

Government of Canada, paid a large sum of money to the Hudson Bay Company in order that its control over these regions might no longer hinder the founding of settlements whenever the soil and climate were suitable. Immediately afterwards a new Province was laid out called *Manitoba*. It is situated in the very centre of North America and includes the former Red River settlement. Its southern boundary borders on the territory of the United States. Manitoba is a small Province, being about 150 miles long and 100 miles wide. Its capital is Winnipeg. The population in 1870, when the census was taken, was 12,000. It has a regular Government the same as the other Provinces now belonging to Canada.

244. Beyond the Rocky Mountains is the Province of British Columbia, reaching from the shore of the Pacific Ocean to the range of the Rocky Mountains. The large island *Vancouver*, as well as the *Queen Charlotte Islands*, belong to this Province. Its capital is *Victoria* and on the mainland the chief town is *New Westminster*. British Columbia has upwards of fifty thousand inhabitants, of whom nearly forty thousand are Indians. This province is also rich in every thing needed for the support and happiness of its people. The climate is fine and far from being as severe as that of the Eastern Canadian Provinces.

CHAPTER LIV.

The Dominion of Canada.

245. In the year 1867 a law was made to unite the British North American Provinces, under the name of "*The Dominion of Canada*."

At first, four of these Provinces were thus united: namely, *Upper Canada*, *Lower Canada*, *Nova Scotia*, and *New Brunswick*.

The name of *Upper Canada* was changed to "*Ontario*" and that of *Lower Canada* to "*Quebec*"