

in the shape of cattle, hogs, butter and cheese, rather than raw material. The development of lumbering and mining in British Columbia will give an ever-increasing market toward the west, which may possibly be extended also by the opening of China to foreign trade, which is one of the probable results of the recent war.

"Speaking generally, the southern portion of the territory under consideration consists of treeless plains; the northern portion is wooded; while the central portion is a combination of groves and open glades and lakes, park-like in its beauty, and perfectly adapted to agricultural needs.

"The fuel question is easily disposed of, for the whole country seems to be underlaid with coal, varying in quality from lignite in Manitoba to anthracite of the highest grade in the mountains. On the Red Deer River there is a vein 58 feet thick, and in the Crow's Nest Pass there is a series of superimposed veins having a total thickness of 150 feet. In many places the farmers get their supply of fuel without other cost than the labour of digging it out of the banks of the nearest stream; and coal mined directly under the town is delivered at Edmonton for \$2 per ton. . . .

"One part of the second question has been answered, and the other part can be answered in a line; for the total population in this great area of 359,000 square miles was but 219,305 in 1891, of whom 152,506 were in Manitoba. The stream of American emigration will be perennial, and it will continue to flow into the Canadian North-West.

"Carlyle once said to an American visitor: 'In my opinion the prosperity of the United States is not due to your republican institutions, but to the fact that you have a very great deal of land for a very few people.' He was right. The 'conquest of a virgin continent' has been the fundamental reason for the growth of this great nation. We stand face to face to-day with conditions so radically new that it will demand a higher order of statesmanship to carry the great Republic through the coming century in prosperity and peace than has been needed in the past to bring it to its present power. . . .

"For Canada the hour of destiny has struck. She has the physical basis for an empire; and the stream of immigration which has now begun will swell into a mighty movement of population like that by which our central West was occupied, until her fertile lands shall be the home of millions of prosperous people. Thus far American immigrants are largely in excess of those from other lands outside of the British Empire, and American thought will have a mighty influence in moulding the character of the coming commonwealths of the Canadian North-West. The English-speaking immigrants outnumber manyfold all those of other tongues; and thus it is made sure that both the great Republic and the nascent nation of the North will be loyal to the ideals of constitutional liberty, and, standing side by side, will work together to advance that Anglo-Saxon civilisation which seems destined to dominate the world."