

The Weekly Colonist. Tuesday, May 23, 1865.

BUTLER'S EXPLORATION REPORT.

The exploration report received from Mr. Butler, and published in another column, is neither very startling nor very complete; but it shows very plainly that gold is a plentiful mineral and more widely diffused on Vancouver Island than the inhabitants generally believe. The exploration of Messrs. Butler and Hooper was merely a preliminary operation, a kind of prospecting tour to prepare the way, as it were, for and save the labors of a subsequent and larger prospecting party. We know now for a certainty that gold exists almost anywhere on the river that empties into the sea at Nootka Sound. We learn that on the surface from one to five cents to the pan was obtained, at seven feet below the surface, and in the intermediate earth the same yield was given, and as high up as fifty feet from the water several colors were discernible. The river, however, was too swollen by the melting of the snow to admit of any satisfactory prospecting, and this, with limited time, compelled the two explorers to content themselves with a very hurried visit to the country in the neighborhood of Nootka Sound. What little has been gleaned, however, is sufficient to warrant a regular exploring party giving the country a full trial so soon as the water falls, which is expected to do in the course of a month. The river is for the first four miles upwards of a hundred yards in width and receives its course to the Sound, a large number of tributaries, most of which no doubt are gold bearing. The broad fact that the precious metal is found in almost every place along the banks, goes far to substantiate the theory that when the water falls heavy diggings will be found on the numerous bars, which the river abandons. The other eight and buried prospecting done at Fort Rupert, in the river emptying into Hardy Bay, discloses the fact that gold is not confined to the mouth or west of the island, but is diffused well over the banks and bars of the streams up north. From Nootka to Fort Rupert, a distance of little more than two hundred miles, yet although the extremes have been prospectively prospected, the great bulk of the northern and western interior is still a hidden treasure. In the face of the results of Mr. Butler's exploration and the recent superficial prospecting of Messrs. Butler and Hooper, we cannot allow it to remain so any longer. We must have the banks of our rivers peopled by an industrious mining population or we must know that they are incapable of contributing to the country's support. The knowledge of our poverty is just as necessary in its way as the knowledge of our wealth, for it may save many fruitless schemes and many unprofitable labors. We hope to publish this report in a special issue of the Colonist, which will produce the result in a well-organized expedition for the coming summer. A two-month party might without much difficulty enter on the last exploring expedition commenced. All the great central part of the island might be practically prospected before the month of September—that is if gold-seeking is made especially, and the more scientific objects made subordinate to the search for the precious metal. The presence of gold in almost all our rivers leads to a conclusion that in that the range of mountains which forms the backbone of the island, is the grand laboratory which has prepared and sent forth the nuggets of Leach, as well as the fine dust of Nootka. It is contrary to reason, and contrary to all mining experience, to suppose that the gold which is so plentifully diffused on Vancouver Island should have no maternity, and that its presence in the streams, like the manna in the wilderness, is a miraculous visitation from the heavens. When the country comes to be properly prospected we shall have our rich deposits as well as our poor ones we shall find that there is or has been a fountain head for all the gold that is so widely scattered about, and that Vancouver Island, with all the neglect and indifference bestowed upon it by its people and its rulers is rich in the most attractive of minerals. Any other country, not having previously a golden reputation, would rejoice at such evidences of wealth as we have, but while rejoicing it would take special care to turn the resources, which are unmistakably indicated, to the very best account. In our present condition, no greater fortune could happen the community than the discovery of a new paying gold field. Business would revive, and property would more than regain its former value. Victoria would immediately assume a thriving and industrious aspect, and that much vexed question the way and means for carrying out the Government, would be effectually settled. We have said no greater fortune could happen the place than the discovery of fresh diggings, yet there is nothing more certain if proper steps are taken, than the discovery will be made, and during the present summer the prospecting experiment of His Excellency on Leach river is a move in the right direction, and one which might be made more general in its application.

RETURN OF THE OTTER.

INTERESTING REPORT.

Gold at Nootka!!

THE CAPTAIN'S DIARY.

The Jenny Jones on the West Coast.

The H. B. Company's steamer Otter, Captain Swanson, arrived on Tuesday from a trading expedition round the Island, having been absent seventeen days. Messrs. Butler and Hooper, who were despatched by the government to make a "cuiusvis" prospect in different localities, with a view to ascertaining the most advisable spot for future exploration, were on board. We have been favored with a copy of the official report made by them to the Government, and it is satisfactory to know that their researches have been attended with some success, and confirmation is given to the previous belief that gold diggings exist at the head of Nootka Sound. We are indebted to the courtesy of Capt. Swanson for the following interesting account of the voyage.

