

young British colonies, certain persons came into the country who had a strong desire to make a living without taking off their coats—a desire which could not be gratified. The friends of these persons at home sent them money, which they put into silly investments. They rode to the diggings, and rode back again. They hung, like mendicants, round the doors of the Government offices. They croaked in the streets, spent their time idly in bar-rooms, and finally disappeared. Having in some manner got back to England, several of these persons wrote scraps in magazines, or vamped up books about British Columbia. I might collect these wails of the unsuitable into a list, but it is enough simply to state that nobody of any position in British Columbia—no settler worth his salt—has ever written against the country. On the contrary, persons who are there, settled comfortably after overcoming early difficulties, write to their friends to join them.

The intending emigrant may read the following books about the province as good books written by honest writers:—

- 1862.—‘Prize Essay on Vancouver Island.’ By Charles Forbes, M.D., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), late Staff Surgeon, Royal Navy.
- 1863.—‘Prize Essay on British Columbia.’ By the Rev. R. C. Lundin Brown, M.A., formerly Minister at Lillooet.
- 1872.—‘Prize Essay on British Columbia’ (after its union with Canada). By A. C. Anderson, Esq., J.P., formerly a partner of the Hudson’s Bay Company.
- ‘Vancouver Island Explorations, and Papers relating to the British Columbian Botanical Expedition;’ ‘Studies of the Forests and Forest Life of North-west America.’ By Robert Brown, M.A., Ph.D., F.L.S., F.R.G.S., President of the Royal Physical Society, Edinburgh.
- ‘Vancouver Island and British Columbia.’ By Matthew Macfie, Esq., F.R.G.S.
- ‘Facts and Figures relating to Vancouver Island and British Columbia.’ By J. D. Pemberton, Esq.
- ‘Vancouver Island.’ By Dr. Rattray, R.N.
- ‘Four Years in British Columbia.’ By Captain R. C. Mayne, R.N., C.B.
- ‘Report on British Columbia.’ By the Hon. H. L. Langevin, C.B., Minister of Public Works of the Dominion of Canada.

I wish to express myself very carefully, but I believe that the recommendations of British Columbia by the ‘Times’ ten years ago, were, upon the whole, well based, and that the country will justify what was said of it by that far-seeing journal. “British Columbia abounds with every natural and material wealth. It enjoys law and order. There you will find elbow-room, a fair field and no favour. Go to British Columbia and be a free man.”

Many circumstances, however (some of which will be learned from this Handbook), require that emigration to the province should at present be undertaken very prudently, and with clear notions of what settling in a young country really means. One of the duties of the office of Agent-General, which I hold, is to give information to intending emigrants, so that they may not make any large mistakes. If unsuitable persons go to the province and do not succeed, they must blame their own folly. The province, unquestionably, is a very desirable place for suitable settlers, compared with any other territory on the North American continent.