

VANCOUVER,

(A BRITISH COLONY),

Is an Island situate off the north-west coast of North America, between 48° and 51° N. Lat., and 123° and 129° W. Long.

Length, 275 miles—Breadth, 25 to 75 miles.

Superficial area, about 13,000 square miles.

Harbours numerous—that of Esquimalt the most important, and is a magnificent one in all respects—no good harbour for 800 miles south of Vancouver.

MOUNTAINS, a chain near the coast and covered with pine forests through its whole length, highest about 2000 feet.

Interior, varied with fertile plains, lakes and streams (generally small), grass or fern covered plains, rocky ground, and park-like oak-land.

Rivers—none navigable, but deep arms of the sea indent the coast, these vary from 50 to 120 miles in length, and are from 1 to 5 miles wide. Roads to the interior have been commenced this year.

Proximate population—

White Males	5000
White Females	700
Coloured People	500
Indians	10,000 to 15,000

The Aborigines are submissive, peaceable and useful—they fish, trap, carry, boat and work for the Whites, when so inclined. They are divided into small tribes jealous of each other, and their villages are on the coast, fish and potatoes being their staple food.

Soil—rich in places but generally light, the latter is productive of fair crops.

CLIMATE—very similar to that of England, a little warmer in the summer, and a little wetter in the winter—much less fog—exceedingly salubrious—usual length of winter, from two to three months, snow seldom remains a week. Thermometer rarely above 80° in summer—the nights are always cool—5 degrees above zero has been known, but the mercury seldom falls below 15 degrees above zero during the five or ten cold days of winter. On the whole, the climate is more salubrious, invigorating and agreeable than that of England.

DISEASES—None peculiar to the country—epidemics, seldom and mild—small-pox has been confined to Indians.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS—all such cereals, fruits, vegetables and roots as thrive in England. Wheat sown in October,