THE BRITISH PACIFIC.

The Advantages to Be Derived From Its Construction Ably Discussed.

The Natural Resources of the Tributary Country Are Immense.

TO THE EDITOR :- The province of British Columbia is divided into two separate regions by the valley of the Fraser river. The Western region contains a large proportion of good agricultural and grazing lands, discovered.

of the best part of the gold-bearing district, established, because it accords with the dispositions of nature, and indicates the proper direction of future lines of communication. A portion of the agricultural resources of British Columbia in the Fraser, Thompson and Okanagan valleys is tributary to the the Pacific ocean that has not so far become

Vancouver at present occupies the posi- 30; December, 18 below. tion of an important point of transfer upon an intercontinental line of communication, was completed by the 26th, no frost occur-and is capable of being made a distributing ring during June or July. On October 21 an intercontinental line of communication. point in common with other places upon the island and the mainland.

geographical position to Vancouver and New estminster, where no doubt the largest

serves the silver mining interests in the southern portion of the province, together with some agricultural and grazing lands of the Fraser, Thompson and Shuswap river valleys. Therefore, so far as the development of provincial resources west of the Fraser river is concerned, the Canadian Pa-

proportion of that which they require. We whole of August being good weather.

may assume, however, that the mass of Bri Fortunately for the province the area

able to confederation as a heavy contributor to the Dominion customs she would before long become more self-sustaining than is possible under present conditions.

In this way only is the province likely to obtain a just equivalent for her contribu tions to the Dominion treasury, nor should any remedy for the present state of things be entertained but that which depends upor the cultivation within the province of that which now pays duty from abroad. The question arises, where can the pro-

vince look for arable and grazing lands with means of communication sufficient to make their production marketable. The explorations of the last twenty years do not leave for instance the Argentine Republic, with us in any doubt about where to look for its laborers paid in depreciated paper, and ands in British Columbia that can be made available. Going back to the year 1875 we cellent reports of Mr. Marcus Smith, C.E., when in charge of the Canadian Pacific railway survey in British Columbia, the botanical reports of Professor Macoun, and lastly the reports of the various surveyors who These last cover much of the ooked upon as an extended confirmation of indications previously obtained.

For the present it is necessary to poin cut the class of lands that may be relied upon for the purpose of inducing settlement there is an area of good land in Vancouver sland in great part heavily timbered. For conomical reasons this class of land

It is not likely that any great volume of even in the pioneer years of opening up a immigration will come from Canada or the new district. United States for years. The proper quarter from which colonization may be exected will be, as in times past, Europe. The European does not take kindly to spending a lifetime in clearing a few acres for less in a different class of country.

ands of Vancouver Island are likely to be ment. feet board measure may be cut, worth \$400 finding shelter for cattle during severe weather, and obtaining firewood at a reasonact down and burn \$400 worth of merchant-

or say six million acres, is good for either grazing or agricultural pursuits. True it is that a certain portion of these lands requires irrigation; but as there is water enough for the purpose to make them independent of rainfall, they may be considered as of great er ultimate value than perhaps from three to four times the same area of unirrigable

The statement has been frequently made and will no doubt be made again, that little of this land is available for agricultural purposes on account of summer frost. It can be proved, however, that this statement is erroneous, because crops may be seen yearly at various points and elevations along the existing road to Quesnelle, and also west of the Fraser river, in the heart of the district referred to; and if more testimony were wanted, it is possible to produce the records of the harvest, and the Eastern division the large propor. and the meteorological observations of For tion of the gold and silver mines hitherto St. James, 2,200 feet above the sea, in the latitude of 54 deg. 12 min., that is to say 72 The best part of the agricultural district of the West is the commercial complement geographical miles north of the central point of the West is the commercial complement cal miles north of its southern boundary.

