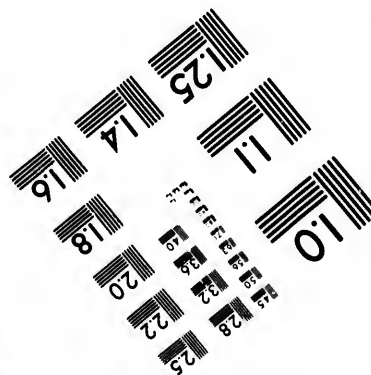
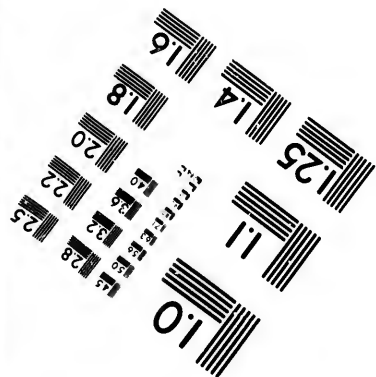
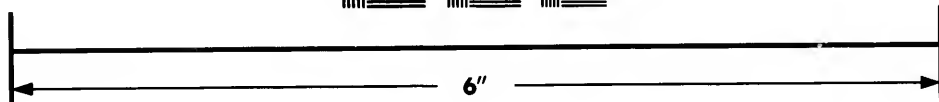
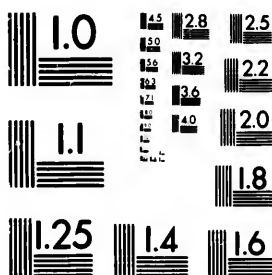


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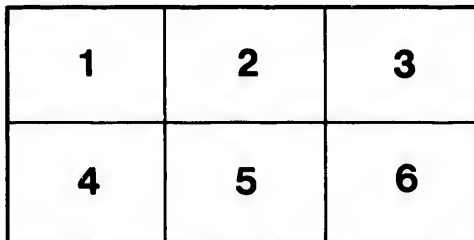
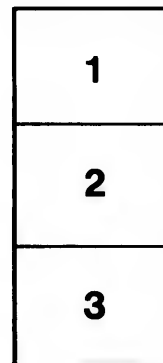
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named), where every force exists that can limit a neighbouring force. France, with her present social and territorial organization, must, in our mind, always be condemned to inferior internal development; but, relatively to her own history of the last three-quarters of a century, relatively to what she was under the first and is under the second Empire, the Parliamentary period of France, from 1815 to 1848, is the only period to which any honest Frenchman can look back with satisfaction. 'This régime,' Montalembert truly says, 'gave to France thirty-seven years of life, of legal liberty, and of constituted authority, the benefits of which have survived, and to which we now owe whatever small amount, of good is still left to our public morals.'

We cordially echo that sentiment, and, as we have already said, we claim for M. de Montalembert a place to himself in the public annals of France,—that of a fearless, upright, even-handed, thorough Member of Parliament, such as the word means in Great Britain.

British Columbia

ART. III.—1. *Papers relative to the Affairs of British Columbia. Part I. Copies of Despatches from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of British Columbia, and from the Governor to the Secretary of State, relative to the Government of the Colony.* Presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty, 18th February 1859.

2. *Papers relative to the Affairs of British Columbia. Part II. Copies of Despatches from the Governor of British Columbia to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, relative to the Government of the Colony.* Presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty, 12th August 1859.

3. *Further Papers relative to the Affairs of British Columbia. Part III.*

4. *Facts and Figures relative to Vancouver Island and British Columbia, showing what to expect and how to get there. With Illustrative Maps.* By J. DESPARD PEMBERTON, Surveyor-General, V.I. London, 1860.

5. *Wanderings of an Artist through British North America.* By G. J. KANE. London, 1857.

THE great reserves of gold which are destined, from time to time, to give a fresh impetus to the progress of mankind, appear to have been hidden only to be brought to light as the exigencies of society and the expansion of the human race require. Certainly no agent has been found so potent in supplying

remote lands with an industrious population, and enlarging the domain of civilisation. Three centuries were permitted to elapse after the discovery of America before any new regions productive of gold were opened to the enterprise of man. Some of the consequences of that great event, and the evils which it entailed on the New World, were not calculated to inspire a hope that the experiment, if we may so express it, would be very speedily repeated. In due time, however, society was to be again agitated by the concurrent discoveries of gold in regions widely separated from each other.

A great State is now rising at the antipodes which may even affect the future of India and China, and change the character of their civilisation. The influence of the Californian discoveries will be transitory compared with the results which must follow the rapid colonization of Australia. The gold of California raised a neglected portion of America into the dignity of membership with a great republic. The gold of Australia will probably be the foundation of an empire that may equal, if not rival, that of the parent State.

The Californian and Australian discoveries were quickly followed by another. In a remote, unexplored, almost unknown, region of North America, there exists a territory which, if it ever occupied for a moment the thoughts of a statesman, was only associated with bleak, snow-covered mountains and savage Indians; and it was considered to be as useless to Great Britain, either for commerce or colonization, as Boothia Felix or any of the other happy lands which our Arctic voyagers have added to the domain of geography. The highest use that could be reasonably assigned to it was that of a hunting ground of a commercial corporation of old standing and repute. The territory now known as the colony of British Columbia, in fact, constituted for two centuries a portion of the vast region which was granted by charter to that ancient and celebrated body, the Hudson's Bay Company. Their forts and stations were thinly scattered over a mountainous and picturesque region, inhabited only by tribes of roving Indians, who exchanged the produce of the chase for some commodities of Europe. No civilised man ever entered this remote region, unless he was connected with the fur trade. The great corporation had no interest in its glens, mountains, and prairies beyond their productiveness in animals of the chase. They regarded it as a game preserve; and if they were aware of its agricultural capabilities they certainly did not appreciate them. To have made them known would have been to invite immigration, and to encourage

schemes essentially opposed to their commercial character. This territory has been recently found to combine, in a remarkable degree, fertile land, fine timber, navigable rivers, rich deposits of alluvial gold, coal and other minerals, and many of the most important elements of wealth. On the discovery of gold, a state of things arose which rendered the government of the Hudson's Bay Company altogether unsuitable to the country. It was indeed attempted to apply the administrative machinery that had long been in action to the regulation of the new society which so suddenly and unexpectedly sprung up; but it was found wholly unsuitable, and the Crown came to an arrangement with the corporation for resumption of its dominion. A feeble attempt had previously been made to introduce an agricultural and pastoral element into the country, under the auspices of the company itself, but the wishes of the Government were but ill seconded, and the project fell to the ground.

