a view to improving the condition of the Indians and placing them in a better position to help themselves. The increase in population in Manitoba and the North-West rendered it necessary to make some arrangement with the Indians respecting

the surrender of those vast areas of land extending from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains. This was accomplished by a series of treaties, seven in all, concluded at intervals between the years 1871

The Indian Treaties. and 1877. The first of these was made with the Ojibiways or Chippewas, at Lower Fort Garry, so called the "Stone-Fort Treaty"; the last with the Black-foot Indians at the foot of the Rockies. In this work Governors Archibald, Morris, and Laird served faithfully the interests of the West, and in fact of all Canada, for their successful dealings with the Indian claims secured the safety of western settlers. The spirit in which the Canadian government has dealt with the natives may be gathered from the following simple words of Lieutenant Governor Archibald's address, upon the occasion of the "Stone-Fort Treaty":

"Your Great Mother, the Queen," he said, "wishes to do justice to all her children alike. She will deal fairly with those of the setting sun, just as she would with those of the rising sun. She wishes her red children to be happy and contented.

The "Great Mother" and the Indians. She would like them to adopt the habits of the whites, to till the land, and raise food, and store it up against the time of want. But the Queen, though she may think it good for you to adopt civilized habits, has no idea of

compelling you to do so. This she leaves to your choice, and you need not live like the white man



QUEEN VICTORIA.

unless you can be persuaded to do so of your own free will. Your Great Mother, therefore, will lay aside for you lots of land, to be used by you and your children for ever. She will not allow the white man to intrude upon these lots. She will make rules to keep them for you, so that as long as the sun shall shine there

shall be no Indian who has not a place that he can call his home, where he can go and pitch his camp, or if he chooses build his house and till his land."

Although the treaties differed in many details, they all possessed the same general features. In every case the Indians gave up all right to their

The land except those portions, called "reserves," which were set apart for their own use. In return, they were to enjoy the privilege of hunting and fishing anywhere in the surrendered territory until it was taken over

by the government or placed in possession of individual owners. Every year, five dollars was to be paid each Indian, man, woman, and child, twenty-five to a chief, and fifteen to each of his councillors. Lands were set apart for the sole use of the Indians, one section for each family of five; and these could not be sold without the consent of the owners, and even then only for the benefit of the Indians concerned. The object of this precaution was to prevent the possibility of injustice being done to the natives during the rush of immigration.

Reserves were granted to one or more bands in the districts in which they had been accustomed to dwell, and they are found scattered over the western provinces. They vary considerably in size and in the number of Indians occupying them. Some of the larger of these agencies are the McLeod and Calgary Agencies in Alberta; the Carlton, Battleford and Crooked Lake Agencies in Saskatchewan; and the Birtle Agency in Manitoba. In 1906 the total Indian population on the reserves in Alberta was 6,481, in Saskatchewan 6,380, and in Manitoba 5,768. In some instances where the number of Indians has become reduced to a few, the Dominion Government has taken over the lands, after satisfying the claims of the Indians, and has thrown open the same for settlement. On some of the larger of these reserves agencies have been placed, and these are in charge of officials called Indian Agents, who are appointed

by the Federal Government. It is their duty to see that the Indians are properly treated and get their just allowances in accordance with the terms of the treaty. Inspectors are also appointed whose duty it is to visit the various agencies and submit reports to the government for its guidance. Every effort has been made to deal fairly and justly with the Indians, and the placing of the reserves long distances apart has tended to weaken the strength of the tribes. It has also proved more satisfactory than the plan adopted in the United States of placing whole tribes of Indians on large reserves.

To give every encouragement to the Indians to interest themselves in farming, the government has supplied them with farming implements, oxen, cattle

Farming. and seed grain. Generally speaking, they have shown themselves submissive to authority and ready to learn. On some of the reserves the Indians have made creditable progress and are the owners of large bands of horses and cattle. Earnest efforts have been put forth to educate the children, and Industrial Schools have been built at various points in the provinces. The results show

Schools. that those in attendance make creditable progress, and many of the pupils display special aptitude along the line of the manual arts. It is only through schools that the Indians can be prepared for the great change which the advance of civilization has brought into their lives. In order to

give these civilizing influences the best possible chance to work, every precaution is taken to suppress the sale of intoxicating liquors.



FOOT PARADE, DRILL ORDER, NORTH-WEST MOUNTED POLICE.

When the vast extent of the Territories is taken into consideration, the small and scattered frontier settlements, the previous lack of law and order, the large number of Indians to be controlled, the illegitimate traffic in intoxicants, the task of government was assuredly a difficult one.

In this connection too much praise cannot be given to the valuable services rendered by that body of men whom the early settlers especially regard with a feeling of pride, namely, the North-West Mounted Police. The force was organized by an

act of the Dominion Parliament in 1873. In the act power was given to the Governor in Council to establish a police force in and for the North-West Territories, and for the appointment of the necessary officers. The control and the management of the force and of all matters connected therewith were given to the President of the Privy Council, and the Commissioner of Police was required to perform such duties as might be required of him from time to time by the Governor in Council.

According to the act the number of members was not to exceed one thousand, and they were to be selected from persons between eighteen and forty years of age who were mentally and physically capable. Before being admitted to the force they were required to take the oaths of allegiance and of office.



MOUNTED POLICE BADGE.

The duties of the police were numerous and varied and included the preservation of law and order in the community, the attendance upon judges, the escort of criminals and lunatics, and the searching for, seizing and

destroying of intoxicants. In connection with their work they naturally had many dealings with the Indians, and their fairness and firmness undoubtedly went far towards affording the necessary protection to settlers in the Territories.

With the development of government and of the judicial system the duties of the police have changed in some respects, but they still render important service to the government in connection with almost every branch of departmental administration. Patrolling as they do some eight hundred miles of boundary line, they materially assist the revenue department in the collection of custom duties.

During the late war in South Africa their services on the veldt have gone far to prove that there are no more efficient troops in Canada than the Royal North-West Mounted Police.



CHAPTER XIII.

THE SASKATCHEWAN REBELLION.

FROM the time of the Red River Rebellion settlers came rapidly into the Territories, and being satisfied with the country had taken up land and made homes for themselves and their families. But, as in Manitoba, the Territories were to experience an unfortunate check to their peaceful progress.

