Report, 1857-continued.

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND—continued.

6. Price of Land-continued.

The Colonial Office imposed most impolitic restrictions upon the Company in regard to the price of land to settlers, Right Hon. E. Ellice 5851.

7. Want of a Survey of the Island:

Circumstance of the interior of the country not having been explored or surveyed, Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam 2253-2255. 2276-2282. 2360, 2361—There should be a proper survey of the island, ib. 2277.

8. Spirit Licences:

Statement as to the licence to sell spirits costing 120 l. in each case, Cooper 3672-3878. 3690, 3691—After the licence is taken out there is no material restriction save as regards the Indiaus, ib. 3679-3687—Licences are only required in the case of spirits, ib. 3688, 3689—There are four houses paying for licences, ib. 3859, 3860.

9. Expenditure on Public Works:

Expenditure of the Colonial Fund, that is, the money derived from licences and from land, in making roads, &c., Cooper 3861-3870. 4018, 4019—Exception taken to the expenditure of 1,000 l. on a bridge across Victoria Harbour, ib. 4020-4037.

10. Religious Instruction:

There is but one Protestant clergyman, the colonial chaplain, and no attempts are made, save by Roman-catholic priests, to christianise or educate the Indians, Cooper 3768-3793. 4001-4013—There are some schools for Europeans and two Protestant schoolmasters, ib. 3788, 3789. 3794. 4002-4004.

11. Particulars relative to the Native Population; their Treatment by the Company, &c.:

Particulars relative to the Indians on the coast of the island; their character, means of subsistence, &c., Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam 2265-2269. 2283-2293. 2314-2318—
There are from 8,000 to 10,000 natives, Cooper 3591—Probability of the Indians becoming troublesome and rebellious, though hitherto peace has been kept, ib. 3592-3597. 3636. 3658—Instances of Indians having been apprehended through the instrumentality of the Queen's ships of war, and punished for their offences, ib. 3596-3598. 3645-3658—Injudicious conduct of the Government, inasmuch as Indians who have committed offences are frequently not punished, and are even bribed with blankers, &c. in order to prevent any breach of the peace, ib. 3633-3644. 3658-3660—Danger of the colonists from the treachery of the Indians, ib. 3662.

Employment of Indians on the coal-mines and farms, Cooper 3761-3763—Payment of the Indians in trade goods, they not generally understanding the value of money, ib. 3764-3767—Further evidence as to the mode of payment of the Indians and Company's servants; complaints hereon, ib. 3975-3985.

The natives subsist chiefly by fishing, and are a very degraded race, Blanshard 5117-5120. 5251-5260—They were very kindly treated by the Company when witness was there, ib. 5198. 5234, 5235. 5244—Instance of murder by some Indians; how dealt with, ib. 5199, 5200. 5231-5233—As in the United States, so in Vancouver's Island, the red man would soon disappear before the march of civilisation, ib. 5239-5243.

12. Suitableness generally of the Island for Colonisation and Settlement:

Vancouver's Island would be more attractive to settlers than any other portion of the Company's territory, Ross 70, 71—Witness has not visited Vancouver's Island, but understands that it is only the southern end that is favourable for settlement, Sir G. Simpson 730-732. 760-763. 2077-2085—Fine timber in the island for which there is an excellent market at San Francisco, Kernaghan 2208-2210.

Character of the country; the soil is generally productive, though in places rocky, and the fir timber is magnificent, Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam 2249. 2256. 2379, 2380—Excellent harbours at Esquimault and other places, ib. 2257, 2258. 2277. 2299. 2338, 2339. 2372, 2373—Productive land in the Cowichan valley, ib. 2268—The island is the most valuable British possession in the Pacific, ib. 2277—Size of the island, ib. 2294—Character of the navigation from Victoria to Nanaimo, ib. 2311-2313—Wheat, oats, barley, and potatoes, are easily raised in the island, ib. 2376-2381.

The land is partially wooded and partially open with prairie, and is capable of cultivation to a considerable extent, Cooper 3572. 3608, 3609. 3706-3719—With respect to the soil of the country, it is peculiarly well adapted to the production of corn and vegetables, ib. 3696-3719—Wheat produces from twenty-five to forty bushels per acre, ib. 3716-3719—There are several small streams in the island, and the valleys are very fertile, ib. 3818-3821—Rain falls as abundantly as in England, ib. 3822, 3823