This valuable possession was declared a colony of the British empire by an Act of Parliament which received the Royal assent on the 2d of August 1858, and is therefore, as a British dependency, just three years old. It is declared to comprise 'all such territories within the dominion of her Majesty as are bounded to the south by the frontier of the United States of America, to the east by the main chain of the Rocky Mountains, to the north by Simpson's River and the Finlay branch of the Peace River, and to the west by the Pacific Ocean, and to include Queen Charlotte's Island and all other islands adjacent.' It possesses 500 miles of sea-coast, and is about three-and-a-half times the size of Great Britain.

British Columbia is remarkable for several physical peculiarities, which, notwithstanding its numerous advantages, present obstacles of no ordinary magnitude to the settlement of the country, and which must involve works of labour attended with considerable expense. It is extremely mountainous, and, generally speaking, covered with a dense growth of wood. Fertile valleys abound, as well as elevated table lands, capable of supporting large herds of cattle. Quadrupeds are, nevertheless, singularly scarce in a country very well adapted to support them. The country, from the mouth of Frazer's River to the Falls which interrupt its navigation (a distance of about 200 miles), is thickly timbered, mountainous, and, except by the 'trail' or track used by the Indian hunters, almost impassable. The miner, on camping in these elevated regions, finds no resources beyond those which the rivers supply. During the winter

the thermometer indicates occasionally from 20° to 30° of cold below the Zero of Fahrenheit; but this severe temperature is confined to the upper country contiguous to the Rocky Mountains. In general, snow does not lie to such a depth along the banks of the principal streams as to preclude winter travelling with pack animals, and in some places it never lies at all. The changes of temperature, however, are very remarkable. The thermometer has been often noted at 31° at daylight; in the shade at noon on the same day, at 85°; and 40° in the evening.

The interest which at present attaches to British Columbia being chiefly centred in its gold fields, we shall describe, as briefly as the subject will admit, the character of these deposits. The Australian gold regions are so peculiar that they cannot be brought into comparison with any in the American continent. There is undoubtedly a large extent of country in Australia rich in superficial gold, but in the most productive districts the earth must be penetrated many hundred feet before the precious metal is reached, and then it is found in patches, or 'gutters,' as they are provincially called, sometimes of wonderful productiveness. No deposits of this character have been hitherto discovered either in California or British Columbia. The geological features of the valley of the Frazer River, and its tributaries, where the gold is chiefly found, are interesting. The stream runs through a rocky channel, and is bounded by high, and occasionally very precipitous banks; but above these banks are several terraces, or 'benches,' as they are termed, parallel in their direction to the course of the river, but rising one above another like steps, and receding from the river in proportion to their height. These 'benches,' doubtless, indicate former levels of the Frazer, and have been formed by remote geological disturbances. These raised terraces have been compared to the parallel mountain roads which are seen in the Grampians, and which are explained on the supposition of the whole space between the boundary ranges having been originally a vast lake, and by successive upheavals of the country. In accordance with this theory, it is not merely the existing bed of the Frazer River that ought to be auriferous, but the successive 'benches,' rising one above the other, ought to be equally, or even in a greater degree, impregnated with gold. This hypothesis has been remarkably verified by experience. The river in its earlier course has brought down with it a rich alluvial gold detritus, just as the present river is constantly enriching with the disintegrated gold quartz suspended in its stream the 'placers'

which it deposits along its banks. The present bed of the river pays for the whole distance which it has been explored, from 5 to 100 dollars per hand per day; but the 'benches,' which extend along the whole length of the Frazer's course, and which vary from one to five or six miles in length, have been recently proved to be highly productive. 'Every spadeful of the soil,' says a recent explorer, 'I believe to be auriferous. I am convinced that the "dry diggings" on the banks of the Frazer are on a most enormous scale.* The only impediment to the almost unlimited production of gold is the want of water; but as soon as the remunerative character of the work is conclusively established, hydraulic machinery of great power will, it is said, be immediately applied.

The gold of British Columbia is not limited to one region. There are valleys separated from the Frazer by mountains which preclude the possibility of the same river having flowed through them, and these valleys are, in many places, highly auriferous. Alluvial diggings of extraordinary richness have been discovered on Quesnel River, a tributary of the Frazer. 'Last year,' writes the Governor in confirmation of the general opinion entertained of the wide extent of the gold region, 'an impression was generally entertained by the miners that the gold deposits had been made mainly by the Frazer, and that the gold was brought down by the stream from a source existing somewhere in the range of the Rocky Mountains; but they have since discovered that not only the bed, but also the higher banks of the Frazer, which rise terrace-like one above another as they recede towards the hills on either side, are composed of auriferous earth and beds of water-worn gravel,—a circumstance that has led them not illogically to the conclusion that the river occupied at some former period a much higher level than its former bed, and that the water has been drained off by its gradual deepening, through the natural process of attrition, or by volcanic agency; and Mr. Douglas states, as a proof of the richness of the gold deposits, that he had been informed by a respectable merchant residing at Fort Yale, that he saw 71 ounces of gold dust taken out of one mining claim at Boston Bar by three men in twenty-four hours, and that the same claim yielded regularly from 48 to 50 ounces of gold a-day for about four weeks, when the holders were driven out by a sudden rise in the river, the claim being only accessible at

extreme low water for about four weeks in the year.*

California does not possess any gold deposits that resemble those on the raised benches and elevated table-lands of British Columbia. The gold of California is derived principally from the great existing mountain ranges, but the geological disturbances have been there wanting that raised the river beds in Columbia. Californian gold is found chiefly on the banks of existing streams; and, ground finer and finer as it is carried forward, year after year, by torrents, it is at last deposited as 'dust of gold' in the ooze or sand of the broad and tranquil rivers. There is, therefore, considerable reason to believe that the productive gold-fields of California will be exhausted in a comparatively short period; and although the gold is derived from mountains yet rich in the precious metal, ages must elapse before they will again impregnate the beds and banks of the Californian rivers with the golden particles which are diffused throughout the quartz of the Sierra Nevada.

