

a beautiful hill sloping towards James Bay, (part of the harbour,) and commanding a view of the snow capped mountains of Washington Territory, some of which are 10, 12, and 16,000 feet high —these are seen over most of the streets just as the view over the St. Charles gives life and beauty to Quebec, so do these dazzling and magnificent snow peaks make Victoria one of the loveliest cities in the world. The view to the west is of the ridge of mountains called the back bone of Vancouver Island, in which since I left gold has been found in paying quantities, and is now the hope of the island. The streets of Victoria are laid out at right angles, the whole position is beautiful and the Methodist church, the Iron church, (Episcopal,) sent out from England, are buildings worthy of our best Canadian towns; they have also a Presbyterian and a Congregational church and two very clever preachers. The government buildings are small but convenient, and the governor's residence was then his private property. The governor, Sir James Douglas, was a native of Douglas, Clydesdale, a noble Scotchman, and certainly Her Majesty lost a famous general when he was sent to Hudson's Bay. He was in figure, mien, and voice a soldier, but he had been made a trader; he had read deeply, studied human nature profoundly, and had succeeded in winning the confidence of the Indian tribes, had married a half-breed, a fine, sensible, and intelligent woman, he had a beautiful and excellent family, and himself practised a noble hospitality; his only misfortune being that he had been in the Hudson Bay Company's service, which created a prejudice against him. His tact and method of dealing with the natives may be best illustrated by an anecdote.

About the time Sir James Douglas was to be appointed governor of the colony, a small well educated countryman of his, Mr. McKay, was sent to succeed him, in his position in the Hudson Bay Company; his first move was to organize a company of voltigeurs, had them drilled and armed for defence. Of course the Indians became alarmed, vexed, and ready for war; word came that there was to be an insurrection, and an immediate attack on the Fort. Mr. McKay came hurriedly to Sir James, expressed his