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REMARKS

By the chief promoter of the Colonization Scheme referred to in the foregoing Prospectus, in reference to the mode of carrying the same into effect, the capabilities of the country for settlement, and the probable success of the undertaking.

When the idea embodied in the proposed plan of colonization was first suggested, as a means of providing, for a portion of the superabundant agricultural population of Great Britain and Germany, a home and a comfortable independence in the new world, I at first turned my attention to Vancouver Island, as a place that appeared calculated to afford a favorable field of operations, as it bears a great resemblance in respect of climate, soil and natural productiveness (in such parts as are suitable for cultivation) to the British Isles. With this object in view I visited the Island in 1865, and pursued my investigations for a period of several months. The result of my inquiries, however, convinced me that for the present it did not afford facilities for the settlement of emigrants upon an extensive scale. I found, indeed, that it contained some excellent land for agricultural purposes, but not of sufficient extent and importance to meet the requirements of my plan. A more serious difficulty, however, and one that was for the time insuperable, arose from the uncertainty then existing as to the control of the Crown Lands in the Colony. I had submitted my Colonization Scheme for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor of Vancouver, who, though evidently favorable to the scheme, was met by the difficulty to which I have alluded, and which the following extract from a letter addressed to me by the Colonial Secretary, on the 30th of October, 1865, will explain:—"The present uncertain condition of the Crown Lands in the Colony of Vancouver Island, presents an almost insuperable difficulty to any prospective pledges being made with respect to them. When the question is settled as to whether those lands shall be controlled by the Legislature of the Colony, or by the Governor on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, His Excellency doubts not, whichever event may happen, that