

THE

# News Letter,

FOR

## VANCOUVER ISLAND AND NEW CALEDONIA.



With the Latest News from the Gold Mining Regions on Fraser, Vancouver, and the Columbia.

NO. 1.

VICTORIA, B.C., SEPT. 25, 1858.

NO. 3.

OUR NEWS LETTER for Vancouver's Island and New Caledonia, like its counterpart in Australia and California, is intended as "a labor saving machine" for those who, in communicating with their friends at a distance, have not time to collect and impart those special items of useful information they deem necessary to convey to them. We shall endeavor at all times, to supply only accurate and reliable statements of news, for the man of business, so agreeably condensed, that the receipt of the LETTER from Vancouver's Island and New Caledonia, may everywhere be welcomed with pleasure, to whatever individual family it may be addressed, or country transmitted to,—that its recipients, (one and all, may exclaim, "God bless the man who first invented the epistolary plan."

Orders for the NEWS LETTER received throughout the Gold Mining regions of New Caledonia, by Mr. Ballou of the Express, who has the exclusive supply of THE LETTER at his agency offices on Fraser river. The money for all copies required, and also for advertisements to be inserted in the THE LETTER must be paid in advance to Mr. Ballou. Well authenticated facts of interest, with the name of the writer as a guarantee, will be thankfully received.

IN A PROCLAMATION issued by Governor James Douglas at Fort Yale, Fraser river, on the 15th instant, it is stated, "Whereas, it has been made to appear that certain persons in Victoria and elsewhere, have attempted to delude the public by pretended sales of certain lands on Fraser river: now, I do warn all persons whom it may concern, that no land at or near Langley, or elsewhere on Fraser river, have been in any manner encumbered or sold, and that the title to all

such lands is vested in the Crown, and that any person found occupying the same without due authority from me, will be summarily ejected: and all persons fraudulently selling the same, will be prosecuted and punished as the law directs."

[We noticed on the morning after the above Proclamation was posted on the gates at the Fort of Victoria, a party of well known gentlemen reading it. From certain muscular twitchings about the ankles and wrists, we judge they found it quite as indigestible as unpalatable; at the same time, a very chilling kind of Northerly wind seemed to be setting in, blighting, if not destroying the prospects of a select shoal of land sharks, who have been observed for the last few weeks locating around Fort or "Port" Langley. The river was conceived by the fish to be quite deep enough to venture up, although they had been swimming for years in the shallowest water, little dreaming that at no distant day they might unexpectedly be fished for in troubled waters. As yet a simple theodolite and chain have been the only instruments required in catching these rare visitants, yet still the long hook of the Sheridan ball and chain, without any bait at all (and this is a feat never performed by the renowned Isaac Walton himself,) is thought to be sufficiently destructive of the most voracious of the piscatorial monsters, deterring any others of the same species from seeking to haunt so noble a stream, set apart by nature for the exclusive multiplication of the Royal salmon.]

IN THE INSTRUCTIONS issued by the British Government in 1828, for the disposal by grant or sale of Colonial lands, the following sentence appears: "Settlers should not receive a greater extent of land than they are capable of improving; and that grants should not be made to persons who are desirous only of disposing of them." We quote this as a crumb of comfort to some land speculators who are writhing in all the tortures of Loocon.