

Feeling still that his work would not be complete, until, following up the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor, he had seen Canada from ocean to ocean, in company with Her Royal Highness he crossed the American continent and visited that interesting portion of our Confederation, British Columbia. When his story of it is told we shall hear of a land of inexhaustible coal mines, precious metals, vast forests of the largest pines in the world, and in its valleys vast tracts of arable land, with her fisheries on the Pacific coast, the richest without any exception, known.

His Excellency, and his gifted predecessor, the Earl of Dufferin, have been but the skirmishers, feeling the way for the great army which is sure to follow them. By their utterances, not from hearsay, but actual observation, the resources of our territories will be made known, their account will have credit at home and abroad. They will tell of our vast wheat growing region, the prairies of the west, larger in extent, richer in soil, and capable of producing, with less labor, a larger quantity of cereals per acre, than any other country on the globe.

In old Canada, the settler on taking up land, had before him a work that none but a man of extraordinarily large and great hope dare encounter.

The immigrant from the British Isles who entered upon his lot of land, found on reaching it, that it was a piece of a dense boundless forest, with pines that seemed taller than the grandest church spires in Europe, and better tied to the soil than any structure that the art of man ever devised.

How different the lands to which we now invite our fellow subjects. The settler can gather his crop at the end of the first summer, has no forests to clear before he can bring his land into cultivation. The climate for the growing months, from April to September, has a mean temperature not lower than that of the Lake regions of Ontario, and the absence of wind and moisture and light snow fall of the winter months, mitigate the rigours of extreme frosts, which serve to pulverise the soil and to prepare it for the reception of seed.

It is most gratifying from this address of His Excellency to learn that while he was passing through the great American Republic he experienced from her citizens

marked friendliness and attention. The citizens of the United States are our neighbours, closely connected with us by country, by blood, and a common language. Their interests, commercially and socially, are largely interwoven with ours. Divided only by a long imaginary boundary line, the most kindly and cordial feeling should ever be maintained between the two countries, and I here in the presence of the Senate of Canada venture to say that the good will manifested by the Republic to the Governor-General of Canada is reciprocated by equal cordiality and kindness by the entire Canadian people, whose wish it is that the frontier line dividing both countries shall never be crossed except for purposes of mutual friendly intercourse, social and commercial. (Applause.)

Hon. Gentlemen, it is not so remote as to be difficult of recollection when the policy of the present administration, was declared in respect to the settlement of the North-West, and the prosperous province of Manitoba. The prophetic calculation of the present Premier in regard to the population that would as the result of that policy follow, was sharply criticised and even derided. It has proved, however, to have fallen far within the actual results. We have now the satisfaction of knowing that an industrious and enterprising pioneer population are moving as an advanced guard to the fertile plains.

It seems to me unaccountable that while we are possessed of such vast domains free to all, that there are, I might say millions of our fellow subjects suffering from want of food. Such are to be found in England itself, in Scotland, and notably in Ireland. Can something not be done to bring this suffering people and our lands together? They will make good settlers. The lands of the North-West are suitable to their experience and they are men that never turned their back upon the enemy. They will prove "their country's stay in day and hour of danger."

No people on the face of God's earth ever suffered as have the Irish. They are the victims of alien laws and a feudal system that should have been long ago buried in the debris of the past.

In the dark hours of Ireland's adversity, Canada took her by the hand; when even the United States refused to them a landing in 1847, her immigrants