

The Old Ship's Requiem.*

Forlorn in the lonesome North she lies,
That never again will course the sea,
All heedless of calm or stormy skies,
Or the rocks to windward or a lee;
For her day is done
And her last port won—
Let the wild, sad waves her minstrel be.

She will roam no more on the ocean trails,
Where her floating scarf of black was seen
Like a challenge proud to the shrieking gales
By the mighty shores of overgreen;
For she lies at rest
With a painless breast
In the rough sea's clasp and all serene.

How the world has changed since she kissed the tide
Of the storied Thames in the Georgian reign
And was pledged with wine as the bonny bride
As the West's Isle-gemmed barbaric main—
With a dauntless form
That could breast the storm
As she wove the magic commercial chain.

For science has gemmed her brow with stars
For many and many a mystic field,
And the nations have stood in crimsoned wars
And thrones have fallen and empires reeled
Since she sailed that day
From the Thames away,
Under God's blue sky and St. Georges shield.

And the world to which, as a pioneer,
She first came trailing her plume of smoke,
Is beyond the dreams of the clearest seer
That ever in lofty symbols spoke—
In the arts of peace
In all life's increase
And all that the gold-browed stross invoke.

A part of this was a work of her's,
In a daring life of fifty years;
But the sea-gulls row are her worshippers,
Wheeling with cries more sad than tears,
Where she lies alone,
And the surges moan—
And slowly the north sky glooms and clears.

And may we not think, when the pale mists glide,
Like the sheeted dead by that rocky shore,
That we hear in the rising, rolling tide
The call of the captain's ring once more?
And it well might be,
So forlorn is she,
Where the weird winds sigh and the wan birds soar.

SAMUEL L. SIMPSON, in *Northwest Magazine*.

* This poem refers to the old Hudson's Bay Co.'s steamship *Beaver*, which was the first steam vessel on the north Pacific coast. She came out from London some time in the forties. Her hull now lies on the rocks in Burrard Inlet, British Columbia.—Ed.

The Population of British Columbia.

"According to the tabulation of the population of British Columbia, as it is given in the first volume of the census, just issued," says the *Vancouver World* of April 20th, "Cariboo is credited with 5,519 inhabitants, but whether whites, Indians or Chinese is not stated. For census-taking purposes that electoral district was divided into 11 sub-districts, and the population thereof was as follows:—

Alexandria	671
Aikali Lake	534
Big Bar	234
Clinton	388
Keithley Creek	840
Lac la Hache	207
Lightning Creek	125
Lillooet	1,088
Quesnelo	706
Richfield	316
Williams Creek	410

Total

The area of this district embraces 114,265 square miles, equal to 73,129,600 acres of land.

New Westminster electoral district, in the publication of the census as given in the volume before us, appears to have been differently dealt with from any other in the Dominion, and an explanation should be forthcoming at once as to why this is so. For instance, this

enormous district—an empire as regards its extent—as it appears in print is credited with a population of 42,228, made up thus: New Westminster, 21,889; New Westminster city, 6,678; and Vancouver, 13,709. An area of 204,050 square miles, embracing some 130,592,000 acres of land, appears as having been only subdivided into three districts. We are aware that complete returns were sent in to the census bureau showing the population and the other data relative to the district, all of which at this juncture would be of vast importance. Until explanations are forthcoming, it would be unfair to enlarge upon this all important omission, forming as it does, a vital factor in the discussion on the redistribution of seats in the Legislature. The dwelling-houses in the district, occupied, are given at 4,698, while in the next column the houses are returned as being in number only 3,853. The dwelling-houses in New Westminster city were 1,143, those occupied, 1,054; in Vancouver city the occupied houses were 2,492, and the houses, 2,231.

Vancouver district (including the city of Nanaimo) was divided into 14 sub-districts, showing a population of 13,229 souls, and an area of 15,931 square miles and 10,196,013 acres, as follows:

Alberni	191
Comox	548
Comox, S.	140
Cowichan N.	921
Cowichan S.	413
Gabriola Island	125
Coldstream and Sooke	3,270
Lake and Highland	335
Mayne Island	197
Mountain	1,625
Nanaimo	6,512
Saanich	610
Salt Spring Island	436
West Shore	2,906

Total

Victoria City's population is 16,841, and that of the district, 18,538. The area occupied by the city is 2.90, and the acreage, 1,856; but as part of the adjacent country is attached to Victoria for the House of Commons elections, the mileage area of the rural section is 68.73, and the acreage 43,987. The district was subdivided into six divisions, thus:—

Victoria, James Bay Ward	3,873
Victoria, Johnson street Ward	5,707
Victoria, Yates street Ward	4,261
Esquimalt	740
Metchozin	215
Victoria	742

Total

The number of families in Victoria is 3,228 against Vancouver's 2,653; dwelling houses occupied 3,187, and houses 3,089.

Yale district has a population of 13,661 scattered over an area of 47,985 square miles, embracing 30,710,460 acres. This district was subdivided into 14 divisions. It is credited with having 3,504 families, 3,537 houses occupied, 3,393 houses and by divisions shows the following population:—

Cacho Creek	697
Douglas Lake	303
Grand Prairie	826
Hope	774
Kamloops	1,517
Kootenay, Lower	1,220
Kootenay, Upper	2,185
Lytton	1,323
Nicola	752

Okanagan Mission	348
Osoyoos	711
Priest's Valley	730
Princeton	220
Spallumcheen	1,342
Spence's Bridge	307
Yale	392

Total

There were 20,718 families in the Province, averaging 4.7; the males numbering 63,003, and the females, 35,170. Of this number, 18,111 were married males, and 14,809 females, making a total of 33,620 married people. The widowers numbered 1,612, and the widows, 1,890. Under the heading of Children and Unmarried, we find 42,580 males, and 18,471 females; the grand total being given in this tabulation as 96,992.

Many of the other classifications have already been published in these columns. There is one, however, which is important. In giving the gross population of the province in 1871, the number is mentioned as being 36,247, and by reference to a foot note we are informed that of these no less than 25,661 were Indians. No other reference that we have seen is made anywhere to the natives. The population in 1881 had increased to 49,459, and in 1891 it is published as being 93,173, a slight increase in the total already published by us."

British Columbia Notes.

The citizens of Kaslo are applying for a charter of incorporation for their town.

At a preliminary public meeting held recently in Nanaimo it was decided to establish a Horticultural Society.

The *Westminster Columbian*, of April 10th, says: "Eight Japs renounced allegiance to the Emperor of Japan this morning and became full-fledged British subjects."

The Westminster Board of Works proposes to spend \$17,870 of the city's revenue this year in street repairs, new sidewalks and crossings, box drains, salaries, etc.

The Government steamer *Quadra* has returned from Northern British Columbia where she was investigating the trouble among the Indians, resulting from the reported massacre on Sorrow Island. The police officers report all quiet among the Indians now.

It is proposed to raise the number of men in the three garrison artillery batteries in Victoria to 110 men each, giving a total strength of 330. This force will form a reserve for the defence of the Esquimalt fortifications.

A Vancouver Island two-pence half-penny stamp of 1861 brought the sum of \$111 at a recent sale of rare stamps held in New York. The purchaser was a Toronto gentleman. This was the highest price brought by any in the collection.

Vancouver World: "From Southern Okanagan comes the news that live stook has wintered all right and that the snow between Oro, Washington, and Krugers, B. C., is disappearing rapidly. Lake Okanagan was frozen over when our report left, but the warm chinooks which have prevailed since, it is believed will have pretty well melted the ice into water. Mining news about Fairview was uninteresting,