

# MA WAS AT ONEY ISLAND

## EN LOOKOUT R AEON TO HAWAII

### Thinks Manuka Will ifficulty Embarking Castaways.

(Tuesday's Daily).  
Instructions received from  
of the Union Steamship  
Sydney, Capt. John Gibb, of  
n-Australian liner Marama,  
ad here to-day from the Anti-  
ship look-out for the mis-  
ip- Aeon, now known to be  
Christmas Island.

er leaving Brisbane a crew's  
it on the foremast and look-  
er kept constantly on duty,  
left on August 21st and Bris-  
nd. At 11 p. m. on Septem-  
ner reached Suva and loaded  
sugar.

the Marama went to the  
s situated approximately in  
at, lat. 4 south, where it is  
Aeon might have gone ashore.

The steamship, which left  
ttlement at Sidney Island, the  
ant of the lonely group, and  
life man living there came off  
He reported having seen no  
Aeon or her people, and the  
s at once headed on her course  
s. Until the Hawaiian port  
of the look-out at the crew's  
aintained, and the passengers,  
at having been thoroughly  
the knowledge that a watch  
maintained in the hope of  
the missing steamship, found  
topic for conversation.  
ith the Canadian-Australian  
d Honolulu and was immedi-  
ly inquired. "Did you see  
of the Aeon," was asked by  
who visited the ship. Among  
alous inquirers was the busi-  
on Sydney to whom the large  
of gasoline engines was being  
San Francisco. He had hoped  
to hand, along with other  
totaling over 1,000 tons of  
time for the opening of the  
ason in New South Wales.

gentleman was bemoaning  
of these engines one of them  
s a ship's boat, in which it had  
with infinite labor, from  
Island to Suva, with Capt.  
one of his officers from the  
Honolulu on Tuesday last the  
ade a good passage to port, ex-  
moderate sea and fresh north-  
the Straits.

ly last the liner passed the  
ship Den of Ruthven, bound  
ney, N. S. W., New Zealand  
d Honolulu to Victoria.  
Ruthven was making about  
s is expected to reach port  
the only other vessel sighted  
from the Hawaiian port was  
bound Canadian-Australian  
s, which is due at Fanning  
ay, and will proceed to Chris-  
d to take off the crew and pas-  
s. The Aeon who are cast-  
sh. of the Marama, in conversa-  
s Times reporter to-day, ex-  
e opinion that the Aeon will be  
eck. He also said that the  
ould have a lively time taking  
stays as there was a strong  
awoke to the low-lying  
anchorage and a heavy surf to  
d with.

### WITTY AT GREENWOOD.

ood, Sept. 21.—The big strike  
grade chalcopryite ore on the  
pper Company's Mother Lode  
already been productive of  
results to Greenwood camp,  
owners of mineral claims have  
rospecting and development  
enders are being called for,  
ber of outside mining men  
ntly visited the camp, among  
Messrs. Hinckley and Mor-  
on is said will undertake  
development work on the  
nd group at Deadwood and ad-  
the properties of the E. C.  
Company and the Dominion  
Company.

### DANGEROUS CRIPPLE.

k, Sept. 21.—A. V. Roe, who for  
e has been agent for the  
rthern railway at Hale, five  
m here, was lodged in Phoenix  
a serious charge. For some  
ast he has been causing sec-  
considerable trouble and on  
ay had some dispute with  
ly, a rancher, which resulted  
threatening to poison the  
s stock. Vigorous gun talk was  
with threats to shoot several  
the vicinity, and a valuable  
tongue to Tremblay was shot.  
nt was then sworn out and  
s Docksteader arrested Roe,  
a cripple, being minus an arm.  
Hale is only a depot in a  
as, he had several imaginary  
amed and labeled.

### ARRIVING RIGHT OF WAY.

Westminster, Sept. 21.—The  
of the right-of-way for the  
etric line into this city from  
is progressing rapidly, and will  
eted in a short time. Work will  
started on the clearing of the  
way for the cut-off line to  
r, which will be built to avoid  
grade on Twelfth street.

### ORDERED BY BURGLAR.

orning Crime at Elkhorn, Man-  
Assassin Escapes.

Man, Sept. 21.—Michael Sagar,  
of Lambert & Earle's store  
was shot and killed by a burglar  
is morning. Sagar entered the  
2.30 this morning for the purpos-  
ing a gun for a hunting party,  
shot down by the burglar, who  
gently looting the store and was  
in the act. The man escaped.