If it be admitted that the general cor for nature has indicated, by placing them in ditions afford room for a fair comparison the argument should be unished by a perusal of the meteorological observations at Fort the argument should be finished by a perusa development of the other. It is well to get St. James, taken from the reports of the this combined aspect of the geographical provincial government surveys for the year present and the commercial future properly 1891, and embracing a period of three years and a half. Meteorological memoranda taken from the

Hudson Bay Company's journal at Fort St.
James, in latitude 54°, 20 minutes being the northern extremity of the district referred to, show that in 1888, in the month of April. Canadian Pacific railway, but its cultivation is not sufficient to prevent the importation dug, the last frost of the season occurring on May 10. On August 24 the thermometer silver resources of the province are served fell to 32 degrees, the first frost of the season by the Canadian Pacific and the American being on September 10, by which time all railways, the former of which has a port on the crops had been harvested. The average temperatures were: January, 31° a distribution point to an extent propor. February, 20 above: March, 22: April, 45: ionate to the size and importance of the May, 60; June, 58; July, 62; August, 65; mber, 40; October, 36; November, In 1889 plowing began on April 17 and

the first frost of the season took place. The average temperature as far as recorded was : The delta of the Fraser river belongs by January, 18 below; February, 20 above; March, 40; April, 54; May, 48; June, 55 In 1890 the month of January averaged 25 proportion of the business resulting from its below zero, the last frost of the season be population that can purchase by virtue of arther development will be likely to centre. ing recorded on April 8, and on May 10 The area of delta lands that remain unre-claimed will probably be occupied before any was middling warm. The first part of July that the whole of her cities be not left de-We see, therefore, that for provincial purposes, the Canadian Pacific reliway ministers to the supply of its own terminus and and afterwards rain. The month of October

cific railway cannot be considered as an ac- was mild, and in April the gardens were enormous drain for the common necessaries tual factor.

The quarter of a million acres of land proposed to be irrigated east of the mountains, warm and fine. Twenty days of June were in the province of Alberta, would supply the rainy, but the remainder of the month was markets of British Columbia with a large fine. July had eighteen days of rain, the

tish Columbians would prefer to be supplied land referred to lies in such a position as to by and trade with the farmers of their own be able to minister easily to the wants of If that time should come British Columbia the old settlers of the Red River valley, be-

It may be said with much apparent reason, however, that the growth of wheat in Canada is being overdone, and that it would be better to leave a large percentage of its production to countries able to grow it more production to countries able to grow it more the country. cheaply, and where the frost difficulty does have the geological survey reports, the ex- land upon which wheat can be raised to pay portation is effected upon railway lines that admit of tangents from 10 to 300 miles in

Suppose the provinces of Athabasca, Alberta, have explored the province during the last Assinibola and Saskatch wan to have their Eastern extremity at New York, and the coming forward constantly with increasing wheat production of large dimensions, and the time is not far off when the indiscriminate growth of wheat and consequent exshall hear no more about the frost difficulty, up by one and the same means.

made, however, lies entirely below the locabounds of reason and experience to conclude of heavy timber at enormous cost, when the that not only the six million acres referred ame productive capacity may be obtained to, but even a much larger area, will become available so soon as the means of com-Apart from this consideration the timber munication shall make it suitable for settle-

Immensely valuable in the near future. One of the principal drawbacks to There are acres and acres of land in Van settlement in the prairie region east couver Island from which forty thousand of the mountains is the difficulty of act down and burn's 400 worth of merchants settler is not shat which is which is an adsettler is not shat which is which is an adwill produce no more than one costing five
dollars per acre upon the eastern side of the
mainland territory previously described,
mountains? Suppose the Nicargus canal
contains light timber with open patches,
frequent hay meadows and abundant
European markets for sale at probably
double the present time.
There are, however, some seventeen millight to appreciate at the present time.
There are, however, some seventeen millight to appreciate at the present time,
within an area of which the boundaries may
be defined as follows: On the east the
fracer river, on the north the 55th parallel
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parallel of latitude, on the west the foothills of the
parallel of latitude, on the weat the foothills of the
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campose that about one-third of this area,