The rapid immigration taking place into the country and the changes it necessarily brought about had their effect upon the half-breeds, who, as before stated, had left the Red River and joined their near relatives, the Crees, on the Saskatchewan. They began to feel the hated civilization creeping in upon them once more and only wanted an excuse to break out, as they had previously done, in open rebellion. It required only the presence of Louis Riel to fan their smouldering discontent into a flame of rebellion. Having completed his term of outlawry, he returned in the summer of 1884 from Montana, where he had been quietly teaching school. Riel was at first moderate, striving to secure recognition of the half-breed claims by political agitation. Their first claim was that they should be placed on the same footing as the Manitoba half-breeds, who were

The Claims of the Half-breeds.

receiving grants of two hundred and forty acres. They demanded also that they should be granted patents, or title deeds, of the lands upon which they had settled. They further protested against the form of Dominion land-surveying, as interfering with their system of long narrow farms facing the river.

Riel's moderation was short-lived, for the intense vanity which had led him to excess in 1870 again overcame his judgment. He had made Batoche, the centre of the Métis settlements, his headquarters. Had he confined his intrigues to the half-breeds, the danger would not have been great; but the real peril lay in the attitude of the Indians, of whom

Riel Tampered with the Indians.

there were about thirty-five thousand in Manitoba and the Territories. Of these, the Crees and Ojibiways were regarded as friendly, but Riel's influence with the more warlike Blackfeet was to be feared, and with the latter he began to tamper. Big Bear, who had but recently signed a treaty with the government and was settled in a reserve upon the North Saskatchewan, became Riel's agent among the Indians. Another chief, Poundmaker, although he subjected one Canadian column to defeat, afterwards maintained that he would have taken no part in the rising had he not been first attacked.

On March 18th, Riel arrested the few whites

at Batoche, who were all loyal, and organized a council of his own followers. The conduct of military affairs he entrusted to Gabriel Dumont, a brave and skilful leader. The scene of the outbreak was the angle between the north and south branches of the Saskatchewan.

Batoche, the Scene of the Outbreak. The two streams for about one hundred miles run almost parallel. On the north branch about thirty miles

west of the Forks was located the town of Prince Albert, and fifty miles farther up the river, Carlton, the post of the Mounted Police. Opposite Carlton and situated on the south branch was Batoche, and between the two places Duck Lake, a settlement composed of a few log houses. This settlement, since it contained valuable stores of provisions and ammunition, was the first object of Dumont's attack. It happened that Major Crozier, in charge of the post

The Fight at Duck Lake. at Carlton, sent a detachment of police and volunteers to secure the stores at Duck Lake, just after Dumont had occupied the place. Here the first encounter took place, in which the police were forced to retreat, after sustaining a loss of twelve killed and seven wounded.

The effects of the fight at Duck Lake were very decided. The white settlers were fully aroused to a sense of their danger. Many of the Indians, who had been holding aloof, were called out by the

temporary success of the rebels. But if Riel was victorious for a season, his very victory, summoning as it did volunteers from every part of the Dominion, was to prove his undoing. First, the 90th Rifles and part of the Winnipeg Field Battery were hurried to the scene of the rebellion. Within four days contingents left Quebec, Montreal,

**The
Canadian
Volunteers.**



FORT QU'APPELLE.

Kingston, and Toronto, the whole force under the leadership of General Middleton, the commander-in-chief of the Canadian militia. By the 9th of April, C Company Regulars, the Royal Grenadiers, the Queen's Own Rifles, the Governor General's Foot Guards, and the Governor General's Body Guards reached Qu'Appelle, where they were awaited by the Winnipeg troops. This became the base of operations.

In the valley of the North Saskatchewan there were three points which were especially exposed

to danger. Prince Albert was likely to be the object of an attack by the half-breeds from Batoche. The town was garrisoned by a force of Mounted Police and volunteers, but the defences were useless. Battleford was threatened by Stony and Cree Indians, although their chief, Poundmaker, remained peaceably on his reserve, thirty miles distant. Battleford was composed of two parts, the old town situated upon the low ground south of Battle River; the new town, including the fort, occupying the elevation next to the Saskatchewan.

The Exposed Points.

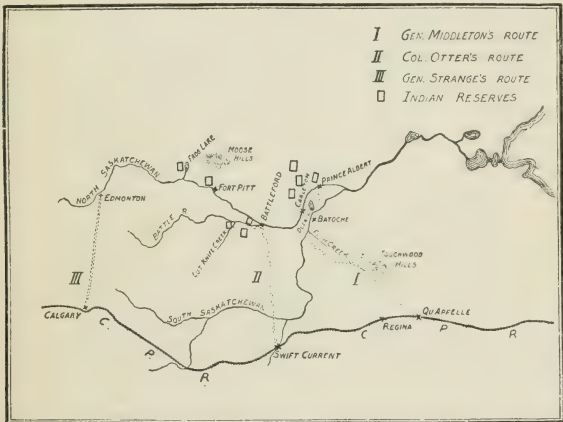
The Indians plundered and burned the old town, and shut off all communication with the fort by cutting the telegraph wires. The third point exposed was Fort Pitt, between Battleford and Edmonton.

Beyond Fort Pitt lay the reserve of Big Bear, and beyond this again the settlement of Frog Lake, among the Moose Hills. This was the scene of the saddest incident of the war. On April 2nd, a band of Big Bear's followers entered the village, disarmed the settlers on some crafty pretext, and then deliberately shot them down.

The Frog Lake Massacre.

Two brave priests, Father Fafard and Father Marchand, were killed in an effort to avert the tragedy. Through the humanity of some friendly Cree Indians and half-breeds, who gave up their horses, the lives of

the women were spared. The murderous savages next proceeded to an attack upon Fort Pitt, which, lying low in a meadow by the river, with no adequate ramparts, seemed incapable of defence. The small garrison of twenty-three men, commanded by Francis Dickens, a son



of the great novelist, refused to surrender to Big Bear's three hundred warriors. However, after successfully repelling one attack, Dickens saw that the position was untenable, and, making his way out of the fort, escaped down the river.

As there were three places at which the settlers were in imminent danger, it was necessary to send out from Qu'Appelle three relief columns. The

western column, under General Strange, made up of about six hundred men, was to advance against

Three Relief Columns.

