

ground were burnt and smoking, and miles were still burning. The Indians burn the country in order to find more easily the roots which they eat. The fire runs along the grass at a great pace, and it is the custom here if you are caught to gallop right through it; the grass being short, the flame is very little, and you are through in a second. All the horses and cattle feeding know it well, and make straight for the fire immediately.

"September 8th.—We sailed from Esquimaux on the 4th at daylight. Had a light and foul wind, and passed rather a rainy night in the Straits. There is barely an anchorage to be found, so we remained under way. Worked out well clear of Cape Flattery by sunset the next day, and expect to be at San Francisco in a week."—*Times*, May 4th, 1849.

FROM THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

"The fact is that, considering the trade already existing and rapidly increasing between North-Western America and North-Eastern Asia, and the probability of an entirely new and most important line of communication being opened forthwith between the Atlantic and the Pacific, Vancouver's Island has advantages, which not one of the countries we have alluded to had when first colonized. Far from being in an inferior position as regards export trade, it is absolutely the only one which begins with an export trade ready-made—we allude to that of coal, which it alone is known to possess in the whole region of the Pacific, and which, as we have before stated, is now procured in England for the steam service lately established by the Americans between Panama and Oregon. Besides this, there is sufficient reason for believing that copper is to be found in the island (large quantities being found in the possession of the natives), it is needless to point out the peculiar advantage derivable from the co-existence of that mineral in the same locality with the coal required for smelting it. In short, we have no doubt that the same steps which created an export trade in wool from Sydney, in cotton from Charleston, and in copper from Adelaide, will, if taken in earnest, lead to similar results in a country of, at least, equal promise."—*Morning Chronicle*, September 21, 1848.
