BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

months bathing in the hot lakes, which were destroyed about five years ago by a volcanic eruption. He completely recovered and left New Zealand on a trading schooner for Samoa, and from there he went to Auckland, from which place he took the steamer for Honolulu. He remained in the Sandwich Islands three months and then went to San Francisco. He spent nine months in California, hunting and camping out in the foot hills of the Sierra Navada mountains. He then passed into Oregon, and through the Willamette valley to Portland and then up the Columbia to Walla Walla. From there he rode to the borders of Idaho with the intention of going into stock raising. He found, however, that the laws were framed to prevent large ranches being taken up. He then passed over into British Columbia by way of the big bend of the Columbia, and came down the valley of the Fraser. After remaining for a time at Victoria he established himself on Lasqueti Island and started the sheep ranch he at present possesses.

Croft, Henry, M. P. P., (Victoria), a member of the ancient Saxon family of Croft, of Herefordshire, England, which settled in that county prior to the reign of Edward the Confessor. Mr. Croft was born in Sydney, New South Wales, on January 15th, 1856. In 1849 he was sent to England, educated at Rugby school and afterwards . entered the profession of civil engineering. He was engaged in superintending engineering works in England, and in 1879 left England for Sydney, where he entered the service of the government of New South Wales. He was engaged for three years as as inspecting engineer and superintended several works of magnitude. He then returned to England and afterwards visited British Columbia where he engaged extensively in the lumber business, carrying on an export as well as local business. In July, 1885, he married Mary Jean, daughter of the late Hon. Robert Dunsmuir. In 1887 he was elected by acclamation to represent the District of Cowichan in the local Parliament, his colleague at the time being the then Premier, the Hon. Wm. Smythe. Mr. Croft fully believes that every endeavor ought to be made to develope the . latent resources of the Province whose wealth in forests, minerals and fisheries is incalculable, and he has shown this belief by investis g largely in industries which are calculated to advance the prosperity of the Province. In politics Mr. Croft is a Conservative.

134