Big Bear. From Calgary the route lay north to Edmonton. The middle column, of about the same strength, was commanded by Col. Otter, whose commission was to relieve Battleford. The main or eastern division, of which Gen. Middleton retained command, had for its task the relief of Prince Albert, and the crushing of the rising at its heart, Batoche. The supplies of this force, together with a Gatling gun in charge of Captain Howard, were sent under protection of the Midlanders to Swift Current, from which point they were to be conveyed

Middleton's Advance upon Batoche.

by the steamer *Northcote* down the Saskatchewan to Clark's Crossing. A trying march of two hundred miles, over the Touchwood Hills and through Salt Plain, brought Middleton's force to Clark's Crossing, but the *Northcote*, delayed by the shoals, was nowhere in sight. Without delaying, Gen. Middleton moved forward his men in two divisions, one on each side of the river; and, on April 24th, he came upon the rebels

Fish Creek.

in the ravine of Fish Creek. The Canadian troops were eager for the fight, C Company leading, followed closely by the 90th of Winnipeg. After a stubborn resistance, during which they inflicted heavy loss upon the

loyal troops, the rebels withdrew. Surprised at the bravery and skill of the half-breeds, Gen. Middleton decided to delay his advance upon Batoche until the arrival of the *Northcote* and the Midlanders.

Meanwhile, Otter's task of relieving Battleford was, at the conclusion of a march from Swift Current to the North Saskatchewan, successfully accomplished.

Unfortunately, it was deemed necessary to send an expedition against Poundmaker, although the Indians who had been doing most damage in the neighborhood were not of his following. On the

way to the reserve the troops entered, on the 2nd of May, a deep ravine, through which flows the Cut-Knife Creek. Crossing the stream, they began the

Cut-Knife Creek.

ascent of Cut-Knife Hill, when suddenly the front rank was met by a withering rifle fire from the surrounding bushes. Great as was the surprise, Otter's men took to cover and returned the fire like veterans. The position was, however, untenable, and retreat was the only course open. All the credit of the engagement rested with Poundmaker, who had defended his wigwams with the skill of a veteran, and now permitted his enemies to withdraw unmolested, when he might have entirely destroyed them.

Exactly a week later began the three days' fight at Batoche's Ferry, which practically closed the rebellion. The *Northcote*, which had reached Clark's

Crossing, was sent down the river to attack the enemy in the rear. The steamer's whistle was the signal for a general advance. Suddenly the rebels, rising from the ground, staggered the advancing column with a deadly fire. The whole

**The Battle
at Batoche's
Ferry.**

surface of the land had been furrowed with rifle-pits. It was only the promptness and bravery of Howard, who hurried forward his Gatling gun and trained it upon the trenches of the enemy, that averted a disaster. The volunteers, recovering, returned the fire, availing themselves of such cover as could be found.

For two days they kept up the fight, and were with difficulty restrained from charging the pits. On the third day, however, as the fire of the enemy slackened, they became so impatient of restraint that their officers were forced to let them charge. With a shout the troops rushed into the trenches, the dashing



MAJOR STEELE.

Midlanders foremost, and close behind them the Royal Grenadiers and the 90th. The pits were

cleared and the rebels driven back through the village. The battle was won and the rebellion crushed. A few days later Riel was captured.



HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY'S FORT, EDMONTON.

General Strange, meanwhile, had quieted the Indians about Edmonton. In a skirmish on May 27th

**Gen. Strange's
Column.**

Big Bear gained some advantage, but within a week he was defeated by a force under Major Steele.

Early in July, all the troops were ready to return to the East. Riel's trial which took place at Regina

**Riel
Executed.**

caused great excitement throughout Canada, and in spite of the plea of insanity the death sentence was passed.

On the 16th of November he was executed, and eleven days later eight Indians who had figured in the Frog Lake massacre also paid the death penalty.

If the rebellion checked for a time the prosperity of the West and disturbed the peace of Canada, it produced important results, some of which were beneficial to the Territories and to the whole Dominion. The claims of the half-breeds were satisfied in the prompt granting of patents. The rising had drawn attention to the North-West, and

**The Results
of the
Rebellion.**

the result was that the volume of immigration quickly increased. In this respect the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885 was an important factor. The most important effect of the rebellion, however, was the fostering of a feeling of unity throughout the Dominion. Brave volunteers from every province had fought side by side, and common danger and common loss helped to make real our confederation.



CHAPTER XIV.

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

AT the time the British North America Act was framed, the extension of the boundaries of the Dominion of Canada to the Pacific coast was evidently kept in view. A section of the Act made provision for the "admission of Rupert's Land and the North-West Territories into the Union on such terms and conditions as the Queen thinks fit to approve." Soon after the passing of the Act steps were taken by the Dominion Government to get control of the vast territory lying between Ontario and British Columbia, and to provide for a form of government, and the establishment of institutions similar to those of the other provinces. In an address forwarded to Her Majesty the wish was expressed that Rupert's Land and the North-West Territories should be added to the Dominion of Canada and that authority should be granted to the Parliament of Canada to pass laws for their future welfare.

The part known as Rupert's Land, roughly described as the "territory watered by streams flowing into Hudson's Bay," had been, since 1670, under the control of the Hudson's Bay Company, and the

Company had been given almost absolute power respecting its government and control.

With characteristic energy the Company had extended the boundaries beyond this territory and had established trading-posts in many places farther



GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

west. In order to get the rights and privileges, which were enjoyed, out of the hands of the Company, the Rupert's Land Act was passed.

**The
Rupert's
Land
Act, 1868.**

This Act outlined the conditions upon which the powers hitherto possessed by the Company, other than their trading privileges, should be transferred to the Parliament of Canada. By terms mutually agreed upon, the Company gave up all its rights of government and in return was given a money grant of £300,000 and in addition a large amount of land.

The Dominion Parliament kept in view the admission of the vast areas lying between Ontario and British Columbia, and made provision for their

government by passing an act in 1869 which provided for the appointment of a lieutenant governor, who, acting under such instructions as he received from the Governor General in Council, might be empowered to make such laws and ordinances as were necessary for the good government of the people. The lieutenant governor was to be aided by a council of not more than fifteen, nor less than seven, persons to be appointed by the Governor in Council. In the administration of affairs their powers were to be, from time to time, as defined by such Orders in Council as should be passed by the government at Ottawa. In 1870 the Territories became a part of the

**The
Territories
Become Part
of the
Dominion.**

Dominion of Canada. Provision was made by the Dominion Government for the temporary administration of the North-West Territories, as the yet unorganized portion was called, by the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, assisted by a council of eleven members, whose appointment rested with the Dominion authorities. From this time until the establishment of the provinces such legislation as was passed by the Dominion Parliament applied to the Territories as to the other parts of Canada.

