

This might easily be done in one season, and the occasion might also be turned to valuable account in acquiring information respecting the Dominion territories drained by those rivers.  
Respectfully submitted.

(Signed) J. S. DENNIS, *Surveyor-General*.

The Honourable the Minister of the Interior,  
Ottawa.

(From Vol. XI, No. 125, p. 45.)

*Extract from the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society (vol. 39, p. 156, 1869).*

Portland Inlet, through the centre of which runs the boundary between the British and lately-acquired territory of the United States, has been surveyed and found to extend 11 miles farther north than shown on the old charts. Several new anchorages have also been found and surveyed on the main route between Vancouver Island and Fort Simpson, the northern boundary.

(From Vol. XI, No. 123, p. 57.)

*Extract from Letter of Mr. Justice Gray, of Victoria, British Columbia, dated 16th October, 1876, addressed to the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie.*

I have the honour to inclose the substance of some observations resulting from the late Cassiar Assizes held by me, which, as affecting the interests of the Dominion, on my return I addressed to Mr. Richards, the Lieutenant-Governor of this province, for information of the Government at Ottawa; but which, after consideration, he thought it advisable I should send direct to yourself.

They arise entirely out of the question of international right in the Alaska territory.

The first as to the necessity of some arrangement by which criminals may be transported from Cassiar through that territory to the penitentiary or other places of imprisonment at Victoria, Westminster, or elsewhere.

Except by the Stikkeen, 15 miles of which, near the mouth, will undoubtedly be in American territory, even after the settlement of the boundary-line, but 30 miles of which is now treated as within the Colonial line, there is at present no mode of communication other than through 60 miles of unbroken forest, rendering the transportation of a criminal almost an impossibility. A question has already arisen from an attempt at escape, and a murderous assault made on the constable having been in charge, by a prisoner sentenced at the late assize, while *in transitu* within the 30 miles near the mouth, upon the ground of its being American territory and he being an American citizen. Many desperate American characters collect at the mines. They are thoroughly aware that they cannot be sent to a place of punishment except by passing through this territory, and the administration of justice will practically cease in that gold-producing district unless the right of transit is maintained or secured.

The original right of free navigation under the Russian Convention, 1825, may perhaps be considered as restricted by the terms used in the Alabama Treaty, limiting the navigation to the purposes of commerce only.

I express no opinion on this point, as it will come up on the prisoner's trial in November next for the assault before mentioned.

(From Vol. XI, No. 125, pp. 151-152.)

*Case of Peter Martin.*

Sir,

*Victoria, B.C., June , 1877.*

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your instructions (No. 6064) dated the 3rd March last, directing me to mark on the map of the Stikkeen River, to be returned with my report, the place where the assault was committed in September last by Peter Martin on the policeman Frank Beegan, and setting forth generally the circumstances of the case.

The point marked (B) on the tracing herewith submitted was pointed out to me by Frank Beegan, above-named, who formed one of my party on the survey of the Stikkeen River, as being very near the place where the assault referred to was committed.

The precise spot where the assault took place could not be identified, as some of the trees in the locality had been cut down subsequent to September last, and as the ground at the time of the survey was covered with snow; the spot (B) pointed out by Beegan, if not correct, is believed to be within 100 yards of the actual spot where the assault was committed.