

was continued until the year 1825, when the celebrated lion Nero was baited at Warwick, when a bulldog named Turk exhibited an amount of pluck and courage which led even the brutal spectators to cry out "shame," and insist upon his being taken from the lion. The bulldog indeed may be looked upon as a peculiarly English dog, and perhaps as the most courageous of all animals. There would seem to be nothing which he can by any possibility interpret into an enemy, upon which he will not fly, and any infusion of bull-blood into another strain communicates a pertinacity in following out its particular instincts which is not attained by other dogs of the same kind. The true bulldog, therefore, must be looked upon as a reservoir of staunchness, but the breed has considerably degenerated of late years. This, however, the sportsman must endure with patience, for it is certainly better that our breeds of dogs should suffer a little deterioration than that the public mind should be debased by such exhibitions as occurred in the bull-ring and the dog-pit.

In the preceding pages we have been able to do but little comparatively towards giving the reader even a taste of the great store of curious information laid up by Mr. Jesse in the volumes before us. They suffer, undoubtedly, as the author seems to have felt, by the very imperfect manner in which they are arranged and lacked together, and must be regarded rather as a magazine from which future writers may draw much valuable material, than a treatise on the British dog. The illustrations, from the author's own pencil, are generally of a more or less humorous character. Some of them are good, others very indifferent.

#### ART. VII. OUR NORTH-PACIFIC COLONIES.

1. *Vancouver Island and British Columbia. Where they are; What they are; and What they may become.* By ALEXANDER RATTRAY, M.D., R.N. Smith, Elder & Co. 1862.
2. *British Columbia and Vancouver Island.* By D. G. F. MACDONALD, C.E., F.R.G.S., &c. Longmans. 1863.
3. *Travels in British Columbia, with the Description of a Yacht Voyage round Vancouver Island.* By Capt. C. E. BARRETT-LENNARD. Hurst and Blackett. 1862.
4. *Four Years in British Columbia and Vancouver Island.* By Commander R. C. MAYNE, R.N., F.R.G.S. John Murray. 1862.
5. *Facts and Figures relating to Vancouver Island and British Columbia.* By J. DESPARD PEMBERTON, Surveyor General, V.I. Longmans. 1860.
6. *Vancouver Island and British Columbia. Their History, Resources, and Prospects.* By MATTHEW MACFIE, F.R.G.S. Longmans. 1865.

7. *Prize Essay.—Vancouver Island. Its Resources and Capabilities as a Colony.* By CHARLES FORBES, Esq., M.D., R.N. Published by the Colonial Government. 1862.
8. *British Columbia. An Essay.* By Rev. R. C. LUNDIN BROWN, M.A. New Westminster. 1863.
9. *Blue Books relating to Vancouver Island and British Columbia.* Parts I, II, III, IV. 1860-64.
10. "*British Colonist*," and "*Victoria Chronicle*." 1859-66.

VANCOUVER Island and British Columbia, till within the last eight years, were regarded by the mass of Englishmen as a *terra incognita*, embracing a region of the globe wretchedly inhospitable and hopelessly given over to sanguinary encounters between savages and beasts of prey, having no claim to be improved by industry, or visited with the benefits of civilization. Considering the difficulty of access to these colonies, compared with our thriving dependencies in the South Pacific, the very limited knowledge possessed in this country of their topography and resources, and the conflicting statements that have appeared in books and newspapers respecting their adaptability for commercial, mining, and agricultural enterprise, it is not surprising that the most diligent efforts to reach a satisfactory conclusion as to their condition and prospects should have often ended in perplexity and disappointment. Lucky emigrants who make "rich strikes," looking at their adopted home wholly through the sunshine of their prosperity, extol it as an *Elysium*. The unsuccessful, on the other hand, wincing under "the stings and arrows of outrageous fortune," rush into print to cool their indignation, and execrate the country as a *Sahara*. The facts now to be submitted may possibly help to unravel this tangled skein of contradictions, and show the truth to be midway between the opposite exaggerations referred to.

Vancouver Island is situated in the latitude of Great Britain, and sustains to the Continent of North America, in the Pacific, a geographical relation similar to that which the parent country sustains to the Continent of Europe in the Atlantic. It is 240 miles long, by from 40 to 70 broad. Entering the Straits of Fuca, on a clear day the spectacle is peculiarly lovely. The Olympian range of mountains in Washington territory lift their rugged summits, capped with eternal snows; and beyond the rocky shore of the island, there stretches a mountain chain in a north-easterly direction, serving as a backbone to this colony. These heights are covered with thick vegetation, and the surface of the country is generally of an undulating character, containing lakes, rivers, inlets, forests, and prairies, in every variety. Masses of metamorphic, trappean, and sandstone rocks, fringed with lofty pines, crop out along the coast, and often in the interior. The Gulf of Georgia, between Vancouver and the mainland, is studded with islands from the size of a flower-pot upwards, presenting a scene rivalling