BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Clay, Samuel Alfred, (Victoria), born at Derby, England, on December 13th, 1832. Educated at Derby. Left school at the age of 15 years and was apprenticed to a clothier and outfitter in He remained at this business for fourteen years his native town. when, in consequence of the glowing accounts published in the English press regarding British Columbia, he left England and came to this country, landing at Victoria in October, 1861, after sailing around Cape Horn. The condition of the country did not fulfil his expectations, but he decided to make the best of it. He first tried his fortune at mining, but proving unsuccessful he purchased a sloop and spent some time sailing between the Island and Mainland, In 1863 he, with others, went prospecting in transporting freight. the Similkameen country, where they endured great privations without being successful in their search. After this Mr. Clay mined for four years in Cariboo, and his labors there were partially successful. He made considerable money on Antler Creek and along Bear He then went to Omineca where he mined for one season River. without, however, making anything. Upon leaving Omineca he went to Victoria, where he established the business which he still conducts. His commercial venture proved very successful, and a few years later he opened a branch business at Elgin, which has also proved a paying investment. Mr. Clay has large investments in Victoria and the district and is interested in the progress of the Province. He has been solicited to stand as a candidate for the City Council and also for the Legislature, but has steadily declined on account of the demands his own business make on his time.

Clute, John Stillwell, (New Westminster), second son of J. S. Clute, of Kingston, Ontario, was born on June 15th, 1840, at Kingston. He is of United Empire Loyalist stock, his paternal ancestors having settled in New York in the early part of the last century. During the revolution his great grandfather took part on the loyalist side and after the termination of hostilities the family removed to Canada and settled near Kingston. When the rebellion of 1837, headed by William Lyon Mackenzie, broke out, Mr. Clute's father was in arms on behalf of the Government. Mr. Clute received his elementary education at Kingston, and when ten years of age removed to Picton with his father, who had been appointed the customs officer at that port. He completed his education at the

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