



An Old View of Victoria.

VICTORIA, PAST AND PRESENT.



SS. "Beaver,"
Pioneer of the
Pacific Coast.

THE foundations of the present City of Victoria were laid in 1843. It was June of that year when the "Beaver" landed a small force and the Hudson's Bay Company fort was erected. In 1846, Col. Holloway reported the following: "Fort Victoria is situated at the southern end of Vancouver Island. The fort is a square enclosure of one hundred yards, surrounded by cedar pickets twenty feet in height, having two octagonal bastions, each containing six six-pounder iron guns, at the north-east and south-west angles. This is the best built of the company's forts." From another source it is learned: "The building is even now (1846) though plain to a fault, imposing from its mass and extent, while the bastions or towers diminish the tameness which its regular outline would otherwise produce. The interior is occupied by the officers' houses, or apartments they should rather be called, stores and a trading

Old Hudson's
Bay Co. Fort.

Early
History.