

agricultural capacity or its mineral riches, are almost incredible. It is said that in its forests are trees of six, ten or even twenty-seven to thirty feet in diameter, some of them ranging from 150 to 300 feet in length without knots or branches. The total area is 350,000 square miles, of which the wheat area south of lat. 55 deg. N. is 96,000,000 acres. \$22,000,000 of gold have been extracted from its gold mines, which can scarcely be said to have been as yet fairly explored. Its coal fields, in which are found veins unexampled in size and quality, will probably before long be the chief source of supply for Pacific navigation. The result of recent explorations of these coal fields gives these surprising facts. The productive area may be safely considered to be at least 300 square miles. Following the rule applied to coal fields in South Wales, the Union Mine at Cromot alone would yield 16,000,000 tons per square mile, and the Baynes Sound Mine 7,860,000 tons per square mile. The total thickness, it is stated, of the coal measures in the Nanaimo coal fields may be safely estimated at 2,500 feet. It will be seen at once how important this place—so fortunately situated, so richly endowed by Nature—is likely to become. The Canadian Pacific Railway will place New Westminster some 500 miles nearer London than San Francisco. The railway will run upon a lower and more level grade. The greater part of it will pass, as we have seen, not like the Union Pacific Railway through a desert, but through a country capable of bearing a vast population. No harbours like those of British Columbia can be found on the Pacific coast, and when communications are established and trade is developed between the Pacific shores of the Dominion and China, Japan, and even Australia, who can doubt the important part which British Columbia is destined to play in the history of the British Empire.

Thus we have surveyed from end to end this domain, which we love to look upon as but a vast suburb of Great Britain. I have shown that from Newfoundland to the north of Lake Superior there is yet room for an enormous additional population, and that soil remains untilled,