

PREFACE.

The need of a work like the one here submitted to the public is especially manifest in British Columbia. Until a few years ago this province was cut off from the rest of the Dominion by what seemed an insuperable barrier, and communication was necessarily of a limited and unsatisfactory character. The result was that to the outside world, the history of the province and of the men who were guiding its affairs was almost entirely unknown. Since the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway the condition of things in the Province has radically altered. The population is rapidly increasing by immigration from the East and the early settlers who underwent the storm and stress of pioneer life and made the new condition of things possible are rapidly passing away. If this book assists in preserving the names of some of these "old timers" it will not be valueless.

I desire to return thanks to those citizens of Victoria, Nanaimo and New Westminster who rendered me valuable assistance in collecting material for my historical sketch. Among the published books I made use of was William's directory for 1882, which contains a large amount of reliable information, carefully compiled and arranged, concerning early colonial history.

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