

3d.—To pay head-money to the Hudson's Bay Company, at the rate of two dollars for each passenger proceeding into Fraser's River or taking passage from Fort Langley upwards. A settlement to be made at the end of each trip; an officer of the Hudson's Bay Company to be received on board without charge to attend to such business, if required by the Hudson's Bay Company.

4th.—That all vessels plying to or on the river be commanded and owned by British subjects.

5th.—That permits on said terms will be continued till expiry of the Company's licence of trade in the month of May 1859.

Vancouver's Island,
18th June 1858.

No. 6.

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COPY of DESPATCH from Governor DOUGLAS to the Right Hon. Lord STANLEY, M.P.

(No. 29.)

Victoria, Vancouver's Island, July 1, 1858.

(Received August 9, 1858.)

(Answered, No. 8. August 14, 1858, page 47.)

MY LORD,

1. SINCE I had last the honour of addressing you on the 19th instant, the excitement on the subject of the Fraser's River Gold Mines has been more than ever exhibited in the rush of people from all parts of the coast to this Colony.

The Custom-House books of this place show a return of—

19 steam ships,
9 sailing ditto,
14 decked boats,

which have entered at the port of Victoria since the 19th of May last, having 6,133 passengers on board, all either bound directly for Fraser's River, or proposing to settle at this place, with the view of entering into business connexions with parties at the mines.

2. The ascertained number of persons who had actually sailed from the port of San Francisco, with the intention of going into the Fraser's River mines, up to the 15th instant, was 10,573, and there was then no abatement in the demand for passages, every vessel being taken up as soon as advertised to sail for Vancouver's Island.

3. Those statements give a proximate idea of the number of persons at and on the way to Fraser's River from California and other more distant countries, but do not represent the increase of population derived from the United States territories of Washington and Oregon, through parties of adventurers who have entered the British Possessions by land. We are, therefore, led to the inference that this country and Fraser's River have gained an increase of 10,000 inhabitants within the last six weeks, and the tide of immigration continues to roll onward without any prospect of abatement.

4. No complaints have been made as to the deportment of the emigrants, who, notwithstanding the weakness of the Colonial Executive, have been quiet and submissive to the laws of the country.

5. We continue successfully to enforce at this place the pre-payment of one month's licence fee, that is, the sum of five dollars, on all persons entering Fraser's River for the purpose of gold mining, for which a receipt is given in the accompanying form.

6. We have up to this day issued 2,221 such receipts at this place, and 304 more were issued by Captain Prevost, of Her Majesty's Ship "Satellite," when stationed off the entrance of Fraser's River, making a total issue of 2,525 licence receipts to as many respective miners; and we have thereby collected the sum of 12,625 dollars on account of the territorial Revenue, which I hold subject to your instructions.

Enclosure 1.

7. I have lately received a communication from Mr. Travaillet, a gentleman who has resided for some months past in the Couteau Gold Diggings. He represents the country as exceedingly rich, and abounding in gold, fully to as great an extent as California in its better days.

8. The returns given in his report refer to "Morman Bar," in the bed of Fraser's River, six miles above the junction of Thompson's River, and state the produce as follows, viz. :—

	Dollars.
One rocker yielded in 8 days a quantity of gold dust equal in value to	830·0
A second rocker yielded in 12 days	800·0
A third rocker yielded in 5 days	248·0

9. The second table shows the yield procured from the "Dry Diggings," on the table land at the distance of 30 yards from the bed of Fraser's River, at the "Fountain," 64 miles above the junction of Thompson's River, and gives the following as the average