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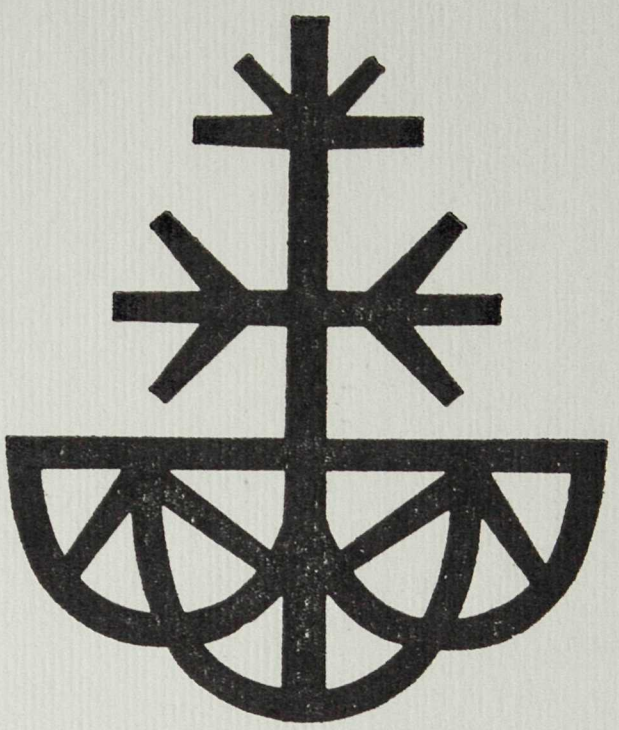

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

GOLD MINES:

A Paper read before the Liverpool Geological Association, by

HON. H. HOLBROOK,

Late Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, and President of the Executive Council in the McCreight Government, and many years a Member of the Provincial Parliament, and 21 years a resident of the Province.

THE RICHNESS OF THE MINES, THE HYDRAULIC GOLD WASHING AND GENERAL RESOURCES OF THE PROVINCE FULLY LAID DOWN, SO AS TO BRING SUCH (FOR INQUIRY) TO THE NOTICE OF CAPITALISTS IN GREAT BRITAIN, AND SHOWING BRITISH COLUMBIA TO BE THE GARDEN AND GOLDEN PROVINCE OF CANADA.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION,

I WAS asked last Fall to write a paper on the "Resources of British Columbia," to be read before the Royal Colonial Institute, London; but it was found, after a lengthened correspondence, that the only nights of their session that could be devoted to Canada were taken up by papers, most valuable, relating to the whole of the Dominion, and as mine related to only one province it had to give way. I therefore embrace the offer to read it before the Liverpool Geological Association, as it will contain much interesting to geologists, and may bring out other papers relating to our gold leads I can also draw attention, for further information, to the reports of our Canadian Geological Department, and their splendid collection of specimens at Ottawa, instituted by the Canadian Government, and presided over by Professor Selwyn, who has personally visited our province. His able and scientific reports will be found in the Geological Blue Books presented to the Canadian Parliament, which can be seen at the Canadian Offices, Westminster, London, and contain much valued information.

My great object in this paper is to draw attention—so that other inquiries may be made by capitalists in Great Britain and also by those at Montreal and Toronto—now that the wave of population is settling towards British Columbia—to our Gold Mining Industry, more especially, also, to our *Hydraulic Gold-washing resources*, their great extent, and the profits derived from similar undertakings in California; to our Quartz Leads and their extent; and to our Gold Mines generally.

A new field is now opening on our Eastern boundaries near the Railway Line, but it is only part of the great gold belt which can be traced from the Gulf of California north-west to the Pacific Ocean in Alaska, which I will afterwards speak about. I also draw attention to our Silver Mines, one of which, near the Railway Line, is not yet taken up (I have before drawn attention to it); also to our Copper and Coal formations.

I shall have to speak of our general resources, and show how this great province is suitable for settlement, and of its fine climate. In order that you may properly understand, I shall be obliged to trace back to 1858, and show how we have progressed, and the difficulties that have hindered our rapid progress, and as our resources have eventually to be opened up by capitalists from the Eastern provinces of Canada and Great Britain, I hope this paper may so direct their attention to our riches, that we shall find our prosperity with them, instead of having to lean on San Francisco as in the past, and so have our great resources opened out that our gold may go direct to our banking centres in Canada, instead of

having to go round by San Francisco and New York. No doubt the information will be interesting to you, and it will be a guide to lay before you and the capitalists I have spoken about, and the general British public, the advantages of the province for settlement, and the field it offers for the profitable employment of capital in opening out its great riches. I will endeavour to show how this capital can be profitably employed. But this is a work of some difficulty, as I have to overcome certain prejudices that have arisen in consequence of the accounts given in works written by casual visitors, who came out at various times, stayed a few weeks or months with us, and, as they were the wrong men to succeed as colonists, returned home and wrote against the province. By that means they made it a dead letter so far as Great Britain was concerned, and virtually handed over our mines to California, the miners from which place have taken out most of our gold. Indeed, the produce of our goldfields has actually been included in their returns; and until we had confederation with Canada, our lands had a small settlement upon them from the same source. We have wanted a white population to settle on our lands, and do so still; and we want white labour on our railway works. Great advantages are offered to both, as well as to capital for our mining industry.

I may state with some diffidence (as I do not like to speak of myself, but it seems to be necessary, in order to show that an account can be given which is trustworthy), that I am able to give a correct and true account of things, after a residence of 21 years in the province, having been engaged in commerce during the whole period. I have also filled many public offices, and after confederation with Canada formed part of the first Government—the McCreight Ministry—which inaugurated responsible Government, and assimilated the laws from those of a Crown colony to those applicable to our changed state under a confederation. I was chosen as the first Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, with full charge of the public lands and mines, and was at the close of that administration President of the Executive Council. Before that, (and, indeed, for many years after), I was a member of the Provincial Parliament when we were a Crown colony, and assisted and voted in the scheme of confederation as one of that body. I mention these matters, as beforesaid, to show that I am in a position to give correct information, so far as I have been able to learn, and I now wish to give the fruits of my experience and to state results, instead of writing theories or casual impressions. My desire is to do good to the colony I have lived so long in; and I think I can safely say that British Columbia, so far as the Mainland is concerned, is one of the richest colonies of Great Britain; that it offers great advantages for settlement; and has unbounded riches in gold, silver, copper, and coal mines. This, too, with a climate the same as the south of England, so far as regards the Frazer Valley, which is very like Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Its chief town was named by Her Majesty New Westminster, which we call the Royal City.

Now, in order to prove the mildness of our climate, I give the readings of the barometer and thermometer, with the rainfall for 1875 and 1876, taken at the Government Observatory, Esquimault :—

OBSERVATIONS, GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY.—1875.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Maximum Barometer....	30·34	30·27	30·32	30·31	30·23	30·343	30·277	30·22	30·301	30·323	30 234	30·424
Minimum do.	28·96	29·67	28·97	29·75	29·54	29·702	29·795	29·725	29·605	29·247	29·084	29·303
Mean Height	29·98	29·99	29·35	29·99	29·564	29·991	30·019	29·611	30·74	29·955	29·816	29·914
Maximum Thermometer.	47·	49·	48·	63·9	58·9	69·9	76·9	76·9	69·9	63·9	54·9	54·9
Minimum do.	8·	24·9	29·9	25·9	38·1	42·6	45·4	46·9	42·9	41·1	22·1	29·1
Mean temperature by day	32·	42·7	43·3	53·2	55·7	61·	74·6	61·1	61·8	52.7	43·7	45·7
Do. by night	24·3	33·1	34·6	39·7	43·9	48·1	54·5	47·4	45·9	46·8	36·1	38·8
Mean velocity wind p. hr.	9 mls.	7m. 3	12m. 7	10m. 8	11m. 3	10m. 2	7m. 4	5m. 3	8m. 1	5m. 5	10m. 1	11m. 3
Rain Fall	1in. 60	0 70	4in. 91	1in. 11	2in. 62	0 73	0 0	0 49	0 80	4in. 48	6in. 50	9in. 68

For the year, 33in. 43 Rainfall, 1875.

