1885

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF

IMMIGRATION AGENTS

BRITISH COLUMBIA

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER,

1884.

VICTORIA: Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, Government Printer,
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REPORTS

OF

IMMIGRATION AGENTS

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

FOR THE

YEAR 1884.

To the Honourable CLEMENT FRANCIS CORNWALL,

Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The undersigned has the honour to present the Second Annual Reports of the Immigration Agents, British Columbia, for the year 1884.

JNO. ROBSON,

Minister of Agriculture.

Victoria, 23*rd January*, 1885.

REPORT.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT IMMIGRATION OFFICE,
NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., 10th December, 1884.

SIR:

I have the honour to submit the following report, with tabular statements annexed, for the period of eleven months, ending November the 30th, 1884.

The total number arriving at this agency during the above period was 2,697 souls. There were, as is always the case, a large number of arrivals on the mainland who entered without coming under my notice; and this is more especially the case with those possessed of considerable means. A great number also find their way through the many channels of communication from the American side, and I have no doubt that fully 50 per cent. more than those reported enter in these ways.

The immigrants arrived in good health and are generally well fitted for settlers, the greater portion of them being farmers and mechanics, and as a general rule just the class adapted for a new country, strong active men and women. It is a truisim that only the most energetic and self-reliant men have pluck enough to leave their homes and seek to better their condition in an unknown and distant land. The very fact that they have the courage to face the trials and difficulties necessary to be encountered in a new land is sufficient evidence of their strength of character, and to such we should give all the inducements and encouragement possible.

By the able assistance of the local Agents, there has been no difficulty in locating immigrants on arrival, and those in quest of labor obtained ready employment at good wages on the Canadian Pacific Railway and Provincial public works at present under construction.

It will be seen from the accompanying tabulated statement, that the immigration for 1884 came from the mother country, the Eastern Provinces of the Dominion (Ontario standing at the head of the list with 542) and from the Western States of America--Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Washington Territory. This influx in a large measure is due to the efforts made by the Department of Agriculture, in having the wealth and resources of the Province made better known abroad—no effort has been spared in sending pamphlets and hand-books all over Europe, America and Australia, thus spreading the knowledge of the fertility and the many other natural advantages enjoyed by this favoured Province.

The efforts which American transportation companies are making to advertise the lands through which their roads run should be an incentive to our own Government not to spare any expense in spreading abroad a true and thorough account of the fertile country to which we invite immigration.

I would here suggest the vital importance of old settlers welcoming immigrants on their arrival and helping them in every way possible. A great deal depends upon the first impression which the new comer receives of his location and surroundings, and the treatment from those who are to be his future neighbours. In Manitoba, Minnesota and Dakota, those who have already secured a home are always anxious to help beginners. They show them the best locations, help to build their houses, to break and clear land, to sow the seed, and in a hundred ways aid the new settler. These new settlers will then become active immmigration agents themselves. They will write to old friends and induce them to come out and settle along side of them. It would be well if our own settlers would imitate this example.

The fertile valleys of Kamloops, Nicola, Spallumcheen, Similkameen, Kootenay, and Okanagan are rapidly settling up. Railway construction and Provincial public works are creating a boom of prosperity such as has not been known since the golden days of '62.

Another and very important move is the active measures taken by the Government in opening roads for the settlers, thus affording ready means to reach a market with their produce. Nothing so much encourages the American immigrant as our liberal system of road-making.

The present road policy should be continued as long as the resources of the country will permit. The increase of settlers in this District is so rapid that new claims for roads are constantly springing up in quarters where they were not looked for.

The accommpanying map not only shows the roads constructed, but it shows as well the quarter sections taken up during the present year, amounting to 1,086 claims, or 173,761 acres of land. This must of necessity involve large additional expenditure for new roads.

The Chilliwhack Exhibition, held in October last, was largely attended, and the exhibits showed a marked improvement on previous ones. The samples of grain, fruit and dairy produce, were the best ever exhibited here.

I am also pleased to state that during the past eleven months, 105 have taken the aliens' declaration oath—seventy-seven of this number being Americans—a superior class of settlers and bringing with them considerable means.

The final location of the Canadian Pacific Railway terminus, will involve a large expenditure of money in the construction of works and buildings required to accommodate the traffic on the completion of the railway from ocean to ocean, in November, 1885, affording employment to hundreds of artizans and laborers.