be defined as follows: On the east the
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the country, however, many event of a desire to
mainland territory previously described,
the wholly open, but that which is an addoubted the present time,
fracer river, on the several entire,
classing the country and the farmer is better at the present time,
the fine country can prodifficult to appreciate at the present time,
the been commended by eminent enter
the manual productions of another. The
turned their factory into a joint too of any useful thind. The southern portion
of the country, however, produces all things
in the country, however, produces all things
fracer in the moth prevent terms to be devoid of vegetation
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the country to make the present time.
The condition of the landed estates owner
than the farmer is better at the present time.
The limit thi

British Columbia west of the Fraser river sequence there is no source of revenue less Ontario and the Pacific ocean.

The commercial future of all the cities of the Mainland as well as the Island is closely commenced with the development of the disconnected with the development of the district referred to. There are few and exceptish Columbia with resources secthe country so soon as means of communication can be got into areas capable of settlement and production; the effect of which up
The only possible way yet known of the strict is by
the Sticknorth arson case opened in the
Speedy Trials court. Wm. Sticknorth is
charged with having set fire to the house on
John street, Victoria West, occupied by ment and production; the effect of which up-on the towns can be no other than their

transformation from stopping places in a

long line of transit to fixed points of industrial distribution. The supply of the steamers trading to the port of Vancouver will assume large proportions in the near future. It is the inevitable endency of trade to reciprocate whereno spe cial reason for the contrary exists, and there-fore it will come about that if the agricultural districts of the Mainland be developed on a scale sufficient to supply the wants of Vancouver, her merchants will obtain their just equivalent thereby.

British Columbia certain industries were well established that are more intimately connected with coastwise than with inland traffic. The fishing, coal, lumber and gold miding interests have been the mainstay the province for many years. The stimulus given to the country by the building of railways should not be allowed to stagnate, and demands that other productions of the country should increase in like proportion if the province is to maintain her place in confederation, as a producing community.

San Francisco was at one time-merely

Before the days of railway construction in

mining centre. It became a great city not by virtue of its mining industries alone, but because it was backed up by a magnificent state, unrivalled in the quantity and variety of its productions, both mineral and agricultural, agricultural, the one being commercial complement of the other The city of Vancouver will grow in proportion as the requiremen s of her distribution demand; but this will be a tedious process, unless some means be found of creating that which it can produce. It is therefore necessary for the welfare of the province pendent for their trade upon the coal, fishing, mining and lumber interests, but that they may obtain from within production encugh to lessen their customs duties and goods to exchange for the same. What is the commercial future of a country

in which all the seaport towns are obliged to ompete for a share of certain local industries too small to satisfy the public wants; with six millions of acres awaiting settle ment for the want of communication, and an of life in the shape of customs duties? Naturally productive indeed must be the country that can withstand such a com-mercial handicap, and only in want of a better method to obtain a more desirable state of internal exchange.

It has been already pointed out that nature has placed the large proportion of the agricultural lands of the province in quered there as elsewhere. Strange to say, the old settlers of the Red River valley, be-Not until the navigable channels of the state he seems inclined to do, the department began to silt up with the immense amounts ought to be put in the hands of someone in of material set in motion by hydraulic touch and sympathy with the militia.