1876.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Maximum Barometer....	30·512	30·469	30·338	30·505	30·301	30·313	30·290	30·320	30·185	30·349	30·371	30·66
Minimum do.	29·440	29·275	29·273	29·594	29·626	29·631	29·700	29·766	29·788	29·368	29·614	29·86
Mean Height	29·996	29·896	29·900	29·976	30·12	30·30	30·0	30·25	29·987	29·900	30·077	29·89
Maximum Thermometer.	51·5	53·	54·9	59·9	69·9	83·9	73·9	71·9	76·9	61·9	56·	53·
Minimum do.	18·5	29·1	22·1	31·1	38·1	42·1	48·9	41·6	43·9	38·1	30·1	29·1
Mean temperature by day	38·5	44·3	43·3	52·2	57·3	62·2	67·2	69·8	62·1	54·8	40·9	46·5
Do. by night	30·7	37·5	36·6	40·9	48·2	50·4	50·3	40·5	47·9	45·9	39·6	37·7
Mean velocity wind p. hr.	10m. 8	10 mls	11m. 8	9 mls.	10m. 6	6m. 9	8m. 6	9m. 2	7m- 2	3m. 7	7m. 8	6 mls.
Rain Fall	2in. 32	5in. 6	3in. 4	0 88	0 76	0 83	0 34	0 41	1in. 15	2in. 54	4in. 27	1in. 7

Rain fall for the year, 22in.-67.

I think these figures will bear me out in the statement I have made about the climate. Of course other parts of the province are different. New Westminster, Frazer Valley, lies in 49·10° North latitude. There is no fever and ague; all are healthy. Further north it becomes colder, as it extends up the coast, to 54°, and at our principal gold mines, 475 miles above New Westminster—I mean Carriboo, with Barkerville or Richville for its principal town—they are 4,200 feet above sea level, in latitude 53, 3° N. Of course the climate here is different, and much colder. In the country bordering the sea we get the advantage of the Japan stream coming across the Pacific and striking Vancouver's Island. This answers the same as the Gulf Stream does to Great Britain, and makes our climate the same for all parts bordering the Pacific; and no doubt when the railway is completed—which will be the case in two years from now—the wave of population will follow its course (it is this year commencing, and we shall have our resources opened out by a white population), and capital flowing in from British and Eastern Canadian sources for that purpose. I might here mention the Canadian Pacific Railway, which will run 2,500 miles through Canada, connecting the Atlantic with the Pacific. It passes through a most fertile belt, which, lately the feeding ground of the buffalo, will now be used for raising stock and cereals, and has unlimited resources for settlement, some of the most productive land in the world lying along the Saskatchewan Valley and in British Columbia It will also be the road to the Peace River country.

We became confederated with Canada in 1870. One of the terms proposed was a coach road. We had as our Canadian Premier one of the greatest of living British statesmen—I allude to the Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald—and when the delegates came before him he granted as

one of the terms a trans-continental railway, to be completed in ten years. His far-reaching mind saw the advantages to be gained, and discovered how a Greater Britain could be founded, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

In his first endeavour to carry this out, he was beaten down and had to give up office, but he returned to power and has now made the scheme of the railway an accomplished fact, and the finished work will remain as a lasting monument to him. "All hail to the great man who has accomplished this, and made Canada so prosperous!" and if you in Great Britain had him as one of your ministers and his grand ideas were carried out, instead of drawing from you most of your best and most skilful mechanics and workmen, to share our prosperity and find profitable employment for their labour and talents, you would be able to employ them in Great Britain, and the workman, land owner, and capitalist would enjoy the same prosperity that we do in Canada. As I said before, his noble ideas and great abilities have brought immense prosperity to Canada and its loyal inhabitants.

I will now describe British Columbia. We can only imagine its size when we compare it with other countries. Let us take as an example Great Britain,—England, Scotland, and Ireland. These contain an area of 121,115 square miles. Now the mainland of British Columbia which lies between 49° and 54° N. latitude and runs back to the Rocky Mountains, contains an area of 341,305 square miles, and we have besides Vancouver's Island, which is 12,000 square miles. This latter may be called one immense coal field.

This is British Columbia. Our resources are—our rich land, our timber, and our mines of gold, iron and coal; and there are also to be developed, deposits of copper and silver.

The Colony was first created by revocation of the Crown grant to the Hudson Bay Company, on the 3rd November 1858, succeeded by a proclamation issued by the then Governor, Sir James Douglass, on the 19th November, 1858, providing for the Government of British Columbia, and declaring English law in force in the Colony. From 1858 the progress of the country was brilliant, resembling the marvellous career of California and Australia after the discovery of gold in those countries. Thousands upon thousands flocked to our golden shores to improve their condition. The original deposits of gold, however, from which the shallow bars and benches of the Frazer River were fed, were not discovered then, nor indeed have they, in the opinion of many scientific men and experienced miners, been discovered yet. The mines on the Frazer were, therefore, soon exhausted; and being unable to sustain the multitudes flocking to them, were to a great extent deserted; although they have continued up to the present time to be worked, in places, by a considerable number of men. Gold was first found on the Thompson River, which empties into the Frazer at a place called Nicomen. The Thompson and Frazer River cut through the Gold belt, which extends from the head of the Gulf of California, passes through California, Oregon, and British Columbia, and comes out on the Pacific Ocean, near Mount Elias, Alaska. The direction of the belt is N.W. from the gulf to this place in Alaska. In some parts

it is richer than others, and I think the future will show we have a fair share in British Columbia. We commenced mining on the Frazer River at Hope, 96 miles from the mouth, and our hardy and enterprising men kept forcing their way up stream, amidst privations and sufferings which were enough to appal the bravest heart, and which cost many a noble fellow his life. The nature of the deposit, and the character of the gold was invariably the same; that is, the deposit was shallow and the metal light, or what is commonly called "float gold." Comparing these circumstances with their experience in California and Australia, certain men determined to penetrate the interior in search of coarse gold deposits which they felt assured must exist in the neighbourhood somewhere, and at no great distance. The expedition was successful—gold in paying quantities was found along Quesnelle River and its forks, of a much coarser character than any yet taken out. Encouraged by these results they penetrated still further, until, shortly after, they struck the world-renowned Carriboo, a district which has since become so celebrated.

The year 1861 may be considered as the period of permanent discoveries in Carriboo, and from this period may be dated the material and political existence of the Colony in the great family of nations. Williams' Creek, the compeer of which has never yet been furnished by any country in the history of gold digging, became the parent of the Colony's glorious prosperity at first, and of its subsequent part prostration. It is necessary to bear this in mind, or you cannot intelligently comprehend either of these conditions, in their extreme of affluence or their extreme of indigence. Yet both, under the guidance of an all-wise Providence, have played no unimportant part in aiding the completion of the great scheme of confederation; the one by making known the vastness and endless wealth of the country, the other by teaching us the need of resting its future on something more permanent and solid than the fluctuations incident to gold mining.

From Williams' Creek explorers started in every direction, as far as the nature of the country admitted. Provisions and tools had to be packed (or carried) adding to our knowledge, in a short time, a series of creeks of more or less distinction, which, taken together, in wealth and extent seemed to make the future of the country as permanent as its present was brilliant.

The people rose with the grandeur of the day, and were prodigal of their means to make the country worthy its reputation. The great want of the country was easy communication from the source of food supply to the mines; a want which, from the character of the country to be intersected by a waggon-road, was not easily attained. Yet with a spirit worthy of the pioneers of this Province, the work was commenced and completed in three years, at a total cost of £151,000 ($754,148). I speak now of the main waggon-road, as it stands to-day, a total of 383 miles from Yale to Carriboo a road, it is safe to say, that has no equal in any British Colony for size, convenience, engineering triumphs and durability. In addition to this, there was another road from Douglas, through Lilloet, to Clinton, about 130 miles, which cost £100,000 ($504,955); besides a third trail-road built afterwards to our southern

Gold Fields at Kootenay, on which at least £30,000 (or $150,000) was expended; making a grand total for roads alone of $1,309,100.

Independent of these great public works, cities and towns of no mean pretensions in size and beauty simultaneously sprang up, the wants of commerce were supplied, and the pleasures of refined life were enjoyed to an extent really marvellous when we recollect that the country was only four years old.

I now arrive at 1863, the golden era of the Colony. Soon after, its depression commenced, and continued until confederation took place, after which its prospects brightened; and when the railway is completed and the iron horse is running across, the wave of population will come sweeping to us from the eastern part of Canada, bringing capital and industry in its wake to open out our resources.

