

THE RESOURCES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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LOWER FRASER RIVER.

Since our last issue several lots in the new town-site of Port Hammond Junction have changed hands at increased rates, the C. P. N. Co's new wharf has been completed, and the freight sheds on it are in course of erection. In the spring the company expect that their present wharf accommodation will be found insufficient for the rapidly increasing traffic, and contemplate considerable additions.

Near the railway station the scene is very animated, the two locomotives placed on this section of the line are working day and night. Trains of cars from Port Moody loaded with ties and rails, may be daily observed pushing to the front and steadily decreasing the gap which will unite in one direct railway communication with the east.

One of the great attractions of the Lower Fraser Valley to the intending settler is the extraordinary fertility of the alluvial flats which extend for many miles above the mouth of the river. The enormous size and superior quality of the various vegetables at Ladner's Landing, (we dare not from memory state the weight, lest the reader should suspect the writer of being a lineal descendant of Ananias) have been quoted at various times in the Provincial papers. During the past season timothy over seven feet high has been cut in the neighborhood of Port Hammond, while the average height of the same crop was about five feet seven inches. To the dwellers on the Lower Fraser the produce of the fine orchard of Mr. S. Robertson opposite the Langley Slough is well-known, and happy the thrifty housewife who can procure her fruit for preserving from his richly laden trees.

Between Port Hammond and the Coquitlam River the traveler on the Canadian Pacific will see (as his train rolls along an embankment some ten or fifteen feet above the level of the prairie),

"Far to left, and far to right"

the expanse of the Pitt Meadows. It cannot be but that a few years more will see them wrested from the Spirit of the Flood, their prolific plains secured against inundation and dotted with the dwellings of thriving settlers.

ON DIT.

We have heard that the Provincial Government is about to suffer the loss of a most efficient officer. The Dominion Government having discovered the worth and ability of Mr. Registrar-General Aikman, has offered him an important position in their service at a considerably higher salary than he is at present receiving from our Province, and that he will in all probability, accept their offer. Whilst congratulating the Dominion upon securing Mr. Aikman, we sincerely regret the loss to our service of so gentlemanly and able an official.

We had intended to allow our lithographs in this number to speak for themselves, but a little untoward circumstance forces us to mention them. The line under the frontispiece should be "Somenos" River, not "Sumass" River. Both views are faithful representations of different varieties of our scenery, but to the tourist and lover of the beautiful, we say come, look upon the many charming scenes to be found in this new land of ours, and they will not fail of exciting the deepest admiration.

Since our last number was issued, several important events have taken place, the most prominent of which is the meeting of the fourth Provincial Legislative Assembly.

The C. P. N. Co. have decided to place one of their steamers—the Enterprise—on the East Coast route, there being, in their opinion, sufficient traffic for two lines of steamers. Their sailing days will be Tuesdays and Fridays.

The city of Victoria will, in all probability, ere this number reaches our subscribers, be lighted by electricity, and thus be placed among the pioneer cities of this coast who have seen fit to adopt and encourage a comparatively new invention.