

## DESPATCHES RELATING TO THE

persons will be induced to proceed there; and as it may be necessary to make further regulations with regard to the workings, I should feel much obliged to your Grace if you would furnish me with copies of such rules and regulations as may have been found most beneficial in Australia or British Columbia.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Mulgrave.*

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(Enclosure.)

Provincial Secretary's Office, Halifax,  
9 April 1861.

Sir,

REFERRING to your verbal report on the exhibition of gold on the sea-coast to the eastward of Tangier, I am commanded to instruct you to proceed to the spot, and lay off, for the occupants of the soil, a space, 20 feet by 50, to be selected by themselves. They will be permitted to work within this space free of charge. You will then lay off other lots of the same proportions, and intersecting the quartz vein, and execute leases of these lots for one year, on the payment of forty dollars for each lot, it being understood that four dollars will be reserved out of the rent of each lot, to be paid to the occupants of the soil.

I am, &c.  
(signed) *Joseph Howe.*

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(No. 39.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of *Mulgrave* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

Government House, Halifax, Nova Scotia,  
15 May 1861.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Grace, that on Monday the 6th instant, I sailed in the revenue schooner "Daring," for Tangier, in order that I might myself inspect the gold diggings at that place.

The harbour of Tangier is safe and commodious, and though the entrance is rather narrow in one place, there is nothing to impede any ship, not drawing more than 18 feet, from making the harbour.

The neighbouring country is very rough and uncultivated, and only inhabited by a few fishermen. The spot where the gold has been found is about half a mile from the shore.

At present, nine different lodes of quartz have been discovered, running about east and west, and I have every reason for believing that they extend for a very considerable distance.

The lodes are narrow, varying from about three inches to three feet; the smaller lodes however being the richest, the gold being generally found on the outsides of the lode.

As yet, only the most primitive mode of searching for gold has been adopted, the quartz being taken out and broken up with a hammer, and the gold picked out by hand. Notwithstanding this, a considerable quantity has been found. As an instance of this, I may mention that two men working in one claim, secured about 30*l.* worth in one week from first breaking ground.

This however was the best yield that I heard of, and I doubt whether, on an average, the parties were doing more than making good wages, even if they were doing that.

Considerable excitement is beginning to be felt on the subject of the diggings, and persons are coming in from all parts of the province, but as yet no great amount of work has been done, many only coming for the purpose of prospecting and taking up a claim with the intention of working it later on in the year after their crops have been sown.

Whether it will eventually pay individuals to work these quartz, is, I think, extremely doubtful; but from what I saw, I have little doubt that the discovery is one of considerable importance, and that these lodes if worked by companies

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