

one of the terms a trans-continental railway, to be completed in ten years. His far-reaching mind saw the advantages to be gained, and discovered how a Greater Britain could be founded, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

In his first endeavour to carry this out, he was beaten down and had to give up office, but he returned to power and has now made the scheme of the railway an accomplished fact, and the finished work will remain as a lasting monument to him. "All hail to the great man who has accomplished this, and made Canada so prosperous!" and if you in Great Britain had him as one of your ministers and his grand ideas were carried out, instead of drawing from you most of your best and most skilful mechanics and workmen, to share our prosperity and find profitable employment for their labour and talents, you would be able to employ them in Great Britain, and the workman, land owner, and capitalist would enjoy the same prosperity that we do in Canada. As I said before, his noble ideas and great abilities have brought immense prosperity to Canada and its loyal inhabitants.

I will now describe British Columbia. We can only imagine its size when we compare it with other countries. Let us take as an example Great Britain,—England, Scotland, and Ireland. These contain an area of 121,115 square miles. Now the mainland of British Columbia which lies between 49° and 54° N. latitude and runs back to the Rocky Mountains, contains an area of 341,305 square miles, and we have besides Vancouver's Island, which is 12,000 square miles. This latter may be called one immense coal field.

This is British Columbia. Our resources are—our rich land, our timber, and our mines of gold, iron and coal; and there are also to be developed, deposits of copper and silver.

The Colony was first created by revocation of the Crown grant to the Hudson Bay Company, on the 3rd November 1858, succeeded by a proclamation issued by the then Governor, Sir James Douglass, on the 19th November, 1858, providing for the Government of British Columbia, and declaring English law in force in the Colony. From 1858 the progress of the country was brilliant, resembling the marvellous career of California and Australia after the discovery of gold in those countries. Thousands upon thousands flocked to our golden shores to improve their condition. The original deposits of gold, however, from which the shallow bars and benches of the Frazer River were fed, were not discovered then, nor indeed have they, in the opinion of many scientific men and experienced miners, been discovered yet. The mines on the Frazer were, therefore, soon exhausted; and being unable to sustain the multitudes flocking to them, were to a great extent deserted; although they have continued up to the present time to be worked, in places, by a considerable number of men. Gold was first found on the Thompson River, which empties into the Frazer at a place called Nicomen. The Thompson and Frazer River cut through the Gold belt, which extends from the head of the Gulf of California, passes through California, Oregon, and British Columbia, and comes out on the Pacific Ocean, near Mount Elias, Alaska. The direction of the belt is N.W. from the gulf to this place in Alaska. In some parts