

Parliament for New Westminster District. His parents came from Inverness-shire, Scotland, in the early part of the present century, and settled on the Lower South river of the county of Antigonish, Nova Scotia. After having received a good education Mr. Chisholm began life as a teacher, but very soon abandoned this profession. In 1849 he left his native place and started for the California gold fields with a party of twenty-three prospectors. While there he helped to frame the mining laws which still exist in the Golden State. He met with indifferent success in California, and after a few years he returned to Canada and settled in Ontario, where he engaged in the wheat trade. He speculated largely during the Crimean war, and with the proclamation of peace he was left with thousands of bushels on his hands. The proclamation came three weeks too soon or he would have gained great wealth by his venture. After this experience Mr. Chisholm came out to British Columbia in 1858, and there is scarcely a prominent line of business peculiar to this country which he has not since engaged in. He first settled in Hope, and in the year 1860 was elected by the people of that district as a delegate to a convention held in New Westminster to frame and present to the Imperial Government a petition praying for the establishment of a measure of government for the Mainland of British Columbia, which was then simply administered by Governor Douglas, of Vancouver Island. This convention in New Westminster was his first appearance as a public man. In the year 1860 Mr. Chisholm was one of the party who went to the Big Bend of the Columbia river prospecting for gold and other minerals. During that trip he nearly lost his life. In crossing the McCullough Creek on a snow bridge when the melting of the mountain snow formed a torrent the bridge gave way and he was let down into the torrent and carried by the current half a mile in the ice cold water, and was rescued by a small party of miners in an unconscious condition. He went to Cariboo in 1862, where he mined for some time. Afterwards in the Kootenay District he was for years engaged both in the lumbering and mining industries. For some time he was foreman of the famous Cherry Creek silver mine. It was Donald Chisholm who took Major-General Selby Smith and staff through the mountains to Hope on his pack train, when that distinguished officer first visited British Columbia. In the year 1874 he came to New Westminster, and from that time onward resided on the Coast, where his honor and