



*Merry Creek Coal Exposures*

#### GROUNDHOG COAL FIELDS.

The history of these fields commences only a few years ago when coal locations were made on a branch of the Skeena River. Subsequent investigation showed that coal outcrops were met with over a large area, and continued prospecting determined the fact that the field was a great one, ranking with the anthracite deposits of Wales and Pennsylvania in extent and richness.

The known field at the present time comprises an area of 2,000 square miles, with hundreds of miles of territory in the vicinity of the fields still unexplored.

A large amount has been spent on the preliminary exploration and development of the fields, and their value and extent has been fully demonstrated.

In the following pages appear reports, articles and other information in regard to the fields themselves

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and the territory surrounding them, collected from numerous sources and submitted for your consideration.

#### THE GROUNDHOG ANTHRACITE COAL FIELDS.

(From the Vancouver World, March 20, 1912.)

A red-letter day in the annals of progress for Canada was written large in her history on the 15th of March, when Sir Donald D. Mann, through his proxy, Mr. T. C. Holt, signed papers and documents in Vancouver to purchase one hundred and forty-five square miles of coal lands around the head waters of the Naas River, this immense area bringing a wind-fall to the province of nearly two million dollars in a lump sum, and a perpetual vast yearly rental. Comprising as it does over ninety-two thousand