

partly on Drake's discoveries, at any inding Company," and compiled by inding Company," and compiled by the "Lewis Publishing Company," The compilation" of "history" is an un-sual function, the term being Com-only applied to a "chronicle" of, have vents which may, or may not, have vents which may, or may not, have nly applied to a "chronicle" of nave been in view of the wording of ents which may, or may not, have the Britannic-Spanish (Nootka) con-toric value. New, also is it, in our perience, that a "company" in its Capt. Cook, it is stated, named the

Author of General History"-a publi- St. Elias, which Mr. Gosnell says he ation we have not found at the librar- also discovered.

es. It is not stated, on the title page, Lieut. Meares we are told, in 1788, hat the present book is by him, and, "raised for the first time," on the ndeed, he takes care to say, in a western coast of America, the British nodest, well worded introduction, that flag." This is incorrect, for supposing her reasons. The conclusion, thus Drake, when he took possession of fic seaboard. This thrilling national ern and Sirius first crossed, respectiveced upon the reader, is, that, prob- "New Albion" in 1579. This view is substantiated by an expages are made up of short ac- John McLaughlin, and other misspel- the United States, who," etc., etc. lualities, not doubt, in their locali- spelled,

is attempted. It does not appear plorer), came to the west of the Rocky settlement. To that they added arguo is responsible for these accounts Mountains by land, the British governthe careers of 399 individuals. The ment, by reason of its own explorasonal laudation, in many of these tions and discoveries, and the trade of the diplomatic correspondence. counts, forbids any autobiographic iggestion. Possibly the compiling Company's or Hudson's Bay Company's mpany," or its local agents, ob- action). on the northwest coast, had ned certain information from indi- refused to admit the exclusive sovluals, and set it in a more or less ereignty of any other power there, asing picture, suitable to the rela- From that position Britain never n between the seller and buyer of a flinched, but was ready to go to war, ok. That is a harmless commercial first with Spain and afterwards with ansaction, but, obviously, in the case the United States, to maintain it the few whom a historian might though not averse from an equitable we to notice, he could not very well compromise of the territorial questions cept the accounts referred to, with- involved, which comprise was efut knowing the authority on which fected, finally, in 1846. The principle hey are made. Interspersed, among of territorial continuity to the Pacific ese accounts of the 399 persons, are appertained to both the French and nany portraits of individuals, and, British Atlantic Coast dominions. lso, photographs of natural scenes, would be easy to show that Mr. Gosnd of two Oregon ruffed grouse, de- | nell's notion as to the influence of the ceased—all in a good style of art. fur companies upon the home govern-A useful part of the book-though ment has no valid historical support. ot quite correct-is the 19 page ap- but we lack space here for the exposipendix, containing a list of governors, tion. officials and parliamentarians, in the Scotchmen will be amused to learn wo colonies of Vancouver Island and that Alexander Mackenzie, the explorer, was "one of the Mackenzies of Sea-British Columbia. Thus, by a process of elimination, we forth, in Stornawery Island of Lewis"me to Mr. R. E. Gosnell's contribu-'Seaforth' being a great historic do-without a rebuff, because from the couver. ion of 298 pages to the book under re- main in the north of Scotland, and the ante bellum status, every convensays is not a "History," so far as he and about 40 miles from the mainland.

concerned. This lapse may be excused, as Mr. Gosnell is a good writer, and a Stornawery' is so far away, but what nan of candid mind, with a turn for are we to think of Mr. Gosnell's belief atient research, the results of which, that the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort the historic gift, which is as rare as the Fraser?"