GOLD MINES.

I now particularly wish to draw your attention to our Gold Mines, their present condition and future prospects; especially to the *hydraulic washing*, the profits of such in California, and to our Quartz leads.

I have already told you that the yield of gold was something wonderful, and it was so. When estimated in proportion to the number of men working, the yield was never equalled by California or Australia, or any other country. Up to 1862, it is safe to say, there never could have been at any one time over 5,000 miners engaged (and the returns say only 4,000) in working the mines, and yet the annual yield was nearly £1,000,000, including over the Bank returns, the estimate of the gold taken away in private hands, a *per capita* average without parallel in the world.

I shall now proceed to give you the estimated yield of gold from 1858 to 1882, with the number of men employed, from the returns by the banks and others made out by the Government. But it is a low average, and does not show the result of early days, before the banks came—say from 1858 to 1860, when men carried their own gold down. At one time in 1858 it was supposed there were 15,000 people on Victoria Town site, mostly living in tents, waiting to go to Frazer River. How many got there we have only report as a record. Those that went had many difficulties to contend with, as the Hudson Bay Company's Charter was not revoked until November of that year, and the Indians were troublesome, not being respecters of the law, as at present. They are now law-abiding, and industrious; thanks to the firmness and discretion exercised by our Judicial Bench, with good and just laws to administer. Many of these men came back disgusted, after leaving gold mining, as they did in Australia, and we lost the chance of their settlement. Unfortunately we are too near California, and the pleasures of spending a winter in San Francisco draw our mining population there. Indeed "Frisco" is used as a harbour of refuge when a disappointment occurs, and many go down there with the gold they have taken out of British Columbia, and embark it in some enterprise, or lose it on the San Francisco Stock Exchange. I give the returns as they are published, but though for the last three years it is a decreasing figure, no less gold was taken out, but a

different calculation was made as to the gold in private hands. It is evident the present banks want to keep all the good things to themselves. However, with the Railway this pleasant arrangement will blow up, and our gold will go direct to Montreal and Toronto, and the banks there will come in.

Table showing the actually known and estimated yield of Gold, the numbers of Miners employed, and average earnings per man from 1858 *to* 1882.

	Year.	Amount received by banks and private hands.	Number Miners employed.	Average earnings per man.	
		DOLLARS.		DOLLARS.	Only on Report under stated, and not reliable.
	1858 6 mos.	$520,000	3,000	$173	
	1859	1,615,072	4,000	403	
	1860	2,228,543	4,400	506	
	1861	2,666,118	4,200	634	
Incomplete, 1863	1862	4,246,266	4,100	517	
	1863		4,400	482	
	1864	3,735,850	4,400	849	
	1865	3,491,205	4,294	813	
	1866	2,662,106	2,982	893	
	1867	2,480,868	3,044	814	
	1868	2,372,972	2,390	992	
	1869	1,774,978	2,369	749	
	1870	1,336,956	2,348	569	
	1871	1,799,440	2,450	734	
	1872	1,610,972	2,400	671	
	1873	1,305,749	2,300	567	
	1874	1,844,618	2,868	643	
	1875	2,474,904	2,024	1222	£245 per man.
	1876	1,786,648	2,282	783	
	1877	1,608,182	1,960	820	
	1878	1,275,204	1,883	677	
	1879	1,290,058	2,124	607	
	1880	1,013,827	1,955	518	
	1881	1,046,737	1,898	551	
	1882	954,085	1,738	548	
		$47,141,711, or	about 9½	millions	sterling.

As I have already more than hinted, these returns are not reliable; they are based on guess work as to the amount taken down in private hands and the number of men engaged in mining. When a bank comes over from the Eastern side like the Bank of Toronto, or Montreal, we shall have other accounts. The present banks work through San Francisco banks and are bound up in their interests. In addition to this there is the gold taken out at Kourtenay and Big Bend, Columbia River, in our southern gold fields, which goes down the Columbia River to Portland, Oregon; and the gold from Cassiar and Strikeen River in our Northern gold fields, which goes down in private hands direct to San Francisco from Strikeen River mouth, which is in Alaska, United States territory, and there is also the quantity taken away in private hands without passing through the hands of the banks, and going direct to San Francisco. As

an example, we can only guess at the amount of gold taken out by the Chinese from what they sell to the banks, and we have no record of the quantity sent to their companies, or retained in private hands. All we know is they are most industrious, and if you ask one what he is making he will perhaps tell you "six bittee" (3s.) But stand by and watch him wash up from his rocker, and you will probably see him take out $10 (or £2) for his day's work. Then, also, many of our white miners take all they do not require for provisions with them to California, and spend the winter there. We have also record of a few Indians on the Thompson River taking out $30,000, or £6000, for their winter's work. A mining license is granted on payment of £1, which gives the right to mine and take up certain quantities of unoccupied gold land, as specified in our mining laws, which gives also great rights and facilities to companies to take up and mine both land and quartz ledges. Science, machinery and skill, are all now required to obtain gold in Carriboo, which a comparatively small amount of unskilled manual labour obtained before.

Let us see how Carriboo has hitherto sustained herself, and judge, therefore, what hopes we have of her success in the future. We will take the history of Williams' Creek, the next after Antler Creek that was struck in Carriboo. It is estimated to have yielded in the short area of two miles and a half some *five millions sterling.* When we remember that the mining season only lasts five or six months the sums appear nearly fabulous—more suited to the pages of glowing fictions than the stern realities of life.

I shall now authenticate these statements by giving in detail the amount taken out of several of the principal claims; for you must know extraordinary as it is in this Creek, there was not, as in the rich streams of California, a single poor blank claim throughout the whole distance of two and a half miles. The depth at which the gold was found varied. At the upper end of the flats it ran 12 to 20 feet, getting deeper at the lower end, till it reached 60 feet, equally rich. At the upper end of the Creek was the Black Jack, located in 1862, and although worked in the dearest times, when wages were $16 or £3 4s. per day per man, realized in two years £40,000 at a cost of £10,000. The Cunningham, located in 1861, took out in four years £100,000. at a cost of £20,000; California Company for the same period, £100,000 at a cost of £20,000; The Steel Company £150,000, about one-third going for expenses. To these may be added the Abbot, Adams, and a host of others which paid in the same proportion.

On the lower portion of the Creek where the diggings were deeper, the ground paid richer. For instance, the Dillon claims paid, for four men working, the enormous sum of 110 lbs. weight of gold—equivalent to £4000—in one day, and in six months gave the owners the handsome fortune of £16,000, or $80,000, each. Below this came the celebrated Barker, Welsh, Caledonia, Moffat, Cameron, Raby, and Prince of Wales. These are some of the lucky ones, and results obtained in the rosy days of Carriboo's glory.

The same may be said of Antler Creek, where, at a depth of only 4 and 7 feet, men for a long time made from £10 to £50 per day regularly—

of Lightning, Stouts Gulch, Grouse, Conklin, Mosquitoe, Sovereign, Jack Club's Creek, and others, all of which paid enormously, though not so regularly or for so long a period as Williams Creek.

No doubt you will say, "but these great doings exist no longer; they are simply a part of a short and glorious history," and therefore it is not wise or safe policy to make them the ground work of attracting fresh population to the Colony. To the precise amount taken, I admit the argument, but no further, for such a conclusion, natural as it may be, is the particular error I wish to refute. In the first place, let me remark that these Creeks, which so far have monopolised the capital and energies of our limited population, form but a small proportion of Carriboo; the greater part of the remainder of that vast district being still not only unprospected but almost unexplored; and secondly, that the "original deposits" of gold which made these particular water sheds so marvellously profitable have never yet been found. Now to accomplish either of these two great things on which the future of the Colony or Province so much depends, viz:—to explore and thoroughly prospect the country for new diggings, or rediscover the old deposits in the surrounding hills, we must have fresh population. To ask an infant to roll over, or walk away with, the carcase of a dead elephant of the largest growth would not be more ridiculous than to expect a limited population like ours (in British Columbia) to do either of these indispensable things, in addition to what they are doing.

