



Sae-ny-mos might be seen going about armed with knives and with files sharpened to daggers.

The Indians, although seldom openly unfriendly to the white man, appear to have regarded him as an unwelcome invader. His habits and customs were to them strange and incomprehensible. The sacredness of the lives of his domestic animals was a thing unknown to them, and one which they frequently disregarded. His cattle, which roamed freely in the woods, they often killed and then peddled the flesh in the village under the name of venison. The use of horses and oxen as beasts of burden they regarded as an encroachment upon the natural sphere of woman; with their heaven-given labor taken from them women were sure to become lazy and arrogant, and no doubt the aborigine saw in his mind's eye the breaking-up of the home, the decay of the race and the overthrow of society just as clearly as does the most bigoted anti-suffragist of the present day.

In the early sixties at Cowichan the Indians killed a white man who was quietly working in his fields. For this crime a Nanaimo Indian and a Cowichan Indian were hanged at Gallows Point, on

Protection Island—a point rounded by all vessels entering the harbor.

The guns of the Bastion, though frequently used to frighten the natives, were never, it appears, employed for the destruction of human life. Their principal use, indeed, was for the salutation of Governor Douglas upon the occasions of his official visits to the post. For the Indians it was sufficient to see the havoc wrought by grape and canister upon the woods of Protection Island, or the effect of bombs which the gunboats fired for practice against the ancient rocky walls of Gabriola Island.

Serious trouble very nearly occurred when on one occasion an Indian, not entirely without provocation, killed a dog belonging to one of the settlers. The fellow tribesmen of the culprit refused to give him up, and arming themselves with guns, knives, iron bolts, bludgeons and other implements, prepared to make resistance. A few shots from the Bastion directed against the neighboring woods soon convinced the Indians that their weapons were inferior to those of the "King George men." The malefactor was accordingly delivered up and sentenced by Captain Stuart to the "exemplary"