

Canadian steamships crosses the Pacific with wonderful regularity, to exchange the productions and manufactures of the young Dominion for those of the ancient lands of India, China and Japan. Another line, not greatly inferior in size and accommodation, traverses more than a quarter of the distance round the globe, returning with fruits and other products of Australia and the islands that lie along this great route across the pathless ocean. Every week, the Pacific Steamship Company's steamers bring mails, passengers and freight from San Francisco, the greatest western port of the United States, meeting often on their way ships laden with coal from the collieries of Vancouver Island.

To and from the cities on Puget Sound steamers ply daily to supply us with many things that the busy  
**Commercial** brains and skilful hands of our kinsfolk in the  
**Activity.** neighboring republic have prepared for our use, taking in return such products of our mines, our fisheries and our forests as will find a market there.

From Vancouver and Victoria, during summer, numbers of steamers carry to the miners of Northern British Columbia and the Yukon, food, clothing, machinery, furniture and books, and whatever else will help to make life in the far north comfortable, prosperous and happy. All along the coast of Vancouver Island and the mainland, are fur-trading, fishing and mining settlements which furnish a profitable trade to the merchants of Victoria and Vancouver.

Besides the ships bent on peaceful errands, gun-boats were formerly seen in British Columbia waters, Esquimalt being until recently, the British naval station for the Pacific Coast.