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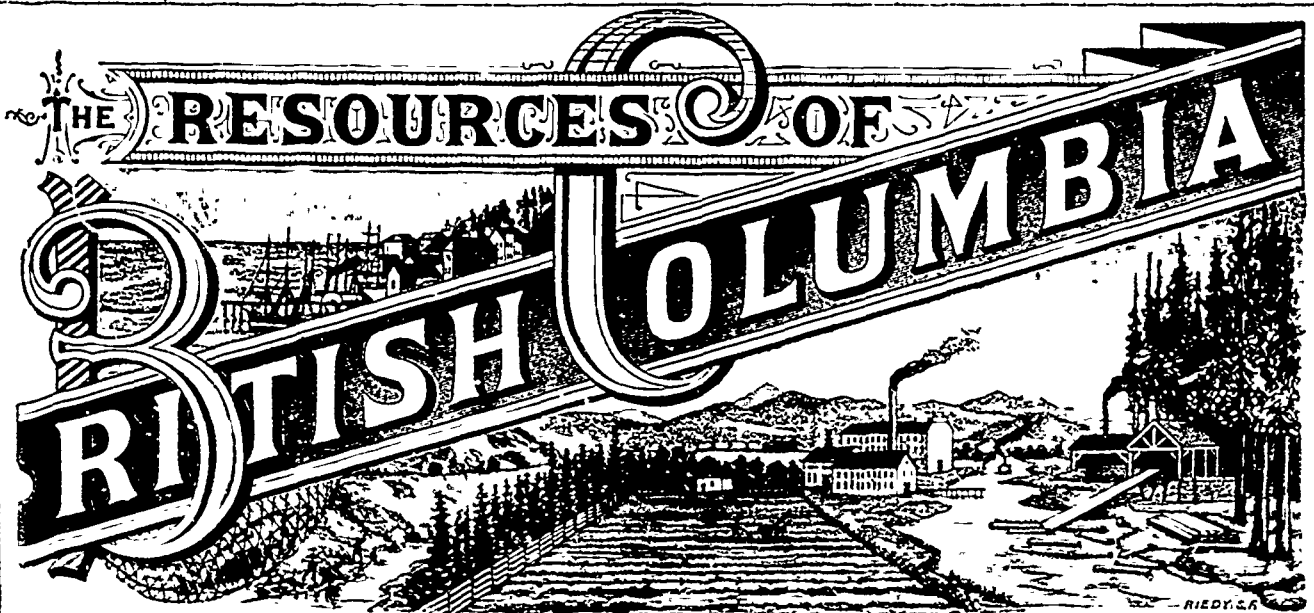
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No. 4.

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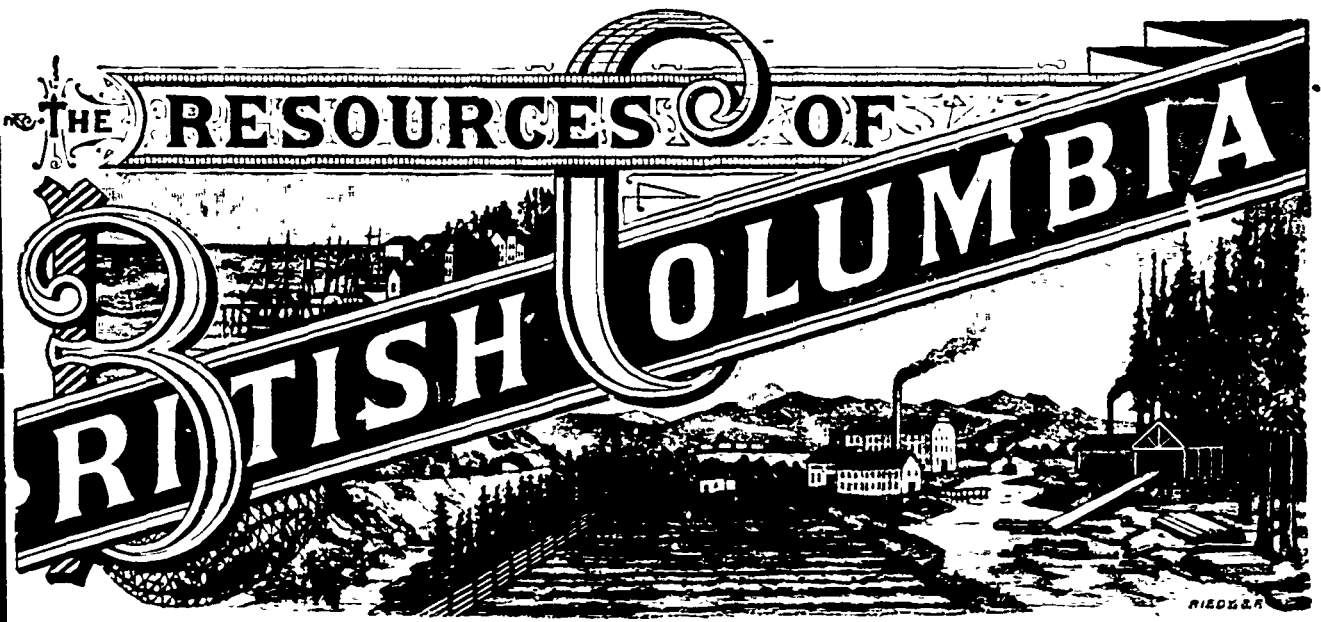
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VOLUME 3
No. 4.

VICTORIA, B. C., JUNE, 1855.

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WEATHER IN MAY, 1855.

May was a favorable month for farmers and gardeners. There occurred, in town, nine days on which more or less rain fell, and thirteen days in the country, just north of this city. The weather record makes up :

Sunshine with occasionally light, fleecy clouds,	15 days.
Clear, with showers.....	10 "
Cloudy, " ".....	3 "
Cloudy and fair with occasional sunshine.....	3 "

About the middle of the month cold, southerly winds prevailed, occasioned perhaps by a fresh snow-fall on the summits of the Olympic Mountains, over 5000 feet in height, and from 30 to 40 miles or more distant. Be it known to those in remote regions, who read the Resources of British Columbia, that these mountains are in the United States, between which and the British-Canadian isle, *Vancouver*, intervenes the broad and safe Fuca Strait, from ten to seventeen miles in width. From upper windows, in and around Victoria, and of course from knolls and promontories throughout the district, striking views are enjoyed of these mountains, with, in season, their ever-changing drapery of cloud or snow resture.

