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THE

RESOURCES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

"WESTWARD THE STAR OF EMPIRE TAKES ITS WAY."

VOLUME I No. 5. | VICTORIA, B. C., JULY 1, 1883. | PER ANNUM $2.00 PER COPY, 25 CTS.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA IMMIGRATION BUREAU.

INFORMATION, EMPLOYMENT AND HOMES FOR EMIGRANTS.

The Government of British Columbia having established an Immigration and Employment Bureau at Victoria, all persons desirous of obtaining authentic information about the country are hereby notified to apply, either personally or by letter, to the Agent. Pamphlets and hand-books descriptive of the country and its resources will be supplied on application, free of charge. Employers of labor (skilled and unskilled) in the province are hereby invited to place themselves in communication with the Bureau. Office at Government Buildings, James Bay, Victoria, British Columbia. All communications to be addressed to

JOHN JESSOP, *Immigration Agent.*

A FEW FACTS ABOUT BRITISH COLUMBIA.

British Columbia is entering upon an era of great prosperity. Fully $3,000,000 are expended upon public works annually. Thousands of men are employed on the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. A railway along the eastern coast of Vancouver Island is almost certain to be under construction soon. A large graving dock is being made at Esquimalt. The provincial industries are flourishing. Trade is sound, and exports and imports are annually increasing.

LABOR IS MUCH WANTED.

The railway works and many of the provincial industries are hampered by want of labor. Every man and woman able and willing to work can find employment. Wages are high. Board and clothing are reasonable. Domestic servants are wanted. The supply of professional men, clerks and shopmen is perhaps sufficient.

CLIMATE, CROPS AND FRUIT.

The climate is the best in America—serene and invigorating—its varieties ranging from the climate of the South of England to that of a large portion of France. The Marquis of Lorne, Governor-General of Canada, says respecting it: "*No words can be too strong to express the charm of this delightful land.*"

Soils are fertile. Crops do not fail. No drought. The wheat, barley, oats and hops of British Columbia beat those of California. The root crops of British Columbia cannot be surpassed in any country. Fruit can be raised to any extent and of almost every kind.

MINING.

Gold mining keeps its place and is capable of great extension. Fields of coal and mountains of iron lie side by side, and rich silver ledges abound. Other valuable minerals exist in great variety.

FISHERIES.

The fisheries are boundless, and, although comparatively untouched, already yield about $2,000,000 a year for export alone. Food fish can be had almost any where for the taking.

TIMBER.

British Columbia has the most extensive and valuable forests in North America, and although this industry is yet in its infancy, the annual product of manufactured lumber is about 30,000,000 feet.

SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

A free public school is placed within the reach of every child in the province, and high schools and colleges are to be found in the centers of population. No state church, no tithes, but a fair supply of churches throughout the country, including the Anglican, Roman Cotholic, Presbyterian and Methodist.

POLITICAL AND MUNICIPAL SYSTEM.

The political system is as free as man can desire—full self government, and citizenship easy of attainment by aliens. Any settlement of not less than thirty householders may form themselves into a municipality and manage their own local affairs.

ADMISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Law and order prevail to a high degree, and justice is firmly and fairly administered. Petit jurors are poid from $1.50 to $2.00 a day for every day they attend, and witnesses are well paid.

MAIL COMMUNICATION.

Three or four mails a week reach the province from abroad, and the interior mail service is for the most part liberal.

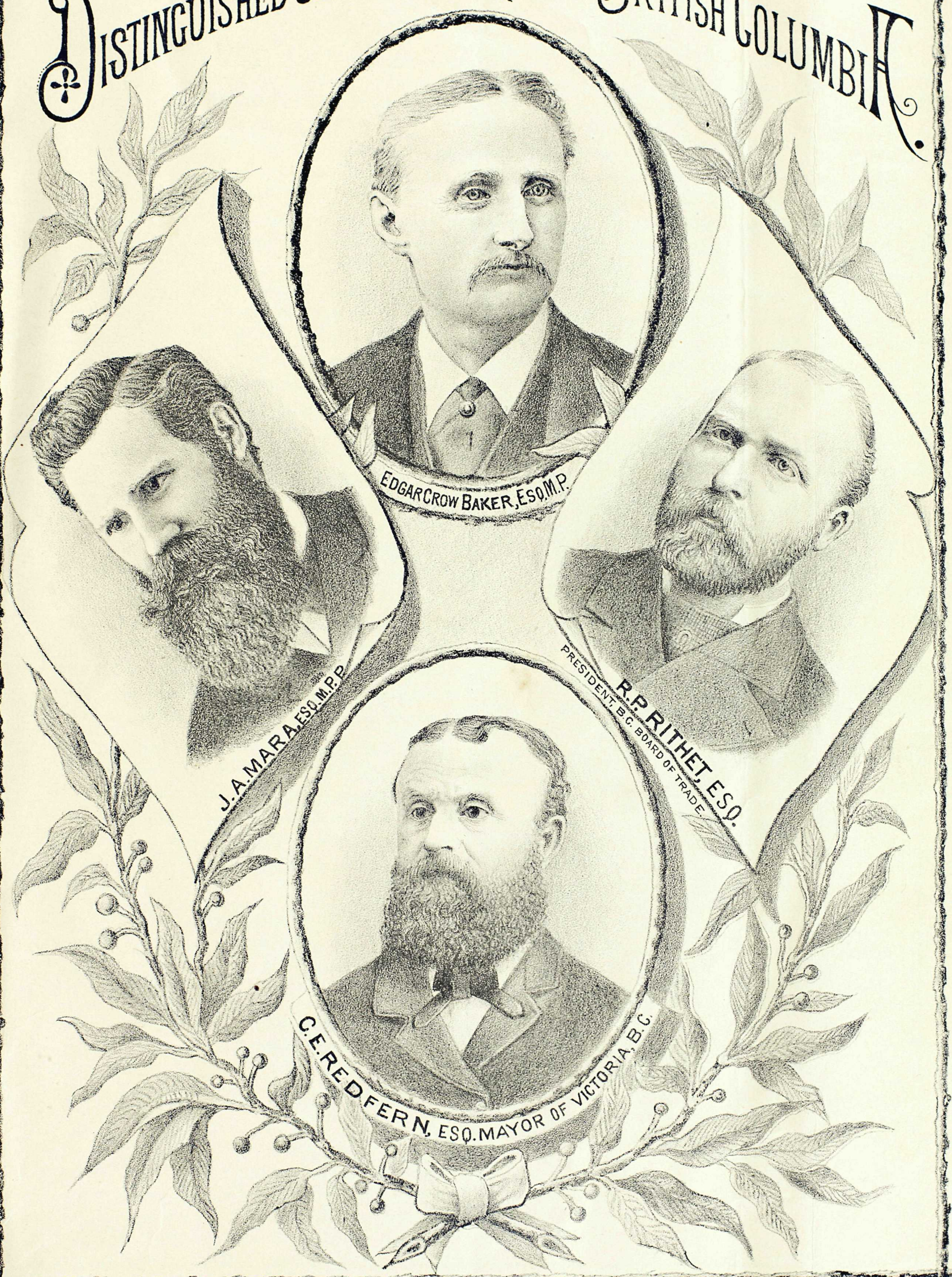
THE LAND SYSTEM.

British Columbia possesses one of the most liberal land systems in the world. Crown lands can be preempted or purchased at one dollar (four English shillings) an acre, on easy terms of payment, and the settler can have his homestead to the value of $2,500, and personal property to the value of $500, registered and thereby effectually secured against all creditors.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Emigrants from every civilized country are cordially welcomed to this "glorious province" (*vide* Lord Dufferin's speech). Aliens can purchase Crown lands and hold and convey real estate with every freedom. Aliens can be naturalized after one year's residence, and thereafter enjoy all the rights of citizenship. Taxation is light and the utmost freedom compatible with law and order is enjoyed.

Distinguished Self-made Men of British Columbia.



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A. Fraser

The Resources of British Columbia.

"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way."

VOLUME I No. 5. | VICTORIA, B. C., JULY 1, 1883. | PER ANNUM $2.00 PER COPY, 25 CTS.

Opinions of Eminent Personages.

There is no doubt that any Canadian who visits this Island and the Mainland shores, and sees the happiness of the people, the forest-laden coast, the tranquil gulfs and glorious mountains, can but congratulate himself that his country possesses scenes of such perfect beauty.

No words can be too strong to express the charm of this delightful land, where the climate, softer and more constant than that of the south of England, ensures at all times of the year a full enjoyment of the wonderful loveliness of nature around you.

Agreeable as I think the steady and dry cold of an eastern winter is, yet there are very many who would undoubtedly prefer the temperature enjoyed by those who live west of the mountains. Even where it is coldest, spring comes in February, and the country is so divided into districts of greater dryness or greater moisture, that a man may always choose whether to have a rainfall small or great.—*The Marquis of Lorne.*

Well, I may frankly tell you that I think British Columbia a glorious province—a province which Canada should be proud to possess, and whose association with the Dominion she ought to regard as the crowning triumph of Federation.—*The Earl of Dufferin.*

If any citizen will bring his family here for one summer he will find the truth to be that Victoria combines in itself more and rare advantages as a summer resort than any of the eastern resorts with which he is probably familiar. Victoria must become the great summer resort of the Pacific coast.—*American Tourist.*

This is the most delightful country I have ever seen; in all my travels I have never experienced so enjoyable a day.—*Senator Edmonds, Vice President of the United States.*

There is no doubt that with a smaller amount of labor and outlay than in almost any other country the energetic settler may soon surround himself with all the elements of comfort and even affluence.—*Sir James Douglas.*

It remains only for me to add that as years roll on, and our possessions become developed, the value of this second Britain will come so vividly before our people that men will ask with astonishment why such ignorance prevailed in the past. To-day there are four hundred miles of coast line in our western possessions, clothed with a forest growth superior to anything else in the world at present. Its shore indented with multitudes of harbors, bays and inlets, teeming with myriads of fish. Its rocks and sands containing gold, iron, silver, coal and various other minerals. And besides all this, a climate superior to England in every respect, both as regards heat and moisture, and yet men will ask what is it all worth? I answer, 'worth more than Quebec and all the maritime provinces thrown in, and sceptics may rest assured that the day is not far distant when my words will be accepted as truth.'—*Prof. Macoun.*

THE MODERN ROCKER.