Nothing was done in the Territories respecting local self-government until 1872, when Lieutenant Governor Morris of Manitoba was granted a commission to act as Lieutenant Governor, and was given

a council of eleven members to assist him in his administration.

In 1875 was passed the North-West Territories Act, which provided for the fuller organization of the Territories by the appointment of the first resident Lieutenant Governor, the Hon. David Laird, who was given a council of five persons to assist him in the administration of affairs. The council was given certain defined powers and such other powers as might from time to time be conferred by Order in Council.

All laws and ordinances which were in force in the Territories were to continue unless repealed by the Dominion Government. Provision was made for the establishment of electoral districts and of a legislative assembly as soon as the number of elected members of the council should reach twenty-one. Provision was also made for direct taxation for local purposes and for the establishment of municipalities in the electoral districts.

Pending the erection of the government buildings at Battleford, the first legislative session of the council of the Territories was held in 1877 at Livingstone on the Swan River. Battleford was the chosen seat of government, and here the sessions of the Council were held in 1878, 1879 and 1881. The members of the council were Hugh

**The First
Resident
Governor.**

**The First
Legislative
Session.**

Richardson, Esq., afterwards the Hon. Mr. Justice Richardson, Matthew Ryan, Esq., and Lieutenant Colonel J. F. McLeod, C.M.G., afterwards the Hon. Mr. Justice McLeod. In 1882, a large portion of the North-West Territories was again divided into four provisional districts for administrative purposes, namely, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Athabaska.



NORTH-WEST MOUNTED POLICE BARRACKS, REGINA.

Prior to the advent of the railway in 1882, there were only a few sparse settlements in widely separated portions of this vast country. At that time the principal settlements were at Fort Qu'Appelle, Prince Albert, St. Laurent on the south branch of the Saskatchewan, Battleford and Edmonton, with small settlements around some of the Hudson's Bay and North-West Mounted Police posts, such as Macleod, Calgary, Carlton and Fort Saskatchewan.

The rapid construction of the Canadian Pacific railroad and, subsequently, the rapid increase in settlement of the country near the railway made necessary a change in the location of the seat of government. In 1882 Regina was selected as the capital, and the sessions of the Legislative Assembly have been held there regularly since 1883.

**Regina
the Capital.**

To show the rapidity with which settlement followed the construction of the railroad, it may be stated that while in 1881 only one elected member sat at the meetings of the Council, namely, the member for Lorne (Prince Albert), in 1883, at the first session held at Regina, six districts were represented. These were Lorne, Edmonton, Broadview, Qu'Appelle, Regina and Moose Jaw. In 1883 the North-West Council consisted of twelve members, six of whom were appointed and six elected; and in 1884 of seven appointed and eight elected members. The number of elected members gradually increased until 1888, when the Parliament of Canada passed an act which replaced the Council of the Territories by a Legislative Assembly composed of twenty-two members elected by the people.

At the first meeting of the Legislative Assembly in 1888 all the ordinances of the Territories were revised and consolidated. From the Assembly the Lieutenant Governor chose four members as an advisory council in matters of finance. An un-

wise restriction by the Lieutenant Governor of the right of the council to control the expenditure of money led to the resignation of the members in the following year. As in the older provinces, the battle for responsible government was begun. The struggle, however, was of short duration, for in

Responsible Government. 1891 the Dominion Parliament granted to the executive the privileges it demanded. The number of members in the Assembly was from time to time increased by subsequent legislation, until finally there were thirty-five members. The powers granted to the Assembly by the Dominion Parliament were likewise increased, and at the time of the formation of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta they were in nearly every respect equal to those of the other provinces.



CHAPTER XV.

SASKATCHEWAN AND ALBERTA.

ON the 1st of September, 1905, the two acts establishing and providing for the government of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta came into force. These were called respectively the Saskatchewan Act and the Alberta Act.

The Province of Saskatchewan was to include the territory lying between Manitoba and the fourth meridian, in the system of Dominion land surveys, and extending from the international boundary line on the south to the sixtieth degree of north latitude. Alberta was to include the territory lying between

Saskatchewan and British Columbia and extending as in Saskatchewan from the international boundary line to the sixtieth degree of north latitude. In

**Extent
and
Population.**

extent the two provinces are nearly equal. Saskatchewan contains 250,650 square miles, and Alberta 253,540 square miles. According to the last census, taken on June 24th, 1906, the population of Saskatchewan was 257,763, that of Alberta 185,412. By reason of the great tide of immigration at present setting in, the next census will undoubtedly see a marked increase in the population of both provinces.

According to both acts all laws and ordinances in force in the North-West Territories were vested in the Lieutenant Governors of both provinces, with the advice of the respective executive councils. These laws and ordinances were subject to change by the legislatures of the provinces. A Legislature was given

**Formation
of the
Governments.**

to each, consisting of a Lieutenant Governor and a Legislative Assembly. Provision was made by which the Legislative Assembly of both provinces should consist of twenty-five members to be elected to represent the electoral divisions defined in the Acts. Annual subsidies were to be given each province, and these were to be paid by half-yearly instalments in advance. The assets of the North-West Territories were to be divided equally between the two provinces, and they were to be equally responsible for the debts of the North-West Territories. Since the establishment of the provinces, there have already been held three sessions in each, and many statutes of great importance have been passed.

By a statute of the Assembly in Saskatchewan, the representation for the province has been increased from twenty-five to forty-one. Saskatchewan is represented in the Federal Parliament at Ottawa by four senators and six members of the House of Commons; Alberta, by four senators and four members of the House of Commons. Provision,

however, has been made by which Saskatchewan shall be represented in the Parliament of Canada by ten members of the House of Commons, and Alberta by seven.



CHAPTER XVI.

THE PRESENT NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES AND THE YUKON.

SINCE September 1st, 1905, the North-West Territories include the vast unorganized districts of Franklin, Keewatin, Mackenzie and Ungava.

