

The Dominion Illustrated.

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PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.—A canvasser for the DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, who has been entrusted with subscription receipt books numbered 2621 to 2640 inclusive, in Victoria, has failed for two or more weeks to render an account of them. Citizens are warned against accepting any number ranging between the above figures.



The present issue of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED is intended to show what can be accomplished by concentrating on a particular locality the attention which we ordinarily devote to the resources and scenery of the country at large. We have endeavoured to make the people of Eastern Canada acquainted with the history, progress and present condition of Victoria, with its people, its leading men, its commerce and industries, and the rare beauties of its scenery. We trust that the results of our efforts will prove satisfactory to our readers, both in Canada and out of it. We also hope that this plan of making known their local habitation and themselves to their fellow-countrymen, and to the great outside world, may find favour with other Canadian communities. The Dominion is a vast region. We are only gradually becoming aware of the extent and variety of its natural wealth, of its wondrously diversified scenery, of its boundless possibilities. To lay these worthily before the public by pen and picture is the task that for nearly two years we have been endeavouring to discharge. Something has been done—enough, we hope, to justify the name and existence of this paper. But much still remains to be done. In fact, we are as yet but a little way past the starting-point, and the goal of achievement, of which our title gives the promise, is still far off. To attain that goal triumphantly, we must have the sympathy and coöperation of intelligent and patriotic Canadians. We believe that the undertaking deserves their help, and many, we are assured, are disposed to assist us. This Victoria number shows that they can do so, while at the same time promoting their own interests.

Although the political history of British Columbia does not yet embrace half a century, the province has during that time passed through several changes parallel, in some respects, to those which our Atlantic provinces have undergone. The erection of the Hudson Bay Company's fort at Victoria was succeeded six years later by the organization of the island into a colony, with Mr. R. Blanchard as Governor. In 1851 Mr. Blanchard's place was taken by Mr. (afterwards Sir) James Douglas. Under his rule a council was first established, and then provision was made for the election of a House of Assembly. The mainland was not constituted a colony until 1859, and

for some time subsequent it was under the supervision of the Governor of Vancouver's Island. In 1864, on Governor Douglas's retirement, Governor Kennedy was appointed to succeed him at Victoria, while Governor Seymour was given the jurisdiction of the mainland, with New Westminster as his metropolis. Two years later the colonies were united, and five years afterwards British Columbia entered the Dominion. With the exception of two years, Victoria has been the capital of our Pacific Province since its first organization.

"There is no fairer land in the world," writes the Marquis of Lorne, "than the country about Victoria, the capital of Vancouver. The climate of much of the island is like that of Devonshire or Jersey." Prof. John Macoun, the botanist of the Geological Survey, in recording his experience of a visit to Victoria in the latter part of December, 1872, mentions that, a fall of snow having taken place, the papers came out next day with an account of the extraordinarily cold weather, and he was led to infer from the surprise expressed that such weather was not common in winter. "Jessamines, roses and violets," he adds, "were in flower, and everything betokened a mild winter. The summer on the coast is everything that can be desired, being dry and pleasant." A New Yorker, writing home after his arrival at Victoria, said: "If any citizen will bring his family here for one summer, he will find the truth to be that Victoria combines in itself more advantages as a summer resort than any of the eastern resorts with which he is probably familiar. Victoria must become the great summer resort of the Pacific coast. No seaside place further south has this cool and even temperature of seventy degrees, from which, during even the warmest part of the day, the thermometer seldom varies ten degrees either way between June and September. * * * And it is worthy of note that, as we are credibly informed, there is not a mosquito on the island. Certainly we have seen none." The same writer extols the satisfactory cuisine that awaits the tourist on his return from the various expeditions to which the myriad resources of the island continually invite him—a point on which the Very Rev. Dean Carmichael and Principal Grant have also laid stress. Then he goes on to speak of the admirable roads, the delightful drives through a bewildering wealth of forest beauty—pine, fir, cedar, oak, and all the hardier trees.