iation of mankind, cannot at present son's Bay territories or other "ports," e known. What he proposes here is etc., presumably owing to the mention give the reader a general impres- of "ports" in some district along that on of the past, and to help the future bay, but this is inaccurate, and, indeed, storian by presenting a certain chain as printed, unintelligible. It was the facts in some connected form. There 43rd, George III. (1803) that first exas no particular call that we know of tended the jurisdiction of the courts of this presentation, as most of us Lower and Upper Canada, to certain ave a "general impression of the Any conscientious historian dian territories or parts of America, adjoining parts, "within any of the Inaling with events so recent, probably not within the limist of these provinces or of any civil government of the Unitn had he assurance of Mr. Gosnell's ed States." Doubts having arisen rectness, but, in any event, the latwhether this description included the condition must be paramount. The Hudson's Bay Co.'s "chartered" territer must stand or fall by the cortories, the act of 1821 declared that the tness and consistency of his stateact of 1803 was in force therein. It contained also provisions to regulate the Every man, though his style of writfur trade. It defined more particularly g, for literary purposes, may differ the "Indian Territories," and authornewhat, during his career, has a ised the appointment of judicial offie more or less peculiar throughout cers, and the issue of licences for exhimself, idiosynacratic to him, as his clusive Indian trade, to any company, beyond the one mentioned, in person or persons, within the lands or ice. There seem to be several coadterritories outside of those of the Hud-. Gosnell's contribution to the "big son's Bay Company, or of any North Some of the errors may be, on Arerican province, or belonging to the ir part, not on the part of Mr. Gos-United States-and so on. Mr. Gosell, but he is responsible for all of nell, supposedly writing to help some em, in their printed form. These future historian, has not got hold of re so numerous that we can only this important jurisdictional matter, mention here a few of them-passing either by the ears or tail. ver trivialties-to indicate the gen-Coming to more modern times, Mr. ral character of the chronicle. Gosnell refers to an "important pro-The hackneyed accounts of the early panish exploring voyages in the North acific may be accepted as they apar, under the revision of two such the main eastern boundary of Alaska reful investigators as Messrs. Schole- (which surveyors went from Victoria have built a similar fort where it tive institutions being granted in the ineld and Walbran, but not so the stateent that the English (British) vessels north from Mount St. Elias "in the the situation up to 1846. ere greatly superior to those of the course of the 21st meridian from panish in the 18th century, or at any Greenwich." The writer quotes from builders in Europe. is the 141st "degree" of longitude, hrs later" than 1575, Drake took which, substituting "meridian" for "desland in 1580. In another page Painstaking and candid as Mr. Gosing the Trans-Mississippi exposi- question dwarfing all others. Probably home government. at Omaha in 1898, saw hanging on he has not had an opportunity of exh at Omaha in 1898, saw hanging on wall there a map dated 1750, and re-amining the American side of the was not formed, as Mr. Gosnell states, the was simply "Governor" of a sparsely the latter's proposals of adj s ment d in 1783, which showed "New Al- question. He says: n" almost as distinctly as it showed by the united by the United States, who a new charter, under the former name. "chronicle," and though only half through United by the united by the

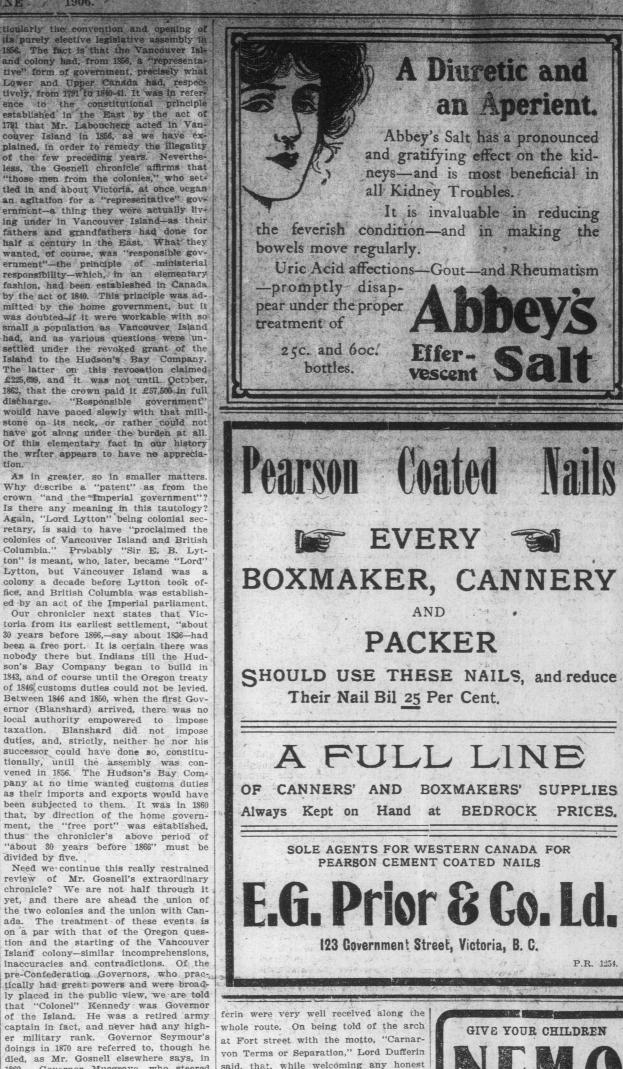
VICTORIA TIMES, JUNE 1906.

