

George
Decr 11. 1885-
Ottawa.

My dear Father,

The pamphlets arrived
all right. I am much
obliged for your trouble in
sending them. I cannot
say I think very favourably
of Rankine's idea of going
to the terminal railway
town. I was there last
month & there is no town
worth calling such, merely
three or four shacks & a
few frame houses built
up in connection with the

Hastings Saw mill on
 the edge of a densely wooded
 piece of flat land among
 gigantic stumps. The
 Railway has not reached it
 yet, having to be run along
 the shore ^{from} ~~at~~ Port Moody. It
 may be a town some day
 but I do not see any prospect
 of its growing very fast
 into an important place.
 It has been a Centre for
 land sharks during the
 summer & some of them
 are endeavouring to "boom"
 the place — some practised

Sharps from Winnipeg etc
 away them. Lots are at
 present nominally held
 at absurdly high prices.
 & are I think more likely
 to fall than rise, as they
 have laid out a town of
 gigantic dimensions on
 paper, & the railway
 company will take good
 care to give the speculators
 the job as they did at
 Calgary. It is supposed
 that work will be begun on

the terminus ⁴ early in spring,
but I should suppose that the
railway people would feel
bound to give the first chance
in any required medical
assistance, to doctors
who have been employed on
the construction work throughout.
After the construction work is
over there will be probably
but a small number of
employees about the terminus
& unless the town jumps
up with extraordinary rapidity

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doctory there would be
sent very little. In fact
I think if R. goes there
he will be very much
disappointed.

Yours

George

I believe Victoria is likely
to remain the business centre
on the Coast of B.C., for a long
time, terminal town to the
contrary notwithstanding. It
is also just on the cards

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that there will be a
considerable depression in
P.C., specially next summer
in consequence of stoppage
of expenditure on railway
work