The wide distribution of gold in British Columbia is unquestionable: the Frazer traversing the country diagonally from north to south everywhere passes through a gold region. The same may be said of Thomson River and of the Columbia, the upper portion of which, north of the 49th parallel, is in British territory. The aggregate length of these rivers is more than a thousand miles. As a rule, the gold is found in much smaller particles, and less in quantity, near the mouths of the streams; and it increases both in size and quantity as their sources are approached. Instances of great success are numerous; and miners have been known to realize £400 or £500 each in a season. In 1858, the greatest monthly shipment of gold was 235,000 dollars, and the smallest was 6000; and the total produce of the mines was estimated at 1,495,211 dollars, and in the following year at 2,000,000. The yield of the Californian mines has been ascertained, with tolerable accuracy, to be 50,000,000 dollars, or £10,000,000 annually, while the average earning of each miner is estimated at only £50; the mining population is consequently always ready on the vaguest rumour, to rush to neighbouring and even distant countries, at the prospect of a higher remuneration. The surface gold of California is now believed to be much diminished. The early miners collected what nature had been quietly hoarding through countless thousands of years. By the action of

* Report of the Chief Justice of British Columbia to the Governor.

* Despatch from Governor Douglas, C.B., to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle. Dec. 1859.

frost and of fire, of air and water, she has been slowly wearing down the primitive mountains in which the precious metal was originally formed, washing away the lighter matter, and condensing the gold thus derived from cubic miles of granite and quartz within a few feet of sand at the bottom of the water-courses. A miner may thus take from a river bed in one day an amount of gold which he could not have extracted from the rocks in a year.

While the mines of California will probably diminish in productiveness from year to year, there is every reason to expect that those of British Columbia will increase; since the peculiar formations to which we have adverted give a geological character of permanence to the workings. The Chinese immigration has recently set in, and the movement is a strong corroboration of the mineral wealth of British Columbia. That sagacious people, as is well known, do not emigrate in large numbers, without having first ascertained that they will improve their position by the change. Their agents have carefully investigated the mining districts, and have reported on them most favourably; and British Columbia is found a far more attractive field for the emigrants from the Celestial Empire than California, where they have long been treated with harshness and illiberality. In the British colony they receive the same protection as other settlers; and the existing population hail their arrival with satisfaction, labour of all descriptions being greatly in demand.

The colony is yet destitute of one indispensable element of progress. There is no productive class, the population consisting entirely of miners and persons employed in the Government departments. The miner is an unceasing consumer; and the fair face of nature is scarred by marks of his devastations. The merchant may be allured to the most remote of the British colonies by the hope of gain; but the substantial wealth of the country can only be derived from the cultivation of its soil. Without agriculture, British Columbia must be dependent on other countries for its daily food. A farming population forms the solid basis of every prosperous State. It is as much the interest as it is the duty of Government, on the first establishment of a colony, to open up the country as speedily as possible for the reception of such a class. Roads, therefore, are the first necessity in a new colony; without them, indeed, there can be no real progress, and the most fertile soils are as valueless as sandy deserts.

As British Columbia has been only partially surveyed, it is impossible to state, with

any degree of accuracy, the quantity of land which is available for cultivation, or to determine its agricultural value; but wherever explorations have been made, they have resulted in the discovery of tracts of rich land, even in places where they were least expected. There is, therefore, no probability that a settler will experience any difficulty in selecting a good location. There is an abundant supply of timber for fencing, buildings, and fuel; and the produce of the forest may be made a source of immediate profit in the export of its valuable woods; and the production of potash, which finds a ready market, will partly pay the cost of clearance.* The flora and vegetation of the country are in a very high degree luxuriant. The richness of the soil in the neighbourhood of the gold-bearing rocks is, Mr. Pemberton says, most remarkable, as shown in the production of gigantic roots and vegetables. Turnips as large as hassocks, radishes as large as man-golds, and a bushel of potatoes from a single stalk, are, he says, far from uncommon. This exuberant fertility of soil is common to almost the coast of the Pacific as far south as San Francisco, where, at agricultural exhibitions, pumpkins weighing from 200 lbs. to 250 lbs. have been displayed, and pears are produced, 'to eat one of which requires the united efforts of five guests.'† 'An acre of land,' says the Surveyor-General of the colony, 'planted with apple trees, would, at the end of three years, on a minute calculation, have cost the proprietor from L30 to L40; and their lowest selling price would then be L200.' Hops succeed admirably. Native hemp, quite equal to the best Russian, grows freely, and is found in a wild state near every Indian hut. The general agricultural advantages of the country are thus stated by Mr. Pemberton:—

'Open grass lands can, of course, be ploughed up at once, and a crop obtained. Fern lands require to be ploughed in the heat of summer, in order, by fermentation, to kill the fern, and to destroy by exposure bulbous roots, such as crocuses, kamass, etc., for which purpose pigs make admirable pioneers. To clear pine lands is not very difficult: being very resinous, they burn up readily, and are easily overturned, as the roots do not descend but creep along the ground; in which respect these trees stand like pawns upon a chess-board. Oak is more difficult to eradicate, as the roots go straight down. Marsh lands are usually easily drain-

* In Canada, two acres and a half of wood will produce a barrel of potash, worth, after paying all expenses, about L7, 10s.

† This is stated, it must be observed, on the authority of an Englishman, not of an American.

ed, and reclaimed by burning them up in summer; these lands afterwards produce the best crops. The cost of clearing an acre of timbered land may be taken at L.8; and other descriptions less, varying with the locality. An acre of land produces from 20 to 40 bushels of wheat, or a corresponding quantity of oats or barley, and continues to do so for some years, without manure, before it is exhausted. Hitherto, wheat has sold in the colony at 8s. the bushel, oats at 6s. Hay pays remarkably well, varying in price during the year from L.8 to L.16, or more per ton.

For meat and vegetables, the miners, and the British fleet, which is supplied by public contract, afford a ready market. The Indians everywhere grow potatoes and carrots as far north as Queen Charlotte's Island; their plan is to repeat the crop until the ground is exhausted, and then to clear more. The potatoes are excellent; and potatoes and salmon is their standing dish. Meat in the colony is dear—1s. to 15d. per lb.—which to the consumer, however, is counterbalanced by the remarkably low prices of tea, wine, and spirits, in consequence of Victoria being a free port. There is probably no firmer field for a small capitalist at the present time than British Columbia. By taking up 100 or 150 acres of land in a mining locality, which he may do without being called upon to pay any portion of the purchase money for the first year, he can, according to the latest return of prices, sell his milk for 4s. a gallon; his butter for 4s. a pound; eggs for 4s. a dozen; bacon for 1s. 3d. to 3s. a pound; and all other farm produce at corresponding rates.

