

of the two million people by its prosperous cities and towns, its teeming granaries, its well cultivated farms, its busy factories. This is a country producing a large surplus crop of wheat and other agricultural products, besides fruits of every kind that can grow in a temperate climate. Then passing from this wealthy country, we find ourselves in that illimitable region which is generally known as the North West Territory, and which in the early days of the Dominion was an entire wilderness aptly styled the Great Lone Land! Here within fifteen years has been established the prosperous province of Manitoba, with a population of probably eighty thousand souls, and one city of thirty thousand at least. This is the region of the prairie with its tall grasses and purple flowers, stretching for miles without a break until the very sameness of the scene becomes weary to the eye, and the traveller longs for the bold hills and green forests of the East. Rivers of great length wind through the prairie lands, and afford facilities for navigation to steam and other craft of small draught of water. As we proceed West we gradually leave the fine prairie lands and find ourselves in the rolling country that lies to the east of the Rocky mountains. Wheat and other agricultural products are grown in the prairie region of a quality not surpassed on any other part of the continent. On the large tracts of rich grazing land that lie at the feet of the Rocky mountains thousands of cattle can thrive at a relatively small cost. A considerable area of country is of carboniferous formation, and promises to yield abundant fuel of excellent quality — a great boon to the people who are to settle a region without the maple and hardwood forests of the old provinces. Passing through one of the natural gateways of the Rockies we descend to the shores of the Pacific Ocean. The dark waters of the Fraser River pursue their devious way through a country surpassing other sections of the Dominion in mountains whose lofty peaks are ever lost amid the clouds. As on the Atlantic coast the island of Cape Breton with its great coal fields and spacious harbours, guards the Eastern approaches to the Dominion, so on the Pacific shores the island of Vancouver, with its rich deposits of coal, stands like a sentinel at the Western terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Large tracts of land in this beautiful province are suitable for farming purposes; its rivers and coasts abound in salmon and other fish, and its mountains in gold.

We have now traversed a territory of nearly four thousand miles in length, and may briefly refer to its climatic characteristics.