The immigration we have received this year, in consequence of the efforts to make known the advantages of the Province, is only an earnest of what may be expected in coming years, and this is foreshadowed by the great number of letters received at this agency by every mail from almost all quarters of the globe.

It is desirable for all intending emigrants to leave early in the spring, for by so doing they will be able to take advantage of the most favourable season to explore for locations.

During the past year there has been a great improvement throughout the mainland, in all branches of business. Real estate has advanced both in city and country, far beyond the expectations of the most sanguine, and there has been developed a general feeling of confidence and activity in all branches of industry. New manufactories have been established, and old ones enlarged; new houses have been started in various branches of trade, to meet the growing demands; and failures have been very few.

In this city, more buildings have been erected than in any previous year, and still the population is so rapidly increasing that there is not an empty house or room in the city. A great many of the new comers are purchasing property and building very comfortable houses.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servent,
WILLIAM ROSS,

To the Hon. John Robson, Minister of Agriculture,
Victoria B. C.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.,
13th January, 1884.

SIR:

I have the honour to forward statement C showing the actual locations or quarter sections taken up by each individual settler in this District during the year 1884.

And since closing my Report on the 30th November, for the year 1884, I beg to report that up to date, not less than sixty-two have registered at this office, and nearly all have located on land.

A Mr. McDonald and family arrived the other day per steamer "Idaho," from Canada, and has, *en route* per Northern Pacific Railway, several car loads of live stock, machinery and farming implements. He has purchased two very fine farms in this District, one for himself and one for his son. Mr. McDonald is a gentleman

possessed of considerable means, and he informs me that several friends are to follow him as soon as spring opens up. Mr. McDonald was here last spring, and made a careful examination of all lands on the Lower Fraser, and the result is that he is back with us, and many will follow him.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM ROSS.

To the Hon. John Robson, Minister of Agriculture, Victoria, B. C.

A

RETURN shewing number, occupation, sex, etc., of immigrants recorded at the Provincial Immigration Office, New Westminster, during the eleven months ending November 30th, 1884, and their ultimate destination.

Sexes.				Nationalities.													Trades and Occupations					General Destination.																			
Males.	Females.	Children.	Total Number of Souls.	England.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Ontario.	Quebec.	Nova Scotia.	Prince Edward's Island.	Manitoba.	New Brunswick.	United States.	Germany.	Norway and Sweden.	France.	Other Countries.	Farmers.	Farm Servants.	Mechanics.	Clerks, Traders, etc.	Female Servants.	Delta—New Westminster Dis.	Surrey, do	Langley, do	Matsqui, do	Sumass—Chilliwhack Dis't.	Richmond, do	Burrard Inlet & North Arm do	Maple Ridge, New West. Dis.	Mission & River Settlem'ts, do	Douglas, New Westm'tr Dis't	Spallumcheon, Yale District.	Kamloops, do	New Westminster City.	Destination Unknown.	Value of Settlers' Effects.
1751	676	270	2697	207	176	66	542	49	142	33	37	31	152	25	14	26	64	1020	54	34	3	15	89	132	184	51	71	11	42	112	791	13	75	25	21	80	3090

B

ALIENS WHO HAVE TAKEN THE DECLARATION OATH.

United States	77
Germany	10
Denmark	1
Sweden	5
France	—
Italy	5
Norway	4
Holland	—
Austria	2
China	1
Total	105

C

STATEMENT showing the actual number of locations taken up and settled upon in the several Townships, Groups, Blocks and Ranges and unsurveyed lands in the New Westminster District.

	No. of ¼ Sections.
Township 1	32
" 2	38
" 3	5
" 4	27
" 5	3
" 6	2
" 7	67
" 8	39
" 9	48
" 10	40
" 11	18
" 12	32
" 13	63
" 14	15
" 15	26
" 16	37
" 17	42
" 18	49
" 19	37
" 23	8
" 26	22
" 27	10
" 40	16
" 41	19
" 42	17
Group 1	38
" 2	20
Blocks and Ranges	55
Unsurveyed Lands	261
Total	1086=173,760 acres

WILLIAM ROSS,
Immigration Agent, New Westminster, B. C.

