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TALS AND COAL IN
SH COLUMBIA.

In our issue of Friday, 26th, a statement was made by Mr. Gavin Hamilton that gold was first discovered in 1856 on the Thompson river. Various dates have been assigned to that important event, and the old (familiar) story, common to the whole coast from Mexico to the Yukon, is oft repeated about the Indian bringing golden bullets to the fur traders. But we find the matter has been carefully investigated by Mr. Justice Martin in his "mining cases," vol. 1. In the historical preface to that volume, wherein is to be found an authentic account of the earliest discoveries in what is now British Columbia of the precious metals and coal. As the matter is of general interest and this official account does not seem to be very generally known, we give the following extracts from it, by which it will be seen that gold was first discovered in 1850, silver in 1858, and coal in 1855.

"Gold, so far as officially known, was first discovered within what is now British Columbia by the Indians in Queen Charlotte's Island in 1850, and the fact was reported to the Secretary of State for the Colonies by Governor Bligh, of Vancouver Island, in his dispatch of August 18th of that year. The results of expeditions fitted out by the Hudson's Bay Company, and later by others, to work the vein so discovered on Mitchell Harbor are given in the succeeding dispatches in the same blue book.

"Mr. Matthew MacFie, F. R. G. S., writing in 1855, states that 'the existence of gold in Vancouver Island has been known since 1850,' and Mr. J. D. Pemberton, Surveyor-General of Vancouver Island, says that 'in 1852 I broke off almost at random pieces of gold-bearing rock in various places within a walk of Victoria, and the report (at page 160) on them by Mr. James Tennant, of the Strand, will be read with interest, enumerating as it does the geological formations usually met with in the south-eastern portion of the Island, and showing that it is extremely probable that Vancouver Island, when properly explored, will be found to be a gold-producing country. Recent events have fully justified this opinion.

"So far as gold on the mainland of British Columbia is concerned, the first official notice thereof is contained in the dispatch of Governor Douglas to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated April 16, 1856, wherein he states that Angus McDonald, clerk in charge of Fort Colville, a Hudson's Bay post in the Upper Columbia District, had reported to him in a letter dated the 1st of March, that 'gold had been found in considerable quantities within the British territory on the Upper Col. this, and that he is moreover of the opinion that valuable deposits of gold will be found in many other parts of that country.' etc. These gold fields, which were at first called by the Governor the 'Couteau Mines,' (so called after the tribe of Indians inhabiting that part of the country) on further exploration were found to extend to the Fraser River, and the further discoveries thereon led to the great rush of 1858 to that region. Rapidly the miners in that year continued their prospecting up the Fraser River from Fort Yale to Lytton; from Lytton to Cayoosh (Lillooet), Bridge River and the Fountain (Pavilion) from the Fountain to Port Alexander, and thence next year, 1859, to the Queneen River and Cariboo, properly so called, where, to quote Governor Douglas, 'alluvial diggings of extraordinary value' were discovered on Horsefly and Antler Creeks, and, later, (1860-62) on Kethley's, Lightning, Williams and other creeks, resulting in the great rush to Cariboo in these and other years.

"On Vancouver Island gold was first obtained to any considerable extent from Leech River, discovered in 1864 by an expedition organized by Governor Kennedy under the command of Dr. Robert Brown, and stimulated by the prospect of a reward of \$1,000 offered for the discovery of paying gold fields, and earnings as high as \$34 per day to the rocker were obtained.

"In the previous year, 1863, at Goldstream, near Victoria, several companies had engaged in working quartz veins with indifferent success. With this exception lode mining is of comparative recent date. Dr. Dawson notices the 'premature quartz excitement of 1877 and 1878' in Cariboo, yet, as he states, it was not until 1896, after the discovery in Kootenay of a group of mineral deposits on Toad Mountain, near Nelson, that the development of lode mining, as it is present exists, began. But so small was the industry that the total value of its

output so late as 1893 only amounted to \$297,400. After that date, however, it rapidly increased, and last year (Martin's Mining Cases was published in 1903) amounted to \$13,683,044.

