

CORRESPONDENCE relative to the DISCOVERY of GOLD in
Queen Charlotte's Island.

— No. 1. —

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Blanchard* to Earl *Grey*; dated
Victoria, Vancouver's Island, 18 August 1850.

(Received 25 November 1850.)

"I HAVE seen a very rich specimen of gold ore, said to have been brought
by the Indians of Queen Charlotte's Island, but I have at present no further
account of it."

No. 1.
Gov. Blanchard
to Earl Grey.
18 August 1850.

— No. 2. —

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Blanchard* to Earl *Grey*; dated
Victoria, Vancouver's Island, 29 March 1851.

(Received 8 July 1851.)

"I HAVE heard that fresh specimens of gold have been obtained from the
Queen Charlotte islanders; I have not seen them myself, but they are reported
to be very rich. The Hudson's Bay Company's servants intend to send an
expedition in the course of the summer to make proper investigations."

No. 2.
Gov. Blanchard
to Earl Grey.
29 March 1851.

— No. 3. —

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Douglas* to Earl *Grey*; dated
Victoria, Vancouver's Island, 31 October 1851.

(Received, 19 January 1852.)

"I HAVE further to inform your Lordship that the natives have discovered
gold in Englefield Bay, on the west coast of Queen Charlotte's Island. One of the
Hudson's Bay Company's vessels visited the spot in the month of July last, and
succeeded in procuring about 60 ounces of gold, principally by barter from the
Indians. One lump of nearly pure gold, weighing 1 lb. 11 oz., was seen in the
possession of one native, who demanded a price beyond its value, so that it was
not purchased. The gold is associated with white quartz rock, similar to that
of the auriferous deposits in California; it is yet found in small quantities; but
I am of opinion that it exists abundantly in that and other parts of the
island.

The report of that discovery having become known in this country, I am
informed that several American vessels are fitting out in the Columbia for
Queen Charlotte's Island, for the purpose of digging gold—a circumstance to
which I would request your Lordship's attention, as it may be the desire of
Government to exclude foreign vessels from that part of the coast."

No. 3.
Governor Douglas
to Earl Grey.
31 October 1851.

— No. 4. —

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Earl *Grey* to Governor *Douglas*; dated
Downing-street, 4 February 1852.

"WITH regard to the discovery of gold on the west coast of Queen Charlotte's
Island, I do not consider that it would be expedient to issue any prohibition
against the resort thither of foreign vessels."

No. 4.
Earl Grey to
Governor Douglas.
4 February 1852.