Millstone River. along the banks of the Millstone River, which winds for the greater part through pretty plains covered with rich fern and grass; and at an average distance of a quarter of a mile to the north is a continuous bluff from 70 to 120 feet in height, and sloping gradually from the top to the north-east.

The greater part of this district is occupied by Wakesiah, or, according to the Indians, Tai-took-tan Mountain, which is only remarkable for the fine quality and large growth of the timber at the base of it.

This district is well watered by fine streams, some of them being tributaries of the Millstone, and everywhere are indications of water obtainable by sinking wells.

It was not thought advisable to survey the south-eastern part of the district, as the soil is poor and stony, and little fitted for agricultural purposes; but the grazing is excellent, and the timber, both large and small, of the best possible quality; trees, adapted either for spars or fence poles, being abundant even a considerable distance up the spur of the above-mentioned mountain, which is probably above 1,100 feet above the level of the sea.

There is every probability that the south-east part of this district, though unfitted for any purpose but grazing, is rich in coal, as the coal crops out in a seam 72 inches thick on Chase River, a distance of only a quarter of a mile from the eastern boundary of the district, and this assumption is strengthened from the broken and "faulty" appearance of the surrounding country.

The whole district contains 16,000 acres, and is bounded on the east by the Nanaimo district, and on the south-east by the Cranberry district. It is distant from Colviletown, in the Nanaimo district, one and a half miles, to which there is an excellent waggon road.

The north-eastern part of the district is accessible by the exit passage from Nanaimo Harbour, being only a quarter of a mile inland.

The climate very nearly resembles that of Victoria, the general character of the summer being warm with little or no rain, but heavy dews, and that of the winter mild, with an average of ten days snow; the frosts, though not severe, are of longer continuance. Rain falls in large quantities in the spring of the year, and it is generally thought that the average exceeds that of England. No fevers or epidemics of any kind are known among the white population.

The Indians, though numerous, are perfectly peaceful, and are made use of by the whites as ploughmen, servants, voyagers, in fact, labourers of all kinds of work. Their pay

Water.

Coal.

Access to north-east part.

Area of

district.

Climate.

Indians. Indian labour.