

been \$18,000,000,000, or about 42 per cent. The total wealth is set down at \$71,459,000,000, and is equal to about \$1,000 per capita of the population. In Great Britain the distribution per capita of wealth, on the basis of the figures for 1885 (\$50,397,895,000), is set down as follows: In England, \$1,545 per capita; in Scotland \$1,215; in Ireland \$565. Wales about ranks with Scotland, we believe.

The *Bankers' Magazine* estimates the currency of the leading commercial countries of the world as follows:—

Count.	Gold.	Silver.	Notes.
France.....	\$900,000,000	\$700,000,000	\$594,000,000
United Kingdom.....	550,000,000	100,000,000	190,000,000
Germany.....	500,000,000	215,000,000	275,000,000
United States.....	375,607,112	116,298,802	938,728,545

Country.	Total Currency.	Population.	Currency per capita.
France.....	\$2,194,000,000	38,250,000	\$57.35
United Kingdom.....	\$40,000,000	38,175,000	22.01
Germany.....	990,000,000	48,000,000	22.36
United States.....	1,430,634,459	64,000,000	22.36

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by Correspondents

FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.

VANCOUVER, B. C., August 16th, 1890.

Editor INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE:—

You have graciously accorded your old time correspondent access once again to your columns, and, as promised in my last, I now write concerning other parts and interests of the Province.

I see by an editorial in your last issue that even editors require to ease up a little and seek recuperation among the mountains or on the sea coast. I do not wonder at it, for the press here is full of the harrowing details of the "hottest on record in the East;" it is even suggested that in Montreal the mercury has risen so rapidly and steadfastly as to finally kneck the roofs off thermometers! Let me therefore suggest that you take a long journey while you are about it, and visit this extreme end of your Dominion; for until you do you will have no knowledge of the goodly place or of its equable and mild climate. I suppose at the present time you are all bathed in continual moisture, that even the thought of Adam's fig leaf is enough to make you abhor clotting of any kind, that fans and summer drinks are all the go, and that the proprietors of summer hotels are devoutly thanking a wise Providence for the creation of his mid-day sphere of fire. Am I correct?

Let your imagination travel over the prairies and mountains and in spirit visit this new and thriving city of the West,—this prodigy of Canadian enterprise,—and what do you find? Your correspondent sits by an open window in the Vancouver Hotel, overlooking the bay, with the snow-capped Cascade Mountains on the other side; there is a cool, delicious breeze coming in from the ocean, fanning the brow and making life pleasant and comfortable. Truly, amidst this scene of splendor, cooled and comforted by the pure ocean breeze, I am sorry for you unfortunate Eastern people, and methinks I hear you say, "Oh! what must it be to be there!"

But I must proceed to tell you something about this wonderful place, for wonderful it is. Consider the fact that four years ago, where this city now stands, there existed a primeval forest, where the cedar and the Douglas fir trees grew in such height and girth that I am almost afraid to record dimensions lest your readers should accuse me of "Yankee exaggeration." Here the hand of civilization had not reached forth to destroy nature's magnificent handiwork, and yet in so short a space of time a

city has been built, and the foundations laid for an even greater marvel which shall startle the world during the next generation. Vancouver of to-day is but an indication of what may be hereafter expected, for I am firmly of the opinion that a very few years hence a city of 50,000 inhabitants will exist, and will successfully claim by right of possession the title of the second city of importance on the Pacific Coast, San Francisco alone challenging her maritime supremacy. But I am day-dreaming, it is Vancouver of 1890 that should claim our attention; and what do we find? We have first of all a city of over 15,000 inhabitants, possessing a harbor unexcelled on this continent, accessible at all times of the day, month or year (no sand bar or anything of that kind, to the largest steamers of deepest draught; capacious enough to provide two miles of wharves whenever required, and greater capacity on the banks of English Bay whenever the development of trade may render it necessary. And let me say in passing that the C.P.R., with their usual foresight, have provided well for this contingency.

I take it that Vancouver is the natural outlet for the great mineral, agricultural and lumber wealth of the Province, and how rich British Columbia is in all three departments time alone will show. Enough, however, is known to warrant the assertion that her wealth is enormous, and with its continual development the city of Vancouver cannot fail to grow and prosper. Vancouver has good and solidly constructed buildings, there is very little mushroom growth, thanks to the lesson of the great fire; its streets are well laid out and of good width; it has good water works, of which I will speak later on, and a fair sewerage system. It boasts of good gas and electric light, and last but not least, claims an electric street car service, that completely supersedes and is infinitely superior to the one-horse roads of the East and even the two-horse roads of Montreal. The homes of Vancouver are models and would do credit to a city of much more mature growth. Of course the dwellings are mostly of frame construction, but there are some stone and some brick structures, and without making any odious comparisons, I would only say that I have had the pleasure of inspecting some of these dwellings, and desire nothing better than to end my days amidst such pleasant and comfortable surroundings, they are almost perfect and would be quite, if by deed of gift I could once claim any one of them mine.

Vancouver has been boomed and will certainly feel the reflex influence," say some of your readers. I do not believe it. I believe the city has grown because there is great need for just such a city. It will continue to grow and improve with the material development of the Province, and as I regard that as unquestionable, I must carry the thought to its logical conclusion and regard the future of Vancouver with the same feeling of certainty. I understand that when Mr. Van Horne, the president of the C.P.R., was recently here, he stated that in five years Vancouver would have a population of 25,000, and in ten years would be the second city on the Coast. Mr. Van Horne is a great man, president of a great railroad, perhaps has great, too great, ideas; but he is a man of much discernment, and I am inclined to accept the statement, with perhaps a grain of salt. I cannot speak individually of any prominent feature or place in the city, for there is much that might well be commented upon and commended, but my laudation of the baby city of the West will even now perhaps be regarded as altogether too enthusiastic. I will only add in closing, that the impressions I have outlined are derived after thoughtful investigation, and I stand by them. As evidencing the fact, I append my great seal and signature.

AMERICUS.

The Commercial Union has taken over the business of the Hamburg-Bremen in the State of Ohio. The latter has annual premiums amounting to nearly \$40,000 and about fifty agencies in Ohio. Its object is the release of the \$100,000 deposit required for use elsewhere, as is thought, to better advantage.