Of May, Mr. Livock states :

Mean Temperature	53.00
Highest " 5th inst.....	75.00
Lowest " 1st inst.....	36.00
Mean max. temperature.....	45.23
Mean min. ".....	36.06
Rain fall, 1 30 in. Greater than last year	

In the "Book of Days," published 1861, the mean temperature of May in the British Isles is said to be about 54 degrees.

Owing to the fine weather of March and April, most of the native spring flowering shrubs were out of blossom by the first. The tree *S. roxa*, "Queen of the Rocks," was then getting out its flower shoots; it is more lasting than the others; remains of its, embrowned by age, flower and seed clusters, were visi-

ble, *in situ*, until April last. We have not here the charming singing birds of the "Oldlands," across America and the Atlantic. Discoursing of the nightingales' performance, the devout Isaac Walton wrote, "Lord, what music hast thou provided for thy saints in heaven, when thou affordest bad men such music on earth."

PAST HAPPENINGS.

MAY.

Our mediæval forefathers in the British Isles seem, as in the earliest poetry indicated, to have been possessed of deep admiration for nature in all her forms, and by the poets in their odes, which owing to their quaint, obsolete language, we venture not lengthily to quote, the special beauties of April, May and June were particularly dwelt upon. Here, however, is one verse reproduced or translated by Chaucer from the celebrated "Romance of the Rose:"

"Hard is his heart who loveth nought
In May, when all this mirth is wrought,
When he may on these braunches here (*i. e.* hear)
The small briddes syngen clere."

Nature's ever recurring vernal burst into beauty with us, came this season rather in April than in the beginning of May. Glory to the Giver of all good, for all His goodness.

On May 2nd, A. D. 37, died the good and meek man, St. Athanasius, whose creed is still a stumbling-block to many, and who, owing to his blameless life, as bishop of Alexandria, and elsewhere, has been ever regarded as one of the most venerated fathers of the church.

In these days of wars, and of rumors of greater ones, we think it right to copy the record of a
(Continued on page 5.)

Resources of British Columbia.

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AN IMPORTANT EVENT.

English Opinion on the Results of the Completion of the Canadian Pacific.

The London *Times* of the 20th May, contains the following article on the important results, both Canadian and Imperial, likely to arise from the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway through to the Pacific, an event which the faultiness of the *Times*' information has led it to conclude has already occurred, but which will not take place for some months yet.

A most important step has been taken towards the material consolidation of the Empire by the completion, which we announce this morning, of the Canadian Pacific Railway. That great work, connected as it is with the railway systems of the Eastern Provinces of the Canadian Dominion, joins the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by a line running all the way through British territory. The rising in the Northwest, which has been almost stamped out by Gen. Middleton's victories and by the capture of Reil, has drawn public attention in this country to the strategical importance of this railway, and military authorities have long been anxious lest the delay in its completion should deprive the Imperial Government of a most valuable resource in the event of a war with Russia or any other power that might become formidable in the Pacific. The last part of the unfinished section of the line, near Jackfish bay, on Lake Superior, was laid on Monday night, and it may be made immediately available for traffic, if the necessity should arise. It appears, indeed, that when enquiries were made by the War Office as to the prospect of sending troops across to British Columbia by that route, the answer was somewhat unexpectedly returned, that the transport could be undertaken at once. It may, therefore, be presumed that the connection by rail is now continuous, as our Philadelphia correspondent mentions, from Halifax to Port Moody, in British Columbia, whence the steamship routes for Japan, China and India are intended to start. The great port of Nova Scotia is one of the chief military positions which form the corner-stones of the Em-

pire, and the advantage of connecting that place as well as the cities of Canada proper with the Pacific Province is too plain to stand in need of argument. British Columbia and Vancouver Island have hitherto been left out in the cold, not without danger to Imperial as well as the local interests. The completion of the railway will enable the Government to send reinforcements for their protection if the necessity should arise, or even to make them the basis of offensive operations on the coast of the Pacific.

The Canadian Pacific Railway has advantages which ordinary cartography, owing to the illusion of projection, does not adequately exhibit. It seems from most maps of the North American continent as if the Canadian Pacific line was a good deal longer than its rivals which run through the territory of the United States. The distance however from Montreal to Port Moody is only 2,870 miles, while the distance from New York to San Francisco by the shortest of the United States lines is 3,331 miles. Not only Halifax, but New York and Chicago are nearer to the Pacific terminus of the Canadian line than to San Francisco. Indeed, the route across the Pacific to China or Japan ought to insure when properly organized, a considerable saving of time over any of the present routes. Now that the rails have been continuously laid from the shores of the one ocean to those of the other and lie nowhere outside the Queen's dominions, there are other reasons, besides those merely of convenience and commercial interest, for giving the enterprise all possible encouragement. The confederation of the widely different mutually jealous provinces which were united in 1867 under the style and title of the Dominion of Canada have been drawn and welded together during the short space of eighteen years quite as much by the development of the railway system as by political institutions. The Inter-colonial railway, connecting the Maritime Provinces of the Atlantic seaboard with Quebec and Ontario, has been followed up on a still greater scale by the Pacific line, which, after many vicissitudes and difficulties, has at last been triumphantly carried through. This success may be supposed to be marked by the arrangement for a division of traffic concluded, as is mentioned in our money market article, with the Grand Trunk company. The amalgamation of the Northwestern territories and of the provinces beyond the Rocky Mountains has been retarded by the two serious breaks in the permanent way which till lately existed, the one in the territory of British Columbia, just beyond the great mountain barrier, and the other on the northern shore of Lake Superior. These have now been filled up, though the latter, little more than a month ago, interposed an inconvenient delay in the conveyance of the troops intended to reinforce Gen. Middleton. Our correspondent, writing on the 10th of April from the camp at Qu'Appelle, mentioned three places on the section of the line east of Port Arthur—one of fifty-three, another of forty-eight miles, and a third of ten miles—where transport in sleighs had to be organized by the railway company. This gap is the last which has been filled up, by the completion, as our Philadelphia correspondent telegraphs of the works at Jackfish Bay on Lake Superior.