One of the most simple and useful machines used in placer mining is the Rocker, of which the above cut is an illustration. The old time miner whose eyes may fall upon this page will greet the picture as that of an old and familiar friend, one scarcely less dear to him than the trusted "pard" with whom he shared his well filled sack of yellow nuggets, or, if need be, his last pound of beans and only slice of bacon.

The Rocker, as its name implies, is simply a kind of cradle, the bottom of which is perforated or slatted and resting on an inclined sluice taversed by a number of transverse grooves. From the great difference of density existing between the particles of gold and the siliceous and ferruginous gravel with which it is commonly associated, its separation from these bodies becomes an extremely simple operation. The same principles which regulate the fall of solid bodies through a liquid medium in a state of rest, are equally applicable to their removal by the action of a stream of running water. The gravel or earth to be washed is placed in the Rocker which is agitated to and fro, water being poured on at the same time, until the gold, together with a small portion of furruginous sand, alone remains in the furrows, after which the matrix is removed and treated with quicksilver by which the precious metal is separated from the sand or other base matter.

Resources of British Columbia.

PUBLISHED AT VICTORIA, B. C., ON THE FIRST OF EVERY MONTH.

A. A. McARTHUR, - - Editor and Proprietor.

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☞All matter intended for publication should be sent in not later than the 25th of the month. Correspondence solicited.

NO QUESTIONABLE ADVERTISEMENTS INSERTED IN THIS JOURNAL.

Provincial Progress.

At no time in the past history of this province was it possible to find such indubitable evidences of material progress as the whole country presents to day, the asseverations of croakers and malcontents to the country notwithstanding. On every side are we confronted with the most convincing proofs of this general prosperity. The volume of business transacted has increased immensely, a fact fully borne out by the largely augmented number of steamers and other vessels making regular trips to our ports and plying upon our inland waters. New vessels, to meet the rapidly growing demand for transportation, are being constantly added to existing lines. We have now a weekly, instead of a tri-monthly steam service between this port and San Francisco; a daily, instead of a tri-weekly, line of steamers connecting our ports with those of Puget Sound, the mediterranean of the Occident, while the number of vessels plying between domestic ports has been largely increased to meet the requirements of internal traffic. The western portion of the C. P. R. is rapidly approaching completion, and is already adding mile after mile to a continuous line of transportation extending far into the interior country—opening up fresh avenues of trade, creating new homes and establishing extensive and permanent industries in its wake. Many substantial buildings are being erected, new enterprises have been entered upon, and a tone of general prosperity pervades the entire community. These facts are becoming known abroad, especially in the neighboring pacific states whose people are in a position to form correct opinions as to the degree of progress obtaining here. A recent number of the *Oregonian* contains the following:

"Our neighbor on the north, British Columbia, is just now enjoying a season of activity strikingly in contrast with its afore-time slowness. An almost complete isolation has retarded its growth in the past, but an era of development has at last reached it. The work of building the Canada Pacific Railroad has alone added to the population of the province at least ten thousand persons, all of whom draw their support from outside while they disburse great sums for supplies, etc. The income to the province from this source alone is very great, while the opportunities for employment afforded by building operations have given the country an industrial 'boom.' But the greatest advantage from the railway work is the confidence in the future prosperity of the province which it inspires. Fearful that the road would not be built, capital has held back and the resources of the country, many and great as they are, have been allowed to rest and wait. Now no doubts about the road are entertained and many of the advantages expected from it are felt in advance. One has but to look about Victoria to see signs of new life. Many new buildings are going up in all directions, a great increase of steamboat traffic is noted, and the general movements of business exhibit an unaccustomed energy. The advance is even more noticeable on the mainland than on Vancouver Island, as the influences of railroad building are more directly felt there. The mainland towns are busy and thrifty, while the country, under the benefit of a certain market for its produce at high prices, is prosperous to an unprecedented degree. British Columbia, too, is getting its share of the immigration now coming to the Pacific Northwest. Many British immigrants prefer the old government and associations, and other opportunities being equal, they settle on British soil. There is every indication that the new prosperity will continue through a long course of years."

Effect of Sunlight on Plants.—Dr. Hermann Vogel, in his treatise on "The Chemistry of Light and Photography," points out the chemical effect of sunlight on plants, and especially the modified growth of plants owing to differences in the intensity of light, stating that these variations in the chemical intensity of light are very important to the life of plants. The green leaves of plants inhale carbonic acid and exhale oxygen under the influence of light, but this breathing process does not take place in the dark. Without light, plants develop only sickly blossoms, like the well known white germs of potatoes kept in cellars. The necessity of light for the life of plants is also seen in the effort made by plants kept in darkened rooms to reach the apertures which admit light, growing, as it were, toward them. The plant, therefore, develops with an energy proportioned to the intensity of the light, and the greater fruitfulness of the tropics is to be ascribed not only to the higher temperature, but also to the greater chemical intensity of the sunlight. Recent observations have established that the red and yellow rays, and not the blue and violet, produce the greatest chemical effect on the leaves of plants.

Hints To Emigrants.

Of all countries inviting immigration at present, British Columbia seems to possess, in the greatest degree, the climatic conditions, and that variety and extent of natural resources adapted to the requirement of the future settler, be his vocation what it may. The man of wealth will here find a broad and inviting field for the profitable investment of his capital; the miner will find rivers flowing over golden sands, and in the hills, ledges of untold mineral wealth; the lumber merchant and ship-builder will find immense forests of stately trees, that have been growing for centuries to attain their present grand proportions, and whose dim corridors have not yet been invaded by the sturdy woodsman nor echoed to the ringing blows of his destructive axe; the farmer will find thousands of acres of virgin soil which he may convert into broad fields of smiling plenty—the seed time and the bountiful harvest being equally sure; the invalid will find a climate health restoring and invigorating; the sportsman will find everywhere an ample field for his practiced hand with rod or gun, whether his quest be the nimble trout, the plumed pheasant, the bounding deer, or the growling bear; while the tourist or the landscape painter will be at once charmed and surprised with the fresh beauty and surpassing grandeur of the combination of Alpine and Italian scenery, the delight of every beholder.

While it is true that this Pacific province—wonderously pacific and patient as well—was before confederation, a kind of neglected waif of the British Empire, and has since recieved only abuse added to neglect from her ultramontane but unscrupulous sister provinces of the Dominion, who have broken all their most solemn pledges and ruthlessly trampled upon her defenceless rights, thereby ignoring common honesty, to say nothing of the claims of sisterhood, yet, although all this has been exceedingly detrimental to those who were here, it is much in favor of the settler in the immediate future. Now that the interests of Canada demand the completion of the C. P. R. as soon as practicable, this province will receive a large portion of her just dues, so long and so unrighteously withheld from her. As we have said, the delay in opening the country has operated to the advantage of those now coming here, inasmuch as the lands may be obtained at a merely nominal price, which would not be the case if the country had been generally settled.

Now the immigrant can pick out his choice from a thousand farms, pay his dollar per acre and receive a title in fee simple to the land.

A country of such vast extent, with the finest of climates, and so rich in natural resources, where frugality, industry and a small amount of capital are only necessary to insure eminent success, it is very apparent that British Columbia affords to day the most inviting field for immigration of any portion of the world.

Already the tide has set in this way; but they are only the energetic and more enterprising who travel so far to establish themselves in homes and business of their own, and we are very glad of it, as such men always prove to be helps, not hinderances, to progress, wherever they may cast their lots. After the Railway is completed and when fares will be low, there will doubtless be a great rush, but they will then come, only to find that the choicest locations have all been taken up by the more energetic and deserving who have preceded them. Those tardy comers will then regret their unwise procrastination. An exchange thus hits off the situation to a hair line:

"It is the energetic class alone that comes to this country as yet; loafers and dry-goods-box whittlers will come after the hard work of developing the country is over. They are the class that, metaphorically speaking, may be likened unto the locusts of ancient Egypt, which ate up the fruit of industry. A man who has the 'sand' to pull up stake in the land of his fathers and come out to the far Northwest has the essential elements of success. He is not afraid to work nor fastidious about the style he maintains. Besides he has the encouragement of so many acres of land of his own selection, and where he may plant and gather, sow and reap, without the dictation of a landlord. The land is his own, in the possession and use of which none dare to molest or make him afraid. He is monarch of his own survey and his right there is none to dispute. The young woman who comes to town with an ox team now will in a few years travel over the same road in a carriage of her own. The man who lives in a shack now will in a few years be living in a farm mansion. The family who now can hardly afford to pay postage on a letter to their friends back East will in a few years travel in a palace car to visit them. But those who stand around with their hands in their pockets, waiting for something to turn up, will probably be found in the same condition twenty years hence. If you cannot secure a clerkship in a store you can hold a plow on a farm. If you cannot make $5 a day at your usual vocation, you can make $2 at something else. It is not the wages you can get nor the kind of work you do that is your recommendation, but the industry and energy with which you prosecute whatever you undertake to do. Let the world see that you have the sand and you will not want for profitable employment. Do not attempt to compass your work by your salary. Do your work well and your salary will regulate itself."