The salmon fisheries in British Columbia might be made the most productive and valuable in the world. The fish ascend the rivers in vast quantities, and are so abundant that they are captured with a hook tied to a stick; the bears even secure with their paws, from the banks of the streams, as many as they wish. None of the fish, it is said, ever return, as the receding waters leave them in the bushes, and the banks are often covered with the dead. They are found of all weights up to 20 lbs., and in flavour the best kinds are said to be quite equal to any in Europe. On the coast the Indians live on them, and catch them in a great variety of ways,—in weirs ingeniously constructed, and in baskets adapted to receive them when they leap. In suitable situations they spear them, in deep streams cunningly decoy them to the surface, and in shallow water they stone them,—a whole tribe having been seen thus engaged on the banks of a river with great success. The salmon fisheries may be said to be practically inexhaustible.

In a new colony, the most important con-

sideration for intending emigrants is the price of land, and the conditions on which it can be obtained. In British Columbia the terms are exceedingly liberal, and such as must meet with a ready acceptance. Any British subject may obtain 160 acres, in anticipation of a survey, and acquire an inchoate title simply by taking possession and by the payment of a small fee. As soon as the land has been accurately surveyed, the proprietor or his heirs can acquire a perfect title, on payment of a sum not exceeding the rate of 10s. per acre, but which it is expected will soon be reduced to 5s. In addition to 160 acres thus obtained, a settler can purchase additional land, at a price not exceeding 10s. per acre, of which 5s. is to be paid at the time, and the remainder after a survey is completed. The liberality of this land law must prove attractive to a class of small capitalists whose profits are insufficient for their comfortable support at home.

There are two obstacles to the speedy colonization of British Columbia,—namely, its great distance from England, and the want of roads into the interior. While Canada, the Cape, Australia, and New Zealand offer their lands on liberal terms, it is scarcely to be expected that the British emigrant, unless under extraordinary inducements, will turn his attention to the youngest and most distant of the colonies, as a voyage of five months or an expensive journey across the Isthmus, must be undertaken before he can reach the settlement. The distance of the colony from the mother country counterbalances for the present its great attractions, and will continue to do so until a road is constructed across British North America. This is a desideratum which we believe is now seriously engaging the attention of scientific men and of statesmen. Without it, not only will British Columbia continue practically inaccessible to the best class of emigrants, but a permanent barrier must continue to be interposed to the colonization of a territory not inferior in fertility to the best portions of Canada. The basin of Lake Winnipeg and the valley of the Saskatchewan have been recently employed by order of the British and Canadian Governments. The quantity of land in British North America fit for settlement, and capable of cultivation, is estimated at not less than 500,000 square miles. The climate is no drawback, the heat of summer being sufficient to bring most of the cereals to maturity over vast tracts of country far north of the 49th parallel. The Red River settlement is an example of the great productiveness of this portion of the American continent; and there are, it has been ascertained, enormous areas, in the Saskatche-

wan and Lake Winnipeg basins, equally suited for agriculture, and rich in most of the elements of wealth. The passes of the Rocky Mountains have been examined, and these expeditions have resulted in the discovery that there exists no practical difficulty in the construction of a road, and even a railway, from the shores of Lake Superior to the Fraser River; and as British vessels can now proceed for 2000 miles into the American continent by the St. Lawrence and the canal and lake navigation of Canada, a road for the remainder of the distance to British Columbia ought, considering its importance, to present as few difficulties in a financial as it does in an engineering point of view.

In the colony itself the want of communication is severely felt. The force despatched to aid the first colonists in road-making has proved wholly inadequate, and there are no funds, in the present undeveloped state of the colony, available even for the most necessary public works. Possessing as yet little or no export trade, and the gold of the miners passing over the boundary into the United States territory to evade the duty on its export, the public resources of the country are restricted to such duties as can be levied on imports; and these, in a somewhat unsettled state of society, are not always easily collected. Capital for making the first roads in a new colony, might, we think, be judiciously advanced by the Imperial Government. A country would thus at once be endowed with the elements of success; immigration would set in, and a rapidly increasing population would soon enable the local government to pay off the debt thus incurred, and the commerce of Great Britain could not but feel in a short time the effect of so provident an outlay. Such is the course adopted by the Government of the United States in its new settlements. Roads are the first necessities of civilisation; without them there can be neither trade, social progress, nor political development.

At present the population of British Columbia is almost wholly fed and clothed from the neighbouring states of Oregon and California. The exports of the colony are insignificant, and consist only of a few tons of oil, a little coal, and some barrels of cranberries. Some spars that were ordered from England had to be purchased from a neighbouring State, although the forests of British Columbia abound with the finest timber in the world. There were then in the colony no means of transporting them to the coast. Hay, which sells at prices ranging from L.8 to L.16 per ton, is imported from California, as are building materials from Puget Sound and Oregon. 'In our present state,' writes an

intelligent settler, 'we are compelled to sit on an American chair, wear an American hat, read an American book, and patronise an American tailor; in fact America reigns supreme, and this must be the case while we are driven of necessity to American markets to obtain our supplies. Almost all the articles that we require now fetch here three times their cost in England, and are, moreover, of an inferior description. A ready and remunerative market is a great boon to the shipper; but we have more to offer,—we have good harbours and a free port. Not one iota of duty has to be paid on the goods shipped to Victoria; there they can remain till they are sold; and when sold, first class paper on England in payment is at the disposal of the merchant.' These facts cannot be generally known in England. The imports into British Columbia and Vancouver Island amount to L.700,000 yearly, but the gold of British Columbia, in consequence of the absence of trade with the mother country, instead of finding its way to England, goes to swell the exports of the precious metal from California.

