

wheat is thirty-two bushels per acre, and forty to fifty have been often raised.

So rich is the land that in some instances wheat has been left for what is locally called volunteer crops, after one crop is taken off another springs up spontaneously without seeding or cultivation for next year.

As the climate is very dry and the land generally on high plateaus the necessity for occasional irrigation is the only drawback on farming, as water is plentiful this will not be a formidable obstacle, and is not a necessity of frequent occurrence; the soil is a sandy loam with clay substratum and considerable portions of interval lands formed by alluvial deposits interspersed.

With an area of 220,000 square miles (140,800,000 acres) the quantity of land is almost illimitable, a settler being allowed 160 acres of a free grant to which he has a right, the only trouble necessary is to register his claim, its fertility is inexhaustible, about \$300 (£60 sterling) is ample capital to start with.

Laborers are paid \$10 to \$60 per month with food and lodgings by the year, a great number of Indians are steadily employed and are an industrious and quiet people; a steady laborer can save enough money in a year to enable him to start as a farmer on his own account.

The timber fit for manufacturing purposes is immense, and of the largest and finest description. It is pine, fir, tamarac, cedar and cotton wood; on Victoria Island there is a large quantity of oak, no hardwood is to be found east of the Cascade range.

Pines are to be found six feet in diameter, and cedars seven to eight feet; the pine when sawed makes beautiful lumber.

Mining is extensively carried on, gold is plentiful, and there are large deposits of silver bearing Galena. Nests of virgin silver have been found, and it is generally believed that mining for it will become a most profitable business; copper has been found in large quantities, and inexhaustible beds of coal only await the opening of the Pacific Railway for development.

The scenery is most beautiful and the climate the best in the world, the thermometer ranging in February from 25 to 60 degrees above zero.

On the coast the rivers estuaries and straits teem with fish of the finest description, the salmon of the Columbia and Fraser rivers have long been famous, the cod are said to be the best in the world, and the seal fisheries are unsurpassed.

Such are the resources of the last addition to the British Empire in America, for the Dominion of Canada is nothing more, and such is the country that British diplomatic stupidity under the auspices of the connexions of the late Earl of Aberdeen very nearly succeeded in handing over to the United States.

Between the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia lies a territory of at least 360,000 square miles of richly productive

arable land, and the duties of statesmen of the Dominion is to develop the resources of both by the construction of the Pacific Railway.

Towards this end a loan of £2,500,000 sterling is guaranteed by the Government of Great Britain, but we can see no reason why their efforts should rest there. It is very evident that the British people will be benefitted in an extraordinary degree by opening up this country, it can absorb the whole of her surplus population, and convert them from idle discontented subjects into industrious producers of the raw material for her manufacturing population, the cereals to feed them and the money to consume what has been so produced.

The Pacific Railway would give Great Britain access to her Eastern possessions by a route over 1100 miles shorter than any other, an advantage which would be alone sufficient to warrant an outlay for half its cost of £25,000,000 sterling.

There is however one drawback the San Juan difficulty should have been terminated long since without submitting the question to arbitration, if decided adversely against us it is only another instance of the folly of British diplomats meddling in affairs of which they really know so little, and that in future Canadian statesmen should be the principal parties employed in all negotiations with the United States.

The result of the loss of San Juan will be to make us seek a post further north for the terminus of the Pacific Railway, and of course leave an unprotected frontier whose boundary lines will eventually have to be decided by the *ultimatum argumentum regium*.

In whatever light our acquisition of the Pacific Provinces may be viewed, the country has much to congratulate itself upon, our statesmen have acted wisely in extending the territorial area of the Dominion and the effect on the future of the British Empire cannot fail to be beneficial as its action will be incalculable.

The resignation of the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba has not surprised any person at all acquainted with the affairs of the Province, Mr. Archibald must have been something more than human if he could have withstood the storm of vituperation heaped on him for attempting to discharge the duties of his high office impartially.

With the affability of disposition capable of conciliating any reasonable man and with desire to act fairly by both parties with the sufficient firmness to carry out the duties and maintain the dignity of his place, he found the work cut out for him of too trying a character and all his efforts useless against party violence, bigotry and misrepresentation; high as the honor undoubtedly is of being the Representative of the Queen, it can be sometimes too dearly bought, and we do not

wonder at the Lieut.-Governor of Manitoba asking to be relieved of his charge.

There can be no question of the fitness of the appointment in the first place nor of the manner in which the very onerous and delicate duties of his high office have been discharged, and the people of Canada will not be slow to recognize that Adams G. Archibald has rendered the Dominion good and honorable service.

Of his successor it may truly be said that the Dominion could not find a fitter or a better man for the office of Lieut.-Governor than his Honor F. G. Johnson one of the foremost members of the bar of the Province of Quebec with eight years experience as Governor of Assiniboine, there are no parties or complications which can arise within the Provinces that he is not competent to deal with, and we shall be very much surprised if the party tactics so successfully played off against the late Lieut.-Governor can be tried or even safely attempted against the present.

It is a great pity in a country with such a splendid future before it party violence should be allowed to attain the virulence it possesses in Manitoba, under its government all evils if any exist can be constitutionally redressed, and yet during the late Lieut.-Governor's tenure of office repeated attempts were made to override the law by irresponsible parties.

As a lawyer thoroughly acquainted with every influential man in the Province capable by personal influence to control the remainder, Lieut.-Governor Johnson has a great advantage and, although his position may be surrounded with difficulties, we will be much surprised if the result is not honorable to himself, beneficial to the people, and advantageous to the Dominion.

At length England announces that she considers herself safe in one point of naval defence. After the feverish activity of the last fifteen years it ought to have been with a sense of relief that the House of Commons heard that no money was to be expended this year for home defence "it being thought that we are strong enough in that respect." With all that, the British are going to build 20,400 tons this year, which means that all the vessels in progress are to be finished except one, two new first class iron clads are to be laid down, three corvettes five sloops, eight gunboats, and a torpedo ship of 540 tons. Notwithstanding the recommendation of the Committee of Designs to the contrary, one of the ironclads is to be a first class sea-going cruiser, on the broadside principle, with improvements for bow-firing. The character of the second ironclad will not be decided until the *Devastation* has been tried at sea; and it is also proposed to try an experiment on the *Glutton* by firing one of the *Holspur's* 25-ton guns at her turret. Such with a personnel of 64,000 men and boys, and an expenditure of £9,000,000, is the programme of a nation that is half satisfied.—*U. S. Army and Navy Journal*.