LANGLEY PRAIRIE, 19th November, 1884.

Hon. John Robson,
Provincial Secretary.

SIR,—As Immigration Agent for the Municipality of Langley and adjoining districts, I beg to report that no less than eighty settlers have taken up quarter sections of land in this and the adjacent townships during the past year. These persons have all made more or less improvements, and appear to be well satisfied with their locations. I may also state that there is plenty of land in this vicinity fit for settlement and still unoccupied.

I have, etc.,

W. H. VANETTA.

VICTORIA, December 31st, 1884.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith my report as Immigrant Guide for Vancouver Island since May 1st, eight months.

During the month of April I accompanied two parties to Salt Spring, Hornby and Denman Islands. Some of those men afterwards settled in Alberni.

May 1st, COWICHAN.—Party consisting of E. Dawson, J. Hunter and H. Calwell. None of those, however, located.

May 14th, " A. A. Brownell, J. and A. Camp, J. Camp, sen'r, H. O. Wellburn, J. Nicholson, D. Christie, A. Brant, J. A. Lawrence. These took up locations.

May 20th, " H. and D. Farnworth, R. Guest, J. Black, James Black, A. Young, R. D. Wilson and P. Henderson. Five selected pre-emption claims.

May 28th, NANAIMO.—J. F. Bott, J. C. McLaren, J. McKenow, A. S. Lackie, D. Sunderland and C. Bott. Five located on Englishman's River and French Creek.

During the month nine other settlers, not belonging to the above parties, located in Cowichan District, and two above Nanaimo.

June 5th, COWICHAN.—J. Knox, —Dunning, J. Bitton, H. Ratfish and S. Holmes. None of those located.

June 13th, " S. Holmes. Located.

June 20th, " T. Kenon, J. McFarlane and A. Christie. None selected claims.

July 2nd, ALBERNI.—S. Beddis and R. Purdy. Neither took up land.

July 18th, " Kenneth McKenzie, who settled on the Sumas River with a large family.

August 4th, " W. Sterling and F. Pierce. Both took up claims.

August 26th, " H. O. Troup, — Pike and H. C. Halpenny. No pre-emptions.

September 12th, SALMON RIVER.—Morgan and Poat. No locations selected.

October 1st, ALBERNI.—T. Lewis, J. Hurlbert, B. McPherson. All located.

October 22nd, " H. McKenzie, N. Quigley and P. Cummerford. All selected claims.

December 1st, " A. Munroe, G. Boyle and G. Curtis. No pre-emptions.

Nine other settlers also located in Alberni during the fall.

Not counting the number of miles of walking in actual search of land, I have travelled, by steamer, 2,117 miles ; by land, 519, and by canoe, 181. Total, 2,817.

I beg to state that a special report on the capabilities of Salmon River District has been forwarded to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

In conclusion, I may just remark that there is a great deal of land yet available in all of the above mentioned districts, as well as in other parts of Vancouver and adjacent islands.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Yours obediently,
WM. M. HALPENNY,
Government Immigrant Guide.

To the Honourable
The Minister of Agriculture.

The following Report on Salmon River is herewith published as being of interest to intending settlers.

VICTORIA, B. C., 19th January, 1885.

To the Hon. Wm. Smithe,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works:

SIR:—I beg to submit a report on Salmon River, Vancouver Island. I left Victoria the 12th September last on board the steamer "Barbara Boscowitz," and arrived at the mouth of the river at noon on the 15th.

There were two gentlemen on board, in search of farming land, who had brought a small boat from Victoria. In this we proceeded up the river for a distance of about four miles, when we had to abandon the boat and get a canoe, the river becoming shallow with many swift rapids. On the second day, at noon, after much hard work, we had made about eight miles from the mouth, and here we camped. At this point the valley seemed to be quite wide, I should say from five to six miles in breadth, level, and most of it not too heavily timbered. On the left hand side going up stream, the valley is divided into two parts by a ridge of rock over 1,000 feet high, which comes out in a bold bluff to the bank of the river, and continues for about a mile. From where it commences on the lower side of this ridge, there is a fertile valley about five by four miles in extent. We travelled for one day in this valley, and found it very suitable for farming, though rather heavily timbered with alder, crab-apple and quite a number of other small bushes and shrubs, and with a solitary fir tree here and there.

