

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT.

ERROR RESOURCES. British Columbia is at last feeling the effects of eastern development despite of all the drawbacks it has experienced from political and other sources classified under the name of expediency.

Political grievances of a very serious nature may be regarded as settled, and social evils will be ameliorated as opportunities arise for their consideration. The tide of immigration will flow from the east to the west as the line approaches a junction with the one already in course of construction, and thousands in search of permanent homes will prefer the evergreen shores of the Pacific, to locations subject to great variations of climate, and other casualties from which we are comparatively free. The limited quantity of land on account of its quality, and productiveness, will rise to great value, and its distance from the grain producing regions of the east, as well as having a protective tariff on the seaboard, will always make farming a profitable and independent business. The rolling country of the interior will echo the lowing of cattle, and prove the great beef emporium of the northwest coast. The almost virgin forests of pine will form one of the chief staples of commerce, and assist in creating a mercantile navy equal to that of any other Province in the Dominion.

Whilst our vast mineral deposits will furnish numerous industries with the raw material necessary for the manipulations of labor, and the permanent sustenance of thousands of skilled artisans, every mountain will be pierced for its wealth, and cities spring up at new commercial centres, at present beyond the visions of the most hopeful. The past quarter of a century with its trials and disadvantages, will be remembered only as a dream. The future, pregnant with a thousand different changes, will be the all absorbing consideration of those desirous of benefiting by the new era of progress and development. To some this may appear visionary and to others exaggerated; but it is not so, if a proper spirit animates the people to work in harmony for the general good instead of for individual aggrandizement.

Fair and desirable as our country may be, teeming with hidden wealth and favored climatically, it is only valuable when utilized and made a source of productiveness. By energy and the concentration of wealth, roads will be made from points on the seaboard to the interior, and our numerous harbors be made the distributing centres of inland wealth. The Island of Vancouver particularly so, abutting on the ocean front, with splendid harbors to receive the wealth

of distant lands, with a climate modified by the influence of the gulf stream and her inlets alive with every variety of fish, forming an imperishable trade, her extensive fields of coal as yet scarcely touched, with which to reduce her mountains of rebellious and other ores combined with other resources of a valuable nature all tend to crown her as Queen of the North Pacific Ocean or the New Zealand of the Northwest. Yea, even from her vast deposits of variegated marble and superior granite, palatial residences will spring from her mountain sides and exist as monuments of her wealth in future history.

An Island railway along the boundary of the east coast can only complete its usefulness by the construction of lateral lines into the interior, radiating from one grand centre to which all new tributaries and enterprises will be drawn. To develop in this manner we must however, be generous to capitalists, on whom the risk of venture lies, and observe one fact that many portions of the country in their present condition are useless to us, and that before settlement can take place, roads must be built, canyons and streams bridged, and large swamps reclaimed, none of which improvements can be effected by individual settlers or pre-emptors. Consequently capital must be invited to do the work, and in its train settlement will follow and find means of employment. Many of the old residents of British Columbia would prefer to see prosperity in their day without deferring it to the unborn. And why not? A timorous policy never succeeded in any undertaking and if we do not reap the benefits of past labors during the capability of enjoyment we foolishly bequeath to others the chances which by right belong to us.

In order to enhance values we must have increased population, and in the absence of large areas of land ready for immediate settlement we must have industries. But, as we cannot compete with the East and as yet have no established lines of trade in the west, it is clear that our consumption must keep pace even with the supply of commodities, and our encouragement of every legitimate enterprise be equal to the necessities of so primitive, yet so valuable, a country.

Progress and development are synonymous with prosperity and wealth—by encouraging the former we ensure the latter and prove ourselves by works of science and art, worthy descendants of a vigorous and liberty loving race.

REGINALD NUTTALL.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ERROR RESOURCES.—Arriving at Victoria in the early spring after many years of travel through various countries celebrated in song and romance, we are at last constrained to exclaim in the language of the great philosopher of old, "Eureka." One of the most important things to be taken into consideration