"Silver was first officially reported as existing in Lillooet by Mr. J. W. MacKay in his report of October 2nd, 1858, to Governor Douglas, and was also mentioned by Lieut. Richard C. Mayne, R. N., in May, 1859; but its existence was first authentically established by Charles Forbes, M. D., of H. M. S. Topaz, who, by direction of Governor Douglas, reported in October, 1860, on the minerals of the country bordering upon Harrison Lake and Lillooet, and found and examined many argentiferous veins, as shown on the map and geological sections accompanying his report.

"Coal was first discovered in 1835 on the north-east coast of Vancouver Island, doubtless at Squash, specimens being brought in that year by the Indians to Dr. W. F. Tolmie, then stationed at the Hudson's Bay Company's post, Fort McLoughlin, on Milbank Sound, and used in the following year by the first steamer on the coast, the Beaver.

"The coal at Nanaimo was first discovered by Mr. Joseph W. Mackay (then in the Hudson's Bay Company's service) in May, 1850, who was directed to it by the Indians in the neighborhood.

"The development of the industry is traced by Dawson and the annual reports of the British Columbia Minister of Mines, to which authorities reference should also be made, and also for information and statistics relating to the other minerals of the province."

COUNCIL AND WATER SUPPLY.

It has been suggested that as the city council evidently cannot agree, and just as evidently is never likely to reach an agreement, upon the subject of the steps necessary to be taken in order to secure an adequate supply of water for the city at the earliest possible date, that a commission should be appointed to take the matter entirely out of aldermanic pretence hands, gather data and report. If the council has not all the data it requires, then a great deal of money has been wasted in paying for the opinions of experts. The root of all the trouble and confusion, it appears to us, lies in the lack of harmony in the advice of experts.

Mr. Adams came to Victoria with a reputation as one of the foremost hydraulic engineers in California. After a personal inspection of the country surrounding Victoria, and an examination of the data gathered by presumably competent surveyors, he recommended certain measures. Possibly if the way had been clear and no law suits impending, Mr. Adams's recommendations might have been carried out. The people at the time Mr. Adams's advice was given were in a frame of mind to look with favor upon almost any action endorsed by a competent authority that promised relief from a water famine. But apparently we have reverted to the old condition, to which it must be confessed Victorians appear to be constitutionally prone, of next to hopeless division of opinion. We have forgotten the counsel of the very last of our experts. Mr. Adams suggested a reservoir as one thing necessary to insure a satisfactory pressure of water under all circumstances. Another gentleman of considerable engineering experience tells us that anyone who would suggest a reservoir in connection with Goldstream or the Highland districts as a source of supply must be an "inspired idiot." When professional opinion is so widely asunder, it were next to hopeless to expect laymen to be in complete harmony. We do not expect unanimity on the part of the council. It is seldom indeed that there is absolute unity of thought upon any subject among any considerable company of individuals. But we have no doubt the majority of the members of the council will reach a conclusion in accord with the expert advice at their disposal. They have not only written opinions; they have advisers in the city hall. If the people have no confidence in either the council or the council's advisers, we do not know what the next tribunal of resort must be—possibly a commission. In the meantime give the aldermen a chance. Do not endeavor to unnecessarily prejudice public opinion against them. In any event, if a commission be appointed, who is to make the appointment, unless it be the council; and what reason is there to suppose that a creation of the council would be a more competent body than the majority of the council?

SIR WILFRID'S TRIUMPH.

The press of Canada, irrespective of political leanings (with the possible exception of the Toronto Mail and Empire) is unanimously of the opinion that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has returned to Canada from attendance at the Imperial Conference with a large addition to his already lustrous reputation and that the reception he has met with in the course of his journey to the capital of the Dominion indicates there is yet but one political leader of the first class in the country at the present time. The Toronto World, one of the leading Conservative newspapers of Ontario, describes the trip of Sir Wilfrid up the St. Lawrence River from Quebec as a "triumphal tour, attended by unbounded enthusiasm." There were what appeared to be "acres of faces" illumined by minds intent upon de-

liveries of the "uncrowned king of Canada." Jacques Cartier Market and all surrounding streets in Montreal were packed with a multitude numbering not less than fifteen thousand people endeavoring to hear the message the Premier had to deliver. The line of march was thronged throughout. "The crowds," we are told, "were fully as large in the English portion as in the French quarter of the city," and at Dominion Square more than ten thousand people were waiting for a glimpse of Sir Wilfrid as he entered the Windsor Hotel.

