

*Ans.*—There have been so many fluctuations in the values of farming lands and mill property during the years that I resided in Oregon, that it is almost impossible to state definitely what at any time may be their value, so much depending upon the circumstances of the owners. I can however state, that I have generally kept myself informed as to the prices of real estate in all the more prominent localities in Oregon.

*Int. 12.*—State, if you can, what was the value of the Hudson's Bay Company's property at and around Vancouver at the time of the Treaty, and at various times up to the present?

*Ans.*—In 1846 there were so few settlers in the neighbourhood, that the Hudson's Bay Company appeared to have the use of all the land they wanted, and I never knew what extent of land they claimed. If, however, it comprises or did comprise the boundaries I have given in answer to a previous question, it would amount to about two hundred and fifty square miles, or one hundred and sixty thousand acres which ought to average at least two dollars and a half an acre, taking the wild and improved lands together. Since 1846 the site of the Company's old establishment at Vancouver and the river landing has become valuable, from the fact of a town having been built there, and the land divided up and sold as town lots. The farming land in the neighbourhood has risen in value from this cause, and from the town having been made the county seat of Clarke country.

*Int. 13.*—What was the main trade carried on at the Hudson's Bay Company's posts, and what relation did the post of Vancouver bear to the others?

*Ans.*—The main trade carried on at the different posts, to which I suppose you allude, was trading furs. Vancouver was the entrepôt for the supply of the different posts owned by the Hudson's Bay Company on the West side of the Rocky Mountains. It was from Vancouver that these posts were furnished with trading goods and provisions, and to which they brought the furs traded in the interior. The relation that the post of Vancouver bore to the others was that it was the focus of the whole trade and the headquarters of the District. Every post West of the Rocky Mountains was supplied from Vancouver, both in the interior, and on the sea coast.