

church in the country section of the congregation in Lancaster is proceeding rapidly. The church has been planned so as to accommodate two hundred worshippers; though it can be easily enlarged at a later period if necessary. The workmanship of the building, so far, is excellent, and the material used is of the very best quality. Although the church is little more than half completed, it is easy to form a good idea of its appearance when completed. Situated upon a slightly rising ground, with snowy monuments on the slope in front, and dark woods in the back-ground, the edifice will, for many years to come, prove one of the most striking and beautiful objects in the landscape. The contractor hopes to have his work completed by the beginning of October next.

We are glad to hear that a son and heir is born to the worthy pastor, our excellent friend, Rev. C. B. Ross, B.D.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD has been visiting this great West; and grand plans are on foot for the development of trade with the East, (old and new), in which Sir Charles Tupper also is zealous and diligent.

The tour of Sir John A. and Lady Macdonald has elicited a chivalric loyalty in our Great West; and the solid facts reported by telegrams surpass the old fictions and fairy tales, as we read of their arrivals at new settlements where spontaneous ovations and enthusiastic receptions burst upon them at the hours of 13, 15, 18, and 20 o'clock! Our N. W. is an infant giant. What next?

The wealth of British Columbia lies principally in her mines and fisheries. The Vancouver Island bituminous coal ranks in San Francisco with that of West Hartley. The coal measures on the island and mainland cover an area of about 30,000 square miles. In the Queen Charlotte islands, anthracite in six-foot seams, comparing favourably with that from Pennsylvania, exists. In the Comox bituminous district the productive measures show ten seams of coal of a total thickness of nearly thirty feet. The output of British Columbia coal in 1871 was 29,000 tons, and in 1885, 57,000 tons, of which 276,000 tons were shipped to San Francisco and other American ports. The fisheries are remarkably rich. In 1876 there were only three salmon-canning establishments in the province, with an annual return of 8000 cases, each containing four dozen one-pound cans. Last year nearly thirty canneries were in operation, and the output was 60,000 cases. The official valuation of the

yield of the fisheries generally in 1885 was \$1,100,000. Halibut, cod and other deep-sea fish abound on the banks off the coast, but, owing to the want of capital, this field has not yet been worked. The fur seal is caught by the Indians, the value of last year's catch being about \$200,000. The *San Francisco Chronicle* said the other day that "the time is near at hand when British Columbia waters will be deemed the richest bonanza on the Pacific coast." The gold yield of the Province has been very considerable. Mr. A. C. Anderson, of Victoria, showed by the returns that from 1858 to 1881, both inclusive, the total value known to have been exported was \$46,200,000, the annual yield varying from \$400,000 in 1858 to \$3,750,000 in 1864, which was the high-water mark. Mr. Anderson added that, notwithstanding the vast amount of labour that has been bestowed in the gold-quest, a great portion of the mining country remains yet either unvisited or at best only partially developed; while in the better tested parts of the region the most accessible portions alone have been effectually wrought. Quartz-ledges of ascertained richness—the matrices of the coveted metal—have been partially developed in various parts, and especially in the auriferous track of Caribou; but capital and engineering skill are needed to work the ledges successfully. Thus the "sea of mountains," if not a land flowing with milk and honey, is at least a region of some promise. With her splendid harbors, her coal fields, fisheries and forests, and her advantageous situation, British Columbia can hardly fail, despite Mr. Blake's sneers, to make her way to the front rank of the communities on the Pacific, and to add to the strength and wealth of the Dominion.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.



HE EMPERORS of Germany and Austria have had a friendly interview at Gastein. The Czar was not present this time; and it is reported that he is plotting against Turkey and Bulgaria, and seeking the favour of France against Germany and Austria. Time will tell.

BRITAIN AND CHINA are on good terms, and have made a friendly arrangement regarding the affairs of Burmah, and mutual commerce.

BLOODY RIOTS at Belfast have been persistently kept up, killing about fifty persons and wounding hundreds.

The *Times* says:—"Neither the executive,