The North-West Territories are under the control of an executive officer called the Commissioner of the

Government of the Territories. North-West Territories, who administers the government under such instructions as may be given him from time to time by the Governor in Council or by the Minister of the Interior. The Governor in Council may appoint a number of persons, not exceeding four, to aid the commissioner in the discharge of his duties. The Commissioner has the same powers to make ordinances for the government of the Territories as were vested in the Lieutenant Governor in Council of the old North-West Territories.

The district of Keewatin, which was formerly under the administration of the Lieutenant Governor

Keewatin. of Manitoba, was in 1905 re-annexed to the North-West Territories and made subject to the same government and laws as the Territories.

The Royal North-West Mounted Police force, maintained by the Dominion Government, is the chief instrument employed in the administration of the Territories and in the enforcement of the law.

The Yukon Territory was created in the year 1898. It is governed by a Commissioner appointed by the Governor in Council. He administers the government of the Territory under such instructions as he may receive

The Yukon.



WINTER TRAVEL IN THE YUKON.

from time to time from the Governor in Council or from the Minister of the Interior. The Governor in Council may appoint a number of persons, not exceeding six, to be a Council to aid the Commissioner in the administration of the Territory. These members hold office for two years, and before being appointed must take the oaths of allegiance and of office.

The Governor in Council has certain defined powers respecting the election of members to the Council. He may also make ordinances for the government of the

Territory respecting various matters, such as taxation, liquor traffic, municipal institutions, administration of justice, expenditure of money, and generally all such matters as are of a local or private nature, and are for the peace, order and good government of the Territory. He also continues to have all the powers vested in the Governor in Council under the North-West Territories Act.

Provision was also made for the passing of ordinances respecting education and for the establishment of schools. Copies of all ordinances passed were to be mailed to the Secretary of State for Canada within ten days after the passing of same. These were to be laid before both houses of parliament, and might be disallowed any time within two years.

The laws and ordinances in force in the Territories in 1898 were, so far as applicable, continued in the Yukon, unless repealed by the Parliament of Canada.

The Yukon Territory is at present represented in the House of Commons by one member.



CHAPTER XVII.

OUR PEOPLE.

THE history of Manitoba and of the North-West Territories has been, as has been said, the history of immigration. It is quite natural that it should be so. In the Western Provinces there are millions of acres of land of which it is estimated that about one-half is suitable for farming. Of this land only a small part is at present under cultivation.

The population in the West has, however, been increasing with wonderful rapidity during the past few years. This is largely on account of the interest taken in the cause of immigration by the Dominion Government and the encouragement extended to settlers. The homestead regulations give every opportunity for persons to secure farms and homes at small expense. These regulations are to the effect that even-numbered sections of Dominion lands, to the extent of 160 acres, may be homesteaded by any person the sole head of the family, or male person over eighteen years of age. This regulation does not apply, however, to sections 11 and 29, which are school sections, and reserved, nor to section 8 and three-fourths of section 26, which belong to the Hudson's Bay Company.

The method of subdividing the land in the Western Provinces is very different from that adopted in the provinces of Eastern Canada. There are three different systems under which Dominion lands have been surveyed, and while these are similar in their essential features, they differ in regard to the width and number of the road allowances.

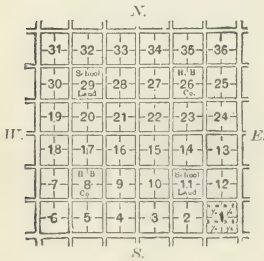
**System of
Land Survey.**

In all the systems the land is laid out uniformly in quadrilateral townships about six miles square. A township contains thirty-six sections, each one mile square, together with certain allowances for roads. These sections are divided into quarters, which may be further subdivided into forty-acre plots. In commencing the survey the international boundary was fixed upon as the starting-point, and was called the first base line. From it other lines called initial meridians were run due north. The first initial meridian, called the Principal Meridian, passes about eleven miles west of Emerson, in Manitoba; the second meridian corresponds with longitude 102; the third with longitude 106, and so on, each initial meridian, after the second one, being four degrees west of the preceding one.

For convenience in surveying, the land is first laid out into blocks; each block is then surveyed into sixteen townships, and each township is further subdivided, as indicated above. The townships are numbered in regular order from the 49th parallel, or

first base line, northward. These townships lie in rows or "ranges," and are numbered in regular order east and west from the Principal Meridian, and west from the other initial meridian.

In all townships subdivided, as shown on the accompanying diagram, sections 11 and 29 are set apart for school purposes,



while section 8 and three-fourths of section 26 belong to the Hudson's Bay Company. Of the remaining sections, those bearing even numbers have been reserved by the Dominion Government for homestead entry, while of those

bearing odd numbers, a large number belong to the Canadian Pacific and to other railway companies.

All "homesteaders" are required to perform certain duties. They must live for a period of six months

The Homestead. upon the land and cultivate the same for three years. In case the "homesteader" owns eighty acres in the vicinity of his homestead, he is allowed to perform his duties without actually living on the land he is homesteading. The same privilege is accorded him if his parents have a permanent residence on farming land owned by them in the vicinity. Inspectors are appointed by the Dominion Government to see that

all persons living on homesteads conform to the regulations governing the same.

With such inducements held out to them, it is little wonder that men of many nationalities have found their way to the Prairie Provinces. In 1871, our prairies were peopled, save for the Red River colonists, only by a few Indians, half-breeds, and traders. Since that time there has been a steady inflow of Eastern Canadians, English, Scotch, Irish, and French. These have come in gradually, and have not, therefore, attracted much attention. More noticeable has been the coming of foreigners—Danes,

Many Races. Swedes, Norwegians, Belgians, Bavarians, Jews, Alsatians, Icelanders, Mennonites, Galicians and Doukhobors. These have arrived in groups, some small, others large, and have in many cases settled in colonies. Of late years there has been a rapidly growing movement of settlers from the western states, including many Mormons.

Naturally we are very much interested in the character of the people who have come to make their home in the West. The Indians and traders, who have figured so prominently in the early history of the country, may be passed over in this connection. Those who have come from Eastern Canada, the

Canadians. English, Scotch, Irish, and French, are Canadians, and are interested in having the West filled with people who will be loyal to Canada. But what of the foreigners who have

been, and still are, pouring into the country? Will they make, not only good farmers, but also good citizens?