Fortunately for British Columbia the not enter as a factor in its cultivation. Take length and volume of her rivers and the general configuration of the gold mining secprovince in the event of their success will undoubtedly be more.

ground previously gone over, and may be wages of labor to be one-half the laudable enterprises that the province should purpose had she induced Japan to formulate present rates, some idea may be forward the interests of those who freely her demands and had these demands proved formed of the wheat competition with South risk their capital by opening up their means unreasonable, the tide of Occidental sympathem. But there are other countries of communication with the seaboard and by they should come from, and their plant at its accomplishment in the clumsiest possible haustion of soil must give place to mixed the lowest possible cost, and, further, that manner, for she furnished her plenipoten (although commercially very valuable) is not farming as the only rational method of safe the productive portions of the country, as so available for settlement as that which is competition. When that time comes we well as the mining centres, may be opened

Subsequent to the introduction of railways in California gold mining assumed a The territory to which reference has been more stable and better mechanical condition than formerly, and we may fairly conclude tion of the meteorological observations taken by analogy that the same conditions will at Fort St. James, and it is quite within the prevail in British Columbia under like circumstances. We have, however, in British Columbia an area that is for practical purposes illimitable, and yet gold has been ound at intervals over a large proportion of

try have been made supplementary to the agricultural productions of another. The itrate mines in Chili are situated in a coun-

offer to the intending settler an opportunity operous and more productive than that of living in present comfort while preparing which proceeds from the possession of good for a better future at an early date, more than many other equal areas of Ganadian try be known to be contiguous to a good to be a set of the contiguous to be a set of the contiguous to be a good to be a set of the contiguous to be a set of the contiguous to be a set of the contiguous to be a set of the contiguou territory between the western boundary of agricultural district, there is no more legitimate enterprise for any people than the de-

tional instances upon record of presperous ond to no province in the Dom-American towns that are not backed up by inion, and if the people are enterprising an agricultural country, near or more remote, of which they handle the produce. The ment they may be pleased to undertake. productions of the mainland of British Col-

> In order that the cost of opening up the country may not be too heavily felt, it is Powell appeared for the grown and Mr. A. ecessary that the subject should be handled with mature consideration. It is an easy matter for an association with a large capital to rush into ill-considered construc tion and make a boast of spending so many millions of money in so many months, without knowing whether all or any portion of t is spent as and where it ought to be. Such has been the history of many Ameri-

> can roads, and such the result to many European stockholder. Nineteen times out of twenty this is the sad experience that results from a grand ru h at a half digested constructive problem, and fabulous is the amount of money that could have been saved by a mature, deliberate and well-considered method of action on many unfortunate roads. There is no neces sity for building any road through a sparse ly settled country at a break-neck pace, and there is no money so well spent in the pre- He would not value all in the value there is no money so well spent in the preliminary stages of any railway enterprise as that which is spent upon a survey that continually reduces the cost of construction, be cause this saving may not improperly be as "Dutch Annie," stated that she had suslooked upon as so much construction done at practically no cost whatever.

Where is the Canadian railway located hastily in a country offering a choice of routes that could not be improved if more time had been available? From a financial point of view the proceeding with a large scheme after due consideration and without andue haste, is a two-fold economy, both of first cost and interest, whereas the opposite policy may not be inaptly considered as an invention for burning the financial candle at both ends simultaneously. The cost of the British Pacific railway, if properly studied with reference to the actual needs of the country and the mechanical improvements of later years, might well turn out to be less than many people now would suppose.

CABINET REPRESENTATION. (From the Canadian Military Gazette.)

An agitation is being carried on in the press of British Columbia for representation of that province in the Dominion cabinet, ent in Tientsin telegraphs: 46 It is reported which is held to be an absolute necessity if that the Japanese have advanced from Haithe questions particularly affecting that vast country are to be intelligently dealt with. Chuang Thai, where General Sung seems to The fact that one of the foremost members of parliament from British Columbia is a trouble in the fereign settlement at New prominent officer of the militia, leads naturally to the suggestion that should he be called upon to enter the ministry, the militial control of the families of missionaries are arriving from the interior, by and trade with the farmers of their own province rather than with those who would sell to them but who for physical and geographical reasons could not probably buy in return.