The time, it is calculated, within which troops

can be sent by the line now opened throughout for traffic from Halifax to the Pacific coast will not exceed seven days. For Imperial purposes, whether of war or peace, these increased facilities will be most valuable; but the colonists of the Dominion will also profit by the improvement of communications, materially as well as politically. When the development of the railway system of which the new Pacific line is the main artery, has opened up not only Manitoba and the North-west, but the territories beyond the Rocky Mountains, such disturbances as those excited by Riel will soon cease to be possible. Moreover, the vigorous and well-directed political life that has been fostered in the eastern provinces of the Dominion since the spread of the railway system has made confederation a reality, will extend across the continent, and bring the settlers of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, for the first time, really into union with their fellow-citizens on the Atlantic side. The riches of the country which the main line will open up are not yet thoroughly explored, but that they are very great is certain. On the Pacific side there are vast and undeveloped fisheries, forests, and mines; at the base of the Rocky Mountains there are immense cattle ranches; in the prairie country there are boundless possibilities of wheat growing, and in the region bordering on the great lakes—bleak and almost desert as it is—there is much wealth both in minerals and timber. By the mother country, the growth of sense of union among her children must always be regarded as a source of strength, and in these days it points, happily, to a larger and wider conception of Imperial unity which will not remain, it may be hoped, an aspiration only. But, whatever may be the future of Imperial federation, as long as the British Empire holds together, it will be a priceless advantage to us to have command of a great line of communication between the two oceans, spanning the American continent, and passing from sea to sea on British soil, beyond the reach of any hostile attack, and free from the restraints of a possibly embarrassing neutrality.

Although the foregoing, from the *London Times*, may in part, or whole, have appeared in one or other of our dailies, it is deemed of sufficient importance to merit reproduction in our monthly, which we are glad to know, is preserved by many of our subscribers.

Our varied resources, a few of which alluded to in the *Times*, for their development need men of special knowledge, persevering business habits, and either of capital, or of the ability to obtain it. To the older provinces of our wide-spread Canadian nation, and to the British Isles must we look for such aid.

**IF YOU GREATLY DESIRE PEACE, BE
WELL PREPARED FOR WAR.**

We again return to the important subject of shore defences for our Province, harped upon in the *Resources* for months past, ere Russia imagined her chance had come. Out of the seeming evil of the Russian war scare, if it worse prove not, much good

will have been deduced to the British Empire, in various ways, if the warning be seriously acted upon. Amongst the rulers of mankind, in some quarters, Machiavellianism is still rampant, and war may be suddenly sprung on the unprepared. Our invaluable coal mines, be it remembered, need, for their proper defence, effective artillery and earthworks, not to be improvised in a week or a month; drilled volunteers should also be ready. With these, the effectiveness of war-ships would be greatly augmented. Only at Esquimalt on Fuca Strait on the American shore of the Pacific, can the British navy in war time, coal and refit. Until necessary measures be perfected, this truth cannot too often be re-iterated.

THE FUTURE OF CANADA.

What is our destiny to be? Whatever God wills. The only points clear as sunlight to us as a people are, that Canada is free, and that we dare not break up the unity of the grandest Empire the world has ever known. Annexation has been advocated, but no one has proved that such a change would be, even commercially, to our advantage. We would get closer to fifty and be farther removed from two hundred millions. Politically, Canada would cease to exist. She would serve merely as a make-weight to the Republican or Democratic party. The French-Canadian element, so great a factor actually and potentially in our national life, would become a nullity. We would surrender all hopes of a distinctive future. Strangers would rule over us; for we are too weak to resist the alien forces, and too strong to be readily assimilated. Our neighbors are a great people. So are the French and Germans. But Belgium does not pray to be absorbed into France, and Holland would not consent to be annexed to Germany. Looking at the question in the light of the past, and with foresight of the future, and from the point of view of all the higher considerations that sway men, we say, in the emphatic language of Scripture, "It is shame even to speak" of such a thing. We would repent it only once, and that forever. Their ways are not our ways; their thoughts, traditions, history are not our thoughts, traditions, history. The occasional cry for independence is more honorable; but, to break our national continuity in cold blood, cut ourselves loose from the capital and centre of our strength! to gain—what? A thousand possibilities of danger, and not an atom of added strength.—*Picturesque Canada.*

MEMOIR OF VICTOR HUGO.

We extract the following from *Men of the Times*:—Victor Marie Hugo was born at Besançon, February 20th, 1802, his father being a colonel in the French army. From Besançon he was carried to Elba, to Paris, to Rome, and to Naples, before he was five years of age. In 1809, he returned to Paris, and received classical education at a religious house. The first volume of his "Odes and Ballads" appeared in 1822, and his tales, "Hans of Iceland," and "Bug-Jargel," were written about this time. In 1826, he published a second volume of "Odes and Ballads," which exhibited a change in his political and liter-

ary opinions, and in 1827, he composed his drama, "Cromwell." In 1829, he published his "Last Days of a Condemned Criminal," the terrific interest of which secured it an immense success. M. Hugo prepared a further attack on the stiff and unnatural style of French dramatic literature in his "Hernani," at the Théâtre Français, February 26th, 1830, and it caused a scene of riotous confusion. The Academy went so far as to lay a complaint against his attempted innovation at the foot of the throne: Charles X. sensibly replied that "in matters of art he was no more than a private person." Shortly after the Revolution of July, 1830, his "Marion de Lorme," which had been suppressed by the censorship under the Restoration, was brought out with success. "Le Roi s'amuse" was performed at the Théâtre Français in January, 1832, and the day after its production was interdicted by the Government. M. Victor Hugo, who published a number of dramatic pieces of various merit, after many struggles was admitted into the Academy in 1841, and was created a peer of France by Louis-Phillippe. In 1849 he was chosen President of the Peace Congress, of which he had been a leading member. After 1850, M. Victor Hugo resided in exile in Jersey, Guernsey, and elsewhere, and refused to avail himself of the general amnesty issued August 10th, 1859. On the fall of the empire, however, he hastened back to his native country, entered heartily into a Republican movement, and was returned to the National Assembly at Bordeaux, which he soon quitted in disgust, sending on March 9th, 1871, the following characteristic letter to the President, M. Grévy:—"Three weeks ago the Assembly refused to hear Garibaldi: to-day it refuses to hear me. I resign my seat." M. Hugo then repaired to Brussels, but the Belgian Government, alarmed by his violent writings, expelled him from the country. He then sought refuge in the little town of Vianden, in Luxemburg, where he composed "L'Année Terrible." Returning to Paris in July, 1871, he pleaded earnestly for the lives of Rossel, Ferré, and the other Communists, to no effect. He accepted the *mandat impératif* in the following elections, but M. Vautrian defeated him. He wrote much after he quitted France in 1852. His satire, "Napoléon le Petit," appeared at Brussels in 1852: "Les Châtiments," at the same place in 1853; and "Contemplations," at Paris, in 1853. His fame rests principally on his "Notre-Dame de Paris," which has been translated into most European languages, and is known in England under the title of the "Hunchback of Notre-Dame." His semi-historic and social romance, "Les Misérables," translated into nine languages, was issued at Paris, Brussels, London, New York, Madrid, Berlin, St. Petersburg, and Turin the same day, April 3, 1862. His last novel, "L'Homme qui Rit," appeared in 1869. M. Victor Hugo has been a prolific writer. His most recent works are "Le Légende des Siècles," new series, 5 vols. 1877-83. "Histoire d'un Crime," 2 vols. 1867-68, being an account of Louis Napoleon's *coup d'état*: "Le Pape," a poem, 1878; "La Pitié Suprême," a poem, 1879; "Religions et Religion," 1880, a poem which, beginning, like the "Châtiments," in a tone of comedy and irony, reviews creeds and systems, passes from Catholicism to Nihilism, and concludes by an affirmation of a Theism without "catechisms, korans, and gram-