Speaking at Victoria on the 10th of September, 1876, Lord Dufferin, a veteran yachtsman, thus referred to his trip on British Columbian waters: "Such a spectacle as its coast line presents is not to be paralleled by any country in the world. Day after day for a whole week, in a vessel of nearly 2,000 tons, we threaded an interminable labyrinth of watery lanes and reaches that wound endlessly in and out of a network of islands, promontories and peninsulas for thousands of miles, unruffled by the slightest swell from the adjoining ocean, and presenting at every turn an ever shifting combination of rock, verdure, forest, glacier and snow-capped mountain of unrivalled grandeur and beauty. When it is remembered that this wonderful system of navigation, equally well adapted to the largest line of battle ship and the frailest canoe, fringes the entire seaboard of your province, and communicates at points some times more than a hundred miles from the coast with a multitude of valleys stretching eastward into the

interior, while at the same time it is furnished with innumerable harbours on either hand, one is lost in admiration at the facilities for inter-communication which are thus provided for the future inhabitants of this wonderful region."

The Rev. Principal Grant is equally enthusiastic in describing the voyage down the Gulf of Georgia to Victoria—with the agricultural districts of Cowichan and Saanich on the Vancouver side, the islands that fringe the mainland opposite, and Mount Baker, the great feature in the landscape. Gazing at the giant sentinel of the Sound, he cannot help resenting the avarice and ignorance that robbed Canada of such a landmark. Its very name is evidence of Great Britain's right by priority of discovery. Joseph Baker was the third, as Peter Puget was the second, lieutenant of the Discovery. "On the fourth of April, 1792, the birthday of King George III., after whom he had named the Straits of Georgia, Captain Vancouver took formal possession for His Majesty of all the waters of Puget Sound and of the coast north and south along which he sailed. All the prominent capes, points, harbours, straits, mountains, bear to this day the names of his lieutenants and friends, just as he named them on his great voyage. He changed nothing. As the old Portuguese navigator, Juan de Fuca, had discovered the Straits of Fuca, his name was honorably preserved, and as Vancouver met a Spanish squadron that had been sent out to give up Nootka and other Spanish claims on the coast to Great Britain, he adopted the names that the Dons had given to any channels or islands, such as Valdez, Texada, Straits of Malaspina, etc." From his first lieutenant, Zechariah Mudge, he named Cape Mudge; Johnstone's Channel, from the Master of the Chatham; Mount Rainer, from Rear Admiral Rainer; Fort Discovery, from his vessel, thus creating a memorial of possession which he never dreamed that a future generation would slight. Away south on the Columbia was a later reminder of Vancouver's visit in that most flourishing of Hudson Bay Company's establishments, on which Sir George Simpson dwelt with such pride in the record of his great journey. Fort Vancouver, the site of which was a point of land near the junction of the Willamette or Wallamet (as Irving calls it) and the Columbia, was named after his captain by Lieut Broughton, commander of the Chatham. Had the English offer to compromise on the 49th degree to the Columbia, and thence by that river to the ocean, found acceptance, that older Vancouver would now probably be a great Canadian city, and a worthy monument to the patriotism of the British explorer.

The *Daily Colonist*, of Victoria, considers Herr Geffcken's article in the *Fortnightly Review*, to which we have already referred, the ablest and clearest exposition of the fisheries question that has yet appeared in print. His argument on the United States claim to exclusive jurisdiction in Behring's Sea our contemporary deems unanswerable. It is brought to a close in these words:—"The assertion of that court (at Sitka) that the latter is a land-locked sea is, therefore, utterly unfounded, far more so as in 1821 Russia at least was in possession of both coasts of that part of the Pacific, whilst the United States only possess the eastern coast, and the western is formed by Kamtchatka. The American position is, therefore, clearly untenable, and the grievance that