It may happen, therefore, that the production of the cultivated lands of the province of British Columbia west of the Fraser river, being led down grade in quantity sufficient to the Pacific ocean, may be able to minister easily to the wants of missionaries and interesting interportation with the gold producing area, in succession. During the last five of the ten, the province in juxtaposition with the gold producing area, in succession. The gold producing industries of Northern British Columbia west of the ten, the province in juxtaposition with the gold producing area, and it follows as a natural sequence that the officials everywhere and by the medium of the Canadian Pacific railway and branches to those of the interport that the official gold upon to enter the ministry, the minister easily to the wants of all her distribution centres beside the sea; and it follows as a natural sequence that the officials everywhere and by the medium of the Canadian Pacific railway and branches to those of the interport that the officials everywhere and by the medium of the Canadian Pacific railway and branches to those of the interport that the officials everywhere and the official severywhere and the official severywhere and by the medium of the Canadian Pacific railway and branches to those of the interport that the official everywhere and the official severywhere and the official severywher tity sufficient to the Pacific ocean, may be delivered at points upon the Mainland and the second the Island at less cost than produce brought probably in every province of the Dominion the eastern side of the Booky Moundard of the Booky Moundard the second to none in general efficiency and the official records. He is the first the first proper relation to the present and second to none in general efficiency and second to none in general effic shown by the official records. He is tains. In this way these various places may first results may be discouraging, as they become points of distribution in the proper were in Manitoba, but perseverance conhas lately been made on a scale commensuriation, and a few years ago was chosen to ciation, and a few years ago was cho would rapidly emerge from a state of depends low Winnipeg, had got over the frost diffience upon outside production, and although culty years before the surrounding country she might become in proportion less value which came under cultivation later and suffered as already stated.

It may be taken as a historical fact, demonstrable by the lapse of time and the experience of settlement (granted that the reamet industry in California, because it confirmed characteristic. No doubt the son why be not fully ascertained), that the had by the use of capital, skilfully present minister has tried to do all that fairly spread of cultivation upon an extended scale is inimical to the continuance of summer purposes entitled to the term applied.

WHY THEY FAILED.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 23.—Correspond ence of the United Press per steamer Gaelio its laborers paid in depreciated paper, and tion do not involve the contingency that says that when the steamer left the Amerita wheat price regulated by the metallic arose in California within any length of can public were doubtless prepared for the is confined to his bed from the effects of a currency of other countries. The area of land upon which wheat can be raised to pay in the Argentine is enormous, and the transportation is effected upon railway lines that reward which they deserve, for although the gain to themselves be much the gain to the Japan that China intended to play to the European gallery, and would endeavor to ndoubtedly be more.

But it is necessary to the success of such tinuing the war. She could have effected that passing through the agricultural districts favor, and the nations desiring to see peace referred to; to the end that they may obtain restored might have subjected Japan to very their provisions where nature indicates that embarrassing pressure. But she set about tiaries with credentials so incomplete that Japan's refusal to recognize them became oregone conclusion.

A Tobacco Company's Generosity.

The Geo. E. Tuckett & Sons Tobacco Co., Ltd. of Hamilton, nine years age instituted the commendable idea of presenting a deed of a building lot each Christmas to their oldest active employe. This year it was the good fortune of Mr Thomas Milligan to succeed to the firm's it, in quantity sufficient to return a profit, if generosity, he having been with them only the means of communication were for 21 years. In addition to the lot he received a substantial cheque from the We need not go beyond the centour of same source. The whole staff of the contact the Pacific coast to find a place in which the cern also came in for a gift, the day mining industries of one section of the counhands receiving an extra week's salary and the piece hands a good sized turkey. Some time ago the Messrs. Tuckett turned their factory into a joint stock

THE COURTS OF LAW.

Damaging Testimony Produced by the Prosecution in the Sticknorth Arson Case.

Sealers of the "W. P. Hall" Lose Their Suit for Wages-A Family Difference.

Monday, before Mr. Justice Walkem, John street, Victoria West, occupied by him on the 20th January last. Mr. Geo. E. . Belyea for the defence.