Trade with those advertising in the RESOURCES.

Companion Pictures.

The scenes represented by the engravings on the two pages before us are striking portrayals of two of the most important and interesting episodes in mining life often experienced in British Columbia. The one shows a party of adventurous gold seekers, preparing to start on a prospecting tour. The mule, already laden, is seen vigorously protesting against the load or the proposed journey or both, and as is his wont, presents his demurer, and urges his objections in the unmistakable logic and conclusive argument of his heels. In "sinching up" the other hybrid, it will be observed that great care is taken by the men not to stand in the way of any "objections" that may be raised, at any moment, by one so proverbial for knock down arguments.

Leaving our friends to settle their disputes with their long eared companions, and to complete their preparations for the journey, and wishing them *bon voyage* we will now, if the reader please, take a glance at the next page and note the scene there presented. Here they have arrived safe and sound, and again pitched their oft moved tents. The old man of the party, who has been engaged in the gold quest since the "fall of '49 and spring of '50," has sunk a prospect hole, and is now engaged in washing the first pan. To judge of his success, it is not necessary to examine the large nugget of the precious metal displayed in his open palm, for the bright gleam of his practised eye and the broad smile on his hopeful, honest face, sufficiently attest the fact, that he has, indeed, "struck it rich."

OFF ON A PROSPECTING TOUR.

The "Resources" in Europe.

During the last month we have received a large number of orders for this publication from Europe, especially from England and Wales. We feel that we are indebted to our friends here for this welcome increase to our already large circulation, as those thus favoring us with their orders invariably state that they have received one or more copies already; and are desirous of having it come regularly to them.

Railroad Rumblings.

MONTREAL, June26.–The contract for another great railway enterprise was given out today, to build a new line, called the Ontario and Pacific Railway, from Cornwall, on the bank of the St. Lawrence, to Sault Ste. Marie, to connect with the Northern Pacific Railway, over a big bridge, to the western terminus 700 miles. It is claimed this will make the most direct and shortest line to the west from the Atlantic seaboard, and will give the Northern Pacific an advantage over both the Canadian Pacific and the Grand Trunk from ocean to ocean. The Dominion government's charter gives the company power to build a bridge over the St. Lawrence, and American connections are already secured from the border line to Portland, Maine, Boston, and New York. A large part of the new road will run almost parallel with the Canadian Pacific, to Sault Ste. Marie. It will receive subsidies from municipal and several other sources. The contract was given to Philadelphia men, and the promoters are American and Canada capitalists. Bonds to the extent of $12,000,000 will be issued. Duncan McIntyre, B. R. Angus, directors, and Van Horne, general manager, went off in a hurry to meet President Stevens of the Canadian Pacific relative to this threatening scheme. How they can counteract it without purchasing the charter is a mystery. The project, which has been kept a secret, produced a sensation here to-day. It is popular, as the Canadians have been crying out against the Canadian Pacific men.

We sincerely hope that the proposed connection will be built and operated, thus practically giving British Columbia, which is interested only in through rates, the advantage of competing lines and consequent minimum rates for through transportation. The C. P. R. magnates will doubtless now become convinced that no time is to be lost in pushing their road through to the Pacific seaboard, as it is found to be a matter of great difficulty to divert traffic from its accustomed channel. By vigorous work the C. P. R. can be completed one year before the other road.

[CORRESPONDENCE.]

The Cottonwood Tree.

EDITOR RESOURCES.—We notice in THE RESOURCES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, published by you, dated 1st March, you speak of a "Cottonwood" which grows very extensively in the country, and which is suitable for paper making. We will be obliged if you will give us some information about this. We expect to have a vessel shortly loading a cargo of timber at Burrard Inlet for this country, and we would like to bring a few tons in her as a trial if it will answer for paper making in this country. You are no doubt aware there is a large quantity of Esparto grass imported from the Mediterranean for this purpose, and it has struck us from your discription that the Cottonwood might be used as a substitute. Will you please inform us whether it could be got in quantity, and whether it can easily be got to a port of shipment, also if you have any idea what it would cost per ton delivered at a port of shipment?

Please also say if it is a plant peculiar to British Columbia, or the Pacific Coast.

STRUCK IT RICH.

Do you mean that the whole of the plant is suitable for this purpose or only a description of cotton that grows on it? Can you give us the botanical name of the plant? If you think there is any chance of the wood being of value here, we will be much obliged if you will send us by parcel post a few pounds of the wood so that we can have it examined here, provided the cost will not exceed $5 or $6, including the carriage here. Messrs. Welch Rithet & Co. will reimburse you any outlay for this on our account. We have already asked these gentlemen to subscribe for us to the RESOURCES. We are Yours truly,

JOHN S. DE WOLF & CO.

1, Tower Chambers, Liverpool, 23rd May, 1883.

[This large tree is known here as Fremont's Cottonwood, or by the botanic name, *Populus Fremontii*. It is found all over the Pacific Coast and also east of the Rocky Mountains. Flourishes in rich light alluvion, near river banks or where its roots may reach water, and attains to 150 feet in height and from four to six feet in diameter. The bead-like cotton pods are arranged on nodding or erect racemes, seeds white, capsules three to four valved. The timber is somewhat less white than the Aspen which is extensively used in the Eastern States for the manufacture of paper, and when thoroughly dry looses more than half its weight. All sorts of wooden vessels, clothespins, spools and similar turners' ware are made of it, but it has heretofore been regarded as one of our least valuable kinds of wood. However the despised Cottonwood may yet become the most popular as well as the most valuable tree. Late inventions and discoveries have revealed the fact that the finest polish and strongest household furniture can be made out of paper. It can be pressed so hard that no instrument short of a diamond can scratch it, and it can be given the finest shades in imitation of wood, and produced cheaper than walnut, mahogany or ebon. And late discoveries in paper making establish the fact that Cottonwood makes the whitest and strongest fiber pulp yet manufactured out of wood. There are vast quantities of pulp imported into the United States, and some newspaper men are clamoring for its admission free of duty. Paper mills in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and other Northern States, are shipping thousands of cords of poplar wood fron the Chowan river in North Carolina, one mill in Delaware contracting for 30,000 cords.

Here Cottonwood is abundant, and as its habitat is in the vicinity of the inlets, lakes and rivers, it is therefore very convenient for shipment. By improved methods, and machinery recently invented, it can be ground into pulp, and manufactured into paper with astonishing rapidity; and it has been demonstrated by actual experiment, that a growing tree of this wood may be cut down, reduced to pulp, pressed into sheets of the desired size and a newspaper printed upon it, all within twenty four hours. In view of these facts, there would seem to be no need for farther tests as to the practicability of making cheap and excellent paper from the Cottonwood tree.—ED.]

Suburban Homes.

The history of all cities proves conclusively that where good roads are built and maintained there the suburbs are more quickly settled and the cities less densely crowded. This remark is particularly applicable to the outlying lands which surround Victoria, where good macadam roads are built and kept in repair by the government. The same history also warrants the assertion that those who availed themselves of the opportunity of purchasing suburban lands by the acre have amassed wealth by the growth of the city. The rule is an infallible one, and the experience of the past in all other cities, shows the wisdom of its adoption. Besides the pecuniary advantages to be derived from such investments in outside property, statistics prove that the procurement of a home tends directly to the promotion of health, happiness and sequent longivity, by affording awhile from the perplexing anxieties of a migratory existence, and it further tends to the encouragement of economic habits, the stability and good order of the family and of society in general. It is inherent in the relation we sustain to the family and to society to provide a home and plant the vine and fig tree, under the protecting shadow of which our children may feel that there is indeed no place like home, the very thought of which, even after they have grown up into ripe manhood and womanhood, will cause a thrill of pleasure, and recall some of the thousand and one cherished memories that cluster about the dear old home and the fond recollection of the loved ones their lisping tongues first named.

The advantages of living away from business after business hours, of having a home and grounds to improve and beautify, and something to relieve the mind from the cares and annoyances of city life–from its circumscribed limits and miasmatic influences–have long since became apparent to the business men of the great commercial marts; and we find that places even sixty miles from London, such as Brighton, Norwood, Sydenham and Croyden, are not considered too far from that city for the suburban villa residences of those who have occasion to be in London daily during business hours; so in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and San Francisco, from which latter named city, morning and evening, the boats and cars are crowded with city business men. In many of these suburban retreats their beautiful residences and parks were built and improved long before other than ordinary facilities and means of conveyance for making them were afforded, having been purchased in anticipation of the growth of the city, aud the natural enhancement of adjacent property. In a few years the land thus bought by the acre could be sold at prices per lot in subdivisions in excess of the former acre price.

Victoria as an extensive manufacturing center and a city of great commercial importance in the immediate future is no idle nor visionary dream. The signs of the times indicate changes of great moment. The white winged messengers of commerce are already thronging our harbors. Soon we will hear the shrill whistle of the locomotive, waking up the echoes of the long sleeping past; the smoke from the chimneys of our factories and work shops, will rise in a thousand turbaned columns into the empyrean; while the bustle of busy trade, the whirr of machinery and the ceaseless din of countless tools, proclaim the industries and activities of the hour. Then will Victoria become what she is destined and fitted to be, a commercial and manufacturing center second to none on the Pacific Coast.–Communicated.

