

British Columbia Notes.

British Columbia has now five cities, the last town to enter the list being Vernon. It is probable that Mr. Price Ellison will be the first mayor.

A company which has for its object the establishment and operation of a tramway and electric lighting system at Kaslo is seeking incorporation.

The output from the quarries of the Westminster Slate Quarry company for 1892 was 4,800 squares, equal in roofing capacity to 4,800,000 shingles.

The Dominion Government has let a contract to the Albion Iron Works of Victoria for the building of a disinfecter, for the British Columbia quarantine station at Albert Head, similar to that constructed for Halifax.

The value of assessable property in the Nanaimo electoral district for 1893 is \$1,353,899, as compared with \$1,078,077 in 1892. There are 21,882 acres of wild land assessed at \$133,189, against 14,854 acres, assessed in 1892 for \$84,841.

The Rev. W. W. Perrin, vicar of St. Luke's Southampton, who has accepted from the Archbishop of Canterbury the Bishopric of British Columbia, took his B. A. degree at Trinity College, Oxford, in 1870, and M.A. in 1873. He was ordained deacon in 1871 in St. Mary's, Southampton, by the Bishop of Winchester. Bishop Hill, whose resignation created the vacancy which Bishop Perrin goes to fill, held the position for thirty-four years.

The Vancouver News-Advertiser says: "Among the crew of the British barge *Bittern*, which arrived in port a short time ago, were several South Sea Islanders who had never been beyond the tropic before. The cold snap of last Wednesday and Thursday before Christmas was, therefore, very painful to them and resulted in two of them getting their feet frozen. One of these, a Malay, born in Singapore, died from the effects of the freezing and was buried Tuesday."

This week several very fine mountain sheep heads have been sent to Calgary to receive attention at the hands of the taxidermist there. It is very evident that sport has been good and the sportsmen numerous, as we have heard again and again during the last few months of the phenomenal success in this line. Considering the grandness of the scenery in the district in which the game abounds, the convenience of transport and other natural advantages, we wonder why more of the aristocracy of the old country generally do not come this way.—*Golden News Era*.

J. C. Anderson, mining expert, who has been exploring on the west coast of Vancouver Island for two years, in the interests of the Washington Prospecting Company, of Seattle, has returned from Barclay Sound. He went in search of marble and iron and was very successful. "There is a piece of land near Barclay Sound, six miles wide, which is one mass of marble," said Mr. Anderson. "It is the greatest marble country on the continent, the Tennessee quarries included." He brought down with him a large number of samples. There is a large variety of marble in the strip, including

white, cream colored, mottled, black and variegated. He also found three good bodies of iron ore in the same locality. It is the intention of the company to erect blast furnaces on the American side, but if the ore on the west coast is as good and in as large quantities, the company will also erect furnaces there.

Alberta Notes.

A meeting of the farmers and ranchers in the Cochrane district of Alberta was called for February 1st. for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to secure a fire break for that section.

Edmonton coal is delivered to consumers in Calgary at \$7 a ton, Galt coal at \$7.25, Canmore and Mitford coal is advertised at \$5.25 and \$3.50 per ton f.o.b. in Calgary.

Wheat is brought, so the Edmonton paper says, all the way from Beaver Lake to Edmonton, a distance of over 60 miles, for gristing.

Stony Plain settlers are organizing a school district.

F. Fraser Tims, of Fort Saskatchewan, intends opening in the commission business at that point.

Opportunities.

May 1893 be a good year to all our readers! The young Canadian provinces look forward to it with hope. They have millions of acres lying waste, and the over crowded masses of older lands and provinces may find happy homes on the prairies if they will but come to them. Why cling to the cities with their half work, when the fertile soil of Manitoba offers a competence? Why remain agricultural laborers struggling for existence, when each family may have a prairie farm for the taking, and in a few years be independent? Why need young men from the east, like rolling stones, explore the western states, when a waiting homestead, under their own flag, invites them to a certainty? We guarantee the church and the school to those who come. The public school is the great agent for rearing an intelligent and homogeneous people. The missionary will find out the settler even before the school is begun. Last year saw a rush of population to Souris, Prince Albert, Lake Dauphin and Edmonton. Missionaries have already gone to these settlements and more to follow. Victor Hugo's '93 represents a scene of blood, may our '93 be one of health and peace and prosperity!—*Western Missionary*.

Homestead Entries for 1892.

Reports to the department of the interior for last year show that a satisfactory increase in settlement has taken place in the West compared with the previous year. A preliminary estimate prepared by the department shows that during 1892 the homestead entries numbered 4,948 compared with 2,955 during 1891, an increase of 1,425 or 40 per cent., and showing compared with the entries during 1890 an increase of 2,013 or 68 per cent. Of the total number who took up homesteads in Manitoba and the Northwest and British Columbia last

year, 2,781 entries were made by settlers from the older provinces of Canada as follows: Ontario, 1,621; Quebec, 214; Nova Scotia, 27; New Brunswick, 12; Prince Edward Island, 14; British Columbia, 38; Manitoba, 522; Northwest Territories, 63; provinces not given, 247; total, 2,781. Five hundred and thirteen entries were made by emigrants from the United States, 92 of whom were returned Canadians. The nationalities of other homesteaders were English 603, Irish 51, Scotch 175, French 107, Belgians 54, Italians 5, Germans 95, Austro-Hungarians 136, Russians 242, Mennonites 13, Swedes 70, Danes other than Icelanders 13, Icelanders 76, Poles 5, Roumanians 3, unknown 3, making the total number of homestead entries 4,948, representing in all 14,972 persons. From the Canadian Pacific railway 1,632 settlers purchased land during 1892. Of the purchasers 800 were from Ontario, 450 from the United States and 154 from England.

A homestead is 160 acres of land which is the amount of government land which each settler is entitled to take up free. Quite a number of new settlers, however, prefer to buy land in the older settled districts, rather than take up free land in more remote sections.

Immigrant Rates.

A special report has been prepared by the committee of the Western Passenger association, to which was referred the question of commissions on immigrant traffic. After a conference with the eastern immigrant agents and a representative of the Canadian Pacific railway, majority of the committee adopted resolutions recommending that the committee on immigrant traffic by way of St. Louis and Chicago to common western territory be as follows: To St. Paul and Minneapolis and west thereof, \$25; to Council Bluffs, Omaha, Sioux City, Leavenworth, St. Joseph, Kansas City and points beyond, \$25; to points west of Chicago and St. Louis and short of the above destinations twenty-five per cent of the revenue accruing to these lines, not exceeding in any case \$25; to points on the Soo line and north thereof in Michigan and Wisconsin, from Chicago, twenty-five per cent of the revenue not to exceed \$25.

Among the items of arrivals of settlers last month was one of a party of 21 immigrants from Scotland, bound for Witsaskawin, near Edmonton.

The fame of the fertility of the Canadian Northwest soil has extended to Chili. Word has been received at the Dominion immigration offices that between forty and fifty German families who have been residents there for twelve years, will come to the Canadian Northwest next March. They have been induced to come through representations made by Dominion officials in Winnipeg, and through resolutions passed by the Swiss and German Colonists' Union of Erecilla, Chili, expressing faith in the Canadian Northwest. They will likely take the route up the Pacific coast to Vancouver, crossing the Rockies, and settle near Edmonton. Some of the men have plenty of money and are willing to buy land. They are Germans by nationality and have been twelve years in Chili.