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BRITISH COLUMBIA DIRECTORY, 1897-98.

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## Province of British Columbia.

British Columbia has an area of 390,344 square miles, and a population, according to the last official census, of 98,173, made up of 54,061 whites, while the white population since 1832 has more than doubled—35,202 Indians and 8,910 Chinese. The Province is a great quadrangle of territory, 700 miles long by 400 wide, lying north of Lat. 49 deg., and west of the central core of the Rocky Mountains, extending along the Pacific coast as far as Lat. 55 deg., and including a large number of adjacent islands. Striking inland to Lat. 60 deg., it is shut off from the seaboard by a narrow strip of Alaskan territory, and is bounded on the east by Lat. 720 deg. The great mountain ranges of the Province—the Rockies and Selkirks on the east and the Coast and Island Ranges on the west—exercise a very important influence upon the country, climatically as well as commercially. There is no mountain scenery in the world to compare with that of British Columbia, nor are better facilities anywhere afforded of enjoying it.

### Mineral and Other Resources of British Columbia.

In the depths of these magnificent ranges are vast stores of mineral wealth. The gold mines of the Fraser, Omineca, Cassiar and Cariboo Districts, the gold,

silver and copper mines of East and West Kootenay, the vast territory of the Yukon Basin to the north, the great coal deposits found and being worked, both on the Mainland and Vancouver Island, are not only suggestive, but striking ones, of what lies behind, and are bound to prove the chief factors in the future development of the Province. As an example of what capital can do in developing the varied and wonderful resources of this magnificent country, the total salmon pack of 1876 amounted to 9,874 cases, while that of 1897 was over 1,000,000 cases. Fifty million dollars worth of gold was taken in a few years from the rich Fraser and Cariboo alluvial deposits, while the yield from the quartz mines of the East and West Kootenay are steadily increasing, while in other vast sections of the Province are found gold and silver in paying quantities. For general information relating to the untold riches, that only require the hand of industry, aided by capital, to develop innumerable industries that will become profitable from the start, the reader is referred to the various Government reports, and the reports of the British Columbia Board of Trade, as it is rather beyond the limits of this work to go fully into this question. For the addresses of the various secretaries of the Boards of Trade the reader is referred to the alphabetical lists under the heading "Board of Trade."

See Klondyke in index.

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