Physical Properties of Gold.

Around the miner's camp fire conversation naturally leads to the all absorbing subject of gold and its origin. Each prospector has a theory of his own, but all are based on the vague idea that gold in the placers is brought from some general source, which the miner searches for, but never finds. What is true of the present was true in early times. It was the universal belief, as far as we have history, that if the source of gold be found it would be possible to quarry it out like granite; but this idea seems never to be realized.

"El Dorado" is Spanish for "golden region." Three hundred years ago Francis Oreliana, a companion of Pizarro, conceived the idea that gold found in the valleys must have been washed down from some vast deposit in the mountains. He spread the report that he had discovered such a deposit near the summit of the Andes, which he called "El Dorado." He described it as being a valley, beautiful, not only for its scenery, but for its streams and fountains, grassy slopes, and groves of pines and cedars. A vail of enchantment hung over the valley; the trees were graceful; the skies were never obscured by clouds, and gold and gems were as plentiful and common as rocks and pebbles in other lands. He said he had seen at Manoa immense treasures of gold and precious stones, brought from "El Dorado," and temples roofed with gold. Oreliana is said to have discovered the Amazon in 1549.

There is probably no metal more generally distributed over the earth's surface than gold, but its physical properties are such that it can only exist in comparatively small quantities within the reach of man. Iron and most other metals have such an affinity for oxygen that they form compounds with that element, becoming oxides, which form secondary compounds with other elements and compounds and become part of the rocks which constitute the earth's

crust; gold, and a few other metals, having little or no affinity for oxygen, and for that reason called "noble metals," retain their metallic state and are seldom found otherwise.

The love of gold is, without doubt, the result of education. As an example, a savage in possession of a gold coin will willingly exchange it for a nail or a fishhook. Even those knowing the value attached to gold will receive a counterfeit with perfect satisfaction and retain it until its true character is discovered. When the ports of Japan were first opened to Europeans, the relative value of gold to that of silver was less than with us, which was taken advantage of with serious loss to the Japanese. Those who think that gold is valued for itself alone have neglected the study of political economy, and should be told the story of the man who, for a wager, undertook to sell sovereigns at a shilling a piece on London Bridge and found to his surprise that he could not find a customer.

The color of pure gold is bright yellow, tinged slightly with red. It has a higher luster than copper, but less than silver, steel, mercury, or platinum. It is softer than silver, and more ductile and malleable than any other metal. Although its malleability is so remarkable when pure, it is rendered brittle by the slightest admixture of lead. It also becomes so when suddenly cooled. When passing from a liquid to a solid state it contracts more than any other metal. The atomic weight of gold is 196.5, hydrogen being taken as unity. It fuses at a temperature of 2016 fahrenheit. Gold may be distinguished from all other substances by the following simple and characteristic tests: *It is yellow; is not acted on by nitric acid, and it fuses to a bright bead on charcoal without incrustation.* In sufficiently large pieces, it may be recognized by being *malleable under the hammer, and cutting with a knife without crumbling.*

Domestic Fowls.

In view of the fact that the ruling prices of fresh eggs in the markets of this province are from 50cts. in summer, to 75cts. in winter, per dozen, it is apparent that the business of a "chicken ranch" would be a very profitable one. Here, as elsewhere, eggs form an important and almost indispensable part of our daily nutriment, being largely used both from the shell and in conjunction with a myriad toothsome preparations known to the culinary art by as many different Gaulic appellations. The facilities for entering upon and successfully carrying on the business of poultry raising, are varied and abundant. Cheap and convenient locations, admirably adapted to this purpose, may easily be obtained within a radius of two or three miles of the principle business centres; and the ready money necessary for a good start in the business is comparatively trifling, when compared with the quick returns, and large profits sure to accrue to the investor under such favorable circumstances. A knowledge of the best methods employed by successful poulterers may be readily obtained from a study of any of the many excellent works published on this important subject, so that almost any person may engage in this pursuit with a fair prospect of ultimate success, while the manual labor necesary to carry it on is scarcely more than that of an agreeable pastime.

For the guidance of those intending to engage in the business we give the

QUALITIES OF DIFFERENT BREEDS OF FOWLS.

Before raising chickens, the question naturally arises, What is the best breed? We may divide them into two classes—egg producing and marketable fowls. Different experiments give the following results:

Varieties.	Eggs to ℔.	No. per year.
Leghorn	9	170
Plymouth Rock	8	155
L. Brahma and P. Cochin	7	135
Dark Brahma	8	135
Houdan and Hamburg	9	155
B. W. and Buff Cochin	7	130
Black Spanish	8	150
Game and Dominique	9	145
Polish	9	135
Bantam	15	130

This shows that the Leghorn takes the lead as an egg producer. Of these we have brown, white, black and Dominique. They are all quite hardy, mature quickly, and commence laying at a very early age, sometimes at four months old. On account of their small size they are not much used as a table fowl, but their meat is fine and juicy.

To this class of egg producing fowls belong the Houdan, Hamburg, Dominique, Game, Black Spanish, and some others. Most of these are larger than the Leghorn and good layers, but none equal the Leghorn on the laying score.

Among breeds raised for market, the most prominent are the Brahma and the Cochin. In principal points these two breeds resemble each other, both being large and of a quiet disposition, and will bear confinement well; a fence two or three feet high is sufficient to keep them within bounds.

The Plymouth Rock combines the qualities of the egg producing and marketable fowls. They are better layers than the Asiatics and larger than the Leghorn. A full grown male will weigh 10½ pounds. They dress well, have nice juicy meat of finer quality than the larger breeds. The hens are good sitters and make as good mothers as can be found in any other breed. The breed was originated in the eastern states by a cross between the Dominique and the Dark Brahma.

"OLD TOMORROW."

Characteristic Dealings with the Mainland Railway Belt.

A Prod o'the Thistle Needed.

The chronic procrastination evinced by the Dominion Government in its dealings with all matters connected with the interests of this Province has become proverbial, so much so that even the stolid Indian has long since learned to expect only repeated delays in the fulfilment of promises from that quarter. Sir John, being nearly always at the head of that government, the aborigines have, we think very properly, laid the blame of these tardy practices at his door, and, when speaking of the Premier, invariably refer to him as "Old Tomorrow," a somewhat inelegant *subriquet* by which he has long been known among them. Nor can our white population congratulate that gentleman upon anything like Napoleonic promptitude in dealing with matters affecting the interests of this Province, notably in the opening up of the Mainland Railway Belt to settlement. Early in May last, Sir John promised that this would be done *at once*, and that Mr. Trutch would be instructed to open a land office here for the purpose of disposing of these lands at a nominal price to settlers, but we are sorry to say that upon inquiry at the proper office, we were informed that no such order has, as yet, been received by the resident agent of the federal government. It is said that the Scots chose the thistle as the emblem of their country on account of its signal efficacy, when used as a prod, in arousing the sleeping soldier to immediate action, and we believe that there are some very wicked(?) people in British Columbia, who, if opportunity favored, would actually try the experiment on the Ottawa Premier.

HOW TO PROCEED.

While awaiting the manipulation of red tape at Ottawa, those desirous of settling on lands within the railway belt can do so with the assurance that when these lands do come into the market they may purchase them at a merely nominal price per acre, not taking into account any improvements made in the meantime. Besides such settlers will not be required to pay anything for them until they are regularly open for settlement, a matter that cannot be much longer delayed.

After selecting any location desired the intending settler should not fail to file in the Office of the Dominion Agent at Victoria, a local discription of the tract, say such as is required for similar applications in the land office. Although a record is kept of all such applications, it is apparent that it will be absolutely necessary for the settler, the moment these lands come into the market, to make such farther application and such payments as may be required by the Dominion Government, in order to acquire title to such lands. While it would be much more satisfactory if these lands were surveyed and regularly open to settlement, so that immediate title could be obtained, yet there can be no doubt that the *bona fide* settler may acquire title in the manner above stated, It is the speculator, alone, who is effectually barred out for the present.

Apart from the railway belt, there is any quantity of excellent land, belonging to the Province, now obtainable for one dollar per acre, both on the Island and Mainland, and concerning which the Immigration Agents at Victoria and New Westminster will, on application, cheerfully give, free of charge, the fullest information to intending immigrants and settlers.

We advise all interested in this subject to interview these gentlemen, or, if this is not practicable, to write to them for the information desired.

Our Table.

The *Pacific Rural Press* is a large and beautifully illustrated weekly publication containing an unusual amount of fresh, original farm, household and family circle literature, besides giving full and reliable market reports, and is one of our most valued exchanges. It is published by Messrs. Dewey & Co, 252, Market st. San Francisco, Cal. Price $3.00 a year.

The *Daily Oregonian*, of Portland, Ogn. another welcome visitor comes regularly to hand. Besides its able editorials and interesting locals, its columns are replete with the latest telegraphic news from all quarters and it is justly regarded as the leading newspaper north of San Francisco. It has a considerable number of readers in this Province who take it on account of its telegraphic dispatches.

The *Daily Evening Post*, published in this city by the Mc Dowell Bros., is rapidly gaining in public favor. Being printed immediately after the arrival of the mail steamers, it is thus enabled to give the latest news from abroad, while its local department is always spicy and interesting.

The *Daily Standard* of this City, which is the leading journal of the Opposition in Provincial politics is also the largest daily paper in the Province, and besides containing a great amount of general news, is especially interesting and valuable for its correspondence from the interior of the Province.

A number of other exchanges, not less valued and welcome, will be noticed in our next issue.