"The World candidly admits editorially that the course of the Premier at the Conference meets with its entire approval. It has not a single word of criticism to speak—not one of the acts performed would it attempt to undo if endowed with the power of veto. Its comments are worthy of reproduction as expressing the views of Canadians, the overwhelming majority of whom are more deeply concerned about the future of their country and her relations with the Mother Country than they are about the political success of political leaders or political parties. It says:

"During the session of the Imperial Conference the World on more than one occasion expressed its conviction that the Premier of Canada had acquired by virtue of his clear and statesmanlike position, the leading place in this important council. Towards the British government, or rather its permanent officialdom, still tinged as it is with the notion, inherited from earlier days, that it retains some intangible but none the less real predominance, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in his own words, felt his 'first duty was to fix the character of the conference by declaring it to be a conference between government and government, and that all the representatives met on terms of perfect equality with the Imperial government. No doubt that assumption underlay the transactions of the previous conference and in theory it has been recognized and accepted by representatives of the outer Britains and by many individual statesmen of the Motherland. But for the first time in history the Canadian Premier seems to have prefaced the deliberations of the conference by an express claim for perfect equality of position on the part of the federal and self-governing communities. While the admission is only a declaration of a place already won, it is of historic significance as marking the completion of an evolutionary movement which the World believes places the self-governing states of the Empire on the only possible basis of relationship consonant at once with individual independence and united action.

"But this was not all that Sir Wilfrid Laurier accomplished. His second and equally valuable contribution to higher Imperial politics was his determined opposition to any course that laid the conference open to the charge of attempting to influence the domestic policy of any of the Imperial states. What rendered his attitude in this regard all the more praiseworthy was the fact that the point arose over the matter of inter-Imperial preferential trade—an issue due in its origin to the action of his own government. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier saw, what some of his more enthusiastic friends in the conference failed to appreciate, that to establish a precedent of this nature was not only fraught with danger, but struck at the very root of an Imperial partnership. The conference was within its right in expressing the belief of the great majority of its members, that the establishment of a preferential arrangement would tend to strengthen the Empire, but anything beyond this, and particularly any endeavor to force the hand of the British public, would at once have involved the conference in the party politics of the United Kingdom. The outer Britains have been insistent in their demand that there must be no interference by the British government or people in their domestic affairs, and it is their duty to be as careful not to encroach upon the equal right of the other members of the Mother Land.

"The last contribution made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the cause of Imperial union was his advocacy of the all-red line—a proposal which virtually makes Canada the main link of a great Imperial line of communication. As to now under consideration, but whether immediately accepted or not, the idea is pregnant with large possibilities which must sooner or later become actualities.

APPEAL ALLOWED.

In Cases in Which Men Were Convicted of Selling Ice Cream on Sunday.

Hamilton, July 27.—Judge Monck this morning allowed the appeal of James Crawford, John Burns and Charles Knowles, who were convicted by the magistrate of selling ice cream on Sunday. The judge held that ice cream was a necessity for some people and that while the defendants only conducted restaurants on a small scale they were as much entitled to sell it as larger places.

NARROW ESCAPE.

Realt, Persia, July 26.—A Russian subject had a narrow escape from death at the hands of an infuriated mob. The man is accused of the murder of a Persian. He was being conveyed through the streets to the court when the crowd learned his identity. News of the occurrence came to the Russian consul, who hurried to the scene and succeeded in rescuing the man from the angry Persians with the greatest difficulty.

John Schaeffer, of North Benton, O., has just celebrated his one hundred and first birthday. He is the oldest clergyman in Ohio, and possibly in the United States. He preached regularly for 60 years.