Thursday, April 27—At 3:30 p.m. got down and sailed on a trading voyage round Vancouver Island.

Friday, 28—At 2 a.m. fresh south-east wind and thick rainy weather, north by east light. At 5:30 entered the Sound, and at 6:30 anchored in Bamfield creek. A portion of the Oh-ai-ets came on board to trade heavy rain all day.

Saturday, 29—A.M. light easterly wind, and thick rainy weather; at 4, started and ran up Alberni Inlet, and anchored in Ouchotah harbor. A few Indians came alongside and traded all the furs they had. Proceeded up Alberni Inlet, and anchored at the mill at the head of the inlet. Found the schooner Alberni loading lumber. A few Indians and two furs.

Sunday, 30—Got under weigh and ran down the Straits, experienced thick fog, and anchored on the north end of Deer Island. On the following morning weighed anchor and ran through Satellite Passage, and at noon came to anchor at Village Island; the Schooner Birnie came alongside, also a white man and two Indians. The latter I believe are the Birnie and Birnie, the latter I believe are the two men who were with the schooner when it was wrecked. At night, a heavy rain.

Monday, 1—Ran down the coast, and at noon came to anchor at Desolation Channel, thence up the north arm through Rocky Pass, and down Sidney Inlet. Anchored in Refuge Cove; found a few Indians here belonging to the Manniwats tribe.

At daylight started for Nootka; strong S.E. wind with heavy sea, and anchored in Friendly Cove; found about 20 Indians here, in the afternoon finished trading, and started up Zucarte Arm, entered Paquima Arm, and at six anchored at the port shore, about ten miles below the head of the Inlet.

Tuesday, 2—Proceeded further up the inlet and anchored at the mouth of the Abamseeis river, where we were visited by several Indians belonging to the "Manniwats" tribe. A noon dinner. Butler and Hooper left on a boat to explore the river; this river being that in which Captain Frank of the schooner Surprise, found gold a few months ago.

Wednesday, 3—Employed in cutting wood. On Saturday, at 12 p.m. Messrs. Hooper and Butler arrived, stating that they had been about six miles up the river, and felt gratified with the result of their exploration. They found two ounces to the pan in gold in several places, and are of opinion that as soon as the river gets a little lower, and sufficient time afforded for prospecting, that good diggings will be struck on the bars. Got up steam and ran down the Inlet, entered Pacific Canal, and anchored off Chin-win village.

Sunday, 4—At daylight started and ran through between Vancouver and Nootka Islands, anchoring in Port Elizabeth. Found all the Es-boat-tribe Indians here; as we found they had nothing to trade, got under weigh again, and ran out of Esperanza Inlet towards Kyquot harbor, where we anchored. The Indians informed us that the steamer Jenny Jones had been here, and left two days before. They say she proceeded north again. The latter part of the statement I think doubtful.

Monday, 5—Started with strong north-west wind, and anchored off the Nespatie village; nearly all the tribe came on board to trade. Blowing too hard all day to admit of our proceeding round Woody Point. Heard from the natives that the steamer Jenny Jones had also been in this harbor for two days, cutting wood.

Tuesday, 6—At 6, weighed and ran towards Kookimo; at noon, fresh north west wind, and clear weather. Entered Quatsinough Inlet, and proceeded up Kookimo Inlet up to Hecate Cove, and anchored. Found one canoe with two Indians here. Dispatched them away for the tribe. At 9, the Kookimo arrived from their village. Also Mr. St. Clair, the gentleman left in charge by Laurence, Clark & Joyce, of their property in this vicinity. He (St. Clair) appeared to be laboring under a very severe cough, and certainly far more fit for an hospital than where he was. Otherwise he appeared to be quite contented and friendly with the Indians.

Wednesday, 7—At 6:30, weighed and ran down the inlet; at 9, cleared it. At 1 p.m. rounded Cape Scott, and at 6 p.m., passed the schooner Lord Baglan bound south; at 8 p.m., anchored off Fort Rupert, in Beaver Harbor.

On Friday, 11th, left Fort Rupert, at 11 a.m.; passed the sloop Eagle, abreast of Beaver Cove, bound north; strong south-east wind and thick rainy weather; at 8, anchored in Duncan's Cove.

Saturday—Started at daylight, and at 8 p.m., arrived at Nanaimo.

Tuesday, 16—At 6:15, left Nanaimo, and at 2 p.m., arrived at Victoria.

THE EMPLOYEE'S REPORT.

