

NOTES EN ROUTE.

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On her route to Nanaimo the Princess Victoria proceeds by way of Haro Strait, passing Sidney Inlet, at the head of Saanich Peninsula, at about 6:30 A.M. Sidney, sixteen miles from Victoria, is the terminus of the Victoria Terminal Railway, which connects with the Mainland by a ferry, carrying freight and passengers. The little town of Sidney commands a fine view of the numerous islands which deck the Straits, and the Olympian mountains in the distance. Saanich Peninsula contains some of the best agricultural land in the Province, and a number of prosperous farmers are located between Sidney and Victoria City.

Rounding the Peninsula, the steamer sails through Satellite and Stuart Channels and Sanson Narrows, which separate Vancouver Island from Salt Spring Island. Passing the Narrows to the right of Vesuvius Bay, a turn to the right brings her into Osborne Bay, the site of Crofton, where the copper-smelting plant of the Northwestern Smelting and Refining Company is located. This forms a very delightful sail among numerous islands, with a continuous panorama of picturesque effects.

Crofton is a new town, to which the smelting industry carried on at this point has given growth. The smelter has a capacity of 700 tons a day, and is most modern in design. It is supplied by the copper-gold ores of the Lenora Mine, Mount Sicker, and other Vancouver Island and Coast mines. By means of a converting plant, the matte is made into blister copper, two car-loads of which is produced every week. The general average of the ores handled at Crofton is from \$12 to \$30 per ton in gold, silver and copper; but some yields are as high as \$50 in all values.

Leaving Crofton, the Princess continues up Stuart Channel to Horseshoe Bay and lands her passengers at Chemainus, where the Victoria Lumbering and Manufacturing Company's mills are situated. These mills have a capacity of 320,000 feet a