

recently cut, some of them measuring five or six feet in diameter. We then visited Victoria and had the pleasure of seeing the surrounding country, which was then not in a very flourishing state.

It was my pleasure during this last summer, at the invitation of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, to visit the Northwest, and I was very glad to take the opportunity of joining him in one of the most instructive and pleasant trips that I have ever taken in my life. We visited many of the same cities that I had seen twelve years previously; but what a change. I found Port Arthur and Fort William with continuous rows of buildings, making the two places practically one and the same city, with paved streets and the population engaged to the fullest extent, buildings and elevators going up. Where twelve years before only two elevators existed, I found elevators with a capacity of over 50,000,000 bushels. We then visited Winnipeg, and found it had grown to a city containing upwards of 250,000 inhabitants, with paved streets brilliantly lighted; splendid buildings not only for the trade of the country, but magnificent residences throughout.

This change was marvellous and it had taken place in twelve years. We then visited the different towns along the line of railway. Where villages had existed twelve years prior to that time, I found flourishing towns containing ten, fifteen and twenty thousand inhabitants. We stopped at most of those places and saw many of the inhabitants, and all were optimistic and believed in the future great development of that part of the Dominion. We visited Calgary, and where a few years before we had found a town of five thousand inhabitants, we found now a city claiming 80,000 or more inhabitants. The same thing existed; magnificent buildings erected and streets put in the best possible condition that modern science can produce in the way of pavements, sidewalks, and so on.

We then travelled across the Rockies. The scenery did not vary from that we saw on the first trip, but I noticed an enlargement of hotels in that district. Wooden buildings were being replaced by fire-proof structures, with three or four times the accommodation which then existed. In Vancouver the same thing met our eyes. There was an enormous advance from 25,000 or 30,000 population to 200,000, and in the outlying district there was also an immense increase in the population and the industries. In Victoria the advance was of a similar character. The great improvement

and the optimistic feeling which prevailed among the people in the West were not absent from that locality.

Then to my astonishment, when visiting as far north as Dawson City, taking in the different islands, visiting the tanneries and the different cities that were dependent upon mining and fishing, and visiting Prince Rupert, the terminal of the Grand Trunk Pacific, it was a revelation to me, to observe the progress of the country and the magnificent scenery from Prince Rupert to Skagway. The natural scenery is unsurpassed by anything I have seen, and I believe, so far as the natural scenery is concerned, that it surpasses the beauties of the Mediterranean trip. My ideas were that a trip to the Yukon would be attended with some little inconveniences, and that we might not have the luxurious life we had in the steamers that plied between Skagway and Prince Rupert, but I was mistaken in that, because we went with the greatest comfort, and we arrived at White Horse, and from there a comfortable steamer took us 483 miles down the Yukon, and I had another surprise. My idea was that the Yukon was a small river with perhaps a few little tributaries where a little gold was washed down, but I found it was a river navigable for eighteen hundred miles. I found a tremendous mining development in that country. I was astonished at the vastness and greatness of that district. I speak of what I have seen, and I give you this as an indication of the great prosperity and the great advance and progress in Canada within the last twelve years of which I have spoken.

Now I will speak of the prosperity of my own province, New Brunswick, which I represent in this House. We have not gone ahead in the same rapid way as they have in the West. We could not expect it. The opening of the great Northwest brought about conditions that had not existed before, and took many people from our farms, to become growers of wheat and grain in the Northwest. This resulted in a great many abandoned farms both in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and I believe, and know in fact, that Ontario has suffered in the same way. To-day, however, I am happy to say that we are replacing those who left by farmers from the other side of the water. Last year a large number of farmers settled on these abandoned farms. This year I think three or four hundred farmers will settle upon farms in New Brunswick, and those are largely people who come here with experience and have means to pay, in some