

text-books he learned the carpenter's trade and subsequently followed that occupation for six years. He was married in 1867, when a young man of twenty-two years, and in 1871 settled on a farm in Iowa, being busily engaged in its operation until 1883. In that year he removed to South Dakota, where he successfully carried on general agricultural pursuits for seven years or until 1890, when he went to Olympia, Washington, and there devoted his attention to the raising and shipping of fruit. In 1899 he came to New Westminster, British Columbia, and erected a factory for the manufacture of fruit and butter boxes, conducting the same for a period of several years and furnishing all the boxes used for fruit and butter in the entire province. On disposing of this plant he took up his abode at Chilliwack in September, 1907, and has there resided in honorable retirement to the present time, spending the evening of life in the enjoyment of well earned ease.

On the 9th of January, 1867, Mr. Eckert was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Hicks, a daughter of German and Abia Hicks, both of whom are deceased. Our subject and his wife have three children, one son and two daughters. The family home, a beautiful and commodious residence, is ever open for the reception of friends, who greatly enjoy its hospitality. Mr. Eckert is a liberal in his political views but when exercising his right of franchise considers the capability and fitness of a candidate rather than his party affiliation. His religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church. His record is well deserving of a place in this volume as that of one of the prosperous, esteemed and representative citizens of British Columbia.

MARK BATE.

Among the early pioneers of British Columbia prominent mention must be made of Mark Bate, who for more than fifty years has been a resident of Nanaimo, settling here at a time before this town even existed. His career might well serve as an example to a younger generation, for it can be cited as proof that intense industry coupled with good judgment and scrupulous honesty will bring results. Success has been Mr. Bate's in whatever line he has exerted his energy. Beginning without means and having no influential friends about him he has made his own way, and therefore his present prosperity must be the more gratifying to him.

Mark Bate is the youngest son of Thomas Bate, who was a partner in the well known iron manufacturers' firm of Bramah, Cochrane & Company, of Woodside, Worcestershire, England. Mark Bate was born at Birmingham, Warwickshire, England, December 11, 1837. His mother before her marriage was Miss Elizabeth Robinson. Mr. Bate attended Dudley grammar school in Worcestershire and other schools, laying aside his text-books at the age of sixteen years in order to enter the service of his father's firm at Woodside. He remained in that business for about two years, gaining a knowledge of commercial pursuits. While there he received a letter from an uncle, George Robinson, in which a glowing and enthusiastic description was given of the wonderful country on the Fraser river, and being a young man of energy and of adventurous mind this was sufficient to decide Mr. Bate to leave home, and he set out for Vancouver island in 1856, reaching Victoria in January, 1857. He went from Victoria direct to Nanaimo to join his uncle, who was manager for the Hudson's Bay Company, in charge of their coal mines. Before coming to Nanaimo, however, he spent ten days in Victoria, but ever since the former place has been his residence and field of activities. Mr. Bate immediately found employment in the office of the Hudson's Bay Company, rising with the years in the service until appointed accountant and cashier. When he arrived in Nanaimo on the 1st of February, 1857, the present city was but a collection of primitive huts with a sprinkling of people. Ever since that day Mr. Bate has resided here and taken part in the progress of