STEAMER OTTER, May 14, 1865.

To THE HONORABLE COLONIAL SECRETARY, Sir.

In accordance with the instructions received from you on the 26th of April, I would beg to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that I embarked on the Otter accompanied by Mr. Hooper, at three o'clock, p.m., of the 29th ult.; we left at five o'clock, p.m. Nothing of importance occurred till we arrived at Nootka Sound, which was the 30th of May at three o'clock, p.m. We anchored at the end of Quays Arm; a large river flows into the head of this Arm from the north; this is the river where Mr. Young obtained the prospect of gold now in his possession; this I learnt from the master of schooner Surprise, and afterwards by the Indian who accompanied me up the river, through Captain Swanson's house.

About one o'clock, p.m., of the 31st instant, I started up the river, accompanied by Mr. Hooper and three Indians in a canoe. It was not till Captain Swanson had promised them four times the amount they usually get for ascending the river that they could get them to start. They were being a great deal of bad water to pass. After ascending the river about a mile three of us had to get out so as to enable the other two to get through the rapids. The water was managed to ascend the river between six and seven miles by dusk; after ascending about five miles we came to a large canon, which we went through for more than a mile, when at the far end we had to get out, and leave our canoes, we not being able to take any further on account of a heavy fall, we walked to the head of the canon a little above the fall, where we staid for the night; immediately after stopping Mr. Hooper tried several pans of dirt and got probably a cent to the pan. Just a little above where we encamped there were three Indians staying, the next morning I tried to obtain a canoe from them to ascend the river, but the Indians that had accompanied me told me that we could not take a canoe up higher at this stage of water, it being too high and rapid; they told me likewise that it would be to-morrow at noon before we could get back to this place if we went up to where the Upper Indians were; previous to leaving Captain Swanson told me to let the Indians go as far as they would, and at the same time told me that he would like me to return by night. I then resolved, after consulting Mr. Hooper, to stay and prospect where we were, and allow the Indians to continue on and inform the Upper ones that the Otter was at the mouth of the river. Immediately after they had left we continued and tried a pan here and there at above high water we were not being able to try the bed of the river of account of the depth and the rapidity of the current; after a short time Mr. Hooper proposed to try and sink to the bed, which I agreed to do; we then commenced at the edge of the river, we drilled in about twelve feet and sunk seven feet; after working for about seven hours we were forced to quit on account of water, it coming in on us in all directions, while sinking we washed a pan of dirt now and then, and from the surface, as low as we sank, the dirt appeared to average from one to two cents to the pan, the same at seven feet as at the surface.

When we found we could not get down to the bed rock we started and prospected what appeared to be a lead slip; the first pan we tried was about fifty feet above the river, it was just loose sand, we found several fine colors; we tried several others with the same results, this bank of land slip is composed of loose sand and rocks, the latter appears to contain a great deal of iron ore. I fetched two specimens of quartz with me that I obtained from a ledge close by.

The Indians tried a little below the spot accompanied with several others they describe the river as very bad above where we were on account of high water, they say the show is very deep in the banks of the river in places. Immediately on the arrival of the Indians we left, knowing that Captain Swanson would be anxious to see us back by our way down we prospected on the banks of the river at several places; I always got several colors to the pan. One of the Indians informed me that in about six weeks from this date the river will be pretty low and large bars will be here and there all along the river, and that the river will be able to be ascended to a large lake which they say it flows from, but at present it is highly dangerous to ascend unless a person is well acquainted with the river, and understands how to work a canoe in bad water. I took the bearing of the river; its general bearing is north, as far as it ascended; about four miles up there is a large stream coming in from the north east, and smaller streams of both sides. The average width of the river for the first four miles is about one hundred yards, it then gradually becomes confined between the mountain till you arrive at the canon it is only about fifteen yards wide; I could form no idea of the depth.

The first three miles is a fine valley about a mile wide, it is heavily timbered but the soil appears good.

As soon as we arrived at the ship Captain Swanson stated, little else of importance occurred till we reached Fort Rupert; all other minor details will be found in the journal that I kept of the route; when we arrived it was at 8 o'clock, p.m., of the 10th instant; Captain Swanson informed me that he was going to stay next day, I could not get a canoe till about 10 o'clock, a.m., next day, and that one was only a small one with one Indian. I then started to a river flowing into Hardy Bay about six miles from here, as I was informed by Mr. Oampton of the Fort, but I found it to be nearer ten by the time I got there, which was about three o'clock, p.m.; immediately on arriving in the river we tried a pan of dirt and found several colors; we counted eight; this was taken from the surface and where the tide caused the water to back up; we then ascended a short distance up the river and tried several pans and could get several colors to each pan. Having neither food or blankets and knowing that Captain Swanson wanted to start in the morning we returned very reluctantly, having come a long distance and getting little satisfaction; we got back to the ship about eight o'clock, p.m. tired and wet, for it began to blow pretty fresh when we got out of the bay, and our canoe being small we took in a little water. We started early

the morning and arrived in Nanaimo on the afternoon of the 13th instant, where we were to take coal previously to going to Victoria.