In one important respect British Columbia presents greater attractions than many of our other dependencies. No part of the world is better suited to the constitution of Englishmen. The capital, New Westminster, possesses a climate milder than that of England, although in a latitude a thousand miles further north than Quebec. Snow falls in the mountains early in October, but seldom remains for any length of time in the valleys. The summer is dry, and the heat considerable. One peculiarity of the climate it requires, Mr. Pemberton says, an effort to realize. 'Surrounded by snowy peaks, the air is often not only warm, but sultry. Even at Victoria, where snow seldom exceeds a few inches in depth, or at Langley, we have evidence of this every day. The snow itself is not of the damp compact nature we are accustomed to; it is light, dry, and drifting, and on this account, when it thaws it disappears with astonishing rapidity.' The Rocky Mountains have been crossed without difficulty on the 21st of January.

This colony is unsurpassed in pictorial interest. It is a land of broad lakes, foaming rivers, thundering torrents, of mountains piercing with their snowy pinnacles the blue transparent sky, with valleys of enchanting beauty, and forests of matchless magnificence. 'Nothing,' says Governor Douglas, 'can surpass the imposing grandeur of the mountain masses and deafening cataracts of the two districts, the Harrison's River and Lake, the admiration of every lover of the sublime and picturesque in scenery.' In other districts

similar grand and imposing features present themselves. 'Looking north, south, and east,' writes the surveying officer of Engineers, 'the view embraced mounts a scenery of a description rarely to be surpassed. As far as the eye could reach, an endless sea of mountains rolled away into the blue distance, their sides clothed almost to their summits with an impenetrable forest of every species of pine, and their peaks and recesses lit up by the rays of the early sun, too early yet to lighten the gloomy valley below us. Here and there a rugged naked peak towered up in bold relief some 1000 feet or more above the summits of the adjacent ranges, spotted with occasional patches of snow in crevices never perhaps penetrated by the sunlight; and so complete was the network of mountains in which we were enveloped, that the question how we were to get out of them, appeared to be somewhat difficult of solution.'

There has been some misapprehension respecting the Indian tribes which inhabit British Columbia, and tales of their savage nature, and of attacks made upon settlers, have not been without their influence in checking immigration. Unlike the nations to the eastward of the Rocky Mountains, of which the Blackfeet have attained a bad pre-eminence for their bloody disposition and frequent feuds, the races to the west of the mountains are of a mild nature, and have shown an aptitude for civilisation. The missionaries exercise much influence over them, although their success in making converts has not been hitherto great. No persuasion has been able to make them agriculturists, but they pursue hunting and fishing as the sole and precarious resources against famine. The moral ascendancy of the chiefs over the tribes is greater than has been often observed in savage life. 'These people,' says Mr. Kane, speaking of the Indians inhabiting a district of British Columbia, 'are governed by two chiefs,—the Chief of the Earth, and the Chief of the Waters. The one exercises great power over the tribe, except as regards the fishing, which is under the exclusive control of the Chief of the Waters. He dispenses justice, strictly punishing any cheating or dishonesty among his subjects. He opposes the gambling propensities of his tribe to the utmost, even depriving the successful gamblers of their share of the fish received annually from the Chief of the Waters.' The latter personage appears to be of great importance. No one is allowed to catch fish without his permission. His large fishing basket or trap is put down a month earlier than any one is allowed to fish for himself; and the Chief of the Waters informed Mr. Kane, that he had

taken as many as 1700 salmon, weighing on an average 30 lbs. each, in the course of one day. The daily average taken in the Chief's basket was about 400. He distributes the fish thus taken during the season amongst his people, every one, even the smallest child, getting an equal share. Indifference to age, more especially to female age, is a disagreeable characteristic of the Indian tribes on both sides of the Rocky Mountains. Children are a source of profit and strength to an Indian parent; but the old of both sexes are regarded as burdens of the earth, and are often left to perish from hunger and cold. Mr. Kane relates an incident which strongly brings out this peculiarity.

'Some Indians,' he says, 'while bathing near the shore, picked up a cask, and finding upon examination that it was full of rum, made up their minds to have a carouse. One of the party, however, suggested the possibility that the white men had put poison into it, to be revenged on them for having fired on the inland brigade of boats going up the river the year before. This deterred them from drinking until they had tested its quality. For this purpose they selected eight of the oldest women in the camp to try the experiment on. The women fell into the snare, and, becoming intoxicated, commenced singing with great glee. But an old chief soon put an end to their potations, saying that it was evident there could be no poison in it, and that it was much too good to be thrown away upon old women. The whole tribe then set to, and were not long in draining the cask.'

Mr. Kane, in his very interesting work, supplies some amusing details respecting the habits, manners, and superstitious of the Indians of British Columbia, and those inhabiting the district of the Rocky Mountains; and he arrives at the conclusion that, if fairly treated, they will not give any trouble to European settlers. Their disposition is rather to exaggerate the merits of the Europeans with whom they come in contact, than to repel their advances. Mr. Kane thus describes the effect produced upon the Indians by a travelling Scotch piper:—

'A Highlander, of the name of Colin Fraser, joined our party. He was on his way to a small fort, of which he had the charge, at the head of the Athabaska River, in the Rocky Mountains, where he had resided for the last eleven years. He had been brought to the country by Sir George Simpson, in the capacity of his piper, at the time when he explored the Fraser River, and made an extensive voyage through a country hitherto little known, and among Indians who had seen few or no white men. He carried the pipes with

him, dressed in his Highland costume; and when stopping at forts, or wherever he found Indians, the bagpipes were put in requisition, much to the astonishment of the natives, who supposed him to be a relation of the Great Spirit, having, of course, never beheld so extraordinary a looking man, or such a musical instrument, which astonished them as much as the sound produced. One of the Indians asked him to intercede with the Great Spirit for him; but Fraser remarked, the petitioner little thought how limited his (Fraser's) influence was in that quarter.*

The opinion formed of the native races by the Judge of British Columbia is highly favourable. 'We found,' Mr. Begbie says, in reporting the results of a tour through the country, 'everywhere the Indians willing to labour hard for wages, and perfectly acquainted with gold dust, and the minute weights for measuring one or two dollars with. The amount of wages for the most abject drudgery to which human beings can be put being 8s. per. day and provisions, wherever we went, shows of itself a very high rate of average profit as the wages of labour in British Columbia. If this is the average remuneration of the most unskilled labour what ought skilled labour, supported by capital, to earn? It was the uniform practice of storekeepers to entrust these Indians with their goods. Thefts were said to be unknown. My impression of the Indian population is, that they have far more natural intelligence, honesty, and good manners than the lowest class, say the agricultural and mining population, of any European country I ever visited, England included.'*