ON THE WAY TO THE HOMESTEAD.

The earliest addition to our population, from foreign soil, was the Icelandic. In 1870, four young men left Iceland for North America. Landing at Quebec, they passed through Canada to Wisconsin. Two years later they were followed by a larger

The group of emigrants, who settled, some
Icelanders. in Nova Scotia, others in Ontario.

In 1875, a movement west was made by most of the Icelanders settled in Eastern Canada, and, in July, the pioneers landed at Fort Garry. After examining the neighboring country, they decided to locate upon the west shore of Lake Winni-

peg. This settlement they called "New Iceland," the beginning of the present municipality of Gimli. Being accustomed to a cold climate and the hardships of a rugged land, the Icelanders have proved ideal pioneers for our young country.

In Southern Manitoba, in the neighborhood of Gretna and Morden, and also in Saskatchewan, near Rosthern, there are prosperous settlements of Germans, called Mennonites, who came to Canada from

The Russia as early as 1875. Seventeen
Mennonites. townships were reserved and divided among six thousand of them. When they first arrived, many Canadians thought they would not make good settlers. Time has proved, however, that their industry and simplicity of life specially fit them for farming.

In Saskatchewan, near Yorkton and Rosthern, and also in Alberta, near Edmonton, are settlements of Galicians who came from a little country in what was once Russian Poland. Nearly 30,000 of these people have been induced, by the hardships of their life in Galicia, to cross the Atlantic to a land where they can enjoy freedom and comfort. They are rapidly adapting themselves to the ways of the country and making comfortable homes for themselves and their families. A large number of schools have been built in the Galician settlements. The difficulty experienced in getting English-speaking teachers to take charge of the schools in Galician

settlements has caused the governments of Manitoba and Saskatchewan to take action respecting the establishment of training-schools for teachers capable of using their own language and accustomed to their mode of life.

The Galicians.



THESE GALICIANS ARE CANADIANS.

The Galicians do not care for town life, but are fond of the country. Their houses, although mere shanties built of logs and plastered with mud, are in some cases whitewashed, and present a neat appearance.

The most recent addition to the peoples of the West is that of the Doukhobors. Our interest in this people has been aroused by accounts of the harsh treatment to which they were subjected in Russia,

the country from which they came. They do not think it right to engage in war. As Russia has a large army and needs many fighting men, they were called upon to bear arms. Rather than render

The military service, they left Russia and
Doukhobors. came to Canada, where they hoped to enjoy greater freedom. It was in

1899 that the first company of Doukhobors came to the West. Since that time a large colony has been formed north-west of Yorkton, and another about Rosthern. They have been accustomed to a peculiar plan of having all things in common, the community owning all property and receiving all the wages earned by individuals. This plan they find difficult to reconcile with Canadian customs. They are, however, freed from the duty of serving in the army.

During the past few years thousands of people have come from the United States to settle in the Western Provinces. Many of these are experienced farmers and ranchers, and are, therefore, valuable settlers. Among these are several thousand Mormons, who have made their home in Southern Alberta.

Such are the various races represented in the people of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

A Many of them are foreign, speaking a
Danger. strange language and holding to peculiar customs and ideas. Moreover, the tendency of some of the new-comers, for example the Galicians and Doukhobors, is to settle in colonies by

themselves. Naturally, under such an arrangement they retain longer their own speech and customs, and are slower to learn the English language and to acquire English habits.



A DOUKHOBOR FAMILY.

The future of the parts of the country which are peopled by these foreigners is hopeful. Even those who, upon the arrival of the Memmonites, Galicians, and Doukhobors, said that they would never be

**The Need
of Good
Citizens.**

successful settlers, have changed their minds. The strangers have proved good farmers. But in addition to good farmers Canada needs good citizens.

Before foreigners can become good citizens, they must be taught the English language and must under-

stand British laws and customs. They are to share in the responsibility of governing Canada, and, to do so wisely and honestly, they must learn to prize the freedom of our government, so different from that of the country from which they came.

A strong influence in making Canadian citizens of the strangers who are coming to join us, is that of the public schools. Only about one quarter of the Galicians and Doukhobors can read and write, so that their need of education is great. In the schools their children are learning to speak and read English. The English language will open to them Canadian books and newspapers, in reading which they will come to think and feel as Canadians do.

**The
Value of
Schools.**

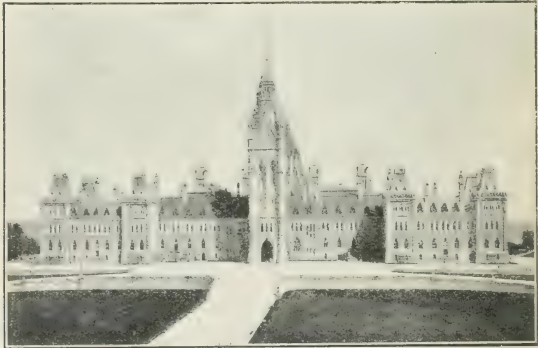
But, fortunately, school life exerts a much more immediate and powerful influence upon the children of foreigners, namely, the influence of association.

The classroom and the playground are the meeting-place of children of all nationalities, where those who are strangers to Canada quickly imitate Canadian speech and manners.

CHAPTER XVIII.

OUR GOVERNMENT.

CANADIANS have every reason to be proud of their form of government. They are ever ready to



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA.

render a willing obedience to their sovereign, King Edward VII. At the same time they are practically a self-governed people and are left free to make their own laws. Thus it may be said that while they are the loyal subjects of the King they may be said to rule themselves. Those who have framed the British constitution have dealt wisely with Canada, for they

have added to the loyalty of Canadians by leaving them free to govern themselves. But

Self-Government. self-government is a great responsibility. The boys and girls who are now attending school will one day be the ruling citizens of Canada. How necessary it is, therefore, that they should understand the system of government which they are to direct !

Our form of government may be said to be of four kinds, called, according to the extent of each, *municipal*, *provincial*, *federal*, and *imperial*. The meaning of these terms should be understood at the outset. The city, town, village, or country district in which you live is called a *municipality*, and has a *municipal* government. The *province*, within which your municipality is situated, has a *provincial* government. The group, or *federation*, of provinces to which yours belongs is controlled by a *federal* government. The term *imperial* is applied to the government of the *empire*.

