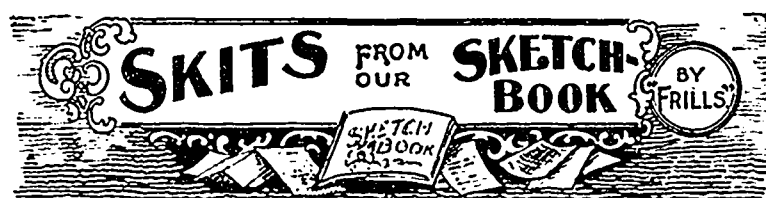


# THE SENATOR

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## WESTWARD—HO !

(Continuation of Their Excellencies trip to the far North-West.)

Leaving Brandon, which with its huge grain elevators and enormous mills, is after Winnipeg the largest and most important town in the North-West, the vice-regal party journeyed on over the prairie.

"A glimmering plain in drowsy trance  
The dim horizon bounds,  
Where all the air is resonant  
With sleepy summer sounds,  
The life that sings among the flowers,  
The hissing of the breeze,  
The hot Cicala's sultry cry,  
The murmurous drone of bees.  
In verduous tumult far away  
The prairie billows gleam,  
Upon their crests in blessing rests  
The noon-tide's gracious beam.  
Low quivering vapours streaming dim  
The level splendour break,  
Where languid lilies deck the rim  
Of some land-circled lake."

On past splendid farms, and ranches with their huge herds of cattle, on and on, through and over the Rocky Mountains, into the Selkirk over the great black gorge of the Fraser through a forest of gigantic trees, many of them twelve feet in diameter, until on the morning of July 30th by the Imperial Limited, they arrived at that most wonderful young city, Vancouver, which in June 1886 was completely wiped out of existence by fire, with the exception of one solitary building, but which now stands a beautiful city, magnificently laid out, and most handsomely built up, having already a population of somewhat over twenty thousand.

Its marvellous growth may be accounted for, from the fact, that it is the western terminus of that "great iron girdle" which has given such enormous development to the Dominion, the Canadian Pacific Railway, and that its harbour, which is one of the finest in the world, is the shipping point for Japan, China and Australia. Here also, the miners of British Columbia and the Yukon district obtain their outfits and supplies.

As the vice-regal train pulled up at the depot a salute was fired by the war-ships, and the Governor-General and Countess of Minto were received by Mayor Garden and the aldermen, the Duke of Connaught's Rifles and the Vancouver Veterans' corps, counterparts of those brave Canadians who on the burning plains of Africa, have won such glory for themselves and added such lustre to the Empire.

The men were in their field uniform wearing hats turned up at the left side, similar to the Colonial regular felts.

In the afternoon their Excellencies drove through the city, and the famous Stanley Park, which is quite lovely. They visited hospitals and public buildings, and were immensely impressed by the beauty and extraordinary growth of Vancouver, where Lord Minto had visited fifteen years ago, when it was chiefly forest. Now on every side, every comfort, luxury, and refinement. A splendid service of Electric trains runs all through the city, and to and from New Westminster, which is at a distance of twelve miles on the Fraser River.

The well-kept streets, paved with asphalt, arranged and laid out with so much fore-thought and good taste, would be creditable to any

city, and especially won the approbation of Lady Minto, who, as we all know, takes a warm personal interest in that most practical, necessary, and desirable possession for any, and every country, good roads.

In this respect it would seem that the towns of Western Canada furnish an example well worthy of emulation by the people of older Canada. They should not forget that good roads, and cleanliness in their keeping, are one of the highest evidences of an advanced civilization.

The vice-regal party spent the night on board the flag-ship, and left in the morning for Victoria where their Excellencies' children remained during the visit to Dawson.

Owing to the lamented death of the Duke of Edinburgh, second son of our beloved Sovereign, there was no official reception at Victoria, the charming "city of Flowers," to the Governor General.

In every loyal heart throughout the Dominion of Canada the tenderest sympathy was felt, and expressed, for the dear old Queen Mother, who year after year, has been called upon to bear with patient anguish the parting from some beloved child or friend.

"As the careworn cheek grows wan,  
And sorrow's shafts fly thicker,  
The stars that measure life to man,  
Do scan your courses quicker !

It may be strange, yet who would change  
Time's course to slower speeding,  
When one by one, our friends have gone  
And left our bosoms bleeding ?"

On the fourth of August Their Excellencies left Victoria on the Dominion Government steamer Quadra, bound for Skaguay.

At Metlakatla a most interesting stop was made, the vice-regal party visiting several Indian villages and the Industrial School which at this point is maintained by the government at the cost of some six thousand dollars a year. The boys and girls are taught at these institutions, in different buildings, and besides regular class-work, that is, religious instruction, followed by the usual round of reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, dictation, history, composition and drawing, the girls are taught house work, cooking and baking, laundry and needle work, dressmaking, knitting and crocheting, and the boys begin to learn a trade when they are thirteen years. There are workshops for carpenter, shoemakers and blacksmiths. The buildings forming the boys' division were erected by the pupils working under the direction of their instructors, in fact nothing has been carried out by outside labour since the school was first started in an old store-house fitted up for the reception of boys.

The pupils take much interest in gardening. There are flower-beds, pretty and well-kept, a variety of vegetables and fruit trees, goose-berry, currant and raspberry bushes, all giving good returns. This training and educational work has a very far-reaching, and permanent influence, and the progress made in the various branches has been most gratifying. Both the boys and girls of these industrial schools, have been very successful in their competition for prizes at the Agricultural Show. The church at Metlakatla is one of the finest and largest in British Columbia and was built by the Indians themselves. Their Excellencies attended divine service at which the Bishop of Columbia officiated.

At Alert Bay the immense cannery was inspected, and Lord and Lady Minto had the pleasure of seeing a splendid haul of over two hundred salmon. The fishing industry of British Columbia, always remarkable, has in the matter of this most edible of fish increased enormously, particularly since the establishment of hatcheries, the annual salmon pack amounting to upwards of four millions of dollars a year. There are no less than sixty-two canneries in operation.