

his life in Hamilton. He went to Red River in June, 1869. He is a land surveyor, and was engaged in making surveys and overseeing works on road between Oak Point and Lake of the Woods. He explored 55 miles. That section of the country is all timbered, gravelly, sandy ridges, and some swamps. The soil is much better than it is about Ottawa. There is a good deal of limo in the earth. It is not, however, to be compared to prairie soil. He found the summer pleasant, the winter cold and clear. He saw some frost in the woods in September, but he was told that the frosts are earlier in the woods and swamps than in the open prairie. He was favourably impressed with the half-breeds. They are willing, good workers. The climate and country are magnificent.

#### MAJOR BOULTON'S EVIDENCE.

*Major Boulton, examined*—Is a native of Ontario. Went to Red River in August, 1868. He was engaged on Col. Dennis' survey. After leaving Pembina they enter a prairie country. As they got near Assiniboine they saw clumps of woods. The principal part of the land, from the boundary line to Assiniboine, is fit for settlement. Distance is about 64 miles. About Stinking River the country is really beautiful. Rose trees and strawberries grow in luxuriance on the higher parts of prairie to which he has referred. The grass is very nutritious, and during winter horses scrape the snow away to get it. He saw the first well to the north on a stock farm. It supplied 250 to 300 head of cattle. This well was 25 feet deep. As he went north he found the country more wooded and more stony. There are no stones on the prairie. He had not seen fruit trees on the prairie, but one or two gentlemen had lately put out apple trees, and they appeared to be doing well. The production in the hardest fields on the banks of the river was certainly wonderful last summer. But the grasshoppers have done much harm, and the blackbirds are injurious. The crop was large—sufficient to last the settlement for two years. The yield is far superior to that of Upper Canada. The grasshoppers have done damage for the last six or seven years more or less. The houses are generally made of oak logs. The town of Winnipeg consists of about 40 houses. They farm back about 20 acres altogether. They have no rear line. From the parts of the country he has seen it compares favourably with Ontario. Sheep and pigs both flourish in the country. Sometimes there is a superfluity of the latter, and people have had to crown them in the river, for there is only a limited market for surplus production. The Indians expect to make a treaty and get provisions, blankets, &c., for their land. But they don't expect to get anything for the settled parts of Red River. It is necessary to pay attention to the claims of the Indians to prevent disputes arising hereafter. He intends to go back when the troubles are settled. He would not recommend men to go there to settle with insufficient means. If they go in September it will be a year before they get anything off their farms. The best time to leave this country would be the latter part of July. Five men with \$200 each could leave here and buy two horses and a waggon at St. Paul's, and arrive at Fort Garry in a little over three weeks with their horses and their waggons still their own. There is no necessity for a guide over the prairie.

#### DR. SCHULTZ'S EVIDENCE.

*Dr. John Schultz examined*—He is a doctor of medicine, and has resided at Fort Garry for nearly ten years. He was born in Canada, and formerly resided in Essex County. He has practiced medicine, and been engaged in fur trading. He has been all through the country between Red River and Lake of the Woods, and he has been some 70 miles on the Assiniboine. He estimates the population of Red River at 12,000, including Indians and half-breeds living in houses. Four-tenths are French, and the remainder English, Scotch, and a very few Irish. There was a census taken before he went there, giving the population at 8,000. The winter is colder than Ontario, but with the same clothes that he wore in Essex, he suffered less from the cold. The cold and snow are very dry. It is the highest table land on the continent. The average depth of the snow is 18 inches. He has known the thermometer fall as low as  $-45^{\circ}$ . Snow generally begins to fall on the 10th of November. Spring opens about Easter Day. Ploughing is all done in the spring. There is not much seed put in before the 22nd or 23rd of April. The heat of the summer is not extreme. July is the hottest month. They have not much wet weather. He has noticed small patches of Alkali deposits on the prairies. They occur in the neighbourhood of Lake Manitoba. The cattle go and lick them up. He has never seen any country superior for settlement, and he has been in Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois. The alluvial soil is over a foot in depth. There is below it a sort of clay mixed with sand, called white mud. The White Mud River so named from the character of the soil, is one of the best districts for agricultural purposes. He has seen coal brought from the upper part of Assiniboine, which appeared to burn well. As you go further from the rivers you meet with the buffalo grass, which is not so long, but more nutritious than the ordinary herbage. The average yield of grain in this country is greater than in Canada. Last year the yield of wheat in some parts was 4) bushels to the acre. The average is not much over 30. It weighs over 60 lbs. to the bushel. Oats are 32 lbs. to the bushel. Barley turns out equally well. Vegetables, and especially potatoes, yield very well. In the town the price of 3/4ths of an ordinary Canadian cord of wood would be \$1. Hay is 5s. a cart load. Cattle come in about Christmas, and are turned out early. He has two houses of brick, and two of wood. He lives in a wood house. There is white pine near the Lake of the Woods. He found the Indians as he came to Canada via Fort Alexander and Lake of the Woods well disposed. He would recommend immigrants to go to this country to settle, in preference to Canada. The country is healthy. There is an absence of fevers and epidemics. The immigrant should take agricultural implements with him. A man with from £50 to £100 stg. would have no difficulty in making a satisfactory living. Fish are very abundant. Lake trout and white fish can be caught in winter. There is a demand for labor in the harvest season, but as a rule every man does his own work. There are mowing and reaping machines in the country. It is his intention to return to the country.

#### CHARLES GARRETT'S EVIDENCE.

*Charles Garrett examined*—He has lived for upwards of 11 years at Red River. He previously resided in the neighbourhood of Toronto and Lake Simcoe. He has been living at a place called Sturgeon Creek, on the Assiniboine, seven miles north of the town of