



A HIT OF VICTORIA HARBOR.

sting the unwary at every step. Arrived on the summit, a space some ten acres in breadth is found, only partly timbered, so that by planting a few potatoes a small company of people could withstand a year's siege very well. Hither the Kwilleutes retired when attacked by enemies, not to be conquered, defending themselves against assault by rolling short, heavy logs down the steep path, a magazine of these missiles being kept ready.

To this coast European explorers were slow in coming. It is only three hundred and seventy years since Balboa first gazed at the Pacific,

"Sit on, upon a peak in Darien."

It was not until 1520 Magellan found his way through the channels that are a monument to his name; only 1528 that ships were built on the western shore of Mexico, and in 1542 that Cabrillo was sent thence to explore the Californian coast. Perhaps Sir Francis Drake had a glimpse of Mount Olympus, but it is doubtful, and the first foreign eyes that we can be at all sure of

to be guided by its snows to the discovery of this coast were those of Juan de Fuca, who sailed in search of that mythical "Strait of Anian" supposed to connect the Atlantic and Pacific somewhere in the north. His account is meagre and confused, but it seems a fact that he came and learned the coast pretty thoroughly. This was in 1592, and decades passed before any further light was thrown upon this corner of the world. So unknown and visionary did it seem, that it was seized upon by the romancers of Europe as the locality for the extraordinary adventures of the heroes of their pens, whenever restraint from known facts of geography or natural history was undesirable. "Bacon," we are assured, "there placed his Atlantis; and Brobdingnag, agreeably to the very precise description of its locality furnished by its discoverer, the accomplished and veracious Captain Lemuel Gulliver, must have been situated near the Strait of Fuca." Three-quarters of a century passed, indeed, before any European flag was again seen by the natives of this coast. Then Perez discovered