

8. B. C. to be entitled to 3 members in Senate, and six in Commons. Representation to be increased under provisions of B. N. A. Act.

9. Dom. Govt. to use its influence for continued maintenance of Naval Station at Esquimaux.

10. Provisions of B. N. A. Act to apply to B. C. in the same way as if one of original Provinces confederated.

11. Dom. Govt. to secure the commencement simultaneously within 2 years from date of Union, of Railway from Pacific to Rocky Mountains, and from Rocky Mountains east to connect B. C. with Railways of Canada, Such railway to be completed within 10 years from date of Union, and the B. C. Govt. convey to Dom. Govt., in trust, to be used in construction of railway, a similar extent of public lands, along line of railway, as may be appropriated by Dom. Govt. from public lands in N. W. Territories and Manitoba, not to exceed, however, 20 miles on each side of said line, any line which may be held by pre-emption right or crown grant within the limits of such grant of land to be made good to the Dom. Govt. from contiguous lands. B. C. Govt. not to sell or alienate any more public lands of B. C. in any other way than under right of pre-emption, requiring actual residence on the land of the pre-emptor. Dom. Govt. to pay to B. C. from date of Union, \$100,000 per annum, half yearly in advance.

12. Dom. Govt. to guarantee interest for 10 years from date of completion of work at 5 per cent. on such sum, not exceeding £100,000 stg., as may be required for constructing first class graving dock at Esquimaux.

13. Charge of Indians, and management of lands reserved for their use, to be assumed by Dom. Govt., and liberal policy of B. C. Govt. to be continued by Dom. Govt. Tracts of land, such as the B. C. Govt. have hitherto appropriated for that purpose, shall from time to time be conveyed by Local to Dom. Govt. in trust, for use of Indians, on application to Dom. Govt. In case of disagreement of two Govts. respecting lands, matter to be referred to Sec. of State for the Colonies.

14. Executive authority and Legislature of B. C. to continue as existing, subject to provisions of B. N. Am. Act, Govt. of Dom. to consent to introduction of responsible Govt. into B. C. under authority of Sec. for Colonies, to amend existing Constitution of Legislature, by making a majority of members elective. Union to take effect on such day as Her Majesty (on Addresses from Legislature of Colony and Parliament of Dominion) may appoint. B. C. in Address may specify electoral districts for which first elections to Dom. House of Commons shall take place.

NATURE OF THE COUNTRY.

British Columbia has a coast line of about 500 miles, and a total area of 220,000 square miles. It occupies a commanding position not only with regard to the trade of the western part of America and the Pacific Islands, but also with respect to China, Japan and other Asiatic countries. Along the whole coast line of 500 miles is a perfect labyrinth of islands giving innumerable harbours, inlets and channels, teeming, as well as the rivers that empty into them, with fish, salmon, sturgeon, mackerel, cod, herring, halibut, oula-

chans and whales. Except the whale fishery, these fisheries are altogether undeveloped, but they must prove a great source of wealth, when once the industry of man is applied to utilise them.

All along the coasts and the banks of the rivers extend forests of vast dimensions, affording most valuable timber. In them is found perhaps the finest pine in the world, and their proximity to the rivers renders them specially valuable as an article of commerce. The value of the exports of lumber in 1869 was \$250,000.

Coal fields of vast extent, both bituminous and anthracite, are found in the Province. The latter has only recently been discovered, on Queen Charlotte's Island. It has been taken to San Francisco and sold in that city for \$17 per ton. California, having very little coal in its limits, is mainly dependent on British Columbia for its supplies. It is almost impossible to estimate the value of these immense coal fields at one of the termini of the Pacific Railway, taken in connection with magnificent harbours and the most favorable route across the continent, both in shortness of distance, easiness of passes through the Rocky Mountains, and the best conditions for supplying the Road along the course, with both fuel and traffic.

The exports of furs and hides are of considerable importance. In 1869 they amounted to \$161,000.

British Columbia is rich in minerals of almost every description. The gold exported in 1867 amounted to \$1,500,000, and silver, iron, copper and lead are found, besides others of less importance. Lime, marble, freestone, slate and other building materials abound. The Onnicia gold fields, discovered in 1870, have attracted a moving population to the number of some 1,500 during 1871. They are supposed to be "surface diggings" extending over a large area. On account of the high water in the streams, the season of 1871 was not propitious, but a good deal of gold was obtained.

The country is much broken up by mountain ranges; but there is a very large quantity of valuable land, available for agriculture and pasturage, on the high plateaus and in the valleys. Though not what may be strictly called an agricultural country, it is still capable of supporting a very large population. Land now under cultivation yields heavy crops of grain and roots, and in such a country as British Columbia, agricultural produce always commands a good price.

The climate is every where salubrious and favourable to the settlement of the country. On the coast and on Vancouver's Island, the climate is that of the West of England. On the table lands of the interior it is dry, and in the mountain regions more bracing.

There can be no doubt, that with so many advantages, British Columbia is destined to be the home of a large and wealthy population. The actual population is estimated to be about 50,000. Various circumstances have combined to keep it back; but the projected means of communication once opened, it must become a country of the greatest commercial importance. Probably in the coming years, one of the great cities of the world will be found on the coast of British Columbia.