mars;" "Les Quatre Vents de l'Esprit," 1881, poems: and "Torquemada," a dramatic poem (1882).

G L A D S T O N E.

The following clipping from the *Toronto Week* eloquently demonstrates *inter alia* the recent decay of dignity in the British House of Commons, while it justly eulogizes the character of its late premier

No one who looks at English politics quietly from a distance, and is not a thoroughgoing devotee of Mr. Gladstone, will deny that there may be reasons sufficient at all events in the eyes of Conservatives for opposing his Government. His Irish policy, his Egyptian policy, his extension of the Franchise to untried masses without the provision of corresponding safe-guards, all are fair subjects for criticism and rational grounds for differences of opinion. But no one who is not rabid with political hatred can imagine that Mr. Gladstone is a proper object of personal contumely and outrage. His character is unblemished, his aims have always been the highest, his vast ability and marvellous accomplishments are disputed by none, he has served England for more than fifty years, his achievements in finance alone would entitle him to the highest gratitude, and if majorities have any meaning, he is the elect of the British people. Yet with personal contumely and outrage he is continually assailed, not only by the Irish members, but by men who pretend and think themselves pre-eminently entitled to the name of English gentlemen. Illustrated papers in general profess neutrality. One of them, however, has an extremely bitter article against Mr. Gladstone on the Russian question, inspired very likely by Jewish influence, for, behind almost every one of those curtains in England as well as on the Continent there is a Hebrew. But in the same columns we find a detailed description by another hand of a "painful scene" in the House of Commons, in which Conservative gentlemen howled at the Leader of the House with that tone of intense personal hatred which may be noted in the shout of a mob on a racecourse day when they discover a welsher in their midst." It is not wonderful that Mr. Gladstone should have assigned as a reason for his speedy retirement, "the blow which has been struck at the liberties and dignity of the House by the modes of proceeding which within the last few years have been introduced into its debates. There is no blackguardism like that of a gentleman when once he forgets himself, because in his case the insolence of class is combined with brutality of manner: though there are some perhaps on the Tory as well as on the Irish benches to whom this reflection need not be extended. As to the dignity of the house of Commons, it has become a legend of the past. But it does not depart alone; other attributes still more indispensable in the case of a governing assembly are rapidly following it to the grave.

It must gratify every lover of freedom, political honesty and good government to learn, by late advices that Mr. Gladstone has decided not to retire from public life.

PAST HAPPENINGS.

(Continued from page 1.)

deed of gallantry, performed by our countrymen in the last year of the eighteenth century :

TAKING OF SERINGAPATAM.

On the 4th of May, 1799, Seringapatam was taken, and the empire of Hyder Ali extinguished by the death of his son, the Sultan Tippoo Sahib. The storming of this great fortress by the British troops took place in broad day, and was on that account unexpected by the enemy. The commander, Sir David Baird, led one of the storming parties in person, with characteristic gallantry, and was the first man after the forlorn hope to reach the top of the breach. So far, well, but when there, he discovered to his surprise, a second ditch within, full of water. For a moment he thought it would be impossible to get over this difficulty. He had fortunately, however observed some workmen's scaffolding as he came along, and taking this up hastily, was able by its means to cross the ditch : after which all that remained was simply a little hard fighting. Tippoo came forward with apparent gallantry to resist the assailants, and was afterwards taken from under a heap of slain. It is supposed he made this attempt in desperation, having just ordered the murder of twelve British soldiers, which he might well suppose would give him but little chance of quarter, if his enemy were aware of the fact.

It was remarkable that, fifteen years before, Baird had undergone a long and cruel captivity in this very fort, under Tippoo's father, Hyder Ali. The sufferings he underwent on that occasion were extreme ; yet, amidst all his sufferings, he never for a moment lost heart, or ceased to hope for a release. He was truly a noble soldier. As with Wellington, his governing principle was a sense of duty. In every matter, he seemed to be solely anxious to discover what was right to be done, that he might do it. He was a Scot, a younger son of Mr. Baird, of Newbyth, in East Lothian (born in 1757, died in 1829). His person was tall and handsome, and his look commanding. In all the relations of his life he was a most worthy man, his kindness of heart winning him the love of all who came in contact with him.

Born May, 1569, at Florence, Italy ; died June 2, 1527, Nicholas Machiavelli, a man for benevolence and intelligence, much in advance of his time. By the irony of fate, Machiavellianism has come to mean ruthless dissimulation, and, of course, breach of faith in international matters. Nicholas, of an ancient, but not wealthy family, was well educated, and so able, that, when twenty-nine, he was appointed Secretary to the Ten, a committee for foreign

