called, formerly, New Caledonia by the Scotch officers of the Hudson's Bay Company. It lies chiefly north of the 51st parallel and west of the Fraser river, in the basin of the Nechaco and other tributaries. The soil is almost uniformly good, but it is generally densely wooded with western scrub pine and other trees. Until much of the timber is cleared off, the climate may not be found entirely suitable for arable purposes. Owing to its distance at present from communications, this region is not likely to be occupied for these purposes soon. The prevailing grasses are not of the bunch-grass species, but, chiefly, red top and blue joint, with pea-vine on the slopes of hills having a southern aspect.

East of the Rocky Mountains, but within the province, in its north-east angle, there is a valuable agricultural region, the general surface about 2,000 feet above the sea; the climate good; soil of rich silty character. The characteristics are those of the Peace River country in general, with a more undulating surface than the portion of that region lying east of the British Columbian boundary. The valleys are wide depressions with gentle slopes, and the plateau usually is a widely extended terrace level. The district is well watered. As a rule the surface is wooded, for the most part with second growth wood, which consists of poplar, birch and spruce, but much of the district can be easily cleared, and there are open spaces.

Under arrangements connected with the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and other matters between the Provincial and Dominion Governments, Canada has acquired 3½ millions of acres of land in this Peace River district of British Columbia, in one rectangular block. This tract, which probably will be defined soon, will be disposed of under the land regulations of the Dominion Government through their agent in the Province. It is at present somewhat remote for settlement.

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES.

Dr. Dawson's Evidence.

The parts of British Columbia best suited to agriculture have been indicated in other portions of this pamphlet. But in view of the great importance of this subject, it is considered better to give the views of Dr. Dawson, who has worked in that Province, in connection with the Geological Survey of Canada, for the greater part of seven years—a length of experience which gives value to his intelligent observations. The information we quote was furnished by that gentleman to a committee of the Canadian Parliament. He said:—"British Columbia is naturally divided into two very distinct parts agriculturally by the mountains which form the coast range. The interior region has a climate of extremes, and the southern part is very dry. The coast region has a mild, equable climate. British Columbia must, however, be considered throughout as a mountainous country, that is, the amount of arable land, compared to the whole surface, is comparatively small. I do not say this to the disadvantage of British Columbia, as it must be remembered that other countries, known to be very productive, are similarly situated. In California, for instance, it has been estimated that only one-fifteenth of the State is flat land, not mountainous, and only a part of it cultivable. The southern part of the interior of British Columbia, east of the Fraser River, is the district which has so far attracted most attention agriculturally. The cultivation is restricted as a rule to the valleys, which are wide, trough-like, and cut through the surface of the plateau, and the climate is so dry in summer that irrigation is necessary. This is, however, generally easy on account of the number of streams running from the higher plateaux and mountains, and with irrigation very fine crops are produced. The higher plateaux are not cultivated, owing to their altitude, and the fact that summer frosts occur. These higher plateaux, however, are largely covered with bunch grass, and form those renowned stock-raising regions which have given the south of British Columbia such importance in that respect. Thus, the mere area of agricultural lands does not give the full measure of the capacity of the country for maintaining an agricultural and stock-raising population. A man with a comparatively small farm in these valleys has large herds of stock, which roam over the hills and sustain themselves on the natural grasses. The whole area of agricultural lands east of Fraser River in southern British Columbia I have estimated at something under 1,000 square miles, of which about 500 square miles probably may be