

hardy and aspiring farmer tends his flocks and herds and cultivates his fields, forcing the forest back and farther back by his toil, adding acre by acre to his homestead.

Ascending the hills surrounding the broad stretches of the valley, several of which rise to a height of 2,000 feet, the eye commands a grand and extensive prospect. To the northwest the scene presented is that of a succession of rugged pine-clad hills from which on a warm spring day the incessant hoot of the blue grouse is heard, and where deer roam in comparative safety from the rifle of the hunter.

From east to west stretch the snow-capped mountains of the Olympian range, at whose base lie the waters of the spacious Straits of Fuca, glittering in sunshine or torn into fury by the ocean winds, but alike in calm or storm bearing on their bosom the argosies of the world.



His Majesty's Mail—One of the Stages
Between Otter Point, Sooke and
Victoria

on the shingle. From the Point the view is one of great beauty and extent.

The road from Sooke to Otter Point, seven miles long, passes through a belt of majestic pines, tall, straight, and clean, their roots covered deeply with soft green moss, amid which may be seen frequent clusters of the dainty and sweet-scented little orchid, familiarly known as Lady Slipper, purple and yellow violets and masses of fragrant woodruff. The approach to Otter Point is usually heralded by the deep boom of the breakers on the beach as the swell from the Pacific rolls in to break in high flung spray on the rocks or in a smother of yeasty foam

The People.—The settlement is purely English speaking, the district having been fortunate in attracting settlers of the best kind from the prairie provinces, England, Scotland and Ireland. Other settlers there are none. The result is flourishing schools, church congregations, farmers' institutes, development associations, and other forms of co-operation—an ex-