the northwest coast without appreciat-ing the Russian position on the more northerly part of it. In 1790, Russia 1856. The fact is that the Vancouver Islnortherly part of it. In 1990, Russia 1890, The fact is that the vancouver isl-admitted the Spanish elaim as far north as the first degree, but, as Spani weakened, Russian traders occupied a coast-strip south from that line, and. the above charter of 1799, inter alia, purported to give the Russian-Ameri-can Company sway on the coast down to the 55 degree (the 54 degrees 40 couver Island in 1856, as we have ex-minutes, afterwards so much heard of). Many changes followed this, the most of the few preceding years. Neverthe-Since acknowledging, in our columns, he receipt of a large, handsome olume entitled "A History of British columbla," we have been trying, at in-ervals, to reconcile it's title with the entents. It is published by the "Hill Americans. Citizens settled in Texas street with men who have done busi- mitted by the home government, but it and asked for admission to the Union. ness between Victoria and Sitka. Yet was doubted if it were workable with s The senate, in 1844, rejected a proposal he states that "the land was untrodden small a population as Vancouver Island had, and as various questions were unto that effect, nevertheless, the ques-tion became the keynote of the en-suing presidential election. The Demo-crats declared for the immediate an-crats declared for the immediate anson's Bay Co. got from Russia an Inseaboard up to the Russian line. They dian trading licence there we thinkdischarge. "Responsible government" elected Polk by a great majority, car- in 1839. would have paced slowly with that millrying even New York. The retiring Turning to Mr. Gosnell's account of

president (Tyler), on the last day of the ever interesting old steamer have got along under the burden at all. his term of office gave executive ap- "Beaver," built in 1835, he quite unne- Of this elementary fact in our history modest, well worded introduction, that so far as he is concerned the book is not a "History of British Columbia"; he could not at present think of such be could not at present think of such undertaking for want of time and been raised with great formality by ment for securing the northwest Paci-in a certain sense, for the Great West-Why describe a "patent" as from the emotion, actuating a government lately ly, in 1837 and 1888, but it conveys a Is there any meaning in this tautology crown "and the Imperial government"? by, the heading of the title page—"A istory of British Columbia"—is a two well known Spanish viceroys in a with Britain. It suffused the Oregon pool in 1818, and the Beaver never attwo well known Spanish viceroys in a single page is rather remarkable; the question, and constituted the danger, of the situation. Mr. Gosnell simply "Sir E, B. Lytton" is meant, who, later, became "Lord" nination of the contents of the book. contains 783 pages. Of that total, Hudson's Bay Company's factor, Dr. Says of it: "There was a party from' humor in some of Mr. Gosnell's pages a contained by an ex-single page is factor, Dr. So Lyt-ton' is meant, who, later, became "Lord" Lytton, but Vancouver Island was a -in the notion, for instance, that colony a decade before Lytton took ofnts of 399 persons-worthy indi- lings. "Fort McLaughlin" is correctly A further misconceptilon is in the "England" (meaning, doubtless, Bri- fice, and British Columbia was establishstatement that the Americans "rested tain), after quarter of a century's sus- ed by an act of the Imperial parliament. statement that the Americans lessed taily, after quarter of a convertient of the Imperial partial part ian of public affairs. Of the real board is due to the Hudson's Bay the seaboard and more particularly the of the land." The captain, he says, was been a free port. It is certain there was tables in this mass-men influential company. A generation before any history-no adequate characteriza- fur trader (barring Mackenzic, the ex- following exploration, discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the farly of the following exploration, discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "England's (query Britain's) prime software for the following exploration discovery and "Engl settlement. To that they added argumentatively, the above derivative that Sir Robert Peel occupied that of 1846 customs duties could not be levied. rights. Mr. Goshell cannot have had office from 1841 to 1846, and was suc- Between 1846 and 1850, when the first Govceeded by Lord John Russell. Aber- ernor (Blanshard) arrived, there was no deen, in 1845, was' secretary of state for local authority empowered to impose tached less importance to Mr. Green- foreign affairs. "Midshipman Peel taxation. Blanshard did not impose (afterwards the famous Sir William") duties, and, strictly, neither he nor his was Sir Robert's second son. The vis- successor could have done so, constitu-France to the United States in 1803. itors had no "mission"; they came in tionally, until the assembly was cona naval ship from the Pacific squadron vened in 1856. The Hudson's Bay Comon its ordinary visit, and naturally pany at no time wanted customs duties they wanted some hunting and fishing. as their imports and exports would have To reproduce their chatter is an offence been subjected to them. It was in 1860 against common sense and good taste, that, by direction of the home governand to style them "noble lords," is ment, the "free port" was established, ridiculous. They were, of course, com- thus the chronicler's above period of moners. "about 30 years before 1866" must be We should like to have Mr. Gosnell's divided by five. authority for the existence of Need we continue this really restrained