About three miles of a wagon road up from the mouth on the left hand side would open the way quite into this valley, but not so far as the ridge above mentioned, which is about seven and a half miles from the mouth.

On the right hand side of the river going up, there is quite a flat valley for about seven or eight miles; the upper five miles is very heavily timbered with fir and spruce, and shows marks of having been taken up by some lumbermen. Above the mile of bluff, a larger valley comes in sight, it must be from ten to twelve miles in length up the river, and will average four and a half in width. This valley is not over heavily timbered, and has a rich, heavy black soil, but I feel confident that under the present conditions, it could not be successfully cultivated, from the fact that the river is so much diverted from its natural channel by large piles of drift-wood which seem to have been accumulating for ages. Nearly the whole water in the river is turned off over this upper valley, and I should say that over two-thirds of it is submerged during the period of freshet. On the right hand side, for the same distance up, the valley is not so wide nor so level, and is more heavily timbered with fir and spruce.

To myself and others it seems quite obvious that if these jams of timber were cut out, the large upper left hand valley, and quite a number of thousands of acres on the other side of the river would be reclaimed. If the river were cleared of logs, at a probable cost of about $1,500, and about $2,000 spent on a road and landing at its mouth, I am of opinion that immigrants might, with confidence, be invited to settle in the valley of the Salmon River.

Your obedient servant,
WM. M. HALPENNY,
Government Guide.

The Report of the Dominion Immigration Agent at Victoria, to the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, is herewith appended as being of much interest, and containing valuable statistical information respecting the Province.

REPORT

IMMIGRATION OFFICE, VICTORIA, B. C.
24th December, 1884.

SIR:

I have the honour of submitting herewith, the Annual Report of this Agency for the year 1884.

OFFICE WORK.

During the year nearly closed, the calls of new arrivals seeking information with regard to land in various parts of the Province, or inquiring about work and other matters, averaged eighty-five per month; the maximum number in May being 188, and the minimum, in Sepember, 44. A majority of those were from the Eastern Provinces, but the States and United Kingdom were pretty largely represented. Several were from Germany, with a few Scandinavians, Greeks, and Italians. A large number of these callers were farmers or farm labourers inquiring for land; the ratio of mechanics being smaller than in 1883. The correspondence is a heavy item of work. Letters, inward and outward, are, as a matter of course, about equal—something over 800 each way. Communications arrive from nearly all parts of northern Europe, United Kingdom, South Africa, Eastern Provinces and United States, Australia and New Zealand, West Indies, Hong Kong and Japan. Nearly all are inquiries about the country and its prospects in many lines of life. More than 1,200 parcels of printed matter have been dispatched through the Post Office, to different parts of the world. About two-thirds of these parcels were accompanied by letters containing answers to special questions not dealt with in pamphlets and papers.

After the edition of local Handbook of 1883 (5,000 copies), was exhausted, a smaller and more concise one was issued from the Local Government Printing Office. Out of this edition of 6,000, over 4,000 have been distributed to Agents, and parties writing direct for information Five thousand copies of a Portland, Oregon, illustrated monthly, called *West Shore*, and devoted exclusively to British Columbia, were purchased by the Local Government for distribution abroad among those seeking information about the Province—of these, 2,000 are still on hand. Nearly a thousand copies of Kootenay Report were also sent out, together with some hundreds of Dominion pamphlets and other papers.

With but few exceptions, the daily mail steamer connecting the Northern Pacific Railroad with this city has been met on landing, and immigrants' families and others, supplied with such advice and instruction as they required. The Immigrant Home, also, has been visited at least once a week.

The office has not been so much of a Labour Exchange during the year as it was in 1883, in consequence of labour being more easily obtained, so that employers were at no loss for hands. Unfortunately there were but few avenues of employment open till the Island Railroad was commenced in the fall; and numbers of men were thus disappointed in their expectations during the spring and summer months. Many of these called, over and over again, seeking work, and though willing to take Chinaman's wages, at almost any kind of labour these undesirable people are doing, yet they found it impossible to obtain employment.

IMMIGRATION.

