

Begbie had once made fully known the fact that he was at the head of the judicial system, and it did not take him long to accomplish this, disorderliness became as rare in the mining camps as in the capital of the country. In 1864 Mr. Douglas' term of office expired, and, as the people both of the Island and the mainland had petitioned the Imperial authorities to appoint a governor for each colony, Frederick Seymour was sent to British Columbia as his successor. The colony certainly did not gain by the change. Mr. Seymour, while personally a most estimable gentleman, was wanting in that firmness of character and capacity for business so requisite in a ruler of a young and energetic community. The hesitancy, however, which marked his administrative acts, was counterbalanced by the vigor and enterprise of the leading men of the Province, and thus the progress of the state was fortunately not hampered by the deficiencies of the Governor. Three days after Mr. Seymour's arrival at New Westminster came the news of the Chilkotin massacre, in which thirteen men, employed in cutting a trail from Bute Inlet towards Alexandria, were slaughtered by natives. The party at work on the trail numbered seventeen in all and only five escaped. When the news reached New Westminster and Victoria hundreds of men volunteered for service in suppressing the Indians and bringing the guilty ones to justice. Following this outbreak came the news, three weeks later, of the capture by the same Indians of a pack train *en route* from Bentinck Arm to Fort Alexandria, and the murder of three of the men in charge. A force of volunteers and marines was immediately despatched to the scene of these outrages and several of the bloodthirsty savages were caught and hanged. In October Governor Seymour dissolved the legislative council and a new election took place. In 1865 the question of uniting the two colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia was agitated, and in 1866 consolidation took place, the executive government and legislature of British Columbia being extended over the Island and the number of members of the Legislative Council being increased to twenty three. Mr. Seymour became Governor of the united colony and retained the position until his death in 1869.

The History of Vancouver Island, between the years 1859 and 1866, is marked by rapid settlement and development, especially in and about the City of Victoria. Everywhere building operations were