

Columbia—which not only abounds in gold, silver and quick-silver, but also in the baser metals, copper and iron. She has coal in superabundance, fisheries inexhaustible, and lumber prized throughout the world. She is gifted with a natural position which forms the gateway to two continents, with a climate superior to the rest of the Dominion, and has ample agricultural land to support a large population. Possessed of such valuable and varied resources, her development would be rapid, but imprisoned between two giant chains of mountains she needs the railway to effect her deliverance.

Although one million of people may be put down as not an improbable population for British North America west of Lake Superior, in ten years from the vigorous commencement of the railway, let us as a friendly concession to those who are gloomily, timorous and desponding, reduce the number by four hundred thousand. We will assume 600,000 and will take a glance at their worth, or rather a part of their worth to the Dominion.

The value of each individual to a country has been difficultly estimated, and no doubt varies; age, sex, training, and other conditions having to be estimated.

The chief of the United States bureau of statistics, Dr. Young, calculates the average value of an immigrant at \$800. This, as Dr. Young remarks, is less than the estimate of Dr. Engel, the director of the Prussian statistical bureau, who calculating in a different way, puts down men as worth to a country \$1,500, and women \$750 or an average of of \$1,125.

At Dr. Young's figure we have as the value of 600,000 people to the Dominion the sum of four hundred and eighty millions of dollars, or nearly five times the contemplated cost of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

It has to be borne in mind that immigrants do not come penniless. The average amount of money they bring with them was put down by Mr. Knapp, one of the Commissioners for the State of New York, at \$100, and by Mr. Wells at \$80, but Dr. Young states that "a careful investigation was made at Castle Garden, New York, which resulted in establishing \$68 as the average sum brought by passengers."

Here we have 600,000 people bringing into the country four millions eight hundred thousand dollars, a sum enough to pay half the cost of the Canadian Pacific Railway from Lake Superior to the Pacific Ocean.

Assuming the Dominion rate of taxation under the Cartwright system, will be about \$6 per head, and allowing \$3 per head in the North West for cost of Dominion Government, we have remaining \$3 per head on 600,000, or \$1,800,000 as a set off against the five millions of additional interest incurred by the