A gentlemen who lectured on this subject at New Westminster, in a meeting at which, as the then mayor of that city, I was chairman, speaking of Mosquitoe Creek, three miles below Williams' Creek, said, "Between Mosquitoe and Frazer, some 50 miles thence up the river to Fort George 100 miles, thence back from the Frazer to Swamp River, parallel with Mosquitoe is a large auriferous region, utterly unknown, as I have already said, which henceforth will be carefully prospected, and judging by developments already discovered, will, in the end, become the most popular in Carriboo, because the greater portion will prove the least expensive and difficult to work of any yet known. So you will see it is not an idle boast to say these Creeks—I include Mosquito—are worth more to the country to day than Williams' Creek; not so much from the amount of gold they will yield, as from the new life, vigour, enterprise, and confidence they will inspire; and because they go far to prove that Carriboo really is the country of endless wealth which we hitherto only thought it was. Again, the same person, said all this section alone is capable of supporting 10,000 men. This prediction was strengthened by results of prospectors, and by the flattering developments in Omineca and Findlay branch of Peace River. In the latter stream, one set of six men took out $10,000 in 35 days, crude work, besides 40 ounces of native silver in small pieces. So then, so far as new territory is concerned, we have evidence of gold along the whole gold line commencing at Kourtenay and ending at Cassiar, on the Strikeen River, the diggings in which place have given good results. In the neighbourhood of Dease Lake we have room for a large population as new diggings are opened out, and at Williams Creek there are the whole tailings to

work over, and we have to prospect further, as we have not tried below the first bed rock. In Australia, at Ballarat, the richest deposits were found below, and then the hills have to be attacked to find where the lead has gone to, and Bald Mountain, from which many of the Creeks head, has to be prospected.

The rediscovery of the old original deposits which fed the stream beds so abundantly, has, from the experience of California, ceased to be problematical. As streams are exhausted, men naturally enquire into the origin of their deposits, and thus they are gradually traced into the adjoining hills. Hence the second era in gold digging, which always proves the most permanent, though most costly, system of mining. Miners in California have passed seven years of their lives and expended as much as £20,000 to reach those deposits in the mountains; and, taken upon the whole, we know the hill diggings in California have yielded thousands of millions of dollars. The action of the water by which these deposits are determined is always arbitrary and eccentric. In Carriboo, from the nature of the country, it will prove more difficult to trace these deposits than it proved in California, but eventually they *will* be traced with the same accuracy, to the same extent, and with the same results. It is only a question of time and labour; but to us, as in California, the event will give a new lease of long-continued prosperity.

Our population in the mines have had some large works in Lightning Creek, and in the Meadows at the junction of Willow River. They have not as yet been able to overcome the water in the latter. The Meadows receive many rich streams; they are some miles in extent, and are looked at with an avaricious eye. A large sum of money has been expended in pumps and tunnels. but the difficulties are still unconquered. In California Gold Flat, Nevada County, after some 1500 men had drifted in it for three years, was conquered by tunnel, and paid enormously. That undertaking fades into oblivion when compared with this one. Might we not place it on a par with the Great Sutro Tunnel,—as far as profit goes,—which is to drain all the claims on the Cromstock Silver Ledge in Washoe, and goes through eight miles of rock at a cost of a little over a million sterling. Yet the stock in this undertaking is all taken up in California and the Atlantic States. To drain the Meadows my informant says, only two miles will require to be cut through gravel. We want a good mining engineer to see the work and report, and if he can succeed, he will have one of the best affairs in the world on hand, for if 1500 men could not work out Gold Flat in three years, 5000 men could not work out the Meadows in ten. So says my authority. One company tried steam pumps, but did not succeed; and the ground remains still to be worked,—the water is unconquered.

It is now necessary to glance at the formation of the country as regards mineral wealth. But to enable us to do this, we have the full information about California, and ours will be found the same, only, I believe, *richer*. The two systems existing at the extreme North and the extreme South are a counterpart of each other in all their relations, divisions, and subdivisions,—from the copper to the gold and silver—in the granite, metamorphic, slate, trap rock, marble—there is no difference in character or position, so far as I can discover.

Taking the copper system as the base of demarcation, we find here, as in California, it lies in three divisions, and by mastering it, the whole formation is easily understood. In California, the central division is the principal, stretching from the foot hills of the Sierra Nevada, twenty-five miles East into the mountains, and intersecting the whole State, North and South. On the Western summit of the Sierra Nevada there are three veins of copper, and in the coast range five veins, forming two more divisions parallel to each other, but all three separate and distinct in their formation. The same thing exists in British Columbia. Commencing at the West, I find the Alberm, Sooke, Howe Sound, and Jarvis Inlet veins corresponding with the coast range in California; then travelling East, I find the central division extending from the mouth of the Thompson River twenty-five miles in the interior, and intersecting the whole country North and South; finally, at the head of Shuswap Lake, two or three veins, which correspond with those on the Western summit of the Sierras, while it is remarkable that the distances from West to East between these three divisions are about the same as in California. Again, the best gold and silver veins in the two countries are found East of the central copper divisions, and subsidiary rocks, already mentioned, occupying the same relative positions throughout the whole formation. It is by no means an idle speculation to establish this identity, for it appears evident to me that the marvellous wealth extracted from the Californian mines at the present time simply reflects *the destiny of British Columbia hereafter*, when her mines, equally rich and more extensive in gold, silver, iron, copper, lead, and cinnabar, for quicksilver—and incomparably richer in coal—are brought under the same liberal expenditure, intelligent labour, and scientific development, an event only to be hastened when *the reality of the case* is known to the world. Therefore, to sum up, let us, from the above knowledge and the experience it gives, lay the country down. First, Vancouver's Island coal and iron, with the run of the coal basin in Frazer Valley; then the copper I have spoken about, in its several veins, and the position of those veins, after the marble in some places; then the silver, spurs of which intersect the copper lead; and, finally, the gold, which is not only to be found in leads in its proper place, but is distributed in the benches all down the Frazer River, and can only be got at by

HYDRAULIC WASHING.

The country for this embraces a vast region, and has untold riches, commencing below Hope, on the Frazer, up the Thompson and Bonaparte Rivers, to the head of the great Shuswap Lake, a distance of 250 miles, to which may be added all the country from Lytton to Quesnelle River. The Frazer Valley lies in benches from the river, one above the other, like the subsidence of a lake at different times, all of which prospect well for gold. Then we have the Quesnelle River to its forks in one direction, and to Cottonwood and Lightning Creek in another direction—at least 150 miles more. The gold has not, as we first thought, been carried down river, except in places. Look at Bridge Creek, near Lilloet. There are signs of primitive deposit in the gold scales. I am afraid to go fully

into the subject, and have not space in this paper to do so, and endeavour to show where the gold came from. It is enough to show it is there, and spread over an immense surface of country, and the hydraulic pipe will bring it out, and make Canada one of the largest gold-producing countries in the world, estimated from the fabulous amount of gold in British Columbia.

Now, let us see how it will pay. I will take as an authority a work published in San Francisco on this subject. Speaking of hydraulic mining or digging between South and Middle Yuba, it estimates the ground supplied with water by the Canal Company at five miles in length, 350 yards average width, and 40 yards average depth. These figures give a total of 123,000,000 cubic yards. Of this amount only 8 % was washed out in 12 years, the average yield as saved was 30 to 45 cents per cubic yard, hence this mass of auriferous earth would yield £7,600,000. To work dirt under this system, this work computes the cost as follows: Suppose, it says, wages are $4 per day, or 16s., it would cost per cubic yard to wash by the pan say $20, with the rocker $5, with the long tom $2.50, with sluice 75 cents, with *hydraulics by the pipe only 20 cents.* Now, before I give the results of washing dirt by this system, let me show in another way, still plainer, the infinitesmal character of its pay. My authority asserts that the great hydraulic dirt in California of which the world has heard so much during 20 years, averaged only 30 cents to the cubic yard, or a fraction over 1 cent to the cubic foot. Now, a cubic foot of loam dirt without rocks will fill an ordinary gold pan about ten times, so that every prospect a person would obtain on an average the tenth of a cent. Can anything in a business sense be more infinitesmal? Yet listen to the results. I will only give a few principal claims. Take, for instance, the Blue Grand Mining Company, in Smatsville, 18 miles from Marysville, which is known to have yielded over £120,000. Their sluice boxes are over 3,000 feet long, they are cleaned up eight or nine times a year, and from which are obtained amounts varying up to £10,000 each time. The Live Yankee diggings, at Forest City, have paid £600,0000, while, throughout the State, the less important clean up from a few hundreds to £5,000 each time. In one case, at Manzanita Hill, 510 kegs of powder were discharged to reduce the dirt to a fitting condition. Such is the spirit with which this system is adopted and carried out all through California. Suppose it were applied in British Columbia in a limited way, what a difference it would make. All up the Frazer, as I have said, especially around Lilloet, the benches and hills will pay from 3 to 20 cents to the cubic foot, and at the same time abundance of water and abundance of fall can be obtained. It is the same on the Thompson and Bonaparte Rivers, also on the Quesnelle River, to the Forks, and above them. It is the same in Carriboo; it is the same nearly everywhere in the upper country; but the people have to come, as those resident do not and will not understand its wonders. Suppose the Old Aurora at Williams' Creek was blown up like Manzanita Hill, and put under hydraulics, do you not think it would pay more than 1 cent to the pan, or 10 cents per cubic foot? It paid from 1863 to the end of 1867 in dividends about £45,000, at a cost of £20,000. Put the claim under