☞ SUBSCRIBE FOR THE RESOURCES AND SEND IT TO YOUR FRIENDS.

POINTED PEN PICTURES

Of Prominent Self-Made Men of British Columbia.

SOME OF THE NAMES ON THE RESOURCES' ROLL OF HONOR.

> It is not in our stars, but in ourselves
> That we are underlings.
> ---Shakspeare.

Among the many profound and pithy aphorisms of the illustrious bard of Avon, which have so enriched and adorned our English literature, there are, perhaps, none containing more of wisdom and of worth than the one above cited. Its force and truthfulness are evidenced in the lives of those whose names are written high, and stand out in bold relief on the emblazoned record of the most brilliant achievements of individual life. Truly, "it is not in our stars," nor in any favoring or cruel fate, but largely, if not entirely, in the energies and activities, or in the slothfulness and improvidence of our own lives, wherein we make or mar our fortunes. While it is doubtless, true, as the same great author tells us, that "There's a divinity doth shape our ends, rough-hew them how we will," yet, as divinity implies a power for good, not evil, and as God is said to help only those who help themselves, it is evident that every man must become the architect of his own fortune. This is especially the case in a new country like ours, possessing such great and varied natural wealth, where the opportunities for advancment are strewn on every side; where the citizen is not constantly jostled by the eager, greedy throngs of the more populous centres, and where he may enjoy, in the fullest manner consistent with law and order, his heaven born rights to liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

It may be proper to say, *en passant*, that in presenting to our readers, the following brief notices, as well as the illustrations on another page, of some of our more prominent citizens, we do so without the solicitation of any one of them, our object being to show to the outside world, to which we are so little known, that with little or no capital save being possessed of fair intelligence, coupled with moral, industrious and frugal habits, a competence if not affluence is within easy reach of all such who may cast their lot in British Columbia. It is also hoped that our young people will be benefitted by such examples.

EDGAR CROW BAKER, ESQ., M. P.

The senior member for Victoria District in the Canadian House of Commons, is the third surviving son of Edward William Whitley Baker of Liscard Park, Cheshire, England, who was an Officer in the Royal Navy. Mr. Baker was born in '43, at Lambeth, Surrey, England, and is of an old English family that traces its descent from 1310. He was educated at the Royal Hospital Schools, Greenwich, and in '60 obtained nomination by competition into the Royal Navy, having held the first place in the first class, nautical, for fifteen months previous to examination; and passed with honors at the head of a class of 400 competitors at the general examination, winning the first prize in mathematics, navigation, nautical astronomy and scripture history; and on passing final test examination at the Royal Naval College, Portsmouth, was awarded the silver medal and thirty five guineas in coin, also fifteen guineas worth of nautical instruments and books. He was then appointed to H. M. S. Victory, but in a week was transferred to the Rolla, a ten-gun sailing brig in which he continued until the spring of 1861, when he was appointed to H. M. S. Cygnet on the North American and West Indies station and was present at the bombardment of the Haytien Capital when H. M. S. Bulldog was lost, also at the Jamaica insurrection during the time of Governor Eyre. Went up the Mississippi during the American civil war to protect British interests. Was sent away as prize Officer in '63, in charge of the ship Dalhousie of Glasgow, salved by the Cygnet in the Strait of Belle Isle and navigated her thence to St. Johns, Newfoundland. Was paid off from Cygnet at Halifax in October '64, and joined H. M. S. Duncan, flagship of Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, a ninety-one-gun line-o'battle ship, on same station. During the Fenian scare, took troops to St. Andrew, Bay of Fundy, and landed for service with Naval Brigade. Passed examination, recieved first class certificate and obtained first commission as navigating sub-Lieutenant in Sept, 1865. Returned to England in June '67, and in March '69, was married at the parish church, Bebington, to Frances Mary, eldest daughter of Capt. Richard Jones of Halifax, Nova Scotia. Has issue, one daughter. Subsequently Mr. Baker served in H. M. S. Hibernia at Malta, and in H. M. S.Cockatrice up the Mediterranean and the river Danube, enforcing the rules of the European Commission and during this time made a survey of St. George's Channel, River Danube and several of the places where grain vessels had been sunk. Came home across the continent and remained on half pay until March '72, when he was appointed to H. M. S. Royal Alfred, but exchanged into the "Niobe" and took that vessel from Bermuda to Halifax, and thence to the various ports in Prince Edwards Island, Newfoundland and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, protecting the fisheries. At his own request, again going on half pay in Sept. '72, he served for six months on the Board of Examiners of Master Mates, and being superceded by a political nominee, accepted a position as accountant in the store department of the Intercolonial Railway in which he continued until March, '76, when he left *en famille*, for British Columbia.

Since his arrival here Mr. Baker has been engaged in various business pursuits, having occupied the position of accountant at the Victoria Agency of the Hastings Mill Co. for three years, and afterwards similarly employed for nearly two years in the Provincial Treasury. Under the Dominion Act of 1873, he organized the pilotage system of British Columbia and has been Secy. and Treasr. of the Pilot Board since 1875' and has filled a like position in the B. C. Board of Trade since its incorporation in October '78; Secy. Treasr. of the Victoria and Esquimalt Telephone Company since its incorporation in March t80; Secy. of the Howe Mining Co. since Dec. '78; Hon. Secy. of the Art Union of London, and is also a Conveyancer, Notary Public, Master Mariner and Marine Surveyor. His name is prominently connected with more than half a score of fraternal, patriotic and benevolent societies, notably as Vice President of the B. C. Benevolent Society, a member of several Rifle and Marine Associations and Grand Master of Masons in British Columbia. In January of last year he was elected a member of the City Council from Yates Street Ward, and in July following was returned at the head of the poll, by the electors of Victoria District, to a seat in the Canadian House of Commons.

Being only in his fortieth year, in the prime and vigor of life, energetic and industrious, with large and varied experience of the world, a ready writer and fluent speaker, Mr. Baker's future career in British Columbia, can scarcely fail to be one of great usefulness and signal advancement.

HON. JOHN A. MARA,

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, was born in the City of Toronto, the Capital of the banner Province of the Dominion of Canada, and came to this country in 1862, attracted by the great gold discoveries of that time. He and Mr. Geo. Wallace came overland with a large party that crossed the plains that year. They travelled a great part of the way alone, overtaking the main portion of the party at the crossing of the Athabasca, in the Rocky Mountains. Many of our readers will remember Mr. George Wallace. He started the *Evening Express* newspaper in this City in 1863 and afterwards published the *Cariboo Sentinel*. He was elected to represent Yale District in the Legislative Council in 1866, but left the Province before the Council met.

At Tete Jeanne Cache the party divided, one portion taking the horses, proceeded by the North Thompson river to Kamloops, while the other built large rafts and placing the oxen upon them floated down the Fraser to Quesnel. After trying his luck in the different mining camps, Mr. Mara entered into partnership with Mr. W. B. Wilson at Kamloops, in 1871, and has since been engaged in business there as a general merchant. He was one of the promoters of and is a director in the Shuswap Milling Company [Limited] and is interested with Capt. Irving and Mr. Barnard in the line of steamers now plying on the Thompson River. He represented Kootenay District in the first provincial parliament after confederation, and at the general election in 1875 was returned for Yale District, and has ever since represented that important constituency in the Legislative Assembly. Recognizing in Mr. Mara a gentleman of long parliamentary experience, able and impartial, the house, at its last session, paid him the graceful but well deserved compliment of unanimously choosing him to preside over tis deliberations, and it is only proper to add that he has discharged the important and often delicate duties of the office of Speaker, in a manner at once creditable to himself and satisfactory even to that discriminating body.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF VICTORIA.

Charles E. Redfern, Esq., the Chief Magistrate of the commercial and political capital of British Columbia, was born in London, England, in 1839. After completing his education at the Brewer's School of that city, was apprenticed to the watch and chronometer business in which he served the full term of seven years; a term that to-day seems very long indeed when compared with the three years, now deemed sufficient to learn almost any trade in this country. But the pre-eminence of England in all departments of applied science–the machanic arts–is doubtless, largely due to this long and thorough drill of her apprenticed artizans, a rule as beneficial to the learner as it is inflexible in its application. Soon after finishing his term of apprenticeship, Mr. Redfern took passage for British Columbia in the steamer Tynemouth and arrived in Victoria in September, 1862. In the following year he commenced the business of watchmaker and jeweller in this city, which he has continuously carried on, up to the present time. The "Town Clock," at his well known establishment, whose clear ring announces the demise of each fated, fleeting hour, has long been a prominent feature of Government Street, and one that is as useful as it is conspicuous. In '75, Mr. R. revisited the scenes of his youthful days in the world's metropolis, and, two years after his return, was married to Miss Eliza Arden Robinson, a union that has since been blessed with four bright and interesting pledges of their mutual affection. A pioneer resident of Victoria, of recognized business integrity and social standing coupled with no small degree of executive ability, he has, on several occasions, been chosen to fill important civic positions, having represented James Bay Ward in the city council during two successive terms, and in the contest for the mayoralty in the early part of the current year, was elected to the office of Chief

Magistrate, the highest honor in the gift of the municipality.