affairs of the Florentine Republic. His talents and penetration being quickly discerned, he was sent on, and managed well, difficult missions to foreign powers. The Florentines were rich and weak, and had to trim adroitly between neighbours poor and strong, who envied them. Machiavelli got through ably. "His Despatches to Florence," (writes the good Robert Chambers) "describing his own tactics, and those of his opponents, are often as fascinating as a romance, while furnishing authentic pictures of the remorseless cruelty and deceit of his opponents." Displaced and imprisoned through a revolution in 1512, Machiavelli for several years was "out of politics," and devoted himself to literature. About 1519, he was again employed by the restored Medici, and one of them, Leo X, Pope of Rome, employed him to draw up a new constitution for Florence. At length, Machiavelli, for the information and guidance of his patrons, handed them a manuscript, the *Prince*, unfolding the crafts of the statesmanship of his time, but not recommending such a course except under extreme need. The *Prince* was not published until 1532, five years after the author's death. Says Robert Chambers: "He did no more than transcribe the practice of the ablest statesmen of his time into luminous and forcible language. Our feelings of repugnance at his teaching would have been incomprehensible, idiotic, or laughable to them. If they saw any fault in Machiavelli's book, it would be in its free exposure of statecraft. Unquestionably, much of the odium which gathered around the name of Machiavelli arose from that cause. His posthumous treatise was conveniently denounced for its immorality by men whose true aversion to it sprang from its exposure of their arts. The Italians, refined and powerless in the midst of barbarian covetousness and power, had many plausible excuses for Machiavellian policy ; but every reader of history knows that Spanish, German, French and English statesmen never hesitated to act out the maxims of *The Prince* when occasion seemed expedient. If Machiavelli differed from his contemporaries, it was for the better. Throughout *The Prince* there flows a hearty and enlightened zeal for civilization, and a patriotic interest in the welfare of Italy. He was clearly a man of benevolent and honorable aims, but without any adequate idea of the wrongfulness of compassing the best ends by evil means. *The great truth, which our own age is only beginning to incorporate into statesmanship, that there is no policy, in the long run, like honesty, was far beyond the range of vision of the rulers and diplomats of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.*

May 22nd, 1885, died Victor Hugo, one of the greatest Frenchmen of our epoch. His severe condemnation of the *coup d'état*, early in the fifties, of Napoleon *le petit*, led to his prolonged exile, chiefly passed in the British Channel Islands. For a more extended notice of this great man, we refer our readers to another column of this number.

PROPOSED VOLUNTEERING IN INDIA. REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF MINES.

Public Opinion of 29th May, last, devotes three columns to pithy extracts from Hindostan papers, in favor of formation of bands of volunteers. We can best convey the feeling by presentation of the following extracts, out of very many given in *Public Opinion*:—

"It now remains to see what steps the Government chooses to take in the matter. We need hardly say that the decision of the Government will be watched throughout the country with the greatest interest and anxiety. We can only hope that the Government will be equal to the occasion. We have too much faith in Lord Dufferin's statesmanship and his e-heartedness to bring ourselves to believe that he will commit the fatal blunder of rejecting so loyal a prayer."—*Hindoo Patriot*, (*English Weekly*), Calcutta.

"To serve the country and the crown is the highest duty of a citizen—to serve peacefully in times of peace and to fight when the occasion demands it. *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori*. The Hindu and Mohammedan of to-day are quite as alive to the dignity of that sentiment as the ancient Roman. In many of the important towns of India, native gentlemen have petitioned the Government for permission to be enlisted as Volunteers: and, we are happy to record, that last week a petition was written, addressed, and sent to His Excellency the Viceroy, signed by no less than four hundred Native gentlemen of wealth, rank, education, and influence, praying in the most fervent, the most loyal, and the most respectful manner to be enlisted as Volunteers."—*Indian Nation*, (*English Weekly*), Calcutta.

"It is indeed a matter of great regret that our rulers do not even now understand the necessity of repealing the Arms Act, and of allowing the Natives to form Volunteer Corps of their own. These unwise measures of the Government openly proclaim a much lamented distrust of their subjects, who have given unquestionable proofs of their fidelity and loyalty. Indeed it is high time that such disheartening policy should be done away with."—*News of the Day*, (*English Daily*), Calcutta.

It may be the thought of men of British birth, who, in India, like the gentlemen noticed in last month's RESOURCES, hold well paid positions in the dominions of feudatory princes, that, "as India has been won by the sword, it can only be held by the sword." This is lamentably erroneous. What complete contradiction is furnished by the condition of Ireland to-day! After seven hundred years of England's domination, Ireland demands and soon will have local self government. With it she, as in Spain and Portugal, as well as everywhere else of old, will be foremost in defending the integrity of the United Kingdom and all its belongings. Treat India with just consideration and confidence, and she will be intensely loyal, proof against the craft and subtlety of all intriguers, come whence they may. The Hindoos have bright intellects.

GOLD.

The value of the gold exported by the banks at Victoria, during the year 1884, is as follows:—

Bank of British Columbia.....	\$ 249,077
Bank of British North America.....	61,088
Garesche, Green, & Co.....	303,139
	\$ 613,304

CARIBOO.

MR BOWRON'S REPORT.

"Richfield, 25th November, 1884

"To the Hon. the Minister of Mines, Victoria:

"SIR,—I have the honour, herewith, to transmit the mining statistics of the Cariboo District for the current year; and, for your further information, to submit the following report:—

"The accompanying statistics will be found to show a slight decline in the product of the mines the present year, as also a decrease in the number of white miners, with a corresponding increase in the number of Chinese.

"Although the gold yield has been quite large, yet the season has been one of disappointment to a majority of the white miners, fully three-fourths of the total amount having been produced by Chinese.

"But little prospecting for new mines has been undertaken. I have, consequently, little to say respecting 'explorations.' One party only received Government assistance in procuring their outfit, and that but to a limited extent. A copy of the report handed in by this party will be found herewith enclosed.

"I may state that the impression here very generally prevails, that the fund voted by Government for explorations would be much better applied if given upon certain prescribed conditions to assist some properly organized company to test the value of the deep ground on, say Slough Creek, or some other expensive but promising enterprise near the centre of the present gold-producing sections: while others would favour devoting the amount apportioned to this district towards inducing a thoroughly competent and reliable quartz miner, or expert, to spend a season examining our ledges, as it is thought, with the work now accomplished on many of the old ledges, and the discovery of new veins made within the past two or three years, a competent person would have no difficulty in soon forming a very decided opinion as to their value. As it is at present, whatever work is being done on ledges is little better than so much labour thrown away.

"Williams Creek has produced less the present than any season for the past twenty-four years. The fact is, the creek is about worked out, except, perhaps, the lowest portion (which requires a different system of working from that at present in vogue, to make it remunerative) and possibly a few of the hill claims which may continue to pay a fair return for a time longer. A new hydraulic claim was opened on the hill side, between the Black Jack claim and Conklin Gulch, by Mr. Nason, which,

learn, promises well. With this exception, nothing new has been attempted on this creek the present season.

