

1883 to the amount of over \$800,000,000, and that figure is bound to increase. Of this enormous sum the United States supplied 20 per cent., Germany, 10 per cent., British India, 8 per cent., while from British North America there came only about 3 per cent. Great Britain's total imports of wheat and wheat flour were about \$220,000,000, of which the farmers of Canada only supplied about 3 per cent.—This will not continue. The soil in parts of the States which now send the largest supplies is showing signs of exhaustion, the yield having fallen to about twelve bushels per acre; whereas in this country with its unexhausted soil it is fair to expect at least 20 bushels for years to come. In British India, also, it is stated that crops have lately been grown at a cost barely repaid by the prices obtained for them, which fact, if it is a fact, must weaken competition from that quarter. On the whole he would be surprised if before ten years had passed the terrors of low prices and early frosts were not almost forgotten things. He described his visit to the great Bell Farm, and while much impressed with what he saw there was of the opinion that it would be a bad thing for the country if it were turned into an immense wheat field in which human beings would scarcely be more numerous than the Self-Binders. He would prefer to think of the future of Manitoba as resembling a portion of Ontario, divided into farms of a moderate size, equipped with comfortable homesteads, and devoted to mixed farming. Travelling westward, occasionally making detours from the railway line, His Excellency reached Dunmore and inspected the coal deposits at Lethbridge, composed, according to a recent geological report, of some 150,000,000 tons of excellent coal. At Lethbridge the party were supplied with broncho horses, visiting during their ride J. G. Baker & Co's. huge herds of cattle, and witnessing the feats of the cowboys. Pressing on they reached next day the famous Cochrane ranche, and now stood within the spell of the Rockies. Fort McLeod came next in order, then Calgary, the ride, still on horseback, between these places, being most interesting. From Calgary they travelled eastward a few miles to visit the Blackfeet Indians, by whom, as well as by their kinsman the Bloods, His Excellency was most warmly received, obtaining from them both assurances, which he believed were sincere, of their unswerving faith and loyalty. He had a large compassion for the

poor Indian. They are the aboriginal inhabitants of this continent. They regard themselves, not unnaturally, as the legitimate occupants of the soil. As they express it themselves, their hearts must occasionally sink when they see that the buffalo is gone—that the white man is growing rich, and the red man poorer every year. Their title need not be discussed. It may not be a legal title, but its strength lies in their moral claim to considerate treatment at the hands of those before whose advance the native races are receding and dwindling away. He was glad that the Dominion Government had never failed to recognize its obligation to deal with them gently and humanely. To keep them from starvation without pauperizing them is a difficult problem and requires unflagging patience on the part of those who would lead them to a civilization now seemingly so far beyond their reach.

They now began to ascend the Rocky Mountains, and arrived at Kicking Horse Pass, in the vicinity of which is found a seam of very high class coal, more like anthracite than that found farther east. Descending the  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. gradient of the western slope of the Rockies they reach the Selkirks, and again ascend. Here His Excellency becomes enthusiastic over the wonderful scenery "unsurpassed in the world." They then left the cars and crossed the gap of 47 miles, reaching Farwell on the Columbia River where they passed the night in camp. North of Farwell lies the region, contained within the famous Big Bend of the Columbia, which is thought to be rich in gold. He can never forget the spot in which their camp was pitched on the evening of the second day crossing the gap. A narrow glade surrounded on every side by cedars—not the cedars of Old Canada, but the "Gigantea"—towering 200 feet and more towards the sky, with trunks perhaps 9 or 10 feet in diameter. These, interspersed with the beautiful Douglas fir and the hemlock, clothed the hills for miles on either side. In British Columbia we have an immense tract of timber-bearing country, as yet almost untouched by the axe or the fire. Continuing on with ever-increasing wonder and delight at the scenes along the Thompson river, the Shuswap lakes (a veritable British Columbian Killarney) they reached Yale, "the loveliest of spots," and then flew along the marvellous canons of the Fraser to Burrard Inlet, the terminus of the C. P. R. Here they took steamer for Victoria, Vancouver Island.