VANCOUVER ISLAND, recently erected into a separate colony, promises in some respects to become even of more importance than British Columbia. It possesses the best harbour in the whole line of the Pacific coast, all the ports, with the exception of San Francisco and Apaculpo, being, from the difficulty of their approach, the terror of navigators. Esquimault, from its position and capabilities, appears likely to be the emporium, not only of Vancouver Island, but in a great measure of British Columbia. Although not a first-class harbour in point of size, it has ample room for twelve ships of the line and many smaller vessels; and the harbour of Victoria, three miles from Esquimault, if it cannot rival the former as a naval station, possesses an ample haven for large merchant ships, and is only separated from Esquimault by a narrow neck of land, a canal cut through which

would connect the two harbours. Vancouver Island possesses coal, excellent in quality, abundant in quantity, and easily worked, and vessels are able to lie alongside a wharf within a few yards of the pits. The Hon. W. Fitzwilliam, on his visit to Vancouver Island, found a party working a seam of coal 6 feet thick, at a depth of 40 feet, and within 20 yards of the shore.* The consumption of coal on the Pacific has been estimated at 200,000 tons a year. San Francisco alone, in 1859, imported 70,722 tons. The Pacific coasts produce coal in many places, but they are not able to supply more than one-tenth of the demand. An extensive and valuable coal-field within British territory is therefore an economical fact of the greatest importance with reference to the future of our dependencies in this quarter of the world. It is the opinion of practical miners who have visited the locality, that coal may be found everywhere within a distance of two miles from Nanaimo, where it is now worked at a depth of 50 feet from the surface.

Vancouver Island is about the size of England, and formed a portion of territory governed by the Hudson's Bay Company until it was erected into a British colony. It has hitherto been very partially explored, but is believed to be covered to a great extent with forests of magnificent timber, and many valleys have been found of great fertility. The soil is described as generally productive, although in places rocky. The country is divided into woodland and prairie. The prairies are park-like, and form extensive plains stretching into the forests. Clover grows with luxuriance in several places on the coast, and it is supposed to have sprung originally from seeds accidentally dropped from packages brought from England, some of which were made up in hay. The timber of the interior is described as very fine, and the whole course of a river (the Ninkish), from an extensive lake, as 'lined with splendid red pines, large and long enough for the spars of the largest men-of-war.' The Douglas pine is found from 3 to 28 feet in circumference. But the largest and most picturesque tree of the fir tribe in Vancouver Island is the *Nobilis*, which is met with chiefly in rich alluvial valleys, where they have been seen 250 feet high, with a circumference of 42 feet at the butt, and with bark from 8 to 14 inches thick. Two kinds of oak are found on the island, but they do not grow to any considerable size, and are dwarfed into insignificance by the towering *conifera* by which they are surrounded. Gold-bearing rocks have been

* Report by Mr. Begbie to the Governor of British Columbia, April, 1859. Papers Relating to British Columbia. Part III., p. 17.

* Evidence of Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam before the Select Committee on the Hudson's Bay Company. P. 114.

observed in the mountains, and doubtless gold detritus will be discovered when the country is farther explored. The streams abound in salmon and trout. Many thousand barrels of dried fish are annually sent from Victoria to the Hudson Bay Company's dépôt at the Sandwich Islands; and an enterprising fisherman from Orkney, who had established himself at Beecher Bay, one of the inlets of the coast, put up and exported in one year 300 barrels of salmon, which he had purchased from the Indians and cured. The neighbouring bays are inexhaustible in their supplies. 'And to give some idea,' says Mr. Fitzwilliam, 'how prolific these seas are, the method of catching herrings is for two Indians to go in a canoe, one paddling in the stern, and the other standing in the bow. The Indian in the bow has a lath of wood about 8 or 9 feet long studded with nails. He scoops down into the water and impales the fish on the nails, and literally rakes them into the canoe. In two or three hours they get a load.* The climate is extremely fine, and wheat, barley, and oats have been raised in perfection wherever it has been attempted to cultivate them, and potatoes are a staple production.

This fertile and attractive island is undoubtedly the most valuable of the British possessions in the Pacific, and will doubtless soon become the principal station of our naval squadron in that sea. Although New Westminster, the capital of British Columbia, is in its infancy, Victoria, the capital of the sister colony, has already grown to the proportions of a considerable town of between 3000 and 4000 inhabitants. The site is represented as all that could be desired, and the views on every side are replete with pictorial attractions, the snow-capped mountains of British Columbia being visible from almost every street, and reflected in the broad sheet of water which forms the noble harbour of the rising capital.

It may be useful to specify the class of emigrants to whom these colonies hold out prospects of remunerative labour or investment. First, then, to capitalists they present many attractions. In a new colony the value of money is always high. The rate of interest in Vancouver Island ranged from L.25 to L.30 per cent. per annum, with unexceptionable security, and no difficulty is found in placing money out on those terms. To agriculturists, as soon as the necessary communications are made, high prices must ensure a rapid prosperity. All professions are at present overstocked but that of a schoolmaster, and governesses and private tutors would find

a ready demand for their services. Shepherds, ploughmen, and gardeners obtain the highest wages of skilled labour, and mechanics are sure of ample remuneration. To those who may be attracted by the glittering prizes in the lottery of gold digging, we can only say that hard work and uncertain gain have been the lot of the gold seeker in every country and age. The produce of the mines of British Columbia, compared with the population at work on them, has been doubtless highly satisfactory; and the deposits are unquestionably far richer than those of California. A remarkable calculation, however, appeared in the *San Francisco Herald* in 1859, proving the great losses sustained by the California miners during their temporary residence on the Frazer River. Ten thousand of the best American miners were induced by the favourable reports of the gold production to quit California for British Columbia. Estimating the amount of gold obtained at 50 dollars for each miner for six months of laborious work, and the expenses for the same period, including passage money and maintenance, the conclusion is arrived at, that they sustained a loss of 300 dollars each. Since that period, however, the average daily yield of the mines has greatly increased, and immigration has again set in from Oregon and California, with, we believe, much better results. The greatest misapprehension exists as to the exertion required for gold washing. To any enterprising clerk or artisan who may be tempted by golden visions to try his luck in British Columbia, we recommend the perusal of the following passage from Mr. Pemberton's work:—

'Construct a "rocker," the materials of which will not cost many shillings. Place the rocker under the pump, and fill the box that is on the top with gravel. Now, recollecting that a few halfpence worth of gold to a pan of gravel pays the miner L.2 a day, file three halfpennyworth from a half sovereign into the box; rock away with one hand and pump with the other, only stopping to shovel gravel into the box as often as you empty it: in this way you will be able not only to acquire a good idea of the amount of physical exertion required, but also to test your skill in the art, before you have occasion to practise it many thousand miles from home. If, after counting the cost, you still determine to try your fortune, I should say the surface diggings of British Columbia, or the gold deposited from disintegration that has been going on for ages past, are as yet unexhausted. Be early in the field, and may success attend your adventure!'

