

amongst the class most desirable as emigrants that many of them jumble together, Victoria in Australia, California, British Columbia, and Vancouver's Island; thus obtaining rather confused ideas. As an example of the prevailing ignorance respecting these countries, the writer of a popular geography, lately published, states that the "orange, lemon, fig, and vine, grow wild in British Columbia." They must be excessively wild, for one never even catches a glimpse of them, and a land of pine forests and severe frosts seems not a congenial home.

Another gentleman says, "the earth of Vancouver's Island is frozen forty feet deep in the winter," whereas sufficient frost to make firm roads would be a great boon.

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

THIS is a separate colony at present, and not "part of British Columbia." It has a governor, a judge of supreme court, legislative council, house of assembly, and other accessories to a colonial government.

Excepting some modifications to suit local peculiarities, the laws of England are those in use, and are firmly and impartially administered. The island is situate on the north-west coast of North America, is about three hundred miles in length, and of variable breadth, seventy miles, perhaps, being the greatest; it runs parallel to the coast of British Columbia, separated by the Gulf of Georgia, in a course nearly due north-west from its most southerly point; it lies between the parallels of 48° and 51° N. latitude, and 123° and 129° W. longitude; its coast is indented with numerous harbours; that of Esquimalt, at the entrance of Puget Sound, and near Victoria, being the most valuable.

The interior of the island is but little known. Approaching it from the sea, we notice a chain of mountains apparently extending through its centre, and covered with dense forests. As far as explored,