of perpendicular rock, strike far inland from the sea. Very little is known respecting the geology of the district; but the mountain ranges appear to consist largely of granitic or crystalline formations, broken through by volcanic rocks of comparatively recent origin. Outlying patches of intervening Palæozoic strata, and more recent coal-bearing beds, probably occur amongst these, with overlying terraced deposits of sand and gravel, as seen in the Table-Land District on the west.

(4.) *The Island District.*—This subdivision comprises Vancouver Island, Queen Charlotte Islands, and the numerous smaller groups lying between these and along the coast generally. All are essentially of a mountainous character; and the larger islands contain isolated peaks, or are traversed by broken ranges—northern outliers of the "Sea Alps" of California, and thus, undoubtedly, composed in part of volcanic rocks—of comparatively high elevation. In Vancouver Island, amongst other elevated points, the Beaufort Range exceeds 5,000 feet in altitude; and Mt. Arrowsmith is 5,970 feet, Victoria Peak 7,484 feet, Mt. Albert Edward 6,963 feet, and Mt. Alexandra 6,395 feet above the sea. In the Charlotte Islands, the ranges are apparently of nearly equal height. In both of these island groups, however, comparatively level tracks, well adapted for agricultural settlement, occupy extensive areas. The geology of the district, so far as at present known from the Reports of Mr. Richardson of the Canadian Survey, Mr. Bauerman, Dr. Brown, and others, may be briefly summarized as follows: The smaller islands lying more immediately along the coast consist principally of crystalline hornblendic strata, associated with beds of semi-crystalline limestone, and holding in some localities—as on Texada Island, more especially—valuable beds of magnetic iron ore. Rocks of a similar kind occur upon the flanks of the mountain ranges in Vancouver and other islands to the east—these westerly and easterly exposures seeming to form the edges of a long trough, or series of troughs, filled with coal-bearing Cretaceous strata. The semi-crystalline limestones contain in places many imperfectly preserved fossils of Carboniferous or Upper Palæozoic types. The coal-bearing strata consist mostly of alternations of sandstones, conglomerates, and shales (the first greatly predominating), with layers of iron-stone nodules and seams of coal, the latter varying from a few inches to about five or six feet in thickness. These coal strata are characterized by the presence of many well-known Mesozoic types—Ammonites, Belemnites, &c.