ROBERT PATERSON RITHET, ESQ.,

President of the British Columbia Board of Trade and resident partner in the large importing and shipping house of Welch, Rithet & Co. is a native of Ecclefechan, Dumfries Shire, Scotland, and came to this Province in 1862, when a young lad of eighteen years. After filling several positions of trust in leading commercial houses here, Mr. Rithet, in 1871, commenced business here in partnership with Andrew Welch, of San Francisco, under the name of Welch, Rithet & Co., and has been the managing and resident partner of the firm since its commencement. The business of the house in Victoria is very extensive, and is steadily increasing under the tireless energy and skillful management of Mr. Rithet, who, as a leading merchant and citizen, is widely and favorably known throughout the province. He has always taken an active and prominent part in the promotion of the general interests of the country, notably in his connection with the Board of Trade, of which he may be said to be the founder, and of which he has been president since its incorporation in October, 1878. This organization, numbering nearly ninety members, and representing the financial, commercial and industrial interests of the country, has been the most potent of all instrumentalities in the advancement of the country, having obtained for the province, such reeognition, however little, of its claims as has been accorded by the government at Ottawa. By bringing our leading business men—capitalists, merchants and manufacturers—together, the Board of Trade has, either directly or indirectly, been the means of inaugurating and afterwards fostering almost every important business enterprise in the country.

Besides being interested in a number of other local enterprises, Mr. Rithet is a director in the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company; one of the finest steamers of this line being the "R. P. Rithet," plying between Victoria and Yale at the head of navigation on the far famed Fraser. He is also Vice-President of the Albion Iron Works Company, (Limited), who now employ one hundred men. In 1875, Mr. Rithet was married to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of A. Munro, Esq., of the Hudson Bay Company, and they with their three children now live in their elegant family residence, in the charming neighborhood of Beacon Hill, Victoria's grand natural park.

A Pair of Shoes in Twenty Minutes.

Eight hours consumed in making a pair of boots and shoes when working for a record would be considered terrible slow time in Lynn. Twenty minutes is the best time on record. In 1880 Charles Stewart Parnell visited Lynn, and while there he was shown about the city by Mayor Sanderson and three or four other gentlemen. The party visited the shoe manufactory of C. S. Sweetser & Co., and the proprietors decided to show Mr. Parnell how quick a pair of boots could be made. It was decided to make a pair of women's grain polish and the work commenced, Mr. Parnell closely watched every movement. He saw the stock for the uppers and the top linings cut out, the eyeleting done and the passing of the uppers from one stitcher to another; he saw the sole leather died out for the bottoms, and the stock fitted. Up to this time the uppers and bottoms had been kept separate. The next he saw was the two parts come together, the uppers lasted to the bottoms, then the uppers were sewed to the soles by a Mckay stitcher, and in rapid succession followed the work of beating out, trimming and setting the edges, nailing on the heels, shaving and finishing the same, buffing the bottoms and channeling. Mr. Parnell then took the boots, which had been manufactured in just twenty minutes before his own eyes, and carried them with him to England. These boots, in process of manufacture, passed through no less than thirty hands, and the work was perfect.

ON A LARK.

Rising With The Bird Proverbial.

Presumably and in spite of what scientists may say, people will peel off their garments and lie down in their beds with the going down of the sun, and get up again in time to see that proverbially early bird, the lark—where there are larks—soaring away to fill his exhausted heart at the fountain of the skies, or they will go to bed at midnight and get up again at

NOON THE NEXT DAY,

just as long as there are people in the world. And that too without caring a tinkers term whether it is best or not. Still it may be well enough for The Resources to intimate, that there is an old gentleman buried away among the dust and cobwebs of one of the German Universities who has spent his life there, in studying the effect of late and early rising upon the health. He affirms in the most positive way that the idea that early rising is conducive to health, is all bosh. He says that it is the sun's business to get up first, do all the outside housekeeping, warm up the atmosphere, and dissipate the fogs, then call man. He has a long array of names of men who have lived to a ripe old age because they spent the early morning hours, in bed. To these men, sunrise was a novelty. And we believe that, in conjunction with our invigorating climate, the habit of spending the early hours of the morning on the sleeping couch, has had something to do with the excellent health enjoyed by Victorians, who, notwithstanding this indulgence in the sweets of an extra morning nap, manage to transact with ease, as much real business during each day as their more nervous, high-pressure neighbors, who call them "slow people."

The Bonus on Iron Smelting.

There is no metal of so much importance in the material progress and prosperity of any country as iron, and it is to be found in great abundance and variety in all the provinces of the Dominion of Canada. The iron deposits of Eastern Ontario and the western portion of the province of Quebec are especially noteworthy, as they are destined, at no distant day, to attract the attention of capitalists from all parts of the world. There are to be found, in every direction throughout this part of Canada, strong indications of the presence of the metal, and many veins of magnetic and hematite ore have been opened to a small extent by prospectors and owners of property for the purpose merely, of establishing the fact of its existence in paying quantities, and of procuring specimens for analysis. In nearly all cases the result of assays has proved the ore to be of unquestionable richness, without deleterious properties common to that in many other localities; to be comparatively free from impurities, and the presence of titanium is almost imperceptlble. * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * But the Canadian Government is alive to the importance of encouraging home manufacture of iron, and, as an inducement to miners in the country to do so, Sir Leonard Tilley, in his budget speech, delivered in the House of Commons, on 30th March, said: 'The government will submit a resolution to the Committee that on and after the 1st July next, and for three years, one dollar and fifty cents per ton will be paid on all pig iron produced in Canada during these three years, one dollar per ton during the next three years, as a bounty for the encouragement and devolopment of this indusiry.'

The bounty mentioned for the three years from the first of July (one dollar and fifty cents per ton) should be ample to defray the cost of mining, and to go towards paying for fuel as well. This should be sufficient to induce capitalists in the Dominion to inaugurate this new enterprise, and, if due advantage be taken of the Government's liberal offer, it will have the effect of bringing Canada prominently among the extensive iron prodncing countries of the world.

The above is from the Canadian Mining Review, and we beg to inform our esteemed contemporary that Texada Island, in the Gulf of Georgia, and about thirty miles from the coal mines of Nanaimo and Departure Bay contains mountains of first class iron ore. At present large quantities of this ore are being taken to the smelting works in the adjoining American teritory. It is to be hoped that this bonus may be an inducement to capitalists to open up smelting works in this Province. We have an abundance of excellent iron ore, coal and timber, and the demand for iron is rapidly increasing. The Mining Review can rest assured that British Columbia offers very superior inducements for the investment of capital in iron smelting works.—*Nanaimo Free Press.*

The Jordan Valley Meadows.

Mr. W. D. Patterson, C. E. has just returned from the locality above named, where he has been on an exploring expedition for several weeks, and reports the discovery of a large tract of very fertile land, suitable for grazing or agricultural purposes. The valley is situated at the head of San Juan River in about latitude 48, 30 on the south west coast of Vancouver Island and about fifteen miles in a northeasterly direction from San Juan Harbor. Here he found a series of meadows, from one to two miles wide, covered with heavy grass from two to three feet high, each meadow separated by a narrow strip of timber, from those contiguous to it, the whole extending in this manner for a distance of fourteen miles, while the slopes on either side were clothed with magnificent fir and cedar trees. The soil is a rich black mould averaging a foot in depth. Mr. Patterson estimates that in these meadows and the adjoining rolling lands, which, he says, would not be difficult to clear, there is sufficient to form two good townships of excellent farming lands.

Here is afforded a grand opportunity for the establishment of an agricultural colony within fifteen miles of a harbor, and only about thirty miles from Victoria.

As yet, we have not among us the proper class of persons to form such settlements—those accustomed to clearing up land, and who are willing to endure comparative isolation for a time, in order to acquire homes of their own.

We mention this tract as being one of those now entirely unoccupied, and not within the railway belt or any other reservation, and is, of course, open to purchase or pre-emption.

Cariboo Quartz.—Cariboo is sustaining her gold en reputation. Yesterday Mr. John Kurtz received from the Burns Mountain lead some splendid specimens of free milling gold ore, which give every indication of the richness of the mine. The specimens were sent down by Mr. Rogers and will assay high. The gold is virgin gold, embedded in a matrix which will admit of the precious metal being very easily worked. It is to be hoped that the specimens are merely the precursor of the hidden wealth believed by expert pioneers to exist in the monntain from which the quartz came.—*Standard.*

The Mid-summer examinations, recently held afforded conclusive evidence of the excellence of our free public school system.

A Grand and Excellent Scheme.

The proposed construction of a canal to connect the waters of Shuswap and Okanagan lakes, or rather to connect the waters of the latter with those of the Spallumcheen River, which flows northward and empties into the former, would, if carried out, open up an immense area of the finest agricultural and grazing lands in the province and afford a continuous line for steam navigation not less than 240 miles in length. This would render the extensive coal deposits at and near the southern portion of Okanagan lake available and, besides enhancing the value of the rich silver mines on Cherry Creek, it would become an important feeder to the C. P. R., the line of which crosses the Spallumcheen near its mouth.

Mr. L. B. Hamlin, C. E., who was employed by the federal government last year to examine and report upon the cost and feasibility of the proposed canal, states that he found the river to be 20½ feet higher than the lake, and that a canal, fifty feet wide, eighteen miles long and carrying a depth of five feet of water, could be constructed at a cost of less than half a million of dollars. The draining of the marsh by this canal would reclaim an extensive tract of land, the soil of which is alluvial and very rich, the enhanced value of which would more than pay for the total cost of the canal. The report concludes as follows:

"The importance of this canal scheme cannot be over-estimated. It would establish an unbroken navigable water stretch of over 240 miles, opening up a rich agricultural country, which is unsurpassed in British Columbia for its fertility, and which, in many sections, has a sufficient rainfall to enable farmers to produce crops without irrigation. The neucleus of a thriving settlement is already formed, most of the prairie land having been taken up and occupied. Several fine farmes are cultivated on a large scale with all the modern appliances, particularly that of Mr. Lumby, which is equal to anything of the kind in the Dominion of Canada. The grain crops of this year were magnificent, both as regards yields and samples, the estimated average of grain to the acre reaching to the large amount of thirty-five bushels, and this I am informed is considerable below the usual average. Winter wheat has been tried and proved a great success. Messrs. O'Keefe and Grenow, who reside at Okanagan Lake, have a large stock of cattle. They harvest a large qnantity of wild hay in the meadows and marshes of the valley, which answers for winter foddor. The general character of the country is rolling and lightly timbered, with the exception of the prairies. The soil consists of rich clay."