DAVID SPENCER, LTD. | THE GREAT EMPORIUM OF THE GREAT WEST.

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

THE LAST BARGAIN CHANCES

Are By No Means the Least

Final Days Bring
Many Big BargainsWednesday's Final Reductions will
be Announced in To-morrow's
"Times" and "Colonist"Final Days Bring
Many Big Bargains

Ladies' White Lawn and Japanese Black Silk Waists Are Placed on Sale To-morrow at Enticing Reductions

A Few Descriptions Will Demonstrate the Special Sale Value of this Present Offering

Ladies' Fine White Lawn
Blouses

LADIES' WHITE LAWN BLOUSE, wide box pleat down centre of front, with two rows of insertion on either side, four rows of tucking down either side of back, long sleeves with deep-tucked cuff. Clearance price.....50c

LADIES' WHITE LAWN BLOUSE, entire front made of hemstitched tucks, wide hemstitched box pleat down centre of back, cluster of narrow tucks on either side, three-quarter sleeve finished with tuck cuff. Collar to match. Clearance price 50c

Ladies' Fine White Lawn
Blouses

LADIES' WHITE LAWN BLOUSE, wide box pleat of hand embroidery down front, edged on either side with narrow tucks, three-quarter sleeve with auck cuff. Collar to match. Clearance price 50c

Ladies' Japanese Black
Silk Waists

LADIES' BLACK JAPANESE SILK WIST, entire front made of fine tucks, rows of tucking down back, three-quarter sleeve finished with cuff to match. Price \$2.50

Valuable Remnants Now Clearing

After a Summer Sale of such considerable magnitude as the present has proved, it necessarily follows that a large quantity of Remnants will accumulate; these must be disposed of. We will therefore offer a considerable quantity of Valuable Remnants in all kinds of Dress Goods, Silks, Laces, Staple Goods, etc.

DRESS GOODS DEPT.'S REMNANTS ON SALE
TO-MORROW

Colored Dress Goods, in Serges, Fancy Tweeds, Broadcloths, Cashmeres, Panamas, Fancy Lustres, Voiles, Nun's, Vellings, White and Cream Dress Goods in Cashmeres, Serges, Panamas, Voiles and Fancy Lustres, Black Dress goods in Broadcloths, Panamas, Cashmeres, Crepe de Chenes, Voiles, Soliel, Cord de Chene and Lustres, etc. 2 to 7 yard lengths.

SILK DEPARTMENT'S REMNANTS ON SALE
TO-MORROW

Taffetas, Foulards, Geishas, Japanee, Chinas and Fancy Silks, etc. Lengths 1 to 5 yards.

STAPLE DEPARTMENT'S REMNANTS ON
SALE TO-MORROW

Prints, Dress Gingham, Ducks, Galateas, Aprons, Gingham, Flannel, Flannels, White Muslins, Figured Muslins and Organdies, Bleached and Unbleached Table Linens, Etc.

LACE DEPARTMENT'S REMNANTS ON SALE
TO-MORROW

VARIOUS KINDS OF LACES AND EMBROIDERY from 1 1/2 to 3 yds. in length.

At Less Than One-Third of Their Original Values

Rapidly Waning Opportunities in
Men's Fine ClothingOnly Two Days
Remain

In which to secure one of our
regular, well-tailored,
high-grade Suits
that were:

\$22.50 to \$25.00 for

\$15.75

\$15.00 to \$20.00 for

\$9.75

\$10.00 to \$12.50 for

\$6.75

High Grade Suits

Whose Style and distinction
have won for them "fame
and following" among good
dressers.



We have so far pleased
over 500 Suit Customers
during the present month
—let us add you to the
ranks of those who are so
well satisfied with the finest
Sale values in Suits
yet offered.

Only Two Days
Remain

In which to secure
these unmatched
Suit Bargains

Such opportunities
cannot occur before our
next sale, 6 months
from now.

DAVID SPENCER, LIMITED

DATES FIXED

FOR SITTING

OF FALL ASSIZES
AND OTHER

The Appointments in This
Gazette—Companies W
Have Been Incorporated

The Provincial Gazette
contains the announcement of
pointment of W. J. Bowser as
ney-General.

