The room is well warmed in cold weather by a steam heater neatly covered with a marble slab. The upholstery of this room is sumptuous in the extreme, and its delicate tints give the saloon a palatial appearance, especially at night, when the nickel-plated lamps are lighted up.

Passing to the hurricane deck, or, as it is called in steamboat parlance, “the roof,” we find ten state rooms for the accommodation of all the officers save the clerks. On top of this “Texas,” we find an elegant pilot-house, enclosed with plate-glass windows, and provided with a steering-wheel, which is operated with a hydraulic lever working two cylinders connected to the rudders by strong wire rope. This lever, which can be moved by a child of six years, is more powerful in changing the vessel’s course than the combined bone and muscle of any ten men you can find. It is, together with the water-tight compartments mentioned above, a complete policy of insurance upon each one of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Co’s seventeen steamboats so provided.

On the roof are seven life-boats with crane derricks which can be lowered at a moment’s notice of fire. Take her for all, she is complete in every detail; nothing being spared that will conduce to safety and comfort of the traveling public—her cost was not far from $14,000, and she is good for ten years of future service. She is under command of Capt. John H. Wolf, who has been master and pilot on this route for the past twenty-eight years. The engines are in charge of John Marshall; the offices pressed over by Daniel O’Neill and Fred Ernst is in charge of the culinary department.

Every man is master of his business, and she has excited the most favorable comments from all Eastern tourists that have traveled on her.

The Wide West is the Oregon Railway and Navigation Co’s favorite steamboat, and makes regular daily trips between Portland and the Cascades, passing the finest part of the famous Columbia river scenery.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A prosperous season is about dawning in this favored locality. Rich in natural resources, which are being gradually developed, its railroad enterprises are to be pushed forward with renewed vigor so soon as spring fairly opens. The contractor of the Savona branch of the Canadian Pacific R. R. advertises for 3,000 white laborers. Victoria, the metropolis, will reap a rich harvest from the general activity. Already a pretty place, with natural advantages of location and climate, these brisk times will have a tendency to build up and make it a still handsomer and more desirable place for business and residence. Numerous engravings of the city and surroundings have, from time to time, appeared in these columns. We present in this issue three additional views. The Four-mile house is located at Craigflower, four miles from Victoria, in the midst of a cool forest and within sight of salt water. It is but one of the numerous charming, rural spots to be found on the far-famed roads leading in nearly every direction from the city.

Corner Douglass and Cormorant Sts. is a substantial, neatly kept hotel, the property of Joseph Gosnell, Esq., who also owns a number of neat cottages adjoining. Mr. G. came to B.C. from Canada in 1862, and is an enterprising, go-ahead merchant, being engaged in the grocery business directly opposite the hotel.

Government is the principal business street, and the stores thereon will compare favorably with those of any city on the Pacific coast. Tourists, especially, will find the London Bazar, of which Mr. Thos. Carrington is proprietor, a nice place to visit. The goods displayed therein are mostly of foreign manufacture and entirely unlike those we are in the habit of seeing in similar stores on the American side. Adjoining the Bazar are the ware rooms and furniture manufacturer of Jacob Schi. The store runs through from Government to Langley Sts. The latter street being considerably lower than the former, makes the building a three-story one on Langley street. It is 5 feet wide on both streets—was erected by