The canal, as an economic means of internal transportation, is now receiving a degree of consideration and practical adoption of a more extensive character than has ever been accorded to it at any previous time in the world's history. The New York *Sun* points out this truth and produces a long list of such enterprises now under way that abundantly prove the growing popularity of water routes. The great success of the Suez canal has induced the construction of another artificial channel by its side at a cost of $150,000,000. At Manchester, England, a great ship canal is under way that will cost $40,000,000. In Scotland, a canal eighty miles long, connecting the Tyne and Solway Frith, is being constructed at an enormous expense. In France a ship canal from the bay of Biscay to the Mediterranean to cost $200,000,000 has been commenced. In Denmark one between the German ocean and the Baltic, and in Greece one across the Isthmus of Corinth have recently been undertaken. In Asia a canal across the Malay peninsula, which will bring Europe closer to all Chinese and Japanese ports, is also projected. These facts show plainly that the canal is being more widely recognized by the first engineers and nations of the world as the most useful and indispensable adjunct to inland commerce.

The Island Railway Lands Reserved.

From the following announcement in the Official Gazette dated 13th ult. we learn that all the public lands in the electoral districts of Victoria and Esquimalt exclusive of the Island Railway belt, will be open for purchase and settlement on the 13th of this month:

"All the vacant public lands which are situated within the electoral districts of Victoria and Esquimalt, and which are not included within the tract reserved for Island railway purposes, will be open for purchase and settlement thirty (30) days from the date hereof; and that all persons claiming any of these lands must prove their title to the same prior to that date. The Order in Council of July 1st, 1873, reserving the Island Railway Belt is rescinded by the government; but the Order is re-enacted as follows; A tract bounded on the south by a straight line drawn from the head of Saanich Inlet to Muir Creek, on the Strait of Fuca; on the west by a straight line drawn from Muir Creek aforesaid, to Crown Mountain; on the north by a straight line drawn from Crown Mountain towards Seymour Narrows, to the 50th parallel of latitude; thence due east, along said parallel of latitude, to a point opposite Cape Mudge; and on the east, by the coast line of Vancouver Island to the point of commencement."

Manitoba's aggregate lumber cut last winter was 78,500,000 feet. It now sells for $25 per thousand ft.

FINDING HOMES.

New Settlers in Spallumcheen Valley.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an article on the proposed canal to connect the waters of the Spallumcheen River and those of Lake Okanagan. The *Inland Sentinel*, published at Yale, a journal, as its name implies, well posted on inland matters, contains the following relating chiefly to the northern portion of the district refered to in our remarks upon the proposed waterway:

"Among the arrivals of late to this country were a number of young men from Manitoba and North West. On their arrival here in April a scheme was at once set on foot to send two representatives up the country in search of land for settlement of twelve parties; the representatives appointed were Messrs. J. H. Sydney and Donald McEdwards. Leaving Yale on the 20th of April and having traveled through about 175 miles of country they arrived on the 30th at Grand Prairie, which was the first valley of any account; there they found about 1,300 acres of prairie land, slightly timbered, unoccupied; this land requiring irrigation, which could be easily accomplished as it is very level and a plentiful supply of water in a creek that flows down one side; at this place there is quite a settlement with six good farms well under cultivation and which carry considerable stock. Passing on to the next place, about 20 miles, is Salmon River Valley, which is very fine, but the land apparently is all taken up by settlers, with the exception of one or two pre-emptions, slightly wooded. Six or seven miles further on is the Spallumcheen Valley, which is by far the best and largest in the country; the valley is well settled up, there not being one piece of choice land now available. Among the settlers more particularly are Messrs. Lumby & Bennett, two very industrious and inteligent gentlemen, who have the most improved farm in the valley, having 400 acres under crop with implements and machinery of the latest kind, and which is worked in a thorough businesslike way. Mr. A. L. Fortune at the head of Spallumcheen Lake, has a very choice location of land being well under cultivation; this gentleman being the oldest and one of the most esteemed settlers in the district. In the valley there is a saw mill erected by Mr. Postill in conjunction with the Lamby Bros., which is now capable of turning out several thousand feet of lumber per day. Here by the unceasing aid and kindness of the Govt. Agent, Mr. Lamby, they were able to find a considerable tract of land adjoining the Indian Reserve and extending to the Salmon River Valley, about two miles from the Spallumcheen Valley, open for settlement, consisting of about 3,500 acres of prairie land slightly timbered with Douglas Pine, which will not require a great deal of clearing; this as well as other small stretches of land was personally shown to them by Mr. Lamby, who thoroughly understands the situation and requirements of the country in that district. The whole of this land, together with one or two smaller plots have been pre-empted by the following persons.

J. H. Sydney, D. McEdawrds, R. Wilson, Wm. Scott, J. H. Shirley, J. R. Park, R. C. Coates, H. Bradley, A. Revesbeck, R. McKenzie, P. W. McGregor, and A. Crawford.

These parties are now being equipped so far as necessary and will leave Victoria on Saturday for this place where they will be joined by one or two parties and proceed to their destination, taking with them provisions, etc., where they intend to jointly fence, clear, build houses and make homes; working the land to best advantage. These men are a most desirable class of settlers being all mechanics, and men who have farmed more or less in Manitoba, but who have been driven hence in search of a more genial climate and a country where farming may be carried on with some degree of pleasure and not subject to the long severe cold weather, excessive heat and mosquitoes without number.

Let us now add a word or two about the climate of the country: The winter varies from 6 to 12 weeks, during which time about two feet of snow falls, and the glass has been known to go as far down as 45 below zero, with no wind. The cold snaps never, or seldom, last more than two or three days, while the remaining part of the winter is very much like the old country. In the summer it is hot during the middle of the day, say from 12 to 3 o'clock, before and after which time it is pleasant; cool nights and mornings, being always able to sleep comfortable with your blankets. No irrigation is required and yields are above the average. The country there abounds with game of all kinds and to the sportsman cannot be surpassed, there being Cariboo, Moose, Deer, Partridge, Blue Grouse, Prairie Chicken, Beaver, Bears, Mountain Sheep, and Goats, together with a large variety of other animals and a beautiful selection of small birds, also, fish are plentiful. The land in this part of the country is like most parts of British Columbia, limited, but there is considerable of timbered lands, which no doubt will be soon taken up by settlers, and after one or two years of labor be able to make very comfortable and profitable homes for themselves. The country is very thinly settled and need hardly say there is a good demand for the gentler sex and married persons, who will be most heartily received by the now residents in that district, and every inducement will be held out to them by the settlers. We are glad to say that by the new addition there will be at least six more of Mother Eve's fair daughters.

At Spallumcheen they met Mr. Howse, the Indian Agent, while going his rounds; he kindly invited them to see the Nicola country with a view to settlement. The Nicola district is more like civilization as there is a good supply of the fair sex and many families, with the finest climate in the whole of British Columbia; with very little winter and sometimes no snow at all, and when it does it only remains a very short time on the ground. As a stock raising country it cannot be excelled, but for agricultural purposes it is not so well adapted, there being considerable labor and trouble attached to raising grain for even home consumption, on account of irrigation. The Bunch grass there, is in much greater quantities than any other places, and the way in which the cattle fatten on it is astonishing.

We are indebted to the politeness ofMr. Sydney for the above information."

From Helena, Montana.

EDITOR RESOURCES.—Enclosed you will find P. O. Money Order for one dollar for which please send "RESOURCES OF B. C." The March and April numbers with which I am highly pleased have been received. The circulation of such information as it contains concerning your favored country will undoubtedly attract many to your shores who are seeking homes on the Pacific Coast.

I sincerely thank the gentleman who has kindly furnished me with the copies already received which, after a careful perusal, I mailed to Scotland of which I am a native.

I am engaged in gold mining, and am owner of a lode of considerable value, and if I can sell out or arrange my affairs in a satisfactory manner, I intend visiting B. C. in a few months and will very likely make it my future home.

I have of late talked with many, working on the N. P. R. who have already started or are about to leave here for the C. P. R. Others are attracted by the Kootenay mines and those of the big bend of the Columbia.—Yours Respectfully,

M. A. TULLOCH.

Helena, 5th May, 1883.

[We print the foregoing as a sample of the many letters received every month at this Office.—ED.]

Agents for the "Resources."

The following firms and persons are duly authorized to receive subscriptions and advertisements for this publication:

VICTORIA, B. C.—T. N. Hibben & Co., M. W. Waitt & Co., Henry Gribble, F. L. Tuckfield.
NANAIMO.—E. Pimbury & Co.
NEW WESTMINSTER.—T. R. Pearson & Co.
YALE.—T. R Pearson & Co.
KAMLOOPS.—Geo. C. Tunstall.
BARKERVILLE.—John Bowron.
CASSIAR.—Callbreath, Grant & Cook.
PORTLAND, OREGON.—Northwest News Co.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.—L. P. Fisher, 21 Merchants' Exchange.

