

systems of California and British Columbia, on which, as I have already said, so much of the future life of the latter depends, especially in attracting a speedy increase to her population and capital.

I find, then, the two systems, existing at the extreme north and extreme south, a counterpart of the other in all their relations, divisions and subdivisions; from the copper to the gold and silver, in the granite, metamorphic, slate, trap-rock, marble, there is no difference in character or position, so far as I can discover. Taking the copper system as a base of examination, we find it here, as in California, in three divisions, and by mastering it the remainder of the whole formation is easily understood. In California, the central division is the principal, stretching from the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, twenty-five miles east, into the mountains, and intersecting the whole State north and south; on the western summit of the Sierra Nevada there are two or three veins, and in the coast range five veins, forming two more divisions, parallel to each other, but all three separate and distinct in their formations. The same thing precisely exists here. Commencing at the west, in this country, I find the Alberni, Sooke and Howe Sound veins; corresponding with the Coast Range in California; then, travelling east, I find the central division, extending from the mouth of Thompson River twenty-five miles in the interior, and intersecting the whole country north and south, and finally at the head of Shuswap Lake, two or three veins, which correspond with those on the western summit of the Sierras, while it is remarkable that the distances from west to east, between these three divisions, are about the same as in California. Again, the best gold and silver veins in the two countries are found east of the central copper division, with the subsidiary rocks already mentioned occupying the same relative positions throughout the whole formation. It is by no means an idle speculation to establish this identity, for it appears self-evident to me that the marvellous wealth extracted from the California mines at the present time simply reflects the destiny of British Columbia hereafter, when her mines, equally rich and more extensive in gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, and incomparably richer in coal, are brought under the same liberal expenditure, intelligent labor, and scientific development, an event only to be hastened by the real facts of the case being made known to the world. It is sufficient to state here the fact of the unity and extent of the mineral formation, as I shall have to particularize upon the gold and silver veins when I speak about quartz mining. On the present division of my subject I shall merely add, it is a matter of indifference to me who follows my footsteps in my late explorations, so long as he is a competent and unprejudiced man. In that case, I feel assured, his intelligence and justice will compel him to indorse my opinions, and with me, to regret the world should so long have been kept in ignorance of the real merits of the country. Having thus