

## THE "NORTH-WEST" OF THE DOMINION.

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Now that the subject of emigration is beginning to attract the attention it deserves, a brief but comprehensive description of the immense territories inhabited at present by a comparatively few nomadic Indian tribes, will not be out of place, and may assist the efforts of our Emigration Agents in Great Britain and on the Continent of Europe, where the great majority of the population is yet in ignorance regarding the vast resources recently acquired by Canada by the transfer of the Hudson's Bay territories.

Before the acquisition of those immense regions, and the confederation of the Atlantic Provinces and British Columbia, Canada represented but an insignificant portion of the North American Continent; now her flag waves proudly over its best northern half, and she may justly claim possession of an empire rivaling in size and resources that of her southern neighbour.

The regions recently under the control of the Hudson's Bay Company, comprise a vast area: they embrace that portion of the continent lying north of old Canada, the United States, and British Columbia, and extend from east to west for a distance of three thousand miles, while from the shores of the Arctic Sea to the 49th parallel, they cover a breadth of about fourteen hundred miles, and include an area of nearly two and a quarter millions of square miles.

Of course, a very large portion of this territory is valueless for agriculture, still, the incalculable mineral wealth which doubtless lies hidden beneath the vast unexplored and otherwise worthless tracts lying in the northernmost parts of the Dominion, must ultimately prove of immense value.

Leaving out of the question those parts of British North America comprising old Canada and the Atlantic Provinces, the Dominion may be divided into five distinct sections, viz:

The Arctic Basin, Hudson's Bay, the Central Plains, the Rocky Mountains, and lastly, though by no means least, the Pacific Slope.