### RED MAN ASSAULTED.

uver, Sept. 21.—Richard Ed-  
blacksmith foreman, 66 years  
triker from the C. P. R. Shops,  
assaulted on Saturday by George  
strike breaker from Salt Lake  
the case will be heard in court  
ow.

# Sooke's Valuable Resources and Varied Charms

**S**OME twenty or twenty-five miles from Victoria by road, on the north coast of the harbor, unique so far as the south coast of the island is concerned for depth of soil and shelter, and capacity, lies a district whose natural wealth lies loudly to the speculator for development, and whose temperate climate and intrinsic beauty beckon still more earnestly to those who wonder to and fro on the earth seeking resting and finding none.

Offering, as no other district within an equal radius of Victoria can, all the attractions of life in the wilds and the varied sports in connection therewith, it is at the same time training a social atmosphere of its own, which, without the conventionality, has much of the attraction and ten times the freedom of city and business life.

Connected with Victoria by excellent roads along which four stages ply almost daily and fro, the drive being easy work for a good horse in from two and a half to three hours, it gives a sense of being "in the world, yet yet not of it," an advantage by no means to be despised when that world happens to be in the main links of the "All Red Route."

It will more fully be this brought home when from a point of vantage one looks out over the harbor between wooded points of peerless beauty to

The Silver Straits beyond that great "world traffic," ever growing greater, which more perhaps than any other one cause is yet so strong the rallying mark of the harmony. With three post offices, a school whose daily average attendance is twenty-five, a bright cozy little church, a good general store, a blacksmith shop, saw-mill, and public hall, it is attaining to that

Commercial Life for which from time immemorial the Anglo-Saxon has been famous, and the way in which associations of all kinds, political, military, social, and agricultural, have sprung into existence during the past two years, demonstrates plainly that we have reached the initial stage of the co-operative idea, a sure guarantee of further progress.

Of the numerous advantages and attractions incident to close proximity to a large city, we need only draw attention to one and that is the facility with which the best medical attendance at Victoria on the 1st of June, in connection with the community stands deeply indebted to the various managers of the local fish-traps during the past four years for the readiness with which they have invariably arranged for any person injured being taken to town by steamer, and consequently with a minimum of discomfort, so that advantage could be taken of California's excellent nursing and doctoring afforded by the widely-known Jubilee and St. Joseph's hospitals.

Early History. In '48, that historic epoch on the Pacific Coast, when the sleepy dreaming ranches and oil-gate openings of the gold-seekers to its gulches and river bottoms, there landed from the Harpooner at Victoria on the 1st of June, in company with eight others, a certain Muir family, father and three sons.

To the casual idler this was simply the landing of so many passengers, but to the close observer and student of history and of men, on the fact of these four were observed those qualities which centuries of strife with nature and their fellow-men have bred into the Scotch character, sturdy independence and indomitable perseverance. It was soon to be put to the proof.

ly imported in memory of Auld Scotia a certain unassuming Humble Little Plant with a bright yellow flower and a general de-gage appearance. Wherefore though gone he is not forgotten, nor at present date of writing, is he likely to be. It beautifies the hillsides in late spring and summer and is patronized extensively by the quail later on. When cracked corn reaches 32 per hundred and wheat \$2.50, it helps out with the chickens on a free run.

Grant passes to the diggings, to the Mexican army, to the Turkish contingent in the Crimea, the trenches and sickness, and finally, ere the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny, the reward of all brave knightly souls.

Scarcely had he built his house, got some two acres under cultivation as a garden and put up the frame of a saw-mill at the head of the harbor, where a small stream supplied the only readily available water power, when the Muirs came down, father and sons, John, Robert and Michael.

John Muir, Sr., had run up north in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, in which he continued for many years. The sons had been down to San Francisco, temporarily victims of the fever that wilders men's hearts and brains. At last

The True Pioneers of Sooke harbor had arrived on the scene and they took hold at once. Contracts were entered into for supplying San Francisco with the piles, three deep, needed to hold in its sand-backed wharves, cattle and horses were brought down from Victoria, Grant's landed interests were bought out, and a steamer having run ashore at Macaulay Point, they made a bid for its machinery as it lay below water; got it out and landed it at Sooke.

It has taken about two seconds to write the last eight words. Let the average man get to work with the appliances and facilities then at their command and he may perhaps get a true idea of what it means.

In the fall of '54 the frame of the saw-mill at "Acheernach" (Shades of the Celts!) was brought down and put up in the small bay just inside the spit, at the north of the spit and at the west end of the harbor.