The first witness was William Dick, Sticknorth's next-door neighbor. On the night that the fire took place this witness heard the rattling of tins in Sticknorth's house, and through the window of the kitchen men in the room. Fifteen minutes later he saw that the house was on fire and turned

Chief Deasy, of the fire department, stated hat after the brigade had extinguished the fire he found on examining the premises that fires had been started in four different places in the house; the contents of the straw mattresses had been strewed about, and the evidences of incendiarism were strong. The place, too, had but little furniture left in it. He would not value all in the house at \$75. tioned by him, had told different and contra-dictory atories. Mary Van Volsen, more commonly known

pected a fire would take place, because the men who lived in the Sticknorth house gave her goods to store for them. Sticknorth had confessed to her that he had caused the fire by upsetting a lamp with his foot, and cried and said he was sorry that the whole place had not burned down as he feared trouble with the insurance company. The witness caused considerable amusen her replies in cross-examination. She had formerly been friendly with Sticknorth, but admitted that she did not at present feel

exactly well disposed towards him.

J. Coltart deposed that there was \$500 insurance on Sticknorth's furniture in the United Fire Insurance Company, and that Sticknorth, after the fire, had demanded the fill amount. the full amount The case at this point was adjourned till this morning at 10 o'clock, to allow of the insurance policy being produced.

JAPANESE ADVANCE.

LONDON, Feb. 25.-The Times correspondchang. Some fighting occurred round Thien A Pekin dispatch says Li Hung Chang has

had a highly satisfactory audience with the A Tokio dispatch says: The Chinese made an unsuccessful attack on Hai Cheng and were repulsed. The Japanese loss was

six killed. The Chinese loss is uncertain but one attacking force left one hundred dead behind them. LUNDON, Feb. 25.-The Central News

correspondent in Pekin telegraphs: "The grand council met yesterday and the question of war or peace was put to a vote. The high provincial officials, first to third rank inclusive, were questioned by wire and tele-graphed their answers. All express the graphed their answers. All express the opinion that the war was forced upon China nnjustly, but they were anxious for peace, some adding if the terms be tolerable. There is great anxiety among the foreigners in Tientsin, Pekin and New Chwang."

SICK NOTABLES.

A Great Battle

The continually going on in the human system, The demon of impure blood strives to gain victory over the constitution, to ruin health, to drag victims to the grave. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the weapon with which to defend one's self drive the desperate enemy from the field, and restore bodily health for many years.

Hood's Pills cure nausea, sickness, indiges-tion and biliousness. 25c,

If you must draw the line

and have, like thousands of other people, to avoid all food prepared with it, this is to remind you that there is a clean, delicate and healthful vegetable shortening, which can be used in its place. If you will,

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instead of lard, you can eat pie, pastry and the other good things" which other folks enjoy, without fear of dyspeptic consequences. Deliverance from lard has come.

Buy a pail, try it in your own kitchen, and be convinced.

Cottolene is sold in 3 and 5 pound pails, by all grocers. Made only by

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One of the best Dairy Farms in the Province. There are 125 acres of land; about 50 acres in hay meadow; 2 acres of bearing orchard; 60 acres of good pasture. The Comekl River runs through this property, and there is always abundance of water for cattle, etc. There is a large house; 2 large barns; good dairy cellar; a blacksmith's shop; large wood-shed; hen-house and piggeries; 2 good wells of water. There are 20 cows; a thoroughbred Jersey bull; some young stock; 3 horses; 50 pigs; chickens and ducks. One Toronto mower, horse-rake, hay-fork, plows, harrows, wagon, buggy, harness, and every-thing for a well ordered farm. All of which will be sold with the place if purchaser so wishes. A daily boat runs to New Westminster, 15 miles distant, and there are good roads. This farm is above high water, and is close to school, churches and post office. The municipality is fre debt and taxes are low. For further particulars : : : :

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