"Mudie's," as a publishing house in review of Mr. Gosnell's extraordinary 1833, or of the Illustratel London News, chronicle? We are not half through it that, "for nearly a years British sub- then, for the matter of that-also for yet, and there are ahead the union of jects had been the chief occupants of the statement that the "imporant base" the two colonies and the union with Canof Fort Alexandria, only yielded, an- ada. The treatment of these events is nually, 20 or 30 packs of peltries. We on a par with that of the Oregon questhought that the "brigade" from there tion and the starting of the Vancouver often numbered a couple of hundred Island colony-similar incomprehensions, such argument was ever used by Bri- horses, before the reinforcement at inaccuracies and contradictions. Of the such argument was ever used by Bri-tain, and could not have been used, Kamloops, en route for Fort Van-without a rebuilt because from the couver.

Most men have curious recurring ex-ly placed in the public view, we are told that "Colonel" Kennedy was Governor Treaty of Ghent, 1814, which restored the ante bellum status, every conven-imbia," but which, as above stated, meant) being a small town on an islstipulated that it should be free and by Lord Dufferin. "Untrod by white er military rank. Governor Seymour's open to the citizens and subjects of the two countries. Settlement or non-set- the expression in 1848, to the country died, as Mr. Gosnell elsewhere says, in thement—no action or inaction—by between Langley and Alexandria, either of the parties could strengthen though previously he had described the colony into the Dominion, is said to expression of opinion, he could not as or impair their respective filles to any Simon Fraser's party "folling over the that the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort or impair their respective titles to any the historic gift, which is as rare as the protection the discernment of govern-the noetic—the discernment of governthe poetic—the discernment of govern-ing causes—the power to make the past live again in the common appre-titic canadian courts were empowered to take cognizance of offences in the Hudthat, as the result of some equitable ed in 1824) ran not far to the eastward. proclaimed Victoria as the capital" in some arch. Nobody attempted to "turn compromise, they would find them- The peculiarity in Mr. Gosnell's case 1877-six years after the union with Can- his horses' heads up Fort street." Such selves in a congenial zone. is that the more traversed a region is ada! Among the usual minor blunders a statement is a libel on an orderly, loya What Mr. Gosnell possibly may have to him it is the least "trodden." Im- is the statement that Mr. J. W. Trutch people, among whom none were more been thinking of was the British argu- agination demands that the pharse, was knighted in 1871. He left office in orderly or loyal than the men who put ment, as to part of the territory, based somehow, shall be worked frequently 1876 without having been knighted. More up the arch. on exploration, discovery and partial into the narrative. settlement by Mackenzie, Fraser, Nomenclature is not Mr. Gosnell's that the British Columbian-Canadian Thompson and the Northwest Company strong point, but we have passed many treaty embodying the terms of union esting, is chapter VIII, dealing with the in the ante bellum period, that is be- errors so as not to appear too critical. gave the British Columbia people "full fore 1814-a conclusive argument, we Surely, however, he might spell correctly political power." The terms did not do think, in the premises on the part of Britain, and permissible down to 1846, Governor-General. Within two pages he is a but continued the constitution of the executive and legislature of British Colas the ante bellum status had been thrice calls him Lord "Gray," instead of umbia (subject to the B. N. A. Act), as Hudson's Bay Company, in a territory in restored in 1814. Strictly as far as the "Grey." Had the blunder occurred only at the time of the union, until they should which Britain and America disputed the American government was concerned, once we should have passed it as a be altered under that act. There was sovereignty, could amount to, is not apthe old Hudson's Bay Company did printer's error, not noticed in the revi- simply an "understanding" that if there- parent. The company, we have explainafter the British Columbia people