Which one, I wonder, of the many women and children as they bathed there during the past summer, and gazed in amazement at a rusty old boiler peacefully reposing on the shell-strewn flat, thought for one moment that it was once the motive power of a saw-mill round which the history and general information of this settlement at all events, there is only one Mrs. John.

Under their own sail, among many others, sweep in the brig William, Rose, Senator, John Marie, and Lord Western, taking finished lumber with them to distant ports, notably San Francisco, and in some cases forgetting to leave behind its equivalent value in much needed hard cash.

hands of those he himself has raised and trained. Spared, too, is he the painful and unavoidable result when lesser enterprises, no matter what the grit and push of the men behind them, come into competition with capital on a vast and progressive scale.

The following year, 1884, the three brothers erect on their separate properties houses more suited to the size of their respective families. The little Woodside is wrecked on a trip to Alberni in 1888, and the mill, kept running for two years after this mainly for the manufacture of boxes, is finally taken down in 1890.

With the arrival of the Northern Pacific and Canadian Pacific on the coast, the early history of Sooke passes. New men come in, the Milne's and Murrays at Sooke, Gottlieb and Dages at East Sooke, Gordons at Otter-Point, all with their

Battle to Fight and all still in the midst of the fighting. Dr. H. A. Francis, at East Sooke, brings his much needed, and in many

cases, burnt fingers, but in all, knowledge and experience gained. Some traps are pushed further out from shore, others brought close in. In the approaches web netting is replaced by wire, cross bracing is more frequently resorted to, early morning starts are made to the distant traps so as to get the pile driving done before the incoming afternoon swell and breeze from the Pacific, piles are pulled and stacked in the autumn.

Various Inland Lakes more than satisfy the wants of those who prefer the society of their flocks and herds to that of their fellow-men. Of freewood we need not speak. The fallen timber alone is sufficient to satisfy the demands during the next twenty years, and a judicious handling of the standing timber guarantees a full supply for an indefinite time to come.

Under the whole Sooke and Otter district is most admirably suited to fruit growing, strawberries so far have attained their best development on the slopes rising to Muir mountain, and more delicate fruits, such as peaches, along the sheltered banks of the Sooke river.

The Fish Traps. From 1890, when the saw-mill and general logging operations carried on by that undaunted band of pioneers, the Muir family, ceased, till the spring of 1904, when Mr. John H. Todd, Columbus of the fish trap industry on Vancouver Island, took in an off year the chances on two traps, one just outside the mouth of Sooke harbor, and the other at Otter Point, this neighborhood handicapped by its distance from Victoria, suffered for the want of that stimulus supplied by a ready market.

With some eight companies working in the big year 1905, offering special inducements in the way of a home market for milk, butter, eggs, beef and mutton, fruits and vegetables, to the resident farmers, and good pay and the very best of board to the younger and more disengaged men of the district, in a line of work which, if it does make unusual demands upon a man's time, is always interesting and adventurous and never at any time exhausting, that initial impetus was given without which a district, no matter what its natural advantages, may languish for years in a sleepy and moss-grown condition.

With the traps came the trap owners and other people interested, and they being of the cultured and millionaire class, enter here upon that toy of the rich The Automobile.

Now no matter how great and righteous may be the wrath and indignation of those who, "tamers of fleet steeds," resent the intrusion of this horsecaring monster into their midst, the fact remains that behind the automobile are the hands of those who will clean out, bridges and culverts repaired, the primeval forest itself brought low, and, as natural results: (1) The farmer fits more readily to the country, and (2) Mutual understanding, good-will, and "pat me on the back, we're all jolly good fellows."

In the traps, 1906 starts with, in some of the fairer tales, will do the rest. If so benighted as to prefer fresh water, him trundle to Kemp lake or the upper reaches of the lake, and without fear the gentle and inspiring inductions of the straits, then let him paddle his own canoe or sail his yacht on the perfectly sheltered waters of the harbor. In spring and autumn let him bring his rod and gun. He will have his choice of all the fish and small game, and with good guides most of the big game that the island affords. As elsewhere, his pencil, paint brush, or kodak, may find constant employment, and if of that sterner stuff which sees the wife shooting the guarantee of a nation's freedom, within and without, he will be welcome at the association's gathering any Saturday afternoon on the Spit.