"The benches of Lower Antler Creek, now mined exclusively by Chinese, continue to yield fair returns. On the upper portion of the creek, the Yellow Lion Co's claim has paid very well for the amount of work accomplished. The difficulty of procuring a supply of water during the dry season of the year is a serious drawback to this company. The Nason Co, which has now the most complete and effective machinery on any mine in the district, is at the present time just starting work underground. The shareholders in this company have pushed ahead their extensive works during the season with vigour, and now believe that they will be successful in finally proving the value of their ground during the coming winter.

"The Waverly Hydraulic Co., of Grorse Creek, has made good progress during the season, and judging from the appearance of the gravel in the 'face,' have at last reached ground that will pay; but, owing to a large cave late in the fall, they were unable to make a 'wash-up.' Little has to be said regarding Lightning Creek or its tributaries. The Cypress claims on Dunbar Flat (purchased last year by the Chinese), has paid exceedingly well, and is, perhaps, the only claim on the creek paying over fair wages. Legislation would appear to be required in view of the large extent of ground held on Lightning Creek, by absentees, under a 'real estate' title, whereby the project of bringing up a bed-rock drain is completely blocked. It is definitely known that a very large extent of this ground from the town of Stanley down, would yield handsome returns, were the same properly drained.

"On Slough Creek and Devil's Canyon, discoveries on the high benches, and in some instances well up the sides of the mountain, continue to be made. A large number of Chinese have worked here during the summer, in some instances taking out exceedingly good pay. A few whites have taken up claims which they will work by hydraulic pressure, where a supply of water can be secured. One company on Slough Creek is at present running a tunnel for a hill channel, which is thought to exist. I regret to say the company who, last season, applied for and obtained from the Government, permission to lease a large extent of the deep ground on Slough Creek, has failed, so far, to effect an organization.

"Returns sent in from the Quesnellemouth Poling Division show a slight increase in the gold product of that division over last season.

"The closing of the Assay Office at Barkerville is felt to be a severe loss to the community. It not only occasions a direct loss to the miner in a depreciation of the value of his gold dust, but will have a tendency to discourage quartz prospecting, as it leaves us without the means of testing the value of any minerals which may be found. The office having become so nearly self-sustaining, it is hoped that the Government will succeed in finding a properly qualified assayer, and cause the office to be again opened.

"The following is an approximate estimate of the gold yield of the district for the year 1884, exclusive of Omineca:—

Barkerville Poling Division	\$153,600
Lightning Creek "	78,000
Quesnellemouth "	77,660
Keothley Creek "	89,595
Estimated yield from date to 31st December. }	25,000
	\$423,855

"But little has been done in the way of developing our quartz mining industry during the season. The Burns Mountain Quartz Mining Co., (limited), indeed pushed ahead their tunnel to a point where it was expected the ledge would be found, but, failing to strike which, the work was suddenly stopped for some time. They have, however, just resumed operations, and will continue the tunnel some distance further.

"The Dominion Quartz Ledge Co, whose mine is situated some 30 miles south of Barkerville (referred to in my report of last year), sent out prospectors during the summer, who succeeded in sinking on the ledge 12 feet, and cross-cutting it at that depth. They brought in some of the rock, which it is proposed to send to San Francisco for a test.

"It is reported that the Messrs. Girod, late of Quesnelle, now in France, have succeeded in bonding the Sadoux quartz mine near Mosquito Creek, to a company of French capitalists, and that work will be shortly commenced on the mine.

"In view of the early completion of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, many old Caribooites continue to leave the district, with the object of making themselves homes somewhere along the line of railway, while but few new comers appear to take their places in the mines. This state of affairs may be expected to continue until the completion of the railroad, when a reaction will probably take place. So far, the construction and maintenance of the railroad has been most injurious to the interests of this district, as, while the works of construction have attracted away a large number of our most enterprising miners and prospectors, the maintenance of that portion of the line over which the cars now run, has actually, owing to the exorbitant tariff, increased the prices of all kinds of supplies in Cariboo. This fact will be better understood when it is known that before any railroad works were commenced a sufficient number of ox-teams and pick-trains were employed on the road between Yale and Cariboo to meet all requirements. But, anticipating a fall in the rates for freight, many of the carriers disposed of their stock, till, at the present time, the carrying trade is in the hands of a few, who naturally make all they can out of the situation; while merchants, anticipating a fall in the freight rates on the completion of the railroad to Spence's Bridge, withheld their orders till late. Even with the scarcity of teams on the Cariboo road, I am informed that some of those actually go to Yale for their loads, travelling from Spence's Bridge to Yale and back, a distance of 160 miles, loaded one way only, and are able successfully to compete with the railway company's charges.

"I have ventured to say this much to show that if the district appears to be on the decline, there are other than local causes affecting its prosperity, as, to my knowledge quite a number of persons are leaving the district, owing to the unusually high prices of provisions. I am informed by merchants here that the lowest freight rate from Victoria to

Barkerville this fall has been 12½ cents per pound. It may, therefore, be inferred, with what anxiety Cariboo looks forward to the early completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway; a consummation, which it is hoped, will bring about a different state of affairs.

"Crops with the farmers in the lower part of the district have been exceedingly good. The wheat crop, especially, exceeds in quantity the production of any former year, notwithstanding which, flour, at the present time, is selling at Soda Creek for 6½ cents per pound, and at Barkerville for 12 cents. The mildness of the climate thus far this fall is unprecedented. There is not sufficient snow at Barkerville at the present writing to make good sleighing, and below Stanley waggoning is still good.

"The following is the retail price, in Barkerville, of some of the principal articles of consumption:—

"Flour, 12 c. ½ lb.; Butter, 62½ c.; Beef, 10 c. to 15c.; Mutton, 18 c.; Hams and Bacon, none in market; Dried Apples, 40c.; Peaches, 50c.; Rice, 20c.; Potatoes, Turnips, Beets, Cabbage and Carrots, 4 to 5c.; Onions 18 to 25c.; Tea \$1 to \$1.25; Coffee, ground, 75c., green, 55c.; Raisins, 40c.; Coal Oil, \$19 ½ case; Candles, 40c. by the box; Eggs, \$1 25 ½ doz.; Gum Boots, \$10 ½ pair; Giant Powder, 1.50 to 1.75c. ½ lb.; Wheat, 8c.; Oats, 6c.; Timothy Hay, 3; Wild Hay 2c. ½ lb.

