

Resources of British Columbia

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Prosperous Columbia.

April, with its genial sunshine and refreshing showers, has come and gone, "And now it is May, it is May." In this favored country the chosen queen of beautiful girlhood finds, in the garden and the field, ample resources in the redolent smiles of Flora, to weave the crowning wreath, and to bedeck with the blending hues of a thousand flowers the fairy little throne which she is wont to ascend on each return of this joyous calend. Happiest hours of youth and innocence, gathering blossoms of promise to lay at the feet of their chosen queen! Each face, aglow with the excitement of the hour, is only rivaled in its freshness and beauty by the expanding petals that gem the garlands so deftly twined by busy little fingers. The playful zephyrs that come and go, charged with invigorating ozone and laden with the perfume of countless flowers, kiss each youthful cheek with the bloom of health, and gladden the hearts of all. Truly British Columbia is the paradise of children. Nor is its equable climate less advantageous and agreeable to the adult and the aged, who here find a harbor of refuge, as it were, from the extremes of temperature—the scorching heat, the piercing cold and biting blizzards experienced in so many less favored lands.

All who come to this province, and the number is rapidly increasing, are both surprised and delighted with our genial climate, grand scenery, and the varied and immense resources of natural wealth abounding on every side. From the humblest immigrant up to the Marquis of Lorne, who with equal truth and eloquence said, "no words can be too strong to express the charm of this delightful land," do we hear the same unvarying testimony as to the unequalled advantages which this empire province affords.

Heretofore, comparatively unknown and of course unappreciated abroad, this fair province has languished in neglect and obscurity; but now becoming better known, it has leaped into great prominence and is today the cynosure of the eyes of the world. Enquiries from every quarter are pouring in upon present residents, known abroad. Every vessel now arriving in port is freighted with hopeful emigrants seeking homes. Capital, proverbially timid, no longer hesitates its investment. Enterprises of great magnitude, involving the expenditure of millions of dollars, have

already been entered upon while several others will soon be inaugurated. In every district of the province the various industries pursued are in a flourishing condition and their recent growth, although unusually rapid, is nevertheless of a character indicative of lasting prosperity. Erstwhile so sedate and, so to speak, easy going, the chief commercial centers have been suddenly transformed into as many busy, bustling marts, while the cheerful hum of industry enlivens every waking hour. Lest those at a distance, and otherwise unacquainted with the present prosperous conditions now obtaining here, should be inclined to doubt the foregoing, we reproduce an item published in a recent issue of a local paper, the *Evening Post* of this city, and which was doubtless written as information for provincial readers only:

"The city to-day presented an unusually animated appearance; quite a number of new faces being noticeable on the streets. The passengers for Puget Sound were also on shore sight-seeing, and helped to swell the crowd. From an early hour draymen were busy, and in the vicinity of Wharf street and on Welch, Rithet & Co.'s wharf, the bustle and hum of business was increased ten fold. The two ocean steamers, the *Dakota* and *Victoria*, lay side by side discharging freight without a moment's cessation, keeping a large gang of men employed in transferring the packages to warehouses and to drays. A steady stream of business men might also be observed passing in and out of the Customs House until 4 o'clock, the hour of closing. Hackmen were likewise on the rush, and strangers viewing the busy scene were inclined to think *Victoria* was not such a sleepy place as they had been led to believe.

WHO SHOULD COME TO BRITISH COLUMBIA.

General advice can be given only as to the classes of emigrants. The application of this advice to special cases must be the business of each individual himself. The same qualities are necessary to success here as elsewhere. Any other notion will lead to disappointment.

The urgent requirements of the province at the present time are men and money—the laborer, the mechanic, the real farmer, dairyman, fruit-grower or stock-raiser, and the large and small capitalist. Every man who is able and willing to work with his hands can find employment at good wages, especially those who are fitted for railway work. There is scarcely an industry in the province that is not, at present, hampered by the scarcity of labor. Railways, public works, mines, mills, logging-camps, fisheries and farms—all require more labor.

Any smart, active, capable man, with only a little money, but accustomed to work with his hands, is sure to succeed in making a home in British Columbia. Wages are very high; land, food and house materials are still, relatively cheap. If such a settler has a strong heart himself, and is blessed with a common-