Early in the year immigration to B. C. received considerable impetus by the perfecting of arrangements for transit on the then newly opened N. P. Railway, and

the running of a daily steamer from Tacoma, the Sound terminus, to this city. During the spring months, from 50 to 100 persons over and above transient travellers arrived here weekly. This number was increased in April and May to between 200 and 300 per week. A majority of the new arrivals in these months were labouring men with a good sprinkling of mechanics who were led to believe that employment would be plentiful in early summer, on the Esquimalt Graving Dock, and the Island Railway. Unfortunately the dock remained in *statu quo* all the year, and the railway was not commenced till September. In consequence of these public works not being ready to take on men, a large number of these possessing more or less means went away anathematizing the Province generally, and declaring that it was "Chinese and not British Columbia." These men, I have no doubt, after their return home, deterred many of their friends and acquaintances from coming to this coast. Many of them, could they have been kept in the Province, would have made good settlers, as they belonged to the better class of farm and other labourers. They came with the view of obtaining land, after spending a season or two on public works; and, as a matter of course, had circumstances been more favorable, would have proved a valuable addition to our agricultural population With this drawback, however, a steady flow of immigrants, in the main well suited to the wants of the Province, continued through the summer and autumn months; and with some diminution in numbers till the close of the year.

One noticeable feature among the new arrivals during the past three or four months is the numerous families from the Eastern Provinces and old country, *en route* to various parts of the Province where homes had been provided for their reception by the head or some other member of each household.

The tourist element to this city and various points of interest within easy reach, increases from season to season. A trip to Portland and the Sound over the N. P. Railway, is not considered complete without including Victoria, which, with a daily steamer, is looked upon as the actual terminus of that important trans-continental line.

PASSENGERS ARRIVING IN PORT OF VICTORIA, B. C., FROM JAN. 1ST TO DEC. 21ST, 1884.

Puget Sound, whites	13,110—	Chinese	1,297
San Francisco and Portland	3,084—	"	1,157
Chinese Ports and Hong Kong		"	729
	16,194		3,183

Total whites and Chinese, 19,377. Direct arrivals at New Westminster and Nanaimo will make the grand total fully 20,600.

Steamers "Starr" and "Anderson" passengers from Puget Sound 3,770, 15 per cent of whom may be taken as immigrants	566
Mail line, 9,340, 40 per cent	3,736
San Francisco, 3,084, 40 per cent	1,234
Total immigrants approximate	5,536

It may safely be presumed that 1,000 immigrants came in by way of New Westminster, Nanaimo, Kootenay and across the gap in the C. P. Railway on the Selkirk Mountains, to the interior and down to the coast. In the months of September, October and early in November, severel of these "overlanders" reported themselves at this office and stated that a number of men had distributed themselves through the country East of the Cascades.

Of those, as near as can be ascertained, nearly 10 per cent., or about 500, left during the spring and early summer months, on account of not being able to get employment on public works, thus leaving 6,000 approximately as the increase to white population from 1st January to 21st December, 1884.

Additions to the Chinese population number more than half as many, as several Chinese from San Francisco were reported as steerage passengers and counted with

the whites, during the first part of the year. Nearly 200 of these people left this city a few days ago on the S. S. "Sardonyx" for Hong Kong. A few of them may return, but a large majority went home to reside permanently.

It will be observed that nothing has been said with regard to the several thousand C. P. Railway men who have come into B. C. from the East and are now working on the line west of the Rockies. Many of these will, no doubt, become settlers in this Province after railway works are completed. Indeed it is well known that some have already done so, but as the number cannot be ascertained at present, no attempt has been made to enumerate them. With this element added, the immigration of 1884 is considerably in excess of that of 1883.

The following are the number of settlers who have passed their effects at the Custom House in this city from January 1st to December 21st, 1884.

WHERE FROM.	MALES (ADULT).	FEMALES, (ADULTS.)	CHILDREN.	EFFECTS VALUED AT
England	51	42	27	$21,776 00
United States	174	164	221	31,693 00
Eastern Provinces	72	52	87	32,085 00
Other Places	5	4	7	5,450 00
	302	262	342	$91,004 00

Fifty-nine bonus certificates of $10 each have been presented and paid to immigrants over 16 years of age, from the mother country, during the year.

* * * * * *

AGRICULTURE.