the new system, when three men would do the work of 14, and it would pay again as well as it did in its proudest day. The time will come, and is not far off, when the world will stand amazed at the annual yield of gold coming out of Canadian British Columbia. It would be out of place to show how easy water can be obtained, and the climate is not against us. I could easily do this, but it is unnecessary. No great difficulties would occur.

QUARTZ.

I must, before concluding gold mining, say a few words on the subject of auriferous Quartz, which can be traced from the Island Mountain at the head of Mosquito Creek, through Lowee, Stouts, Wilhams, Grouse, Chisholme Creeks and Kertleys, over Ball Mountain to Black Bean Creek on the South side of Quesnelle Lake, say a distance of 70 miles. Although these ledges are very fine in character, well developed, determined in their course and offer every evidence of being up to the standard of the California ledges, still we want cheap freight, which the Railway will give, to work them to advantage. In the early attempts in California many were ruined from expenses and dishonesty of agents, but they are now well worked under a system, and such will have to be the case in British Columbia. It is said there $6 per ton will pay, as $4 per ton will reduce the amalgam. The average yield in California is something like two millions sterling from this source. There are some 411 mills producing this, erected at a cost of £1,200,000. The business now is thoroughly understood, and the returns are large. *Our* Quartz assays large, and we have plenty of it.

SILVER.

Only a few claims are being taken up—a few at or near Hope, or the Frazer, say the Eureka, Van Braemer, and others; but works are at a standstill. At Omenica three or four claims are taken up; one a ledge of 15 feet wide, and it assays 72 ounces to the ton. There is also a rich claim near the Columbia River, which assays large, not taken up. This industry is in its infancy.

GENERAL RESOURCES.

Before mentioning the Coal and Iron on Vancouver's Island, I must, in order to make this paper complete, speak of our other resources in the Mainland, and the prospect there is for settlement and making comfortable and prosperous Homes. You will not fail to observe, our country was built first up on its mineral wealth, and according to the ebbs and floods of our population to San Francisco, so we prospered. There was excessive over-trading, associated with an extravagant value of real estate in Victoria. Confederation with Canada became a necessity, in order to settle the Province, and to assist us in the responsibilities of the indebtedness incurred for the majestic edifice we had created in our roads, which were necessary for access to our mines. Since confederation with the Dominion, confidence is restored, and we find the proper men coming to us to settle on our

which I now wish to speak about. It was once maintained that California, except to a limited extent, could never become an agricultural country. Industry and enterprise, induced from the same cause working now upon our people—namely, the necessity of productive labour for the means of subsistence—have proved the fallacy of such a doctrine beyond controversy, for to day California excels the world in her annual exports of cereals.

It is not necessary to prove the position I take, that British Columbia is, in the strict sense of the word, an agricultural country, or that she will largely participate in the exportation of grain for the world's use. In speaking of the Mainland, to which my remarks will be nearly solely confined, I can safely assert—first, that we have, like California, a vastly greater amount of good agricultural land than we have credit given for. Secondly, these lands will support an enormous resident population, without the aid of Oregon or California. Lastly, that there is now no country on the Pacific coast, or perhaps in the world, where the investment of labour and capital in agriculture pays so well as in British Columbia. In reference to the first position, I may mention the valley of the Lower Frazer, from the junction of the river with the Gulf of Georgia to the district of Hope, a distance of 100 miles, and containing at least 900 square miles altogether, or about 800,000 to 900,000 acres, for the most part, where not timbered, arable land, the most fertile belt in the country, and in many places equal to the celebrated valleys of Sacramento, San Jose, and Santa Clara, in California, or the Williamette, in Oregon. New Westminster lies 16 miles up the river ; and until after confederation we had only 6,000 acres in cultivation up to that place, but since then, most of it has been either pre-empted or bought from Government, until the reserve was put on for railway lands. Cattle can feed on this land the whole year, and become enormously fat. However, four years back, we had only 400 head on this lower portion. Near the mouth of the river the productive capacity was tested by Mr. W. Ladner, on his place, and found to be immense, wheat to the extent tried yielding as high as 60 bushels to the acre ; cauliflowers he sent up to the agricultnral show at New Westminster weighed as high as 26lbs., cabbages 41lbs., mangel wurzel 36lbs., carrots 9½lbs., turnips 36lbs., squash 76lbs. Flax grew well, also hops, which averaged 2,500lbs. to the acre, spread over the house, and the quality seemed excellent. The land is also suited for barley, oats, and rye, and will grow about three tons of hay to the acre, all without manure. The lowest portion of this land would require to be levéed, or dyked, about three feet high, but that is not expensive. Above New Westminster, for about 60 miles, including the settlements of Pitt River, Keitsey, Matsqui, Langley, Sumass, and Harrison River, there are about 25,000 acres in occupation of resident settlers, with about 1,500 head of cattle, which has been proved by a succession of crops to yield 35 bushels wheat to the acre, with other things in proportion. There are also several parcels in speculators' hands for purchase, but I have not the record of their holdings. From this section of country we are supplied in New

Westminster with butter, cheese, eggs, &c. Hence to Hope, including the head of the valley, there are 4,000 acres in cultivation, with 400 head of cattle, the capacity of which may be stated as averaging about 35 bushels wheat to the acre. While speaking of this section, I must not omit to mention that fruits of every description grow most luxuriantly, especially apples, pears, cherries, plums, and strawberries, which for size and flavour cannot be excelled by the world. I will leave yourselves to judge of the remuneration of farming on the Mainland when I give the current prices of agricultural produce :—Beef on foot 6 to 8 cents per lb., pork 10 cents, wheat 2 cents per lb., oats 1½ cents, barley 1¼ cents, potatoes 1 cent, cabbages 1 cent, onions 8 cents, apples 4 cents, milk 50 cents per gallon, butter 37½ to 50 cents per lb., cheese 20 to 25 cents per lb., cherries and strawberries 25 cents per lb., eggs 37½ cents per doz., hay $16, or £3 4s. per ton (the cent is the same value as a halfpenny). Now, if the whole of this magnificent valley was brought into thorough cultivation, it alone would supply a population of 300,000 souls with the principal necessaries of life—beef, flour, fruit, and vegetables. Incidentally I may state there are some coal deposits and outside croppings at Sumass. I should mention that my average yield of grain is lower than given by some others in their works and publications, but we are both correct. They give the average yield of choice locations, which a few years back formed the only land under cultivation. I, on the contrary, give the average yield of all the land, without distinction, except timber land, as proved by the present more general experience; and I think it will be conceded that 35 bushels to the acre is no bad average for wheat, and others in proportion. I now proceed to the valley of the Upper Frazer. From Yale to Lytton, following the progress of agriculture by the same route it followed in the natural course of events, viz., the footsteps of the early pioneers in search of gold, there is nothing to be said, as the road intersects the iron-bound and barren barrier of the Cascade Mountains; but from Lytton to Soda Creek, a distance of 215 miles, there is much to attract the attention of those interested in the advancement of the colony. If we follow the Frazer up from Lytton to Lilloet, (the garden of the upper valley, where grapes and water-melons mature in the open air), along the banks of the river to Soda Creek; or from Lytton by the main waggon road through the interior to Soda Creek, touching at the settlements of Thompson's River, Cornwall's Cache Creek, Clinton, Williams' Lake, and Lake la Hoche, we find a large amount of land in occupation for agricultural and grazing purposes, probably 100,000 acres or more, of which at least 30,000 are under cultivation in farms ranging from 50 to 1,500 acres. The yield of this land, with a certain amount of irrigation required throughout the Upper Frazer, as in many parts of California, has been found, so far, to average from 25 to 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, none of the soil requiring manure, while vegetables of every kind grow to an enormous size, and at the same time retain their quality. Throughout this range of country there are still millions of acres of good land to be taken up, under pre-emption or purchase, as our population increases. It is gratifying to mark, as an index of the colony's progress, that the principal supplies of life for the Carriboo miners are now

