

District Descriptions.

It will be noticed that in this number *THE COLONIST* reproduces several lengthy articles on different districts of the Territories, which originally appeared in the leading papers of the districts which they describe. These were prepared, we understand, with a view to aiding intending settlers to choose suitable localities, and the issues containing them were widely circulated in the eastern provinces. *THE COLONIST* reproduces them in the hope that by reason of its special facilities for reaching incoming and intending settlers it will help to carry out this object.

British Columbia.

The *Victoria Colonist* in a supplement to one of its weekly issues of last month wrote up the Province of British Columbia, giving special attention to the development of the mining industry. The following is its geographical description of the province:—

"The Province consists of that portion of the mainland at the extreme west end of the Dominion of Canada, extending from 49 degrees to 60 degrees N. latitude, and from the Pacific Ocean on the west to the Rocky Mountains on the east; also Vancouver Island and Queen Charlotte Islands, which was incorporated with British Columbia by Act of Parliament in 1869. The province entered the Canadian Confederation and became part of the Dominion in 1871.

British Columbia has an ocean frontage of 560 miles long on the Pacific, abounding in harbors, sounds, navigable inlets and islands, and very valuable for commercial, fishing and lumbering purposes.

The total shore line of British Columbia, as computed by Alexander C. Anderson, Inspector of Fisheries, and stated in his report of 1879, is 7,181 statute miles, including 1,723 for Vancouver Island, with its inlets and principal outlying islands, 684 for the islands of Queen Charlotte group, and 4,764 for the continental shore with its islands. In his list of measurements he mentions 52 islands (including Graham Island, 334 miles, and Moresby Island, 250 in circuit) and 17 inlets, sounds and channels. This great proportionate length of shore line, with its numerous inlets and islands, is of immense value to future commerce and fisheries. That portion of the Province south of latitude 55 degrees, valuable in the present or the near future, consists of three main topographical divisions. First of these is the insular, comprising Vancouver, with an area of 12,030 square miles, Graham with perhaps 1,500, Moresby with about 1,000, and many smaller ones.

The second division is that portion of the mainland west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains. This, with the exception of a strip twenty miles wide and sixty miles long, near the mouth of Fraser river, consists of steep and rugged mountains, coming down abruptly from high elevations to the sea, and contains a vast area of fine timber (red fir and yellow cedar), which is one of the main sources of the wealth of the province.

The East Cascade region, between the summits of the Cascade and Rocky mountains, is mainly pastoral, though it includes the Cariboo and other alluvial gold mines in the basins of the Fraser and Columbia rivers. Near the American line the annual rainfall in places does not exceed 12 inches, and there are wide, open stretches covered with excellent bunch grass.

The climate of the insular and the West Cascade division of British Columbia is very similar to that of Great Britain in its winter and summer temperatures, as well as in rainfall, and is well adapted to the health, comfort and continuous employment of its people.

AREA OF PROVINCE.

	Miles.
Extreme length from north to south765
Extreme length from east to west (including Vancouver Island)600

ACREAGE (INCLUDING VANCOUVER ISLAND).

Agriculture4,500,000
Grazing15,500,000
Timber and grazing270,000,000
Total acres290,000,000

Alberta Notes.

Building operations were being carried on in Edmonton early in February.

The *Edmonton Bulletin* has been enlarged.

The *Edmonton Bulletin* says: "W. Fielders has just received an order from San Francisco for 100 tons of barley for malting purposes. The parties ordering say they will buy all the Edmonton barley they can get if it is up to sample in color."

Contrary to expectations the recent cold weather did not lead to any very great loss by cattlemen. The cattle came through extremely well, and the losses have been trifling.

The contract for building the new post office at Calgary has been let to Major Stewart, of Ottawa. The building will cost \$49,000.

Literary Notes.

The issue of *The Lake Magazine*, of Toronto, for February is a good number.

"The First Decade, or the Plan of Campaign for 1893" is a title of a new publication of the Salvation Army. As its name implies it gives a sort of resume of the work of the Army in Canada during the past ten years, and fore-shadows what its leaders expect to accomplish in the future.

The C.P.R. have issued a pamphlet entitled, "Western Canada" which describes in a most lucid manner Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, explaining "How to get there, How to select lands, How to begin, and How to make money." several good illustrations and maps are given.

The Canadian Guide Book is the name of a publication which has recently been issued, designed for use as a tourist's guide to Western Canada. Its author is Ernest Ingersoll, formerly naturalist with the Hayden survey in the west. This is by far the best work of the kind yet issued, and will no doubt prove to be a favorite with all classes of people visiting Western Canada. It is published by William Heineman, of London, England.

The February number of the *Manitoban*, Winnipeg's illustrated magazine, has been received and presents a varied table of contents. Among the most interesting articles are "The Haidas, their Arts and Myths," being an account of the Indians of British Columbia, "Big Game of the Far North," by K. N. L. McDonald, a veteran trapper and trader; "In the McKenzie River District," by Bishop Reeves; "Nell Latoro," a tale of the Canadian rebellion of 1885; "A Remarkable Engineering Feat," by Geo. A. Aldrich, and several other interesting subjects. These with the checker department by Ed. Kelly the champion of the Dominion, literary notes and reviews, publisher's notes, etc., make one of the best numbers yet issued. Published by the *Manitoban Publ. Co.* Winnipeg. Subscription price \$1.00 per year.

The *Dominion Illustrated* for February was a good number, the illustrations and reading matter showing very careful selection. A character sketch of John Greenleaf Whittier opened the number, followed by "Songs of the French Canadian Children;" "Social Life out West," by Mary Markwell, a description of social life in the Western Territories; "A Red Girl's reasoning," by E. Pauline Johnson; "Canada in English Verse," by Archibald McMechan; "Bermuda," by Sarah Eleanor Nicholson; "In a Scottish House," by A. M. McLeod; "The Viking Hilderbert," (in verse,) by Henry F. Darnell, D.D.; "The Unpardonable Sin of Mr. Baggs," by Fred. G. Scott; and "Hockey in Eastern Canada," by R. Tait McKenzie, M.D. If the *Illustrated* does justice to this subject of hockey, it will follow the present article with one on hockey in Western Canada, since it has been shown by the February trip in eastern Canada of the Winnipeg club, that the westerners far outstrip their eastern brethren in the playing of this game.

The *Rapid City Spectator* says: "A new enterprise is about to be started in town, one that should do the place a great deal of good. We understand that S. L. Head is about to commence to build extensive feeding stables for cattle, and a large cold storage or freezing house and abattoir. His intention is to slaughter the cattle and freeze the beef for shipment to England. He has made arrangements with the Manitoba & Northwestern railway to furnish him refrigerator cars in which to carry the meat to Montreal. M. McDonald has taken the contract to put up 500 tons of ice for the cold storage room. This will make a good local market for fat cattle and farmers will now be able to feed their damaged or frozen grain to cattle and realize from 50 to 60 cents per bushel instead of being compelled to take from 20 to 30 cents for it. Altogether it is one of the best moves that could be made in the interest of all concerned and we wish Mr. Head every success in his enterprise."

The *Brandon Times* has changed hands, having been transferred from the *Brandon Times Publishing Company* to Messrs. Robert Hall & Co. The change was found to be necessary on account of the continued ill health of its founder and editor, Mr. J. M. Robinson. Mr. Robinson has to give up business and take a long rest before he can recover his health.