denot come into the case, except as a sion. squatting applicant for certain com-Perhaps there has been no revision, sired responsible government, Canada, as pensation, on moral grounds, which the otherwise it could hardly be said on one far as she was concerned, would meet to other British subjects. Sir E. B. Lyt-British government succeeded in ob-taining for it in the treaty of 1846. That Chief Justice Cameron, and on another whether of old or modern dates, are not company was not trading west of the page that Mr. Needham (as the fact was) Mr. Gosnell's strong point. Rocky mountains at the date of the did not come to the country until 1865. convention of 1818. Its licence of ex- Mr. Labouchere is described in one of the main cause of the prolonged, bitclusive Indian trade between 1821 and place as "Secretary of State for Britain," 1846, only affected British subjects. an office absolutely unknown. Except towards the Arctic, north of It is a little cruel, though perhaps 54.40 latitude, the Hudson's Bay Com- strictly proper, on the part of Mr. Gospany up to 1846, had no better legal nell to reproduce Governor Douglas' first the terms of any distinct provision that status west of the Rocky mountains speech to the Vancouver Island legislalous and richest part of the provincethan any American company that tive assembly, 1856, in which, covering might have come in. Putting this con- from view with one hand the whole coloshould benefit directly by the construceretely, for our readers' appreciation; when the Hudson's Bay Company, in and with the other all the precedents of the fault was not on the part of Canada. "Black," but of the "Red," Douglas vision" of the Britannic-Russian (now 1843, began to build the fort at Vic- British constitutional history, the Goy- because the wording was drafted, pro- branch of the famous Scotch family. Mr. U. S.) treaty of 1825, to the effect that toria, any American company, with an ernor said that the occasion was remarkequal right or want of right, might able as the "first instance of representathe other day to mark off), was to go pleased, in the neighborhood. That was fancy of a British colony," and that, fancy of a British colony," and that, "according to constitutional usage, the the seaboard of British Columbia with In conclusion, it is odd that Mr. Gos-Mr. Gosnell has discovered a new assembly must 'originate' all money the railway system of Canada." Could nell should describe Sir Alexander Mac-anish in the 18th century, or at any direction was an-evious time. Naval architects know the treaty, but our impression is that at such was not the case, down even the meridian mentioned runs a little "while General Harney was placing" in 1793—a company he at such was not the case, down even the meridian mentioned runs a little "while General Harney was placing then much political history. The inner the days of Nelson. The Spanish, way west of Ireland, which is some American troops on San Juan." The fact is that Mr. Labouchere, who was the ish and Canadian governments on a held. Nor did Mackenzie ever trace the 7,000 miles from Alaska. In another later on the French, were the best builder on the French, were the best builder on the Gosnell states that the eastern houndary of Alaska that the eastern boundary of Alaska R. E., whose services were at the dis- Commons, concluded, after consulting the an interpretation made these govern- tance. That Sir George Simpson, 1828 posal of Governor Douglas of Van- law officers of the crown, that the forma- ments cast about for some gracious recouver Island. Mr. Gosnell, apparent- tion of the Vancouver Island colony, medial action. Hence the doings in the debted for our first knowledge of that session of part of California, call-it New Albion, and returned to be. convertisiand could and grand river" is another strange state-into a "general," but the admiral was been illegal, on the principles established been illegal on t not here when General Harney was by North American colonial history, by the latter's comparative straightfor-The is said to have taken such pos-ssion in 1588. In fact he did so in paste is said to have taken such pos-nell is, he does not appear to have mastered the elements of the "Oregon puestion"—the one great North Pacific orefer the San Juan question to the solution and the solution in the solution and the solut scribe Mr. Douglas as an "Imperial Vice- case on the part of the British colonial



