

Lakes Superior and Winnipeg on the east, and the Rocky Mountains, there is comprised an area of 631,050 square miles. Extend these lines of latitude to the Pacific in longitude one hundred and twenty-four, and we have a further area of 378,636 square miles, or an aggregate of 1,009,686 square miles—equal in extent to France, Germany, Prussia, Austria and that portion of Russia which lies south of St. Petersburg and west of Moscow. A district ten degrees of latitude wide by thirty-two of longitude in length, would comprise twenty-four States of the size of Ohio.

Our present inquiry, however, is confined to the upper half of this vast region, or exclusively north of the boundary of 49 degrees, and since an emigration route to Frazer River is under consideration, a general view of the districts to be traversed by such a route or closely connected with it, will first be presented. Those districts of British America west of the Lakes, which, by soil and climate, are suitable for settlement, may be thus enumerated :

Vancouver Island,.....	16,200	square miles.
Frazer and Thompson Rivers,.....	60,000	do.
Sources of Upper Columbia,.....	20,000	do.
Athabasca District,.....	50,000	do.
Saskatchewan, Red River, Assineboin, &c.....	360,000	do.
	506,200	

Under these geographical divisions, whose area would constitute twelve States of the size of Ohio, we propose to give the results of a Parliamentary investigation, just published, into the affairs of the Hudson Bay Company, so far as they are descriptive of the foregoing districts.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.—This Island is fertile, well timbered, diversified by intersecting mountain ranges and small prairies, with extensive coal fields, compared to the West Riding of Yorkshire coal, and fortunate in its harbors. Esquimaux Harbor, on which Victoria is situated, is equal to San Francisco. The salmon and other fisheries are excellent, but this advantage is shared by every stream and inlet of the adjacent coast. The climate is frequently compared with that of England, except that it is even warmer. The winter is stormy, with heavy rains in November and December ; frosts occur in January, but seldom interrupt agriculture ; vegetation starts in February, progressing rapidly in March, and fostered by alternate warm showers and sunshine in April and May, while intense heat and drought are often experienced during June, July and August. As already remarked, the Island has an area of 16,200 square miles, or as large as Vermont and New Hampshire.