

obtained 20,000*l.* One claim yielded 1,700 oz. (about 5,440*l.*) in three days. The average yield of gold to each miner was, last year, 10*l.* a-week, this far exceeds that of any other gold mining population. Extent of the gold fields unknown. It should require but little consideration to cause any one to believe that want is absent in these colonies, where labour is so handsomely remunerated, and the demand for it is almost unlimited, neither does it seem reasonable to doubt, that with industry and ordinary prudence, a young man may render himself comparatively independent in a few years.

During the past year there were two routes to Cariboo, both from New Westminster, distance about 500 miles, and the cost was £8 to £10. This season there will be two others, each of them apparently preferable to those used hitherto. One of the new roads commences at the Bentinck Arm and its length to Alexandria is estimated to be 232 miles—54 river navigation and 178 land travel. On the Bellacola River, which empties into this Arm, a town called Bellacola is forming rapidly. A Miner walked on snow shoes from Cariboo to this Settlement in 11 days during last February.

The other new road leads from the Bute Inlet, it is stated to be nearly 20 miles shorter than that from the Arm, and has only 158 miles of land carriage. The distance of Bute Inlet from Victoria is about 222 miles whilst the Bentinck Arm is some 500 miles. A few months will decide which of these routes is the better one. Indians were packing 100 lbs each at 4*d.* per lb. from the Bentinck Arm to Alexandria, and the whole freight from Victoria to that town was reckoned at 5*d.* per lb., this will materially lessen the cost of living in Cariboo.

The government and people of this colony have shown extraordinary energy in forming roads to its interior.

Cost of living in the richest mines—8*s.* to 12*s.* a day (if cooking for yourself.) Restaurant keepers charge from 4*s.* 2*d.* to 8*s.* 4*d.* a week.

WAGES in them, 20*s.* to 40*s.* a day. In peculiar cases double or treble these amounts may be paid—most men prefer working for themselves—no other qualifications are necessary for a miner than ability to work and live on coarse food—no want of appetite likely.

Capital—safely and most profitably employed, 12 per cent. per annum regarded as is 3 per cent. in England (small but secure).

For further information, see "Cariboo," published by Darton & Co., 58, Holborn Hill; "Handbook to B. C. and Vancouver Is'and," by F. Algar, 11, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.; and especially "The Gold Fields of British Columbia," by the Correspondent of *The Times*, Rixon & Arnold, 29, Poultry; his letters in its issues of Sept. 20, 1861, and 5th and 6th Feb. 1862; and the Blue Book for British Columbia, part 4.