drawn from the Upper Frazer, Flour and beans in Carriboo sell at 12½ to 15 cents per lb., beef 9 cents per lb. on foot, which formerly were imported from Oregon at three times that cost to the consumer. I must now turn to another section, for without a brief description of it you could not comprehend the vastness and resources of the whole country—I mean the Southern Gold Fields on the Columbia River, some 300 miles East from the country already described, called Kourtenay, Osoyas, and Big Bend. To reach this section there are two routes—one from Hope, on the Lower Frazer, through the Similkameen and Okanagan Valleys, and the other from Cache Creek on the upper Frazer through the Kamloops and Shuswap Valleys. Through these valleys at present only the choice spots are under cultivation, being used chiefly for stock raising. After the Cascade Mountains are crossed, the configuration and character of the country changes, stretching out into endless valleys, in which the celebrated bunch grass grows, so rich and succulent in nature that for cattle grazing Americans admit they have no equal to it in the Atlantic States, Mexico, or Lower California. At present our herds in these valleys amount to about 20,000 head of horned cattle, and about 10,000 sheep, while they are capable of maintaining a million. The fattening quality of these pastures is so great that it is quite common to find a yearling steer reaching the weight of 500 lbs., while out of a drove of beef cattle of 600 head starting for Carriboo, wagers have been made that 450 could be chosen from the lot averaging 750 lbs. each. These figures may appear marvellous, but I assure you they have become traditional in our history, and will be authenticated by every person familiar with that history.

To these valleys must be added the Chilcoaten Plains, of great extent and equally suited for stock raising, stretching from the West side of the Frazer River to the coast range of the Pacific. There is also the great Peace River country, which the late Sir James Douglas, our first Governor, thought so much of. This lies in the same direction, and I see by the newspapers that our British Columbia Government have just agreed to let the Dominion Government have three and a half million acres of land there, receiving as compensation for Railway delays $750,000, which the press state is proposed to be spent in Vancouver's Island. Part of it would do great good to the Mainland if it connected New Westminster (where so much of the people's money has been spent in improvements,) with the Canadian Pacific line of railway.

To induce a greater occupation of these lands, our Government have adopted an extremely wise regulation. According to the Land law passed in the time of the first administration after confederation (the McCreight Ministry), all British Colonists have the privilege of pre-empting 160 acres on the West side of the Cascade range of mountains, and 320 acres on the East side of such range, for the simple fee of two dollars, which is charged to defray the expenses of recording. Occupation is required, and time given to pay for the land. Land adjoining the pre-empting can also be purchased. To this they have added the Homestead law, which is equally liberal in its provisions, and gives protection to the Homestead to the extent of $2500; also the Married Women's Property Act, which enables a wife to hold property independent of her husband; and lastly,

the Registration of Titles Act, which enables land to be safely conveyed and gives security to mortgages, which become a first charge on the land when registered. How you want such a land law as this in Great Britain! Some of your legislators would find useful hints from our Statutes, and your merchants and steam ship owners might find their advantage in copying our stern wheel boats, which will steam up rapids or rivers with only 3 feet of water. How useful such vessels would be in the rivers of upper India and other Colonies!

I have already alluded to our climate. The Winter may be considered to commence in December and end in March. On the Upper Frazer and throughout the interior, of course, the winter is a little longer and more severe. It seldom occurs, however, that the cold is intense, or that intense cold lasts more than a few days. Our winters are natural, doing good to man and leaving no evil effects behind. On the contrary, the winters of California are often destructive to the interests of the whole State, although the agent of ruin is not cold. When wet seasons come, and rain pours down for months incessantly, cities are submerged, beautiful homes washed away, stock destroyed, and the people paralysed with despair. It is a grievous sight, that universal wreck of the interior which these wet winters in California leave behind, and the calamity so often occurs that it more than counterbalances many other advantages possessed by the Golden State of the Pacific, and makes the inhabitants turn with envy to the climatic advantages of British Columbia.

I have spoken above of our agricultural lands, and I must now mention the distance from Great Britain. When the Canadian Pacific Railway is through, the time of transit will be 16 to 20 days. Now, the settler has to go to Quebec, say 10 days, thence to San Francisco by railway 6 days, or in the emigrant's train 14 days; and up the coast to Vancouver's Island 4 days, and 1 day to New Westminster. Allowing for delays in towns, you may say about 30 days. There is also the Northern Pacific route from Duluth, on Lake Superior, to Tacoma, Puget Sound, and from thence either direct in 1 day to Vancouver's Island or New Westminster. The time by this route would be about 25 days, and as the fare from Duluth to Tacoma for 3rd class is only £10, it is much the cheapest route, with no delays, and is strongly recommended as the proper route for settlers. The Railway Company have an office in Water Street, Liverpool, where every information can be obtained. Our goods come by sea, via Cape Horn; it takes five months for them to arrive from Great Britain.

EMPLOYMENT.

You will naturally ask is there employment for a man on arrival, so as to give time to look around? I can only point to our Railway Works, on which some 25,000 men are now employed. Mr. Onderdonk, an Oregonian, has the contract from the sea board to Kamloops. No English Civil Engineer, I believe, made the attempt to compete. He has succeeded in cutting through the Cascade Range of mountains, and has every description of labour saving machinery of the newest patterns at work. Some of the compressed air machines and steam shovels, made

in Philadelphia, are most effective, and it would pay some of our Civil Engineer friends well to go over and see his appliances and the work he has done; they would then feel that they have much yet to learn, and they would see what an active mind can turn to account. The contracts are let at a high rate, but remember how British Columbia has been run down and the difficulties of the country magnified in Great Britain, by various publications, and in your newspaper press and illustrated papers. No doubt the contract will be very profitable to the contractor, but the work is well done. He now advertises for labour as follows :—

OFFICE OF THE CONTRACTORS,

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.—YALE, March 1st.

New Schedule of Wages for White Labour, on the

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY, IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Overseers	$125 ℔ month		
Rock Foremen	$3 to $4	per day	
Earth Foremen	$2 50 to $3	,,	
Bridge Foremen	$3 50 to $5	,,	
Bridge Carpenters (1st class)	$3 50	,,	
,, ,, (2nd class)	$3	,,	
Masons	$2 50 to $3 50	,,	10/- to 14/-
Stonecutters	$3 to $3 50	,,	
Blacksmiths (1st Class)	$3 50	,,	
,, (2nd class)	$3	,,	12/-
Drillers	$2 to $2 25	,,	
Labourers	$1 57 to $2	,,	8/- to 9/-
Hewers	$3 50	,,	
Choppers	$2 to $2 20	,,	

All outside labour 10 hours per day. All carpenters to furnish their own chest tools. All employés to find themselves bed, board and lodging. Boarding houses will be convenient along the line. Board $4 per week (16/-). It will not be compulsory for employés to board in the Company's houses. Wages will be paid monthly, on the 10th of each month.

A. ONDERDONK, General Manager.

TIMBER.

