

Salt Spring Island Parish and Ho.

DECEMBER, 1895.

There are a number of Japs employed as laborers on Salt Spring Island, but no Chinese.

Mr. A. Langley has erected a picturesque cottage as a residence on St. Mary's Lake within the past year.

The little spire shewn on St. Mary's Church in our illustration is a thing of the future—we hope the near future.

Mr. Joseph Nightingale is noted on the Island for his skill in breaking in young horses. He has at present in hand a pair of fillies belonging to Mr. W. Scott.

There has been some talk for a while past of erecting a Public Hall on Salt Spring Island, either at Ganges Harbour or at the fork of the roads near the Vesuvius P. O.

It is rumoured that the steambot "Joan" is shortly to be withdrawn from the Salt Spring Island route, the passenger and freight receipts being so much reduced through the competition of the "Mary Hare." Many persons on the Island will much regret this.

Two sailing vessels have been at the Island during the past autumn loading with "props" for the mines in Mexico; the Douglas fir, which abounds here, being particularly suitable for that purpose. The first ship took on board 158,000 feet, and the second 120,000 feet.

There are now twelve families south of the Divide in the neighbourhood of Connery's Lake and the Cranberry Marsh, and among them are about ten children of schoolable age. An effort will probably be made in the near future, to establish both a school and post-office in the central part of the Island.

The deer have committed much depredation this past season on the farms near Cushon lake. Mr. Cartwright lost all his carrots, a patch of peas, and a part of his potatoes, his total losses being about \$75. Messrs. Johnson and Gage lost ten or fifteen bushels of wheat, two patches of potatoes, and fifteen cwt. turnips and carrots—loss about \$15.

The "Church Bee" held at St. Mark's Church November 6th, and again November 15th, was very well attended, there being three teams and seventeen men the first day, and four teams and nine men the second day. St. Mark's is built upon the rocks, and the object was to cart earth and make a level plateau in front of the church, which will be fenced in and have grass plot and flower beds. It is proposed to hold another "Bee" Wednesday, January 6th, in order to complete the work.

Telegraphic or telephone communication with Vancouver Island would be a great boon to this island.

Mr. Alex. Wilson has added to the appearance of his residence by erecting a new front with a verandah.

Mrs. Macdonald, the oldest inhabitant of Salt Spring Island, died at her residence, near Ford's Lake, Nov. 3rd, at the ripe age of 84.

Rev. E. F. Wilson will hold fortnightly Friday evening services at Mr. Few's residence, near Connery's Lake, during the winter.

Willow and blue grouse are now out of season. The close season for deer commences January 1st, pheasants February 1st, ducks, March 1st.

The Bishop of Columbia will administer the rite of confirmation on the Island on Sunday, December 8th, St. Mary's Church, 10:30 a.m.; St. Mark's Church, 3:30 p.m.

The dry weather this autumn has been unprecedented. Many wells are dry, and in some cases farmers have been obliged to team water from the lakes to water their stock.

By section 16 of the Game Act, 1895, farmers are allowed "to kill at any time deer depasturing within their cultivated fields." A great many farmers on Salt Spring Island would be glad if the above clause in the Act could be made to apply also to pheasants.

The cost of St. Mary's Church, Fulford Harbour, including seating, chancel fittings and organ, was \$705. All is now paid for, and a small balance remains in the Treasurer's hands. There are still needed a bell, bell tower, chancel, carpet, matting for aisle, lamps, etc.

Among recent arrivals on the Island are Mr. and Mrs. Collins and three children from Bristol, England, who have settled on a farm recently purchased by Mr. H. W. Bullock; and Mr. and Mrs. Few and four children from Manchester, England, who have bought Major Peter's land near Brown's Lake.

The wife of Mr. Edward Lee of Burgonye Bay, died November 16th, and was buried on the 19th. There was a large following to the grave, the deceased lady having been very highly esteemed by all who knew her, and much sympathy was felt for the widowed husband and his eight little children, the eldest of whom was only eleven years of age. Mr. Lee being a member of the Canadian Order of Oddfellows, the pallbearers wore the Oddfellows' regalia. The family has resided on Salt Spring Island for nine years, and Mr. Lee was thirty-two years of age at the time of her death.