

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Every 50th year among the Jews was a Jubilee, a year of joy and rejoicing. This year is the jubilee of the introduction of Presbyterianism into British Columbia, the most westerly province of the Dominion, whose scenic beauty and great possibilities are nowhere excelled in Canada. It stands midway between Europe and Asia, and is the door on double hinges that opens to let the East enter the West, and to let the West pass out into the East.

The Hudson Bay Company established a trading post, in 1843 at Camosun, the Indian village of the Songhees tribe where now stands the beautiful city of Victoria, the capital of the province, and the "Queen of the West." The land-locked harbor, with its safe anchorage, nestling behind Beacon Hill, and the forest-clad, undulating hills stretching as far as the eye can see toward the setting sun, and to the east lies Mount Baker, the lordly giant of the Cascades, and to the south, across the Straits of Juan de Fuca, is seen the Olympic Mountains, which all combine to make the spot one of the most pleasing prospects the mind can imagine, and one of the most desirable sites on which to build a city.

Victoria is not only a commercial center, but the seat of government; a residential city, a city of splendid homes, beautiful parks, fine drives, and well kept lawns. It is the admiration of tourists that the humblest cottages are beautified with