The laborious nature of mining as a pursuit is too often lost sight of, although

* Loc. cit., p. 114.

such is the fascination exerted over the masses by the hope of sudden enrichment, that multitudes will never fail to be attracted to those countries which offer the prospect of a sudden transition from poverty to wealth. In British Columbia there is at present an important element of expense to be taken into consideration, in consequence of the uncertainty and cost of obtaining supplies. 'Sometimes,' says Mr. Pemberton, 'with the tracking line passed over his shoulders, the miner drags his boat or canoe against a swift current, wading up to his waist in water. At other times we meet him toiling up some rugged hill with a month's provisions on his back. And what has been the result? Since mining began in British Columbia in 1858, the miner's average earnings have not exceeded £100 a-year, while the cost of living is at least £60. An intending emigrant should dismiss from his mind any instances of extraordinary success he may have heard of. Suppose he became acquainted with an authenticated case of a man making five or ten times more than the average in such a season, such an instance only argues 5 or 10 to 1 against his (the intending emigrant) realizing anything.' Mr. Pemberton further states, from data before him, the gold production of 1859 to have been about 2,000,000 dollars, and the product of two years to have been about 3,000,000 dollars, and that the number of miners actually at work at any time in the country cannot have exceeded 3000, which thus gives for the miner's average annual earning about £100. In California the average annual earning is only half that sum; but the country is more accessible, and the facilities for living are much greater. The general result of the comparison between British Columbia and California is, that the gold fields of British Columbia although labouring under certain temporary disadvantages, are certainly twice as productive as those of California.

In concluding the subject of the mineral riches of British Columbia, we shall refer to the latest discoveries which have rewarded the researches of the various 'prospepecting' parties in the colony. Several localities have been recently found rich in the precious metal. In a district termed Rock Creek, gold, coarse and heavy, in highly remunerating quantities, has been discovered by the Government surveyors for a distance of 50 miles along the course of the stream, and the average earnings of the miners are computed at from 10 to 50 dollars a day, and no doubt is entertained that every creek, gully, and rivulet in the country is more or less auriferous. Mountains, which were thought to present impassable barriers to the operations

of the miner, have been found more profitable than the richest 'placers' and most productive river beds. Notwithstanding their repelling cliffs, they are like to become a source of wealth, and the support of a large mining population. Rich gold-bearing quartz is there found in abundance, but the greatest expectations have just been raised by the discovery of a silver lead of a very rich quality. Cinnabar and copper have also been discovered with most promising indications, and the whole country surrounding the Lower Frazer is described as 'teeming with mineral wealth.' Considering how small a proportion of the colony has been explored, traces of such riches met with at so early a period, certainly point to a very brilliant future. Coal, too, has been recently found in British Columbia, of a quality superior to that of Vancouver Island.

How are these promising and interesting dependencies to be rendered more accessible to British industry and capital? This is a question worthy of occupying a portion of the public attention. There are at present several routes open to the emigrant besides the passage round Cape Horn, but they involve transshipments and railway journeys, and they are too expensive for the resources of ordinary settlers. England, however, possesses a territory stretching continuously from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific, and it requires only a moderate degree of liberality on the part of the Imperial Government to insure the construction of a road across British North America to the regions of the North Pacific. The United States have already connected their eastern territories with the Pacific by 8131 miles of mail-coach road, opened and maintained by the nation at a gross expenditure of more than 1,000,000 dollars per annum, and the population for whose benefit this large outlay has been incurred does not exceed 650,000; and it has been calculated that the Pacific States are peopled at a cost to the Federal Government of 17s. annually for each settler. The districts which benefit by this expenditure form undoubtedly an integral part of the United States territory; but it has always been the principle of England, on endowing a colony with free institutions, to leave it to the people themselves to develop its resources, to make roads, and to execute all works of public utility which the settlement may from time to time require out of their own resources. The American Government, on the other hand, undertakes these works itself, considering them essential to the growth of an infant state, and holds the public lands and revenue as securities until it has been indemnified for outlay.

The policy of England in the treatment of her colonies, in this particular, was stated by Sir Bulwer Lytton in a despatch to British Columbia in 1858:—"I cannot avoid reminding you," he says, "that the lavish pecuniary expenditure of the mother country in founding new colonies has been generally found to discourage economy, by leading the minds of men to rely on foreign aid instead of their own exertions; to interfere with the healthy action by which a new community provides step by step for its own requirements, and to produce at last a general sense of discouragement and dissatisfaction. For a colony to thrive and develop itself with steadfast and healthful progress, it should from the first, as far as possible, be self-supporting. No doubt it might be more agreeable to the pride of the first founders of a colony which promises to become so important, if we could at once throw up public buildings and institute establishments on a scale adapted to the prospective grandeur of the infant settlement. But, after all, it is on the character of the inhabitants that we must rest our hopes for the land we redeem from the wilderness; and it is by self-exertion, and the noble spirit of self-sacrifice which self-exertion engenders, that communities advance through rough beginnings to permanent greatness."