This interest is not yet fully developed. It is true this interest has increased since 1866, but still it is not so much as it will become when we have more population and capital. In 1866 we only exported somewhere about 600,000 feet, but from that time to 1870 we had exported 60 million feet rough and dressed lumber. The sawing capacity of the two mills at Burrard's Inlet, 12 miles from New Westminster, is 175,000 feet per day, and in the city there are three saw mills, whose capacity is upwards of 50,000 feet per day. We manufacture large quantities of shingles, laths, pickets &c., and we have exported about 3,500 spars. Wages to woodmen average £6 to £12 per month with board, and the same in the saw mills, with higher wages for a few more skilled and responsible men. So superior for general purposes is the

British Columbia lumber esteemed in the markets we export to, which are San Francisco, Australia, South America, China, and the Sandwich Islands (we are not able to send to Great Britain on account of free trade and the freights, except spars, which come to Europe for marine purposes), that in all these markets we command the highest prices, and no other lumber will be asked for while it can be obtained. Even in San Francisco, where the market has been supplied by the excellent lumber of Oregon and Washington territory, and where people are naturally prejudiced against articles of British produce from this coast, our lumber always commands, after paying a duty of $2 per thousand, an advance of $1.50 to $2 per thousand over their own lumber. Our principal timber is the Douglas pine. Many of the trees are 320 feet high, 6 feet diameter at the butt, and perhaps 210 feet from the ground before branches begin. The logs used for spars are 100 to 120 feet clear, and cannot be beaten in the world. These spars have been tested in the French shipyards by the most severe experiments, and found superior to the best Riga spars in flexibility, resistance, and density. A sample, in the shape of a flag pole 90 feet long, can be seen at Kew Gardens; also pieces cut out of a tree 5½ feet diameter, and 210 feet before branches began—the tree, I think, was 320 feet high. Our Forests also produce the White Pine in limited growth like Quebec lumber, besides the Yellow Pine, Spruce Pine, Hemlock, Oak, Maple, Alder Logwood, Arbutus, and Cotton Wood in immense growth.

SALMON CANNING.

This industry, in which the writer was engaged, has assumed proportions of great magnitude. The annual product now is about a million dollars, or £200,000, one third of which will represent labour. The hands employed are fishermen—Indians and white men. The former earn from 4s. to 7s. per day, and the latter 12s. For cleaning salmon Indian women are mostly employed, with a few Chinamen. The former can earn 3s. to 4s. per day. For soldering up and making cans, we employ Chinamen, with a few white men and boys Chinamen earn £5 to £6 per month of 28 days, each 10 hours, and 7½d. per hour overtime; white men 12s. per day; boys about £2 per month. For boiling and packing, white men at 4s. per day are employed. We improve each year in labour-saving machinery. We have several runs of salmon in the Frazer, which has a course of some 1000 miles. First our spring fish; they weigh about 16 lbs. and come from May to July; then we have the Sockeye, weighing 6 to 8lbs., (this is our best fish); the run for these commences in July and ends in August. Then we have the summer fish. With these come up large numbers of white fleshed salmon instead of pink. The flavour is as good, but they will not sell in cans. This run weighs heavy; you often see fish of 50 lbs. each. Lastly we have the the Cockoes; they weigh about 8 lbs. and run until October; so the season lasts from May to October.

I am aware that a certain prejudice exists in England against our fish, and it commands a less price than the United States fish, say from Columbia River further south. But I maintain that the quality of our fish is much superior to that of the Columbia River fish. The writer of this paper took the prize (bronze medal), at the International contest at

the Centennial Exhibition, Philadelphia, against all comers, whether from Great Britain or the United States, for the best quality of can salmon. So, then, it is only a prejudice we have to overcome in England against Canadian products—a prejudice which the writer would like to be one in overcoming, by introducing his brand again. However, to overcome this prejudice, those putting up salmon must use care. It will take time to accomplish, and depends upon the choice of the English people, who will in the end give the preference to the best article; and I think I may safely add that, on grounds of health alone, canned salmon is preferable to the fresh, now that disease is spread among the British fish. A very good account of our salmon industry is given in the Blue Book on Fish, laid before the Canadian Parliament, from the report of A. C. Anderson, Esq., the Fisheries Chief Officer in British Columbia. He mentions the different sorts of fish, with the nets and boats used to take them. We have some thirteen canneries in the neighbourhood of New Westminster, one at the Skeena, and one at Naaz River. We have, in addition to the salmon, a very delicate fish called Oulchan, the oil from which is most valuable for medicinal purposes. We have also the sardine, the herring in large shoals, cod fish, halibut, dog fish, and whale on the coast, all of which in the future will be important industries. We certainly put up a few herrings at Burrards Inlet, and turn them also into oil, but the trade is in its infancy.

COAL.

I must now leave the Mainland and come to Nanaimo, Vancouver's Island, which is the seat of the coal industry. I copy from the report of the Wellington Colliery Co. for 1876. They say: "We employ 150 white men, 90 Chinese; have 3½ miles railway and 3 locomotives; our output coal from the mines is 300 tons per day; miners' wages 12s. to 16s., labourers 8s. to 9s.; seam of coal, 9 feet thick." They shipped in 1876, 52,000 tons. The Vancouvers Coal Company wages are the same; they shipped in 1876, 75,536 tons.

IRON.

Iron in Texadu Island, between Vancouver's Island and Mainland, Gulph Georgia, exists in large quantities, but is not worked.

SALT.

Salt springs of great strength are found at Salt Spring Island, and can be used for making salt, alkali and chemicals. Lime is also found on the Islands. Stone for building of fine quality comes from the neighbourhood of Nanaimo.

In conclusion, in order to make this paper complete, and give every information about British Columbia, I must not omit to mention

EDUCATION.

This is free to all children. In the first administration after confederation, an act was passed by the Legislature called the "School Act," by which every male above 18 years old had to pay an annual school tax of $3 (12s.), and each district of settlers could form themselves, by complying with the provisions of the Act, into a School Board, and apply to Government for a sum of money towards building a School House and expenses. A master or mistress was appointed who had passed an examination, and held first, second, or third class certificates. These were paid by the Government, so the settler has all his children educated free. As a proof of the character of the education given, I may mention that in the annual examination some of the questions correctly answered by the children would puzzle many who had had a first class education in Great Britain. In fact, the character of the education given in the popular schools cannot be better, and first rate scholars are turned out. We have, in addition, a High School in Victoria, Vancouver's Island, to which students are admitted after examination.

TO CONCLUDE.

This is British Columbia, its products, and resources. I should occupy too much time if I went into full details; I have therefore given as short an account as possible. We are a Province of the Dominion of Canada, and are proud to belong to a country whose area of land is many thousand miles larger than the United States, and whose inhabitants are noted for their energy, kindness, warm heartedness and loyalty; and who are an honour to the British flag that flies over them as well as Great Britain. We saw only lately how Canadians rose as one man to present their heartfelt and respectful condolence to Her Majesty on the great loss she had sustained. It made those belonging to her, resident in other countries, proud of Canada, and her prosperous, loyal inhabitants. British Columbia has not been behind; the far west has spoken with the rest, and she considers herself specially favoured, from a Royal Princess having resided there, and won such golden opinions for the monarchy of Great Britain by her kindness and affability, assisted by that painstaking nobleman, the late Governer General of the Dominion. The Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise have together left a name behind that will not easily be forgotten, and made Great Britain respected and honoured on the Pacific Coast.

British Columbia is priceless, both to the Dominion and Great Britain, as she commands the great Pacific Ocean. The Railway, when across,—within two years it will be running—will give us the population and capital we require, and then British Columbia, by pouring forth her wealth, will fulfil her glorious destiny, and will finally refine, ennoble, and enrich the masses, and show by her prosperity and her beautiful climate that she is what I have endeavoured in a short way to describe her, *the Golden Province and Garden of the Dominion of Canada.*

ADDENDA.

I copy from an excellent work called the "Resources of British Columbia," published monthly in Victoria, Vancouver's Island, by Mr. Munroe Miller, an account of our trade exports and imports, taken from the Blue Books. The work is well worthy of perusal, and contains vast information not taken up in this paper.

ELEVEN YEARS' EXPORTS.—The following Table of the exports of British Columbia will, we think, be a surprise to many British Columbians, and at the same time show the people of other countries what vast resources are at our command, all in their infancy. The area of the province is sufficient for a mighty empire, and the marvel is that a country so richly endowed by nature should have been so long neglested.

TABLE OF EXPORTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA FROM 1872 TO 1882, INCLUSIVE.*

PRODUCE OF	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
The Mine	1,389,585	1,224,362	1,351,145	1,929,294	2,032,351	1,708,848	1,759,171	1,530,812	1,664,626	1,317,079	1,437,072
The Fisheries	37,706	43,361	114,118	133,986	71,349	105,603	423,840	633,493	317,410	400,984	1,014,210
The Forest	214,377	211,026	260,116	292,468	273,430	286,442	327,360	273,366	258,804	162,747	362,871
Animals and their Produce	214,700	259,292	330,625	411,810	329,307	240,893	257,314	268,671	339,218	350,474	300,529
Agricultural Products	142	2,885	5,296	9,727	3,080	3,083	462	2,505	3,843	248	946
Manufactures	1,540	1,197	443	.. .. ..	38	1,500	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	100	22	241
Miscellaneous	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. ..	3,453	600	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	2,250
Total	$1,858,050	1,742.123	2,061,743	2,777,285	2,714,682	2,346,969	2,768,147	2,708,847	2,584,001	2,231,554	3,118,119

* Year ending June 30.