I should humbly beg to state that it is Mr. Hooper's and my own opinion that gold is to be obtained in payable quantities on the river flowing from the north into the head of Quays Arm in about a month from this date the water will be low enough to work on the bars and banks of the river; we would further beg to call His Excellency's attention to the river flowing into Hardy Bay for we think it is there thoroughly prospected it would be found to yield gold in payable quantities. I would further beg to state that Captain Swanson has rendered every assistance he could to enable Mr. Hooper and myself to prospect as we should, and I remain your obedient servant, JOHN BUTLER.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Fistulae, Piles, Excoriations, and Strictures, are speedily relieved and ultimately removed by applying this Ointment after fomentation with warm water. Persons suffering from these scourges of the human frame should arrest their progress at once, for if left unchecked, and rapid progress, if long allowed to go on unchecked, not only weaken the nervous system, but destroy life. The ointment is success; yet none should despair, if these have often yielded, and the sufferings have been a painful death. In excoriations, a few applications of this healing Ointment effect a cure, while the Pills, conjointly used, especially beneficial in relaxing and removing strictures, whatever their situation or duration. These are the secrets of his merit.

Notice.—ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO ME by Note or otherwise, are informed that if the amounts are not paid, either to Mr. Richard Hooper, or to my Solicitors, Messrs. Fettes & Green, of Government street, Victoria, for collection, within six months from this date, the same will be handed over to Messrs. Fettes & Green, of Government street, Victoria, for collection. W. M. SHARBY, Agent, Victoria, V.I., May 1st, 1865.

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ALL PAIN, VOMITING AND DISTRESS caused in a few minutes after taking a dose of that wonderful SODIUM AND AMMONIA TONIC CHLORODYNE, CHLORODYNE, &c. of S. COLLIS BROWNE, M.D. (ex-Army Medical Staff), the recipe of which was considered solely by Dr. J. Davy, &c. 83 Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury Square, London (Pharmaceutical Chemist). The medical testimony of civil, hospital, military and naval practitioners pronounced in favour of Chlorodyne, &c. is of a rare and refreshing character, and imparts the most refreshing and refreshing character, or saving any of the unpleasant effects of opium.

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THE PRESIDENT'S COMMAND. The Herald's possession-complexity of fact is such that no state a moment in the Times sent to all our with a description the fugitives.

By Telegraph. The 25th inst. of the cost of the Southern telegraph, is the 25th inst. of the cost of the Southern telegraph.

THE ASSASSIN New York, May dispatch says: It is that the recent pro ward for the appro one of the parties, nation of Lincoln, dent Johnson as his upon his personal legal authorities. I decided in a cabine any way connect should be tried by not by a civil court in the hands of J examined it careful Secretary, giving that the evidence concerned in the plot. It was a proclamation was New York, Mar says: The wit case are panic str themselves in ca Two of them yest ment to the Secret complacency of San but positively re Court unless assu dence and testi and reporters ex was concealed, b sed Norh under A downward The downward out so many sel the downward for this morning fortis were so la the rate. A special dispa The President wion defining the lina. JEFF DAVIS AN CHATTAHOOGA, Hamilton, Hancock Friday night, M Washington, received intelligence plete surrender Canby. The escape of possible except a fugitive. He is from Washington forces. The dire an attempt to c now thought that is completely Grierson. Gen. Wilson's son's command. The Herald's possession-complexity of fact is such that no state a moment in the Times sent to all our with a description the fugitives. REEB New York, sued a proclama a reasonable th shall receive by sign nations, he be refused the States ports. WASHINGTON net meeting w parliament to de of unanticipated rebellion will be sideration. The Preside Gov. Aiken of there was no military auth PHILADELPHIA the 7-30 local One-banking New York ial says: The of North Carl that can be admit their adherence to Cartaret, Gre meetings were they will aid in the restaura on the State. WASHINGTON and comm was again co The important intercourse a pacification. President's discussion is plished. The different con New York the 25th inst. of the cost of the Southern telegraph, is the 25th inst. of the cost of the Southern telegraph.