The despatch embodying these sentiments may be a very able literary composition, but we must be permitted to doubt the correctness of its reasoning. Which of the arrangements, the American or the British, is most in accordance with good policy, there is little reason, we think, to doubt. We believe it to be both the interest and paramount duty of Great Britain to provide the funds required in the first instance to make a colony *habitable*, controlling of course their expenditure, and taking effectual security for their repayment. Applying this principle to the expediency of opening a route between the Atlantic and Pacific colonies of Great Britain, it may be inquired how this important object can be best attained. For half a century England pursued with a consistent but unfortunate perseverance the chimera of a north-west passage to the Pacific, but the various Arctic voyages have resulted in no advantage to commerce, and contributed little to science beyond a trifling addition to our geographical knowledge, at the cost of a sum considerably exceeding £1,000,000. The delusion is now completely dispelled, and we are beginning to discover that, instead of forcing a north-west passage through the Arctic seas, there is a practicable route to the other hemisphere, a real 'north-west passage,' across the continent of North America. We have adverted to the fact of the navigation being open from

the ports of Great Britain to the northern shores of Lake Superior. The Atlantic can now be crossed by the inferior class of settlers for 50s. per head, and for that trifling sum, an emigrant can be carried from Liverpool or Glasgow to Quebec. A railway across British North America is at present justly considered as impracticable; and to an emigrant, speed in travelling is not so much an object as certainty and economy. There exists already a practicable track from the Frazer River to the Red River settlement, and no difficulty is anticipated in extending this road to Lake Superior. The existing track, as far as it extends, might be easily converted into a waggon road, and continued to the Canadian frontier. All the colonies of British North America would then be connected, the line would from time to time be improved, and ultimately converted into a railroad, as the countries advance in prosperity and importance. An emigrant, it has been calculated, would, by this overland route, reach Victoria, the capital of Vancouver Island, or the city of New Westminster, sooner by a week than he can now do by the quickest available transit.

The interest of such an overland journey to the Pacific would be unequalled. Entering the wide St. Lawrence—the pride of the Canadian people—ascending the noble stream, its banks studded for three hundred miles with thriving villages, picturesque hamlets, and stately cities, and backed by distant mountains and forests, the traveller would pass into the great North American Lakes, crowded with the ships of the second commercial State in the world, and with those of the prosperous colony of Canada, and reflecting in their bright waters the blended glories of nature and the pride of rising towns; and reaching the extremity of Lake Superior, with its grand but desolate shores, he would traverse a country of minor lakes and of pine woods; he would see the great Saskatchewan, its banks crowded with herds of buffalo; he would pass over boundless prairies, and catch occasional glimpses of the wild hunter, as he pursues his gigantic game over the plains, until he reach the Rocky Mountains, mysterious in their unexplored seclusion, but beautiful in their outlines and their forms; and threading their romantic defiles, he would suddenly emerge into the gold fields of British Columbia, wind among valleys, the scenes of animated industry, and skirt the banks of rivers broken by foaming torrents and overhung with magnificent woods, until from some eminence he would see the blue Pacific looming in the distance, and below him, in the dim horizon, the cities of New Westminster and Victoria; and arriving

at the capital of the young and not the least prosperous of the fifty-two colonies of Great Britain, he would exult in the thought, that he has passed from the shores of England, over an ocean of which she is the mistress, and through a territory of which she is the sovereign for upwards of four thousand miles, and that the same flag which floats over the royal castles and fortresses of his native land, still waves in the soft breezes of the Pacific, and is hailed with pride as the symbol of authority and protection by every dweller in the immense region which he has traversed in his lengthened route.

ART. IV.—*Lectures on the History of the Eastern Church; with an Introduction on the Study of Ecclesiastical History.* By ARTHUR PENNYN STANLEY, D.D., Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University of Oxford, and Canon of Christ's Church. London. 1861.

THIS volume by Dr. Stanley is professedly an instalment of his labours as occupant of the chair of Church History in Oxford. Many circumstances conspired to give unusual interest to Dr. Stanley's appointment to that chair, and to raise high expectations of his labours in an office so congenial to his tastes and genius. Nor have such expectations been disappointed. The three introductory lectures which Dr. Stanley published immediately after the commencement of his duties as Professor, showed how familiar he was with the field on which he was entering,—what a masterly and richly informed survey he was able to take of it,—and how thoroughly he had pondered its relations; how, from the call of Abraham, 'the first beginning of a continuous growth,' to the Puseyite controversy,—the most recent snicker from that growth,—he could trace and bring into some degree of proportion its wonderful ramifications. A certain ease, fullness, and richness of historical apprehension and allusion, combined with an enlarged appreciation of the capacities of the subject, especially distinguished these lectures, which reappear as an introduction to the present volume.

The main part of the volume, as the title imports, is devoted to the history of the Eastern Church. The reader, however, must not look for a complete and continuous history. So little is there of this, that to some, we fear, the volume will prove a disappointment. In its separate parts it is interesting, graphic, and full of information; it is marked

throughout by Dr. Stanley's characteristic qualities of fairness and pictorial vigour, and constant animation of style, and particularly by the vivid portraiture of characters, of scenes and geographical features, in which he so much delights; but it does not satisfy the suggestions of the subject. It is too fragmentary and sectional for this,—a collection of Lectures, and not a fully outlined narrative or history. It does not, indeed, pretend to be more than *Lectures*; but, even in this view, a want of continuity and fullness of treatment strikes the reader, and leaves him dissatisfied. He expects to learn more of the Eastern Church than the volume teaches. With the consciousness that its history was very much a blank in his mind, he had hoped to have the blank filled up; and when he finds himself detained, during four lectures, on such old ground as the Council of Nicea, and finds two more lectures on Athanasius and the Emperor Constantine,—these lectures embracing more than half the volume,—he feels as if the book, failing to answer his hopes, failed also to answer the occasion.

To a considerable extent this fragmentary character of the volume is owing to the subject itself. Properly speaking, as the author remarks, 'the Eastern Church has no history. It is marked out rather by tracts of land and races of men, than by successive epochs in the progress of events, of ideas, or of characters. The nations which it embraces have been for the most part so stationary, and their life so monotonous, that they furnish few subjects of continuous narration.' Little remained, therefore, for a lecturer, but the choice and treatment of certain aspects of the subject. Still, many will think that these aspects might have been presented so as to furnish a more consistent and progressive picture of Eastern Christianity, both in its theological spirit and in its external relations.

With such qualifications, we must express our obligations to Dr. Stanley for what he has done; and we feel especially bound to say, that any want of completeness in the contents of the volume by no means detracts from its interest. From beginning to end, it is most pleasant as well as instructive reading. The gravity of the scenes and events is everywhere relieved by the picturesque and vivid force with which they are described. The reader is made constantly aware, that he is dealing with real life and character, however distant in time, and far removed from anything in his own experience. No English writer, so far as we know, has ever given such a picture of the Council of Nicea,—a picture alive with strange and crowded figures, and with the light of the old East,

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