During the summer and autumn of 1883 an effort was made under instructions from the Minister of Agriculture for the Province, to collect statistics as to the condition of agriculture with a view of ascertaining the number of *bona fide* farmers and stock raisers, and constituting a basis from which further progress might be deduced. The result of this appeal for valuable information was so meagre, only about two per cent. of farmers and stockmen responding to the call, that the project, for the time being, had to be abandoned. Should it be considered advisable, I would make another attempt next summer, under instructions from the Department of Agriculture for the Dominion, to furnish statistical information on this all-important branch of industry.

That the Province has made substantial progress in this direction, is apparent in every part of it. In New Westminster District alone, nearly 1,100 new settlers have selected locations since the Settlement Act became law, and most of these are busily engaged improving their holdings. Various sections of Vancouver Island have also received many accessions to the farming population. A few years ago the importation of farming implements and machinery was almost *nil*. In Victoria alone, for eleven months of the year just expiring, it has amounted to $48,088.

The following table shows the annual increase of the imports since 1882 :

	1882.		1883.		1884.	
	Value.	Duties.	Value.	Duties.	Value.	Duties.
United States	$23,192 00	$6,656 67	$30,230 00	$9,081 95	$18,614 00	$5,842 90
Canada	18,461 00		25,881 00		29,474 00	
	$41,653 00		$56,111 00		$48,088 00	

The above exhibit for 1884 only shows the imports entered in this Custom House for eleven months. As New Westminster and Nanaimo are now independent ports

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women, the latter with six or seven exceptions, being wives of the former. The certificates were distributed among the old country agencis as follows: London, thirteen men, and ten women; Liverpool, twelve and nine respectively; Glasgow, seven and six respectively; Belfast, one male, and Bristol one female. In one instance, duplicate certificates were presented, one from London and the other from Bristol; the London certificate was paid. Only two of the six or seven unmarried women went out as domestic servants. The holders of six certificates issued to men from the High Commissioners Office in London, from August 1883, to close of 1884, have not yet presented them for payment. Two certificates to a man and his wife from Bristol, dated October 6th, are likewise unpaid. Presumably some of these people found employment or suitable locations before reaching this Province, while the others may report themselves at an early date.

DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

The scarcity of domestic servants has been quite as marked during the past year as at any previous time. It was expected that among the immigrant families, there would have been a number of girls willing to go out to service, but in consequence of so many of these families being made up of small children, such has not been the case. With the exception of one family of ten, from Wellington County, Ontario, settled at Comox, from among whom four girls remained here at service; the supply from this source has been almost *nil*. Possibly the incoming season's immigration may be more satisfactory in this respect. It may safely be asserted that one hundred or more female servants could procure comfortable homes with good wages, say from $12 to $25 per month, in this city, New Westminster and Nanaimo, in less than a week's time. Nine-tenths of the Chinamen now employed in domestic work would be summarily discharged if their places could be filled with permanent and reliable female servants. However much the Mongolians may be disliked, their employment is at present a stern necessity, for the very simple and sufficient reason that female help is unobtainable.

SCARCITY OF DWELLING HOUSES.

I had occasion in last year's Report to touch upon the pressing want for medium sized dwellings in this city. It can hardly be said that this stringency is as apparent now as it was twelve months ago, but still it is no easy matter to find suitable houses. Probably more than 300 residences of various descriptions have been erected during the year and occupaied as soon as they were ready, and had this number been largely increased, the "To Let or to Lease," in windows would still have been of rare occurrence. A noticable feature in last year's improvements is the great number of houses built by mechanics and other working men for their own occupation, many of the owners being comparatively new arrivals. Excellent returns for capital invested still await those who may embark in house building in this city. The above remarks are also applicable to New Westminster and Nanaimo, where houses are difficult to obtain.

With Graving Dock work again in operation at Esquimalt, and the impetus which the Island Railway construction must give to almost all branches of industry, there is every indication of a greater influx of families next spring and summer, than has yet taken place, and unless this is met by a corresponding activity in building operations, Victoria will not secure a fair share of the expected immigration.

COST OF AGENCY.

In consequence of the Local Government assuming the somewhat heavy Postage Account, supplying an office in the Departmect Buildings, and for a portion of the year providing stationery, &c., the charge of this Agency on the Dominion Exchequer has been less than $50 for the twelve months ending 31st December.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN JESSOP,
Dom. Immigration Agent.

To the Honourable
The Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa.

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