



CITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

two miles to the north where, in Esquimalt Harbour, the vessels of Her Majesty's navy lie at anchor, and the surrounding fortifications tell of the well-defended position of this magnificent naval station.

Constituting the western outpost of the Dominion the coast defences are here of special importance; therefore, besides being the headquarters of the Pacific Squadron, detachments of Royal Marine Artillery and Royal Engineers have been quartered in the barracks at Macaulay point, whilst the militia force, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Gregory, is an exceptionally fine corps.

The main part of the Queen City is built on the slope of a hill at whose foot lies the harbour of Victoria (as distinct from Esquimalt Harbour), where all the shipping trade of the port is carried on, and the wharves of the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company, the Hudson's Bay Company, R. P. Rithet & Co., and others, line the shore. Connected by excellent steamship services with the Puget Sound ports, as well as Vancouver, the Fraser River, and

Californian ports and Alaskan points, the docks are always busy, the trans-oceanic vessels of the Canadian Pacific line to China and Japan, of the Canadian Australian route, and of the Northern Pacific S.S. line, all making Victoria a port of call. It may here be mentioned that the tonnage of the port is amongst the largest in the Dominion.

During the rush to the Klondyke last summer an immense outfitting trade was done by merchants in the Queen City, and a great impetus was thereby given to trade. This formed the commencement of a new era of good times, for Victoria, like her sister cities on the



THREE CHINESE SAILOR-BOYS.