THE NORTH ARM.—This settlement was never in a more prosperous condition than now. Land is increasing in value, and crops are looking extremely well. In addition to his other large purchases, Mr. Vermelyea has bought 200 acres from the McMann Bros. for which I understand he paid $6,500. The crops this year will probably run about one quarter over last year. They principally consist of oats, barley, hay, and roots. There is very little fruit here, our farmers having planted very few trees. Lately more attention has been given to this branch, however, and it is believed this will yet become one of the best fruit districts in the province. Mr. Sexsmith's cheese factory is turning out 100 lbs. of cheese per day.—Columbian.

To Business Men.

Inasmuch as our terms to advertisers are as reasonable as those of any other regular publication in the province, and as its cirulation will be not only local but also world wide, THE RESOURCES cannot fail to be an excellent medium for business men through which to make their announcements. Besides assisting to render self-sustaining a pnblication so advantageous to the best interests of the country, and in promotion of which all will be mutually benefitted, the advertiser will, at the same time, secure that extended publicity of his business which the very large circulation of the magazine necessarily guarantees. In view of these facts, we hope that business men throughout the province will cheerfully give us a share of their advertising patronage. The reading matter of THE RESOURCES will not be materially decreased to make room for advertisements, as the paper, if necessary, will be enlarged for that purpose.

PEN CLEANING.—A writer in a German paper states that it is a custom in offices in that country to have a sliced potato in the desk in commercial houses. He does not state whether the esculent should be raw or not, but the probability is that it is not boiled. The use of the potato is to clean steel pens, and generally acts as pen-wiper. It removes all ink crust, and gives a peculiarly smooth flow to the ink. He also states that the Hamburg clerks pass new pens two or three times through a gas flame, and then the ink will flow freely.

JAMES MILLAR,
GENERAL BLACKTMITH AND WAGON MAKER.
Improved Combination Iron Beam Plows and Yelland's Celebrated Patent Harrows always on hand. Carts, wagons and buggies manufactured to order. Horse shoeing executed with neatness and despatch.
Cor. Government and Pandora Sts., Victoria, B. C.

KURTZ & CO.,
MANUFACTURERS OF CIGARS.
Tobacco Imported Direct from Havana and only White Labor Employed.
Office, Store and Factory: Corner Government and Trounce Streets, Victoria, B. C.

WM. CRAFT,
Importer of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods.
VANCOUVER HOUSE,
Corner of Yates and Broad Streets, Victoria, B. C.

MRS. BRAY'S
BOARDING & LODGING HOUSE,
Board and Lodging $5.50 per week.
Meals 25 cts., or $1 per day.
Corner of Johnson and Broad Streets. Victoria, B.C.

Read the advertisements in this number.

Classified Directory of Leading and Reliable Business Firms of Victoria, B. C.

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FELLOWS & PRIOR, Government Street. Easy and profitable farming a certainty by using our machinery.

AUCTIONEERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

DAVIES, J. P. & Co., Wharf St., near Yates. Liberal advances on consignments.

BAKERIES.

VICTORIA BREAD AND FANCY CAKE BAKERY, Fell's Block, Fort Street. Bread delivered to any part of the city. M. R. Smith, Proprietor.

CIGAR MANUFACTORIES.

KURTZ & Co. Office, store and factory, corner Government and Trounce Streets. Tobacco imported direct from Havana and only white labor employed.

BANKERS.

CARESCHE, GREEN & Co. Also agents for Wells, Fargo & Co. Cor. Government and Trounce Sts.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

HIBBEN, T. N., Importers. Established 1858. Masonic Building, Government Street.

BRICK MAKERS.

COUGHLAN & MASON. Office, corner Government and Broughton Streets. P. O. Box 210; Telephone 147; Works, Saanich Road.

COMMISSION AND BROKERAGE AGENTS.

ENGELHARDT, J., Custom House, Shipping and Commission Agent. Office on Turner's Wharf, Yates Street. P. O. box 167.

CONFECTIONERY.

TIPPINS, W. J. Trade supplied at lowest rates. Fort Street, between Douglas and Broad.

FURNITURE, UPHOLSTERY, ETC.

SALMON, E. J. & Co., Johnson Street, opposite H. Saunder's grocery. Furniture, crockery, tinware and Indian curiosities.

WEILER, JOHN. Also a magnificent stock of crockery and glassware. Fell's Block, Fort Street.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE—WHOLESALE.

STROUSS, C. & Co., Commercial Row, Wharf Street. Importers and dealers in general merchandise.

GROCERIES—WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

FELL & Co., Importers. Also wine and spirit merchants. Fell's Block, Fort Street.

SAUNDERS, HENRY, Johnson Street. Large stock, fresh goods, also fine wines and liquors.

GROCERIES—WHOLESALE.

OPPENHEIMER BROS., Importers, Finlayson's Block, Wharf Street. P. O. box 239.

MEAT MARKETS.

QUEEN'S, by Goodacre & Dooley. Wholesale and retail. Purveyors to H. M. Navy. Government St.

MERCHANT TAILORS.

NEWMAN & LEASK, Fort Street, one door from Douglas. Clothes made to order in the latest English and American styles.

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

ALLSOP & MASON, Real Estate Agents and Conveyancers. Fire and accident insurance agents. Town and country property for sale. Government St.

HEISTERMAN, H. F. & Co., agents Phenix (fire), Fireman's Fund (marine), Equitable (life), and Lloyds (marine). Langley Street.

SALOONS.

MARKET EXCHANGE, Geo. Thompson, proprietor. Fine wines, liquors and cigars. Corner Fort and Wilcox Streets.

STOVES, TINSMITHS, ETC.

WILSON, A. & W. Fort Street opp. Broad. Established 1864. Best cooking and heating stoves. Plumbing, gas-fitting and tin-smithing.

Leading Provincial Newspapers.

BRITISH COLUMBIAN. Semi-weekly. Terms: by mail, $3 per year; by carrier, $1 per quarter. Robson & Co., Publishers, New Westminster, B. C.

FREE PRESS. Semi-weekly. Terms: $4 per year, Geo. Norris, publisher, Nanaimo, B. C.

INLAND SENTINEL. Weekly. Terms: $3 per annum in advance. M. Hagan, publisher, Yale, B. C.

POST. Daily evening. Terms: per year, $10; delivered by carrier, 25 cents per week. W. J. & M. C. McDowell, sole proprietors, Victoria, B. C.

STANDARD. Daily and Weekly. Terms: daily per annum, $10; per week, 25 cents. Weekly, $3 per year. C. McK. Smith, proprietor, Victoria, B. C.

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Monuments, Tablets, Tombs, Mantels, Furniture Work, Etc., Etc.

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Best Description of Cooking and Heating Stoves.

Plumbing, Gas-fitting and Tinsmithing executed under our own supervision with neatness and despatch.

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Negotiating City Property of and kind a Specialty.

European Passes procured on short notice and at nominal cost by the Veteran Notary A. S. GROSS.

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YALE RESTAURANT,

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Board & Lodging, per week, $5.50; Board, per week, $4.50; Single Meals, 25 cts.; Beds, 25 cts.; Tea or Coffee and Hot Rolls, 15 cts., also Temperance Drinks.

DOUGLAS STREET, OPPOSITE CITY HALL, VICTORIA, B. C.

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IRVING & CLARKE,

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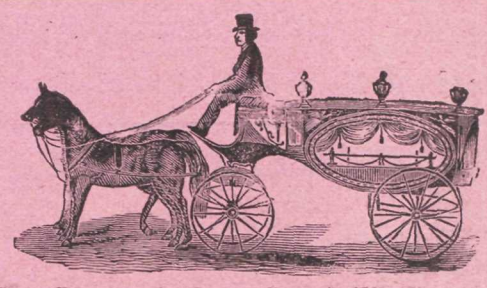

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Colt's Foot Rock for Coughs and Colds, for Children nothing equals it.

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Terms—Cash only.

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Importing Booksellres AND Stationers

And News Agents.

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A. L. FRANCIS,

prof'al Tuner and Repairer of Pianos Organs and Musical Instruments Generally.

RESIDENCE COR. CHATHAM and DOUGLAS STS.

MAP
OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
AND
ALASKA,
SHOWING GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS,
MINERAL DEPOSITS, Etc. Etc.
W.D. PATTERSON C.E.
SCALE OF STATUTE MILES
UPPER PORTION
of
BRITISH COLUMBIA
PACIFIC OCEAN
ROCKY MOUNTAINS
NORTH WEST TERRITORY
UNITED STATES
VANCOUVER ISLAND
CARIBOO MINES
TERTIARY CHIEFLY VOLCANIC
PALÆOZOIC CARBONIFEROUS
MESOZOIC
PRAIRIE ROLLING LAND
IGNEOUS
TERTIARY AGE COAL
COLD RANGE
SELKIRK RANGE
COAST RANGE
OLYMPIAN RANGE
WASHINGTON TERRITORY
FRASER RIVER
COLUMBIA RIVER
FRANCOIS LAKE
VICTORIA
NEW WESTMINSTER
PORT MOODY
FT. YALE
LYTTON
FT. OKENAGAN
BELLINGHAM BAY
MT. BAKER
NEW CALEDONIA
ALASKA
BRITISH SHOSHONIA
ARGENTA
GALENA
PT. GORGE
BEDS OF MINERS COAL
PEACE RIVER
BLACK RIVER
CARIBOO MINES
SILVER MINES
COAL
AMERICAN CUSTOM HOUSE
N. YORK