

relatively the highest going. They are invariably well treated, if from no other reason than their scarceness, and if they are at all good looking, are almost certain to get married before they are long in the country.

"In conclusion, to me it is inexplicable why so many hard-working Scotch farmers continue to spend the best of their days, strength and capital improving or barely obtaining a livelihood from their 'laird's' land, when they themselves can become the owners of more productive and better paying farms than those they now occupy, at a price little more per acre than the rent they now pay per acre. If, however, it is a spirit of conservatism that is the cause, they should not come to Manitoba, for to win prosperity, they must cast aside all their early traditions and 'do as the Romans do.'

"I shall be pleased to see any of my countrymen, whether large or small capitalists, farmers or labourers, if they happen to be in the neighbourhood of Brandon, and to do what lies in my power for the furtherance of their interests.

J. W. SANDERSON'.

"And the third is from a letter signed "B" to the *Scotsman*, of 11th October, this year, on "The Great Canadian West." He says:—

"Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, is a beautiful, thriving little city, not on the mainland, but on the Island of Vancouver. Till the Canadian Pacific Railway was opened in 1885 it was so remote and inaccessible as to have no vital connection either with the rest of Canada or the rest of the British Empire. This was, indeed, true of all British Columbia. Being on an island, Victoria is a few hours from the terminus of the railway, which is at the town of Vancouver, on the mainland. It enjoys a splendid harbour, and will soon, doubtless, command an immense traffic with Japan, China, and the whole east coast of Asia. This traffic has already begun. The route to Japan and China is much shorter than from San Francisco, while the land journey from the east is also considerably less. The inexhaustible lumber stores of British Columbia, the mass of valuable minerals, the agricultural produce of the numerous districts which are adapted to farming, indicate plainly enough what its destiny must be. Of all the places I had seen on the American continent it seemed the one where it would be most pleasant to live. The climate is charming, with hardly any winter; the sea comes rolling in among the wooded bays and headlands with a refreshing breeze which carries no bitterness in its blast; the whole outlook is bright and lively. Scotchmen have had a good share of the prosperity of Victoria. I am afraid that they have not kept themselves in all cases unspotted from the vices to which a new place is subject, far off from civilising and christianising influences. Being so much cut off from the old world, Victoria in its early days drew from the cities of the American Pacific certain habits which have not been for its good. Of recent years there has been a moral advance, which is very gratifying, and encourages the hope that it will have a bright future in all that makes for the prosperity of a community.

"There are two other towns in this part of British Columbia, close to the western terminus of the Canadian Pacific, that deserve a passing notice. New Westminster, on the Fraser River, besides its great sawmills, enjoys pre-eminence as the centre of the salmon canning business. *Apropos* of sawmills, I ought to say something of the marvellous timber produce of these regions. It is not merely the abundance, but the excellent quality of the timber that is so marvellous. A gentleman told me that near Seattle he had seen a plank, to be made use of in the palace at Honolulu, upwards of a hundred feet long, that was in its entire length absolutely without the slightest flaw. A single sawmill in that region cuts up 300,000 cubic feet a day. If ever nature formed ground for trees it is in these regions of the west. As for the salmon, I hardly expect that the statements I am to make will be believed. I did not do what a fellow-traveller did, put down certain facts in a guide book, and get two fellow-travellers to make affidavit that they were correct. On the wharf of a cannery at New Westminster I saw salmon piled, much as herring are piled at home after a good night's fishing, and I was told that 12,000 had been caught that day.