

in Chief Engineer Fleming's Railway Report of January, 1874, pages 6 and 10.

Further north on Vancouver Island, at Fliksiwi and Rupert, coal fit for steamboat use exists, and on an island near, rich magnetic iron ore. Coal is found at Quatsino, west coast of Vancouver Island, and likely enough extends to the northernmost part of the island.

The straight channels, having many anchorages, and several harbours leading from Otter Cove to the open sea at Queen Charlotte's Sound (see chart), offer very suitable points for the placing of ordnance. They are frequently used by coasting steamers, and by American steamers bound for Alaska. Four of our most experienced steamboat commanders have told me that in bad weather or darkness they consider these channels safer than those of the Haro Archipelago.

One American war steamer has been wrecked in the neighbourhood, but then the main channel was left for a shorter cut. In case of war, should access to the Georgian Gulf be temporarily impeded, or apprehension thereof entertained abroad, merchantmen bound for Burrard Inlet would have to proceed "northabout," making land at Queen Charlotte's Sound. Thence their towage, counting from the harbour of Nawitti bar, Goletas Channel, would be 235 miles, whereas to Otter Cove towage would only be 106 miles.

An accurate observer, of competent authority, Mr. G. M. Dawson, F.G.S., now for the third season geologizing on the mainland, in a lecture last February at Montreal, on British Columbia, thus in the order of their importance classified the resources of the province :—1, Mines ; 2, Forests ; 3, Fisheries ; 4, The Chase ; 5, Stock Raising ; 6, Agriculture. From Esquimalt to Otter Cove the first three of these resources abound. The fourth is as elsewhere. The fifth only as subsidiary to grain culture, and the sixth, as elsewhere throughout the province, exists but moderately. On the mainland coast, copper mining, it is thought, will be developed. Coal is reported on Smith's Inlet, Fitzhugh Sound. Timber and