

people felt they had a country, as Lord Dufferin has put it, worth living for and worth dying for.

Leaving the sounding sea with its vast and valuable fisheries upon the coast of the Maritime Provinces, travelling through the historic Province of Quebec, with its antique yet prosperity-giving system of slow and sure cultivation of splendid agricultural resources ; then on through the great pivotal Province of Ontario, with its prosperous farms, its great mines of nickel and iron, and its wealthy cities, by the shores or upon the waters of great lakes that may fittingly be called seas ; on to the Province of Manitoba and the vast prairies and golden wheat-fields of the great North-West, over ground which contains untold treasures of coal, or upon rivers teeming with every variety of fresh water fish ; the Rockies are finally reached, and a brief transition through mountain grandeur lands the Canadian in the beautiful and favoured Province of British Columbia.

Even then we have not touched the fringe of the great Mackenzie Basin, where, in almost complete and primeval obscurity, lie a million square miles of territory, and resources rich enough for the home of a great nation. Across the Canadian half of the North American continent is indeed a revelation of natural richness such as can perhaps be encountered in no other part of the world. And it was to develop this territory, to knit these great Provinces together, to promote trade and intercourse, to make Vancouver the entrepot of British commerce with the Orient, to enable Canadians from the Atlantic to the Pacific to hail a united and progressive Dominion, that over a hundred millions of money was spent upon the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Who dare say to-day that it was money mis-spent ? True, criticism has been rampant and opposition powerful, but nothing succeeds like success, and the 20,000,000 or 30,000,000 bushels of grain which have this year been shipped from the fertile North-West to feed the millions of the Mother Country, is alone sufficient compensation for the construction of such a great national and Imperial highway.

The promotion of trade with the East is also a most important consideration, and the fast steamship lines now