The other appointments in
as follows:

John Simpson, of Poplar, and
Wensley May, of Cowichan,
to be justice of peace for the pro
British Columbia.

William Moore McKay, of the
Vancouver, barrister-at-law, t
turning officer for the Vancouver
electoral district.

George Arthur Allen, of Du
L., to be a provincial police o
To be five wardens for the y
for the purpose of carrying
provisions of the Bush Fire
any rules and regulations made
under: Joseph W. Grieve, of
V. L. W. T. Altherton, of Head
To be deputy game wardens
W. Grieve, of Comox, V. L.; W.
erton, of Hedley; W. Harm
Michon and Frederick Penson,
Creek, East Kootenay.

The sittings of the Assize of
fixed as follows:
Vancouver, October 1st, 1907.
Inal.

Nelson, October 1st, 1907.
criminal.—No civil non-jury c
be dealt with at this sitting, a
cial sitting for the trial of a
jury cases has been fixed to be
Nelson on October 15th, 1907.
Clinton, October 2nd, 1907.
criminal.

New Westminster, October 2
rivil and criminal.
Kamloops, October 8th, 1907.
and criminal.

Victoria, October 10th, 1907.
Revelstoke, October 15th, 1907.
and criminal.

Vernon, October 16th, 1907.
criminal.

Fernie, October 22nd, 1907.
criminal.

Greenwood, October 22nd, 1907.
and criminal.

Nanaimo, October 22nd, 1907.
and criminal.

Notice is also given that a
sitting of the Supreme court

HOSTS OF

All Over This Blessed Land
Common Gratitude

These people, so ready at
have themselves been cured
these medicines. Naturally,
recommending Dr. Pierce's me
that these medicines have be
for more than two decades, ye
they are medicines of more th
crininal.

Although base attacks ha
false, malicious and libelous
Journal of Philadelphia, yet
libers of this paper were br
them in consequence of their
Prescription. The falsity of th
ment was abundantly shown.

Thereupon Dr. Pierce dec
world a full list of the ingred
pletely confounded his malici
his medicines. In consequence
increase in sale of late, amount
greatly increased demand is d
way of treating his patrons a
trust in him and his medicine
He publishes the composition
all who use them may know
placed in a class all by them
patent medicines, for they are
WHAT THEY CURE. People
*What do Dr. Pierce's two lea
cures—Golden Medical Discover
Favorite Prescription?—cure?
Briefly, the answer is that
Medical Discovery is a most
scientific, unsurpassed, and
superior, and acts especially
in a curative way upon all the
units surface, as of the nose,
throat, bronchial tubes, stomac
and bladder curing a large per
catarrhal cases whose nature d
fects the nasal passages, the
larynx, bronchia, stomach (as
Dyspepsia), bowels, mucous
bladder, uterus or other pelv
Even in the chronic or ulcerat
of these affections, it is general
ful in affecting cures. In fact
Medical Discovery is without d
most successful constitutional r
all forms of catarrhal diseases
modern medical science. In
Nasal Catarrh Dr. Sage's Catarrh
fluid should be used for wash
cleansing out the nasal passag
taking the "Discovery" for
cleansing and specific, healing
upon the mucous lining membra
combined local and general treat
cure a very large percentage of
cases of chronic nasal catarrh, r
of how many years standing ind
As to the "Favorite Prescrip
advised for the cure of one cl
cases only—those of irregular
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women. It is a powerful, yet g
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matter what has caused the bre
"Favorite Prescription" will
most effective in building up the
regulating the womanly functi
dining pain and bringing about
strong, vigorous condition of t
system.

Dr. Pierce believes that our
forests abound in most valuab
cinal roots for the cure of m
obstinate and most fatal disea
would properly investigate th
in confirmation of this firm o
points with pride to the salu
velous cures effected by his "Go
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to be the most efficient stom
liver invigorator, heart tonic a
lator, and blood cleanser know
ical science. Not less marvelou
unparalleled cures it is constan
ing of woman's many peculi