

## PREFACE.

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On the northern part of the New World—stretching away across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific—lies the Dominion of Canada. Its confines include more than one-half of North America, reaching from the great lakes of the east and centre and the 49th parallel to the inhospitable shores of the trackless polar seas, whose long sought mysteries have yet to be revealed to man. In this vast domain—an empire in itself—are contained all the diversified elements which, upon development, are the factors of a progressive, prosperous and powerful nation, and although the strides in the march of progress, keeping pace with the advancement of nineteenth century civilization, have been marvelously rapid in this fair land, there are countless thousands of leagues of territory on which the foot of man has never trod, lying tenantless and silent, only awaiting the advent of the Anglo-Saxon race to be transformed into a prosperous and thriving country. The wealth of commerce, agriculture, mining, lumbering and fishing, latently exists in untold measure. The virgin soil, the primeval forest, and the teeming seas and lakes and rivers all possess undeveloped riches. Man alone is apparently the missing quantity, and his energy, industry and capital are the required elements in developing this young, but sturdy Dominion into the Greater Britain of the West—the worthy scion of the grand old Motherland across the seas, whose pride is in the colonial gems which adorn the imperial diadem, of which Canada is one of the brightest and most valued jewels.

To give briefly and succinctly a sketch of this New Wonderland—not aspiring to the pretensions of a history—is the object of this work, presenting, beside an historical review, authentic statistics of its present condition, the remarkable advancement of the western portion, and pointing out its great advantages, its boundless resources, its wonderful development, and its manifest destiny in occupying, in the near future, a foremost place amongst the great nations of the world.