"It is fondly hoped that these figures will be materially reduced upon the advent of good sleighing.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) "Jno. Bowron,
"Gold Commissioner."

REPORT OF MESSRS. LANYON AND D'ORPENTIGNY.

"Left Barkerville on the second of September, 1884, for the purpose of prospecting in the neighborhood of the Mustang Valley, below Mustang Creek; arrived the following day, and prospected several small gulches for twelve days; found a little gold, but not in sufficient quantities to pay, and concluded to go down the valley to Willow River: tried several creeks on the road, but found nothing. After striking Willow River, travelled down stream until we struck Valley River, emptying into the Willow. About six miles below Mustang Valley, prospected on three creeks and found a little gold on the first creek after leaving the Mustang Valley; made a small ground-slice and could find a little gold to every pan; started a shaft: got down ten feet, but not having proper tools, and striking large boulders, we could not go any deeper; could find a little gold in the bottom, but, not being able to find the bed-rock, could not say whether it would pay or not, but think it was the most favorable looking creek we saw on the trip. After spending four days, we started to return, by way of Valley River. Tried several creeks but found no gold, and arrived back at Sugar Creek, after being nine days on the trip. Still having some provisions left, we started to prospect at the head of Sugar Creek, going west toward Willow River, but found the snow too deep, there being from two to three feet. Had to turn back and come to Hardscrabble Creek, and prospected the left fork. Found the bed-rock shallow at the head of the creek, and found a little gold. Came some distance down the creek, and found a

little gold on the clay: sunk a shaft twenty feet from the clay; found very little gravel on the bottom and scarcely any gold on the bed-rock. Our provisions being then exhausted, we returned to Barkerville, after an absence of eight weeks.

(Signed) "JOHN LANYON,
"OLIVER D'ORPENTIGNY.

"To John Bowron, Esq.,
"Gold Commissioner."

MR. STEPHENSON'S REPORT.

"FORKS OF QUESNELLE, B. C.,
"26th November, 1884.

"To the Hon. the Minister of Mines.

"SIR,—I have the honor to forward herewith the mining statistics of Keithley Division, Cariboo District, for 1884. Of the estimated yield of gold, there is a falling off from last year, which is chiefly owing to the decrease in the number of white miners, as many have left the mines and gone down country to find employment on the railroad.

"The season all through has been favourable for mining in this section, and I am well satisfied the Chinese have done better this season than last, although they will not admit it; but the truth is something I do not expect from a Chinaman, except by accident. Although there has not been any new diggings found, the Chinese seem to be more scattered over the section than for several years past, while their numbers are about the same; and wherever you find a Chinaman work a few days in a place, it is a sure thing that he is making some money.

"On the Horseshy River, where the Chinese thought they had found good pay last fall, it proved to be a failure, and consequently there has been but little done in the Horseshy section, only one company working through the season.

"In conclusion, I may add that the outlook, though not bright, is not worse than it was a year ago; in fact, the Chinese traders must think it better, as their shipment of goods has been much heavier this fall than last.

"I have, &c.,

(Signed) "W. STEPHENSON,
"Government Agent."

CASSIAR.

MR. CRUMP'S REPORT.

"LANEYON, CASSIAR,
"13th October, 1884.

"To the Hon. the Minister of Mines.

"SIR,—I have the honor herewith to forward the mining statistics for 1884, as well as my report upon the district.

"Dease, Thibert, and Melame Creeks are about worked out—that is the bed of the stream. The past summer a great many have been working over the bed of the streams the second and third time.

"On Dease Creek there have been about ten white men and fifteen Chinamen, and the result of their labours has been about \$10,000, as near as can find out, and I think the estimate is pretty accurate.

"On Thibert Creek there were twenty-two white miners and twenty-four Chinese miners, and the amount taken out was \$30,000. This creek has a few fairly good hill claims, but they are getting pretty well worked out.

"On McDame Creek and its tributaries the same may be said as of the before mentioned creeks; the amount for the year past.....\$ 53,600

Dease Creek.....	10,000
Thibet Creek.....	30,000
Defot Creek.....	3,000
Desultory mining.....	5,000

Total.....\$101,600

"I think the above amounts are pretty accurate as far as I have been able to ascertain.

"There has not been any discoveries made the past season. There were seven white men and four Chinamen down the Liard River the past summer, but did not find anything that would pay wages.

"There are about 180 miners in the district during the season—about equally divided—half white miners, and the other half Chinese; and it is fully expected that there will be about the same number next year. Of these, about 33 white men and 40 Chinamen will winter in the mines.

"The health of the miners during the past season has been generally very good; only one death, and that was by the drowning of the late A. F. Black.

"Law and order have been generally good in this district the past season.

"The market is well supplied with everything that the miner wants; vegetables are abundant, at reasonable prices.

"The crops have been good the past summer in the farming district, partly owing to the plentiful rainfall; the crop of hay was abundant.

* * * * *

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) "J. L. CRIMP,
Gold Commissioner, &c.

LILLOOET.

MR. SOUES' REPORT.

"GOVERNMENT OFFICE,
"Clinton, 12th Dec., 1884.

To the Hon. John Robson, Minister of Mines:—

"SIR.—I have the honor to enclose herewith the mining statistics and my annual report for the district of Lillooet for 1884.

"The total ascertained yield of gold for the district this year is \$107,931, a very noticeable and gratifying increase over former years.

"The figures given are from perfectly reliable and trustworthy sources. Seven-eighths of the amount named has been bought by Mr. Smith, Lillooet, and Messrs Foster & Bell, Clinton. I make no estimate of the amount carried out of the district by Chinese and others. This amount is undoubtedly large, but no reliable account can be had of it. For comparison, I give the ascertained yield of the district for the past four years, viz:—

1881.....	\$ 63,915
1882.....	54,295
1883.....	68,312
1884.....	107,931

A very large amount of this year's increase must be credited to Bridge River and its tributaries, and I have much pleasure in reporting that nearly the whole of the miners in that locality are white men, and have every reason to believe that the majority of them are well satisfied with their season's work, and nearly all intend returning there next spring.

"I have no new discoveries of gold to report for the past year. A party of three prospectors, aided by Government, were out for three months in the eastern part of the district. Unfortunately, they kept too far to the north, having reached a point within a short distance of the head waters of the Canoe River, a tributary of the Columbia. This expedition was entirely without results in the discovery of gold or other minerals.

