

scenery of Vancouver Island is of rather a monotonous character. Close on its borders is an Alkaline spring, (vid. also sub. report No. 1. No. 3. Journal Vancouver Island Exploring Expedition pp. 17. Fol. iii.)

2. Gold was found on Foley's Creek, one prospect gave 4 cents to the pan, but the diggings are not very extensive. Chinamen would no doubt gladly avail themselves of such diggings.

3. Copper is found in various places around the lake and in one place in the mountains in immense quantities, and very rich. The seam extends over a breadth of nearly 20 feet in width.

4. Iron stone is found close at hand (specimens of all these I sent to Victoria).

5. When at Comiakén I had heard vague rumours of an inland tribe living on the great Lake, but the rumour was so semi-fabulous as to excite little attention. Then at *Samena* it became more tangible, and we heard that the name of the tribe was *Masolemuck*, and that they spoke a different language from the Cowichans; and on our way upwards we heard pleasant bits of gossip about the manners and customs of the *Masolemucks*, until, as we stood on the 13th of June, looking at the Falls of the river at *Squitz*, Kakalatza pointed out, choked up with nettles and hemlocks on the opposite bank of the river, some old lodge frames, as the former village of the *Masolemucks* in the halcyon days long ago, when they were prosperous, and the lodges of their people were many; but that now they did not come there. Finally, on arriving at the Lake, I gained the full particulars of their history, which may be summarily stated as follows:

1. They are not a distinct tribe, but a sub-tribe of the Nittinahts on the seaboard, who visit this lake for fishing and hunting. They have three camps on the lake; one was burnt down last winter, and they lost a great quantity of dried elk's meat.

2. *Chelawuk*, a noted chief of theirs, died last winter, and is buried on an island in the lake. They manufacture many of the finest canoes here. They come to the lake in the fall with their women and children, stay generally all winter, or until they can procure a sufficiency of salmon and dried deer's meat, generally elk, which inhabit the borders in great herds.

3. They speak a dialect of what may be called the *Aht* language, i. e. the language spoken from Port San Juan to Woody Point, ("Pachena" and "Nespod"). They are, however, good friends with the *Samenas*, with whom they intermarry occasionally. At one time they used to come down to the *Samena* village to plant potatoes, undistinguished by the whites from the home Indians. We have