

The fisheries of the provinces, including those of the Pacific Coast, and the lakes of the interior, are confessedly the most valuable in the world, and have mainly aided in developing that important marine, which now places Canada in so high a position among maritime powers. Her maritime interest alone—that is to say, her fisheries and ships—has an estimated annual value of at least ten millions of pounds sterling. The agricultural interest takes a very extended range, increasing in importance as the traveller goes West. The annual export of agricultural produce alone now reaches upwards of twelve millions of pounds, of which between £600,000 and £800,000 are represented by horned cattle. On the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts are very extensive coal areas, sufficient to supply for centuries untold millions of people on this continent. The coal of Nova Scotia and Vancouver is bituminous, and excellent for domestic and manufacturing purposes—the annual export being valued at over £600,000, apart from the large output used by the people themselves in the provinces. The Pacific States of the union must depend for their supply on the rich mines of Vancouver, which are only in the infancy of their development. The forests continue to supply superior pine timber to England and the United States—the annual export being some four millions of pounds. Though the gold area of Canada is insignificant, so far as it is known, compared with that of the United States, yet British Columbia sends abroad nuggets, bars, and dust of the annual value of £200,000. The iron, copper, phosphates and building stones of the provinces have a good reputation abroad, and are being gradually developed in the face of many obstacles, chiefly the want of sufficient capital. The progress in all these industries, so varied and valuable in their nature, is steady and encouraging—enterprising Americans themselves coming into the country year by year, and bringing their capital and energy to bear on the development of the forest and sea.

But it is to her agricultural interest that Canada must always look, as the great source of her future prosperity. All the grains and fruits to be found in northern latitudes flourish most successfully, in every section of the Dominion once despised by a king of France as a worthless region of frost and snow. Valuable tracts of farming lands exist in all the provinces, even in Nova Scotia, with its rock-bound coast of noble harbours, where more vessels are owned in proportion to the population than in any State in the American Union. The farming lands of New Brunswick and Quebec are of large area, and there are still districts where, in those provinces,