

or to credit fully all that I had heard at Tacoma and Seattle. With the editorial party, I left Seattle in the night, and awoke at Port Townsend. Thence we sailed out around the islands into Bellingham bay, and back through the upper portion of the archipelago to Victoria, where we spent the following day, and then returned to our train at Tacoma, touching at Port Townsend, Port Ludlow and a few other points which we had missed on our upward trip.

Although I had often been on Lake Champlain, which I still think is the most beautiful large body of fresh water in America, and on Lake George, the St. Lawrence and the great lakes, and was familiar with many parts of the New England coast, I had never sailed where the purely natural scenery was so charming and impressive. The Olympic mountains on the west, as varied and picturesque as the Wasatch range, in Utah, and more glistening, the Cascades on the east, with the peaks of Rainier and Baker challenging the sky as they towered above the clouds, and the ever-changing foreground of islands and headlands; these, seen, as they were, under the influence of delightful and stimulating companionship, answered well, in imagination, to those "Fortunate fields, of old sought in the Atlantic main."

Since that time, hundreds of tourists have visited the sound, more the past season than ever before; and the number will continually increase, as its attractions become more widely known in the East, and the Northwest country advances in population and wealth. Travelers will make, not only the round trip from Tacoma to Victoria, but will linger at different places and make excursions to the mountains as the opportunities and facilities for summering on the sound increase and improve. Already, at Tacoma, much has been done to accommodate, as well as invite such visitors. Two

years ago a large hotel, the "Tacoma," was erected and beautifully furnished, at a cost of about two hundred thousand dollars. During the past season it has been taxed to its full capacity to accommodate the increasing number of its patrons. It has attracted and held in Tacoma many visitors who, in the end, have made their permanent location there; and so it serves the double purpose of stimulating travel to the sound and enlarging the population and business of the city. I have no doubt that a similar hotel at Seattle would be a good investment of itself, and in what it would contribute to the value of other things in that city.

From Tacoma there are a road and trail to the glaciers of Mt. Rainier, or Tacoma, as it is called in that city, of which Senator Edmunds, who visited them two years ago, says that "The finest effect I ever saw during a long tour through the mountains of Switzerland, fell far short of what is seen at Mt. Rainier." New Hampshire, with its attractions of the White mountains and the Pemigewasset valley, derives a considerable portion—I think I have seen it estimated at one-fifth—of the annual income of its railroads and people, from tourists and summer boarders. Within the past year, California has received a great revenue from the travel which the favoring rates upon the railroads have stimulated. So long as the country remains prosperous, and the wealthy, or leisure, class increases, there will be a constantly enlarging travel to this region. The opening of the Canadian Pacific railroad, by adding another route, enabling tourists to come one way and return another, will furnish new inducements to visit this part of the country, and the travel to Alaska, which has only just begun, will make Admiralty inlet a great thoroughfare for tourists, as it already is for business.