

which is more than a degree N. of the most northern extremity of Vancouver's Island, speaks of its great fertility and longs for its cultivation.

Simpson River and Observatory Inlet, the northern Salmon River, Mackenzie's route and Frazer River, all point out indications for communications between the seaboard and the passes of the mountains. The advantages of Vancouver's Island have been shown in connection with those of the entire route; its resources, as well as those of Queen Charlotte's Island, are ascertained sufficiently to establish their great value and importance.

The mode of communicating between Europe and that portion of the earth of which the shores are washed by the Pacific, that has now been briefly examined as a whole, and in its principal component parts, is the most eligible, especially for the interests and requirements of the British empire, and also for a large proportion of the commerce of the world. It must not, however, be inferred that other communications on the earth's surface are superfluous or unprofitable because they may unite the same extremities in a less advantageous manner. The proper use and relative bearing of the various routes that have supplied the data for the comparisons that have been made would furnish an interesting and useful subject for consideration. That which has been examined exhibits in every respect so complete an adaptation of means to the end proposed, as to give redoubled force to every argument that can be adduced; the opportunity of carrying it out has been long possessed by England, and for seventy-five years its advantages have been laid before her. It is the route of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, whose vigorous mind desied the distant shores of the Pacific from the opposite coasts of the Atlantic, and who grappled successfully with all the difficulties that beset his path, when crossing the wide expanse of the then unknown continent. His courage and perseverance enabled him to discover both the far western and the northern oceanic boundaries of the continent, and his genius and wisdom did not fail to point out its supreme national, and its great universal, importance.

The Report of the Lord High Commissioner of Canada, dwelling upon the condition and brilliant resources of the British provinces, could but dilate upon a portion of the results which he had briefly but graphically sketched, when he suggested to his country the colonization of the continent, the development of the fisheries, and *the trade of the Pacific*.

Notwithstanding the lapse of years, the same opportunities remain, and have become not only more important and more urgent, but also, through the advance of science, much more easy of execution.