Winnipeg is a municipality and, therefore, has a municipal government. Manitoba, the province in which this municipality is situated, has a provincial government. The government of Canada, a federation of provinces, is federal : while that of the British Empire is imperial.

MUNICIPAL.

Let us consider, in the first place, why it is necessary to have government at all. Every man

who owns property, say a house and lot, looks after it himself. So long as he does not interfere in any way with the rights of his neighbors he may in a sense do what he likes with his own. He makes all necessary improvements, such as planting trees and building fences. In a municipality it is different. There are many things which the citizens have in common, but which no one person can be said to own, such as parks, roads, and public libraries. Now, as roads and parks have to be kept in good condition, and new books bought for libraries, some persons must be found to attend to these matters. The people, therefore, elect from their number a few men who make it their business to care for everything belonging to the *public*. This group of men is called a council, and looks after the affairs of the municipality.

Have you in connection with your school a literary society? If so, you elect each term a committee, composed of a president, vice-president, and other members, whose duty it is to manage the society. The members of the committee are your representatives and you hold them responsible for the proper management of your society. This will help you to understand the position occupied by the council which is annually elected by the citizens of your municipality.

Every city municipality has its own *council*, composed of a *mayor*, who is the head, and a number of *aldermen*. A town council consists of a *mayor* and *councillors*; a village council, of a *mayor*, or *overseer*, and *councillors*. The number of aldermen in a city

municipality, and councillors in a town and a village municipality, varies in the provinces. The

Municipal Councils. council of a rural municipality is composed of a *reeve* and from four to six *councillors*. All these officials, mayors, aldermen, reeves and councillors, are elected yearly or bi-yearly. Mayors and reeves are elected by all the voters of a municipality.

As the form of municipal government is not the same in the three provinces, and as it is at present undergoing certain radical changes, the teacher should try to make himself thoroughly familiar with these, in so far as they relate to the city, town, village and rural municipalities in the provinces.

It is the duty of each council to make laws to govern the municipality which it represents. These are called *by-laws*, that is, laws of a *bye*, or township, and must be obeyed by all citizens.

By-laws. Whenever a very important by-law, one involving the expenditure of a large sum of money, is proposed, the council must submit it to a vote of the people.

In your literary society you have a set of rules, or by-laws, which are intended for the guidance of the members. All must observe these rules, otherwise there would be no order.

Whenever the committee of your society is about to make a very important move, for example, the spending of a large sum of money, it first consults the whole society.

So varied are the duties to be performed in governing a municipality, that several permanent officials are appointed by the council. One of these,

the *clerk*, records the proceedings of the council's meetings, keeps the books of the municipality, and publishes all by-laws. Another official is the *treasurer*, who receives and pays out all money. Often matters

**Municipal
Officials.**

arise which require a knowledge of law, and so it is necessary for the council to engage the services of a *solicitor*. In cities, where public works, such as pavements and



MANITOBA GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

water-works, are extensive and costly, an expert *engineer* is engaged. Another important official is the *health officer*, whose duty it is to check such contagious diseases as measles and diphtheria.

Have you ever thought of the importance of the school you are attending? Who had it built? Who keep it in repair? Who choose your teachers?

The work of education is considered so important that its control is entrusted to a special body of

citizens. Each year, in addition to electing members of council, the people also choose *trustees*, who look after the building and managing of public schools. In cities, towns, and villages, two trustees are elected in each ward, one retiring annually, the other continuing in office a year longer. In rural districts, three trustees are chosen at the first election, after which one retires each year. Every board of trustees employs a secretary-treasurer, and in cities a superintendent.

Public Schools.

Now, all these things, the making of roads and the erection of public buildings, require a great sum of money. This money the council raises by *taxing* such property as land, machinery, and buildings—churches, hospitals, and schools being free from taxation. In the work of taxing,

Taxation.

assessors and *collectors* are employed, the former to *assess*, or estimate, the value of property, the latter to *collect* the taxes when fixed.

To return to your literary society. You need, in connection with it, money to buy books, music, and other supplies. How is the money raised? Your treasurer collects from each member a fee, the amount of which depends upon the expenses of the society. The fee increases with the expenses. So also in a municipality, the amount of the taxes depends upon the kind of roads and schools that are built.

PROVINCIAL.

Up to this point we have been learning how a municipality governs itself through a council and

several officials. Let us next consider the need of some government above the municipalities. Just as

**The Need of
Provincial
Government.**

in a town there are many things of interest to all the townsmen, but for which no one person is responsible; so also in a province there are institutions, such as asylums, universities, and railways,



LEGISLATIVE BUILDINGS, REGINA.

which are used by all the municipalities alike but controlled by none. The citizens of the province,

**The
Legislature.**

therefore, elect representatives who meet in the most central municipality, called the *capital*. This body of representatives is known as the *legislature*, because its duty is to *legislate* or make laws. These laws, being of interest to the whole of the *province*, cannot, therefore, be left to any municipal council; and so arises the necessity of *provincial* government.

Have you a football club in your school? If so, it is, like your literary society, managed by a committee. There are,

perhaps, other schools in your neighborhood which also have football clubs. When you wish to play a series of games with these, you find that you require a set of rules to govern the competition. The making of these rules could not fairly be left to any one club. Each club, therefore, chooses one or more representatives, and these meet at some central point. Here they draw up rules to govern the league. In the same way the provincial parliament, made up of representatives from all parts of the province, meets at the capital to make laws to govern all the municipalities.

Since the legislature only legislates, or makes laws, there is need of a body to carry into force, or *execute*, these laws. For this purpose there is chosen, mainly

**The
Executive
Council.**

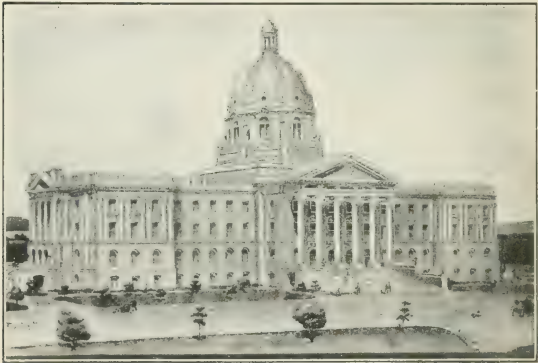
from the legislature, a group of men called the *executive council*, or cabinet, or ministry. Being virtually a committee, this council feels responsible to the body from which it is selected. The ministers enjoy, while in office, the title of "Honorable." Their duties are clearly defined.