Though winter is the season mainly devoted to a gay and light-hearted though by no means frivolous society to tepachorean measures, yet the quality of the summer dances more than makes up for their quantity, and the wife shooting the guarantee of a nation's freedom, within and without, he will be welcome at the association's gathering any Saturday afternoon on the Spit.

Permanent Resident is but a natural step, and for the man who has a small independent income, the east of the harbor on a line of land from the west corner of Naylor's Bay to that of Cafray's Cove on the opposite shore, fairly bristles with the most charming building sites and locations. While the general character of the land does not in this part of the district admit of farming on any extensive scale, yet the openings for small orchards and poultry are all that can be desired, and on the northern side the comparative nearness to Victoria would to many be an additional attraction.

The call for a good resident doctor is urgent, and if any one of those wasting their sweetness and energies in the highways and byways of eastern cities were, with the aid of some small capital to locate in this direction prepared to back up his doctoring with some small scale farming, it might be a further incentive to his efforts to save and conserve life on the grounds that here at all events it is worth living.

Among the recent additions to the names on the list of our permanent residents is that of Mr. Bonnycastle Dick, the well-known insurance agent, now engaged in building himself a most picturesque little cottage on the north shore of the outer harbor. His article on "The Great Northern Diver," holding the post of honor in the August number of Country Life in America, and the, if possible, still more deeply studied piece of work, "The Mystery of the Salmon," in the September Outlook, are alone sufficient to proclaim him a student of nature of the first order. The latter article describes in graphic detail the fall rush of the salmon to their spawning grounds on the Sooke river, and we are favored in this general account of the district with a sketch from his pen of the natural history and bird and fish life of Sooke harbor.

Speaking broadly as to climate, of all parts of Canada that of Vancouver Island is the most attractive. Of the island itself the southeastern portion has various Distinct Advantages over the western and northern, and of that southern portion the vicinity of Sooke harbor may fairly be said to have all the advantages with none of the drawbacks of the surrounding peninsula, moist without the excessive moisture of some, dry without the extreme dryness of others, sheltered from the northwinds in winter, the bite taken out of the southwest winds in spring, as they do not here pass over snow-capped mountains, a practical total absence of snow and the consequent slush in winter, and the full freshness without the violence of the breezes from the Pacific.

With the advance of agriculture and the consequent practical total clearing of the heavy woods on the lowlands, that holding in of the moisture, at present a defect in the winter season, will totally disappear, and only those chronic who, while in this world profess to be not of it, and whose time is mainly spent in bottling up practical suggestions for the Almighty, will find any cause to grumble.

As elsewhere, the older residents have been the victims of unscrupulous nursery agents, but in the younger orchards planted out during the past five years every care has been taken to deal only with reliable men, and the local Farmers Institute can be fully relied on to furnish all necessary information by lecture, in-doors and out, as to the care and man-

agement of the trees and their fruit. Water and wood, all elsewhere on the island, are here in abundance, in sharp contrast to that text emblazoned in letters of silver and gold over the wooden bank of every prairie bachelor. "Twenty miles from wood, and ten miles from water. God bless our home."

Good springs are struck at depths of anywhere from five to fifty feet, the Sooke river above tide level offers an unlimited supply of the cattle ranging along its banks, and a new and Valuable Asset has arisen. Germany wants the spring salmon. Also, though the sockeye, rich pink and full flavored, still stands king for the colob or fall salmon three is as well an excellent place on the great world market. Hence a steady fishing season from the middle of May to the end of September. The initial expenses of locations, sites, wharves, web houses are over for 1907-8. Much of the plant and material goes on as an asset to the coming year, the housing of managers and men is made more commodious and comfortable, and due thought is given to the generations of salmon, and men, yet to come, a permanent industry is established, which must accrue to its

own benefit and that of the community in which it has arisen.

Logging. "For many years past Alfred Peatt, of Calwood, and the Philipps, father and sons, have put out their annual boom on the river, this year some 400,000 feet awaiting shipment.

A glance at the long half mile of flat straits skid road from the lake to the straits, shows that the Milligans at Kemp lake, with their frame houses, dozen men and four teams, mean business for another ten years to come. Charters cutting rough lumber for the traps and settlers in his new saw-mill, draws his main supply from up the river. All this is the mere water timber. The great inland supply remains as yet untouched if not thought of.

Summer Resort. So long as the Victoria sylvanites are asked to share the tail end of a grain sack or the soft corner of a box on a twenty-four mile drive, it cannot be expected that they will flock down here, in spite of the manifold attractions, in large numbers, but once let

this initial difficulty of transportation be overcome, either by land or sea, and rival concerns may start to hang out their sign, "Closed for the holidays."

