

Dominion of Canada.

Historical.—Earliest explorations by English under Cabot 1497-98. First important explorations and permanent settlements made by French—Cartier's explorations 1534-35-40, Champlain's 1603-8—Quebec founded 1608. Trade with Indians established in northwest by Hudson's Bay Company (English) 1670. Halifax founded by English 1749; Quebec captured by English under Wolfe 1759; country ceded to Great Britain 1763. Dominion of Canada formed by confederation of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia provinces 1867; Northwest Territories acquired 1869; Manitoba admitted 1870; British Columbia 1871; Prince Edward Island 1873.

Area, not including the islands in the Arctic Ocean, 3,653,946 square miles, comprising all territory of North America north of the United States except Alaska and Newfoundland. Length of coast line, 11,400 miles.

Physical Features.—Great natural features of Eastern Canada, the Laurentian Mountains, St. Lawrence River, and Hudson Bay; of Central Canada, the great treeless plains of Northwest Territories; Western Canada, the Saskatchewan—Nelson and Mackenzie rivers with their numerous large lakes—Winnipeg, Athabasca, Great Slave, Great Bear, etc.,—and the Rocky Mountains. Surface of Eastern Canada largely plains and undulating lowlands, in great part heavily wooded; Central chiefly prairie land; Western a region of lofty mountains with intervening valleys and vast primeval forests.

Climate varies greatly, owing to vast extent of territory. The extremes of heat and cold are greater than in corresponding European latitudes. Broadly speaking, climate of north severe, south genial and temperate, everywhere healthful. Atlantic Gulf Stream and Japan Current of Pacific modifying influences in coast lands. Rainfall decreases toward interior.

Forests cover an area estimated at 1,248,798 square miles; constitute one of chief sources of wealth; lumbering a leading industry. Surface of Eastern Canada, except the Arctic Plains to the north, and a limited area under cultivation, covered by vast forests, chiefly of pines, spruce, and firs; many useful and valuable deciduous trees also found. Magnificent forests, in which conifers predominate, cover a great part of British Columbia; the Douglas fir—commercially Oregon pine—frequently reaches a height of from 250 to

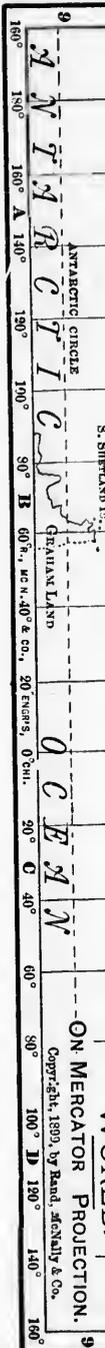
300 feet, exceeding 8 feet in diameter. Value of forest products 1891, \$80,071,415; timber cut, 2,045,000,000 feet.

Agriculture, Etc.—Industries of the country chiefly agricultural and pastoral. Chief agricultural districts: Valleys of the Red, Athabasca, Saskatchewan, and Peace rivers, and extensive areas in British Columbia and Eastern Canada. Area of occupied land, 1891, 60,287,730 acres; improved, 28,537,242; under crop, 19,904,826; gardens and orchards, 464,462. Wheat produced, 1891, 42,144,779 bushels; oats, 82,515,413; barley, 17,148,198; corn, 10,675,886; potatoes, 52,653,704; turnips, etc., 49,555,902; peas and beans, 15,514,836; buckwheat, 4,886,122; hops, 1,126,230 pounds; tobacco, 4,277,936. Fruit-growing an important industry in Eastern Canada; apples, pears, plums, peaches, apricots, grapes, etc., grow luxuriantly; product, 1891, 68,864,181 pounds; extensive areas in British Columbia also adapted to fruit culture. Dairy-farming and stock-breeding have made great progress; cheese and butter largely manufactured, former an important item in export trade, averaging nearly \$15,000,000 annually. Large areas in eastern and western sections adapted to industries. Area under pasture, 15,284,788 acres.

Fisheries of Canada most extensive in the world. Lakes, rivers, and 8,000 miles of shore fisheries yield an almost inexhaustible supply of fresh and salt water fish. Commercially, cod most valuable catch on Atlantic coast, salmon on Pacific. Herring, mackerel, lobster, seal, etc., also valuable. Trout abundant everywhere. Total value of fishery products 1898, \$19,667,121, of which cod, \$2,986,513; salmon, \$3,159,306; herring, \$1,960,954; lobster, \$3,887,939; fur seal, \$285,520. Total fishermen, 81,534; value of plant, \$9,860,097.

Manufactures have made notable advance since adoption of protective policy in 1879; capital invested increased from about \$165,000,000 in 1881 to \$355,000,000 in 1891. Saw and flouring mills, foundries and machine shops, all rank high. Wood pulp mills also established; owing to great amount of spruce, poplar, etc., future of pulp industry must prove of vast importance to Dominion. Textile industries now have a greater aggregate capital than flouring mills; cottons lead. Leather and sugar refining important in Quebec and Nova Scotia, canning of fish in British Columbia.

Commerce.—Foreign trade largely with Great Britain and United States. Value of ex-



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