In addition to a legislature and an executive council, there is connected with a provincial government a *Lieutenant Governor*, who is at the head of the system. His assent must be given before any bill can become law. He performs many important duties; calls together and dissolves the legislature,

**The
Lieutenant
Governor.**

and makes all appointments to provincial offices. In all these duties, however, the governor acts upon the advice of the executive council, so that, while he nominally conducts the government,

the real power rests with the council. The council, being chosen from the legislature, represents the will of the people. It will be seen, then, that the people of the province really rule themselves. The Lieutenant Governor is appointed by the federal government, which we shall next consider.



LEGISLATIVE BUILDINGS, EDMONTON.

FEDERAL.

The Dominion of Canada is made up of a group, or *federation*, of provinces. Each province has its local government, like the one described above, and is independent in all matters relating to itself alone. There are, however, many interests which all the provinces have in common. They

**The Need
of Federal
Government.**

all need the railways which pass across the continent; they all use the same postal system; they all enjoy the protection of a common militia. These facts explain the need of a *federal* government to control those institutions which concern, not one, but all the provinces.

The federal, or Dominion, system contains a legislative assembly, called the *House of Commons*, composed of two hundred and twenty-one members.

The House of Commons. Manitoba elects ten of these members, Saskatchewan ten, and Alberta seven. The making of laws for the Dominion is so important that it is thought necessary to have a second legislative body, called the *Senate*, whose duty it is to revise the work of the House of

The Senate. Commons. The senators are appointed for life by the *Governor General*, acting upon the advice of the council. Each of the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta has a representation in the Senate of four members. The House of Commons and Senate together form the legislature of the Dominion, and

The Governor General. from them is chosen an executive council. This council, while responsible to the legislature, advises the Governor General, the representative in Canada of the Sovereign of the British Empire.

We have described the *municipal*, *provincial*, and *federal* systems of government, and have referred to a

fourth, the *imperial*. Each of the first three systems, while independent within its own limit, may be checked by the one above it whenever that limit is overstepped. Thus a municipal

**The Relations
of the Four
Systems.**

council may pass by-laws relating to purely local interests, but it is for the provincial legislature to determine what such interests are. Again, the provincial legislature makes laws to control provincial affairs, but any enactment, for instance one interfering with the interests of another province, may be disallowed by the federal government and thereby

Disallowance.

be prevented from becoming law. A similar power of *disallowance* is exerted over the federal parliament by the imperial government, whenever a measure threatens the welfare of the British Empire at large.



BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

A.

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CANADIAN SAVAGE FOLK. By John MacLean, Ph.D.

HISTORY OF THE NORTHWEST, 3 vols. By Alex. Begg.

CANADA : AN ENCYCLOPÆDIA.

HOW CANADA IS GOVERNED. By J. G. Bourinot.

B.

That a new interest is being taken in the subject of Canadian history may be judged from the number of historical works that are just being published. The following will be attractive to Westerners :

LORD STRATHCONA. By Beckles Willson.

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A FEW IMPORTANT DATES.

1600.

IN THE HISTORY OF CANADA.

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Treaty of Ryswick, closing French-English War . . . 1697

IN THE HISTORY OF MANITOBA,
SASKATCHEWAN AND
ALBERTA.

1668. Groseilliers' first voyage to Hudson Bay.

1670. Founding of the Hudson's Bay Company.

1697. D'Iberville's final capture of Fort Nelson.

1700.

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Peace of Paris, giving Canada to England 1763

The Quebec Act 1774

The Constitutional Act . . . 1791

1731. Beginning of the Vérendrye explorations.

1771. The discovery of the Coppermine by Hearne.

1784. The North-West Company founded.

1789. Discovery of the Mackenzie River.

1793. Mackenzie reached the Pacific Ocean.

1800.

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| | 1804. Union of the North-West and X Y Companies. |
| | 1812. The founding of the Selkirk settlement. |
| | 1816. The fight at Seven Oaks. |
| | 1820. Union of the Hudson's Bay and North - West Companies. |
| | 1826. The Red River flood. |
| The Act of Union | 1841 |
| The Confederation of the Canadian Provinces . . . | 1867 |
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| | 1869-70. The Red River Rebellion. |
| | 1870. The Manitoba Act. |
| | 1871-77. The Indian Treaties. |
| | 1876. Resident Governor for N.-W. Territories. |
| | 1885. The Saskatchewan Rebellion.—The C. P. R. completed. |

1900.

- | | |
|--|---|
| | 1905. Formation of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. |
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THE PRONUNCIATION OF A FEW PROPER NAMES.

Algonquin	Al-gon'-kwin.
Batoche	Ba-tōs'h.
Cabot	Ka-bot.
Cartier, Jacques	Kar'-te-a', Zhak.
Crozier	Kro'-zher.
de la Reine	duh-lah-rè-n.
de la Vérendrye	duh-lah-vai'r-oñ-dree.
de Troyes, Chevalier	duh-Troy-ā, shé-va-lié.
Denonville	Duh-noñ-veel.
d'Iberville	dee-bair-veel.
Dumont	Du-moñ.
Eskimo	Es'-ke-mō.
Fafard	Fa-fa'r.
Groseilliers	Groz-ayl-yay.
Huguenot	Huh-ge-noh.
Iroquois	Eer'-o-kwau.
Ile a la Crosse	Eel-a-la-Cross.
Kaministiquia	Kam-in-is'-ti-kwa.
Keewatin	Kee-wā'-tin.
le Moyne	leh-Moin'.
Long Sault	Long Soo.
Marchand	Mar'-sho'n.
Maurepas	mōr'-pá.
Metis	Méh-tee'-ce.
Michilimackinac	Mik'-il-i-mak'-in-aw.
Pembina	Pem'bin-a.
Radisson	Ra-dees-son.
Rouge	Rou-j.
Ryswick	Riz'-wik.
Sault Ste. Marie (usually)	Soo-sent-Ma'-ree.
Sioux	Soo.
Stikine	Sti-ke'-en.
St. Norbert	San(g) nor'-bair.
St. Pierre	Sau(g) pe-ai'r.
Talon	Ta'-lon.
Utrecht	Yu'-trekt.

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