

Sea from a collection of wooden shacks to a civilized centre of commerce.

Never has the tide of local prosperity run higher than it does to-day. Property stands at a fair value, the mining industry is advancing with rapid strides, new firms are opening up in the city, new buildings and residences in the course of construction meet the eye at every turn; and added to



VANCOUVER—LIEUT.-COL. WORSNOP.

this, increased wharf accommodation and a new railway station have practically been necessitated by the magnitude of the Klondyke trade, and the steady stream of regular travel.

Vancouver has yet another thing of

which she is justly proud, namely, her militia forces, and a finer body of men than the Second Battalion of the Fifth Regiment of Canadian Artillery, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Worsnop, it would be difficult to find throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion. The Pacific Coast district is in all respects equal in importance to that of Halifax; both form the maritime boundaries of Canada, and the fact that Vancouver is situated three thousand miles distant from the Ontario and Quebec centres does not lessen its value as the western military outpost of the Dominion.

It is perchance, in a measure, due to the conglomeration of nationalities represented in her harbour that Vancouver has become such a thoroughly cosmopolitan city, for every clime under heaven appears to have contributed its mite towards the stream of humanity that incessantly ebbs and flows along the streets and on the wharves.

White men and yellow Chinese, Negroes and swarthy Italians, Spaniards, Coreans and Japanese ever intermingling with the new *genus homo*, the "Klondyker," jostle one another as they pass by, and any day you may hear the Irish brogue, or the canny speech of the Scot, combined with American wit, German expletives, or French idioms, as you take your constitutional stroll down the length of Cordova street. All these diverse types vastly interest and amuse a stranger, and invariably cause him to wonder how on earth such an admixture of temperaments, creeds, and prejudices, to say nothing of languages and customs, has ever succeeded in building up so fine a commercial city. Truly, it is a confederation of opposing forces, bent primarily on promoting trade, and who, with the "Almighty Dollar" as their goal, have evidently found sufficient unity of purpose to bind them together in the interests of prosperity and advancement.

Julian Durham.