

Arriving at Panama we went immediately on board the steamer's tender, and were conveyed out to the California steamer, anchored about two miles from the shore in the "Bay of Panama." She was a magnificent four-decker, and American built, with much less crowding on board, though we had 200 more passengers *direct* from Britain, by West Indian steamer, which is *much the best route* from Europe.

We kept close in towards the Mexican shore, stopping only once (at Acapulco) before we entered the "Golden Gate" which protects the harbour of San Francisco. This being the end of the second steamer's voyage (thirteen days and eighteen hours), all the passengers landed to reship by another steamer for Vancouver Island. We had a very pleasant passage from Panama to San Francisco, there being only one thing that I regretted much, namely, the want of Divine service, especially on Sundays, on board ship, such not being the custom under the American flag. However, a few Canadians and myself took possession of the bow of the steamer, and here we joined in reading and singing Psalms morning and evening during each Sunday. There was a great difference in the social habits and national characteristics of the passengers, many of whom, like myself, were in the pursuit of health or the acquisition of knowledge, but the majority of them were braving the dangers of the deep and enduring the privations of the passage for the sole purpose of amassing wealth at the gold fields of California or British Columbia; a large majority intending for the latter place were Canadians (with the exception of the 200 before mentioned), and a more steady, hard-work looking set of men I have never seen together in such numbers. They were all Protestants, and spent much of their leisure time on board in reading religious books and in singing sacred music.

Those Canadians are the very class of men wanted in such a country as British Columbia, and who are certain to prosper there; in fact, I have good reason to know that nearly all those Canadians have since secured good positions, while a few of them have amassed large fortunes. The contrast, I may say, between the Americans and Canadians on board ship was very striking; the former, seemingly, were without religious sentiment or devout impressions upon their mind, displaying