

L. J. COLE Agent for The Canadian Fire Ins. Co., The London & Canadian Fire Ins. Co., Ltd, The Federal Life Ass. Co., The J. & J Taylor, Safe and Vault Doors. Secretary of the Royal City Building Society, Secy-Treas. of the Standard Loan and Savings Co. **NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.**

I have taken down the evidence of settlers, and this has been wonderfully favorable. To say the truth, I was rather hunting for grumblers and found only one. There is no reason why British Columbia should not be for this portion of our territory what California is to the States, in the supply afforded of fruits. The perfection attained by small fruits is unrivalled, and it is only with the Peninsula of Ontario that you would have to compete for the supply of grapes, peaches, pears, apples, cherries, plums, apricots and currants.

The most richly endowed with gifts of material advantages of all provinces, British Columbia excels them all in beauty. In the magnificence of her rugged mountains, the charm of her land-locked waters, the lonely grandeur of her forests and the quiet

beauty of her prairies, she possesses a wonderful variety—a combination of scenic beauty. Whether a traveller approaches from the east after crossing the apparently illimitable prairies, or from the west at the conclusion of an ocean voyage, he is filled with a sense of relief, mingled with curiosity and pleased expectancy. The features that may be found almost beautiful must depend on the temperament of each spectator, but it happens that nature has so arranged the forms and attributes of this country that whether coming from the east or west the traveller finds a striking contrast to that which he is leaving behind him, and as contrast is a primary condition of excellence in that which is to delight the eye, his æsthetic sense is sure of gratification.

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