OUR IMPORTS.—We show, in the accompanying Table, some of the different countries we patronise and the extent of our purchases. The totals for the different years are not small when we consider our population, but the grand time for British Columbia will be when the figures become greatly reduced through the agency of small factories established in our midst.

ABSTRACT VALUE OF GOODS ENTERED FOR CONSUMPTION, FROM 1872 TO 1882, INCLUSIVE.*

COUNTRIES WHENCE BROUGHT.	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
Eastern Canada	$ 22,215	$ 75,604	$ 66,104	$ 117,054	$ 129,735	$ 163,142	$ 144,754	$ 184,951	$ 208,072	$ 387,111	$ 449,768
Great Britain	592,845	720,757	733,508	894,323	1,188,642	712.985	605,157	724,062	470,697	706,126	759,603
United States	1,099,959	1,280,670	1,228,497	1,526,056	1,669,912	1,355,696	1,542,620	1,448,677	1,194,582	1,614,439	1,846,939
France	4,430	2.579	224	2,249	292	72	80	.. .. ..	.. .. .	1,919	7,754
Germany	.. .. ..	158	158	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	1,340
Belgium	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	38
China	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	6,164	1,277	5,481	19,993	81,345	121,976	44,936	127,852	240,170
Japan	.. .. ..	34	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	783	1,045	180	62
Spanish West Indies	1,553	6,818	11,012	18,831	24,163	19,403	15,000	14,863	850	4,396	4,697
Spain	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	552	9,083	614	300
Chili	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	1,945
Australia, New South Wales, &c.	1,103	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	1,243	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	990
Sandwich Islands	67,178	65,460	68,733	47,857	53,972	54,605	2,059	2,605	736	2,180	4,697
Central America	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	2,886	5,648	8,919
Switzerland	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	375	600	368
Navigator Islands	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. .	.. .. ..	181
Spanish Possessions in Pacific	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. . ..	.. .. ..	3,821
Turkey in Asia	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	136
Mexico	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	222	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	135
South America	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	1,270	3,817	15,212	3,936	. .. ..	3,803	.. .. ..
Duty collected, no det. return recd.	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. .. ..	14,600	.. .. ..	11,426	.. .. ..	.. .. ..
Total	1,789,283	2,152,080	2,114,440	2,607,647	3,074,710	2,329,935	2,420,827	2,502,405	1,944,688	2,854,868	3,331,863

* Year ending June 30, 1882.

DESIRABLE INVESTMENT.

FOR SALE,

THE UNDERNEATH VALUABLE PROPERTY,

SITUATED AT

NEW WESTMINSTER,

Will be sold in separate lots, by tender, if near the valuation of the undersigned, say on

COLUMBIA STREET.—Stone Building, containing 3 stores, lately occupied by Bank of British Columbia. and J. McColl; also Shop at side on ½-lot 5, block 5, 66 feet fronting Columbia Street, and about 66 feet deep. Rental £210; price asked, £2,500.

COLUMBIA STREET.—½-lot 1, block 13, not occupied, near the Parsonage, 33 feet fronting Columbia Street, and 132 feet deep.

MARY STREET.—Lots 12 and 13, containing two acres, with good dwelling-house hard finished, which was put up at a cost of 1,500 dols. Price asked, £700.

FALSE CREEK ROAD.—Lot 24, Country Land, containing about 260 acres, on the road to Granville, Burrard Inlet. and will be near the supposed terminus of the railway. Price asked, about £4 per acre.

As a demand has arisen for land and property in the neighbourhood of the railway, the owner of the above property is desirous of selling the same, in one or separate lots. All the above is Freehold. All titles are registered with the Registrar-General, and when so registered cannot be disputed. Nothing can be more secure. Tenders wanted.

For further particulars apply to

MESSRS. DRAKE & JACKSON,

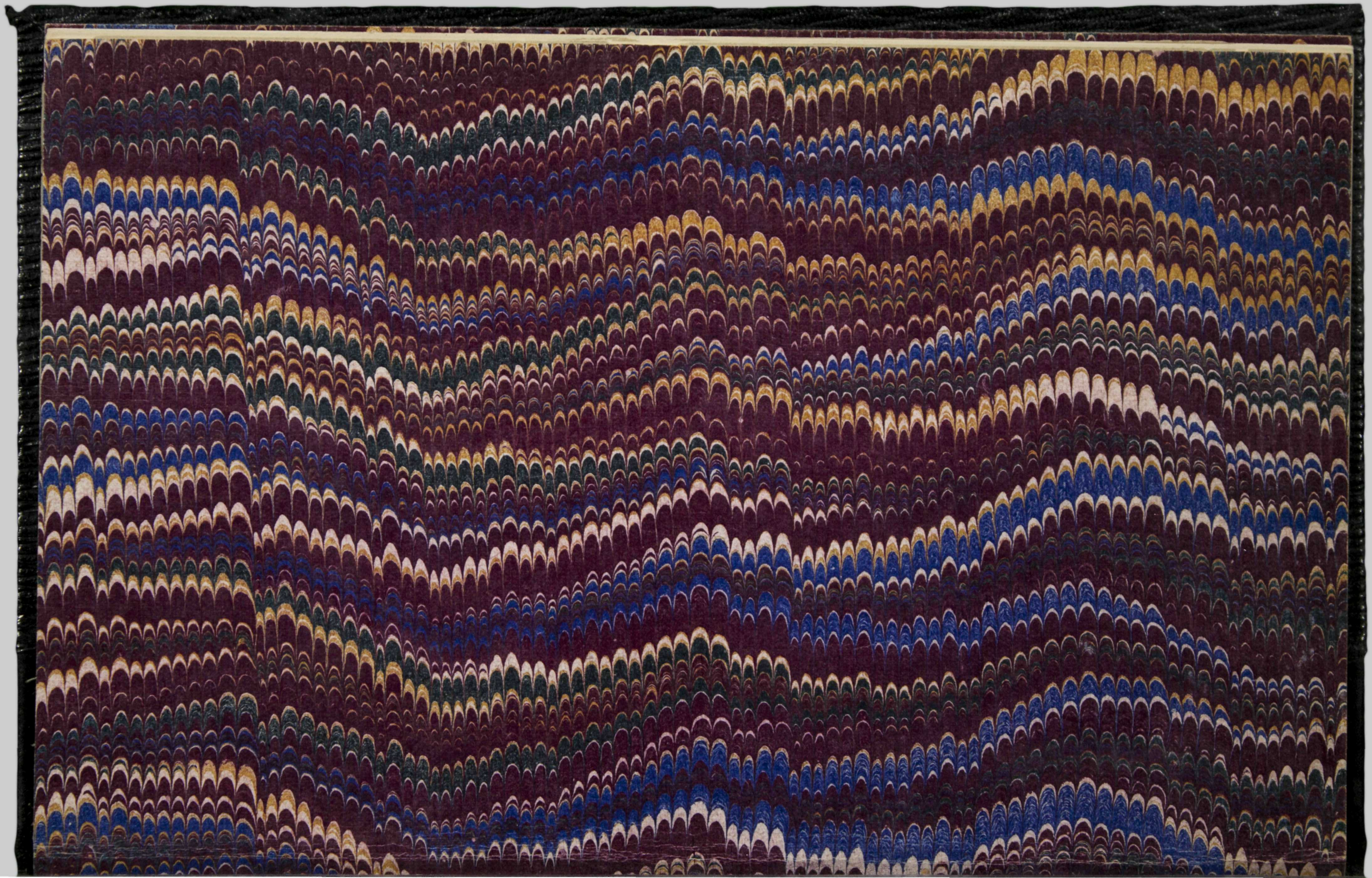
Barristers, Victoria, British Columbia;

Or to

H. HOLBROOK,

Parkgate, near Chester, England.

May, 1884.



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