

settlement," and awarded, in 1861, to Charles Forbes, Esquire, M.D. and Surgeon in the Royal Navy; but no subsequent measures seem to have been adopted to utilize the information thus obtained, beyond its being printed and circulated.

A reward of One Thousand Pounds had been offered by Proclamation for the discovery of paying gold fields, but in consequence of the unavoidable cost and toil involved in the search, if undertaken, little had been done even under the stimulant thus offered; and on the arrival of His Excellency Governor Kennedy, there existed a wide-spread conviction that some practicable scheme for the development of the resources of the country was essential to its prosperity and progress. The correctness of this conviction was fully and promptly recognized by His Excellency, who without loss of time suggested the advantages which would doubtless result from a systematic and combined effort of the Government and the people, and generously proposed to contribute from funds at his disposal "two dollars, for every one furnished by the people," and to leave the entire outcarrying of such plans as might be devised, to a committee, to be popularly chosen.

In accordance with these suggestions and proposals, a public meeting was held on the 29th of April, 1864, and a Committee appointed, consisting of the following gentlemen, viz :

SELM FRANKLIN, ESQ., M. L. A., Chairman.

GEORGE CRUICKSHANK, ESQ., Secretary.

Commander VERNEY, R. N., Major J. DOWNIE, Reverend E. EVANS, D. D., JAMES DICKSON, M. D., JOHN ASH, M. D., THOMAS TROUNCE, J. J. COCHRANE, WILLIAM FISHER, C. B. YOUNG, J. T. PIDWELL, and A. D. BELL, Esquires, and W. H. FRANKLYN, Esquire, of Nanaimo.

An exploring party was selected, engaged, and suitably equipped, consisting of DR. BROWN, the Commander and Government Agent; PETER JOHN LEECH, Lieutenant and Astronomer; FREDERICK WHYMPER, Artist; JOHN BUTTLE, Naturalist; ALEXANDER S. BARNSTON; JOHN MEADE; RANALD MACDONALD; JOHN M. FOLEY, (detached 26th July); THOMAS HENRY LEWIS and RICHARD DREW, and WILLIAM HOOPER, (joined 6th August); Pioneers and Miners; TOMA ANTOINE, and LAZARE LE BUSCAY, Hunters; who took their departure from the Hudson Bay Company's wharf on the 7th June, 1864, in Her Majesty's steamer Grappler, Commander Verney, after an eloquent address from Governor Kennedy, amid the cheers of the crowd assembled, and with the prayers of the friends of the Expedition, which must now be allowed to tell its own tale in the following Report of the Commander of the Exploring party :