

Conservation and Technical Education

occupies it under a Crown title, but conserved and improved for those who are to come after. And there are thousands of good farmers on the prairies who take their lawful toll out of land by intelligent management. These also need the help of education to meet the increasing difficulties of prairie farming.

Then come five hundred miles of mountains and valleys, of magnificent scenery and nooks for homes. The mountains are examples of the Lord's landscape art in the bold and the rough. The valleys tucked in between carry wheat and grow apples and peaches—and plums that cannot be surpassed, if equalled. The ranges of mountains are not merely a tourist's delight—up one side before breakfast and down the other side after breakfast. The thirty hours in an express train are full of scenes of bewildering beauty and grandeur. And the valleys are full of good things. The British Columbia coasts fairly teem with fish from their inexhaustible feeding places in the far north. A great province in resources and in prospects is that western stretch of five hundred miles.

I went to France once, to an institution some distance from Paris. There was a great estate, a beautiful place with pleasant fields and wide sweeps of lawn and in the midst the old castle. A stone wall had been built for miles and miles a long time ago to keep the people in employment during hard times. One could not but think what a sturdy owner must have lived there to leave such splendid material manifestations of his devotion and ability. And I saw his descendant, the possessor of the estate; a slave of absinthe and atheism.