We hear of a prominent Victorian repairing by train one fine morning to spend some weeks in recuperating exhausted nature at a certain world-famous summer resort, and returning that same evening dismayed at the excessive heat, for which, in justice to said resort, bush fire may be in great part responsible, but to make things worse, we'll just start a little bush fire here of our own and yet guarantee to keep our friend cool all the same.

In the first place we'll give him his choice of salt water bathing, either at Muir's beach on the straits, the bay inside the harbor at the site of the old mill, the Sooke river within stone's throw from the bridge, or Naylor's or other coves at the east end of the harbor. All he'll have to do is to write down on a card the temperature required, and we

Like the Genii in the fairy tales, will do the rest. If so benighted as to prefer fresh water, him trundle to Kemp lake or the upper reaches of the lake, and without fear the gentle and inspiring inductions of the straits, then let him paddle his own canoe or sail his yacht on the perfectly sheltered waters of the harbor. In spring and autumn let him bring his rod and gun. He will have his choice of all the fish and small game, and with good guides most of the big game that the island affords. As elsewhere, his pencil, paint brush, or kodak, may find constant employment, and if of that sterner stuff which sees the wife shooting the guarantee of a nation's freedom, within and without, he will be welcome at the association's gathering any Saturday afternoon on the Spit.

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the western sea, stretches a scene almost overwhelming in its vastness and wild beauty. Far away over the blue hazes to the southeast, the white peaks of Mount Rainier rise out of a sea of mist flashing a challenge to their great brother of the north, and, gathering in strength and majesty as they emerge from the hazy recesses of the Sound, the grand sweep of the Olympics raise their ever-varying forms, clear cut, well defined, into the ambient air.

"Serenely aloft, in serried ranks they stand, The guardian monarchs of a forest land." To the east Nestles Victoria in its circle of rock-bound woody coves, its streets and prominent buildings, now only some fourteen miles away, plainly visible to the naked eye.

The sailing ships in the Royal Roads lie peacefully at rest, gathering fresh strength for their battle with the wave mountains of the Horn or the windy giants of the China seas.

From out the misty haze to the southeast creeps slowly the leviathan of the Pacific, as the great Minnesota parts in disdain the waves of a more inland sea, and steams grandly past the only point where alone necessary in all this vast reach of straits, Race Rocks raises its warning beacon to the ships that pass in the night.

At your feet, contoured in detail, lie the Coves and Homesteads of Sooke harbor, and in the midst of the majesty of nature one realizes the still greater the majesty of the man who undertakes to tame to his uses these seemingly inconquerable giants of wood, mountain, and fell.

A bee, your constant companion, hums behind you, and you turn to the north to be at once lost in another, for here, as the valley of the Sooke river flows its path among the hills, is the primeval wilderness untamable, the home, to all seeming forever, of wild things, the deer, the panther, and the bear.

A last good look to the northeast over the Saanich peninsula towards the islands of the Gulf and the distant peaks of the mainland beyond, and then amid the boom of the blue grouse and the whirr of the willow, you slowly and withal somewhat reluctantly retrace your footsteps towards the haunts and dwellings of men.

"All things come to those who know how to wait," would seem to have been hitherto the guiding motto of the residents of Sooke, for, with its transcendent advantages of site, climate, harbor and natural resources, it must strike even the most casual traveler that here is a place which with the Advent of Capital and enterprise must sooner or later, even independently of reader communication with Victoria, develop into a most prosperous and thriving community.

"Heaven" (in the shape of Dominion and provincial government), has up to within recent years blinked somewhat drowsily upon those who have been engaged helping in the August nature in the rough, but the establishment of fish trap headquarters has marked the first step in advance and the promised removal of the rocks blocking the entrance to the harbor a second. It having been pretty well practically demonstrated that it is most difficult to boom the logs in the vicinity of the Jordan river directly out into the straits, it naturally follows that the timber from this immense reserve and others near by will follow the line of least resistance and logging railroads in the August number of Country Life in America, and the, if possible, still more deeply studied piece of work, "The Mystery of the Salmon," in the September Outlook, are alone sufficient to proclaim him a student of nature of the first order. The latter article describes in graphic detail the fall rush of the salmon to their spawning grounds on the Sooke river, and we are favored in this general account of the district with a sketch from his pen of the natural history and bird and fish life of Sooke harbor.