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"There was a in 1789, but in 1799, when the Sheliakoff peopled colony. ited States, who Fur Trading Company, of Irkutok got With every desire to appreciate this

nexation of Texas, and also the Pacific

Had he done so, he would have at-

how's speculation as to the western

boundary of Louisiana, when ceded by

The British minister at Washington,

Mr. R. Pakenham, in 1844, wrote offi-

cially to the American government

that there was strong reason to sup-

pose that the acknowledged western

boundary of Louisiana was the Rocky

mountains, and he quotes a letter of

President Jefferson (in whose term the

cession occurred) written in August,

Again, Mr. Gosnell avers that the

strongest argument of the British was

the whole region, and, for the greater

part of that time, no United States

'subject' had lived west of the Rocky

mountains." The fact is, that no

1803, to that effect.

What the Briitsh "monopolists" were our review of it, we begin to long for a leading. He was received at Esquimalt on the Alaskan coast, or anywhere page that is not disfigured by some mis- by Sir James Douglas and members of near it, in the beginning of the 19th statement or unintelligible paragraph. the reception committee, and we are incentury, requires explanation. Many We must assume that Mr. Gosnell knows formed by the chairman of the commitprivate traders there were-poachers if the difference between a "crown colony," tee, who rode at his wheel from Esquiyou like, in relation to the Russian a "colony with representative institu-"monopoly"-but we do not know of any British "monopoly" in that quarter government." He tells us, and repeats, guard of children," commanded by Miss. then. No one can write intelligently about colony," though he has described par-"jeered and hooted," he and Lady Duf-

ed, was simply a squatting company with an Indian trade license, exclusive only as ton's long letter to Governor Douglas is worthy of reproduction from its literary

whether of old of modern dates, are not Mr. Gosnell's strong point. There is not a hint in his many pages of the main cause of the prolonged, bit-ter conflict between British Columbia and the Dominion, which at one time threatened to break up the whole con-federation. That was the absence from the torus of the size provision that the torus of the discussion of the size production from its interary co.'s license, was much laughed at when issued. Mr. Gosnell's characterization of Sir James is rather disappointing, but the is right in calling him a great road-buildor. His protection from the state of the size production from the threatened to break up the whole con-federation. That was the absence from the torus of any distinct provision that

builder. His portrait in the book is a Vancouver Island-the then most popu- very fine one. The name of Mr. Charles Good, who married his daughter, is not "Goode." Mr. Douglas, we may add, so posed and repeated by the British Colum- O'Reilly was never "Indian commissioner" bian authorities. The railway had to be of the province, but he was for a time made "from the Pacific towards "he "Indian reserve commissioner," under

known as the "Carnarvon Terms."

The account, in the chronicle, of Lord

malt to Government House-where the

was one of those "to whom we are in

raising canaries. More profitable than chickens. All indoors. You'll get \$2.50 to \$5.50 each for young singers. Experience unnecessary. To get you interested quickly we send COTTAM BIRD BOOK (thousands sold at 25.1 and two cakes pany's explorations and trading stations

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near the river, dating from a score of

years previously, as Father Morice in-

ter singly records. Everybody should

work, but the true history of the conn-

try is of interest to its people. Our criti-

cism easily might be extended, but pro-

bably enough has been said to show that

the chronicle cannot be of any service to

Every mother, who sends us her name and address, will receive a generous free sample-enough for eight meals-of

Free to Mothers

al Morice, one of the best historical riters in the province, as regards the district he deals with. It is an unpleasant duty to have to point out these defects in Mr. Gosnell's

Nestle's hund Best for Babies. THE LEEMING, MILES CO., Limited, MONTREAL.



The least incorrect part of Mi. Gosners chronicle, and, perhaps, the most inter-esting, is chapter VIII., dealing with the "organization of the Mainland," but here, too, misstatements abound, sometimes arising from a certain habit of grandilo-quence. What the "sovereignty" of the Hudson's Bay Company, in a territory in







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