"In minerals other than gold, I have to report the discovery and location of a mica ledge at a high altitude on Clearwater River, a tributary of the North Thompson. A specimen (11 inches by 8 inches) of the mica in my office, taken from the exposed surface of the ledge, shows a large number of fractures, the result, I presume, of ages of alternate freezing and thawing. Should the mineral prove to be without fracture at a depth below the action of the frost, it will undoubtedly be a most valuable addition to the resources of this Province. Mr. James McKinlay, of Lake La Hache, is the locator, and is most deserving of success, having spent two seasons, unaided, prospecting between Lake La Hache and the foothills of the Selkirks, a portion of this district in which there is ample room for others.

"Mr. McKinlay has brought a number of specimens of quartz, &c., samples of which I forward to your department by this express. He informs me that he has sent samples for assay and analysis to different places, a few weeks ago.

"Considering the comparative few engaged in mining industries, this district may be congratulated on the result of the season's work. At the same time I must express my regret that enterprise and capital still hold aloof from adding to the general welfare of the Province at large, by opening up and developing the known auriferous benches on both sides of the Fraser River in this district.

"The same remark applies to the claims on the on the Big Slide lode, on which nothing has been done this year.

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) F. SOUES,
Gold Commissioner, Lillooet Dist.

YALE AND LYTTON.

MR. HUSSEY'S REPORT.

Lytton, 29th November, 1884.

To the Hon. the Minister of Mines, Victoria:—

"SIR.—I have the honor to enclose the mining statistics for the Hope, Yale and Lytton Divisions of the Yale District for the year 1884.

"In the Hope Division, the silver mines which have attracted so much attention some time back, seem to have gone out of thought, simply from the want of energy and capital to work ground which has been shown to contain an almost inexhaustible supply of the precious metal.

"Gold mining operations in the Yale Division are not so extensive as they should be, considering what energy, perseverance, and capital might accomplish. At present they are principally confined to Chinese rooking on the bars of the Frazer River. A few may be said to be making wages, whilst the remainder are only making a bare subsistence. It is impossible to arrive at even an approximate estimate of the yield of gold in this division. There are several recorded claims on the flat opposite the town of Yale, but no workings are carried on at the present time.

"Mining in the Lytton Division is confined to Chinese and Indians working on the Fraser and Thompson Rivers, the majority of whom secure but scanty remuneration for their labor. There are only a few recorded claims in this division. From reliable sources I have received information that the amount of gold exchanged at Lytton is about \$12,000. It is not possible to obtain a correct estimate of the total yield, as some is carried away or remains in private hands.

"It is safe to add \$3,000 to the above, making the total \$15,000.

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) "FRID. HUSSEY,
"Government Agent."

KAMLOOPS.

MR. TUNSTALL'S REPORT.

"KAMLOOPS, January 7th, 1885.

"To the Hon. John Robson, Minister of Mines,

"SIR,—I have the honour to state that, in consequence of the Chinaman who formerly supplied me with information, being absent from this place, I have been unable to furnish the mining statistics of the Kamloops District for the year 1884.

"I regret to say that the efforts of the Government prospecting party, which left here last fall to find gold in paying quantities have proved unsuccessful. I herewith enclose Mr. Ratchford's report.

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) "G. C. TUNSTALL,
"Government Agent."

MR. RATCHFORD'S REPORT.

"KAMLOOPS, January 8th, 1885.

"To Geo. Tunstall, Esq.:

"DEAR SIR,—We left Kamloops on the 21st of September, 1883, and arrived at Kirby's Landing, Columbia River, on the 28th September. Cached a part of our provisions and proceeded up the river; found gold everywhere but not in paying quantities; saw where there had been a good deal of prospecting done. On the 7th of October came back to cache, and during the winter explored the surrounding country with very little results. We are of the opinion that placer mining in that section is very limited, there may be ledges. The country we passed through between Eagle Pass and Goldstream, being anything but favorable. Left the Columbia on the 4th of March and arrived at Kamloops on the 15th.

"I remain, &c.,
(Signed) "JAS. RATCHFORD."

KOOTENAY.

MR. VOWELL'S REPORT.

"KOOTENAY, B. C.,
"23rd December, 1884.

"To the Hon. John Robson, Minister of Mines:

"SIR.—I have the honour to enclose herewith the "mining statistics" for the present year, together with my report upon the mining industries of the district.

"The following returns are the result of much careful enquiry, and are as correct as it is possible to have them, owing to the many difficulties in the way of obtaining accurate information.

Wild Horse Creek.....	\$36,730 00
Bull-Moyea Rivers.....	17,232 00
Lesser Creeks and Bars.....	6,864 00

Total.....\$60,826 00

"As compared with past years the returns from the placer mines are satisfactory, but I must point out that the mining interests of this district in the future, will depend almost entirely upon the development of the promising quartz mines which are now being opened. At and since the time when placer mines were first discovered at Wild Horse Creek, and in the Big Bend country (some 20 years ago), miners have been prospecting for that class of diggings along the Columbia River, upon its tributaries, and throughout the Selkirk range of mountains, with no very favourable results.

"It is true that in the early days many difficulties existed which are now being gradually removed by advance of settlement, encouraged by the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railroad through the Province.

"Deeming the country to have been only partially prospected, miners have gone out in different directions this year searching for shallow or placer mines, but I regret that in no instance has any marked success attended their efforts.

"The season, however, has not been favorable in consequence of the heavy and constant rains which have prevailed throughout the summer, the water in the different rivers and creeks being continuous, at a high stage which prevented the effective prospecting of their beds.

"The quartz developments in the vicinity of Kootenay Lake are full of promise, it being no exaggeration to state that mountains of ore have been discovered. Mineral claims have been located upon the west side of the lake this year which far exceed in richness anything hitherto discovered in the section.

"Forty-nine (49) mineral claims have been taken up in that locality, and a large company has been organized for the purpose of bringing in machinery and commencing active operations upon several of the mineral claims next spring. A waggon road is under construction from Sand Point, a station of the North Pacific Railroad, to Bonner's Ferry, on the Kootenay River, to complete the line of transport from the North Pacific Railroad to the Kootenay Lake mines.

"Many old Californians, familiar with Leadville and other valuable quartz mines of notoriety, will have visited Kootenay Lake during the past season.

have predicted for those mines a brilliant future. There will be about 100 men actually engaged in quartz mining at Kootenay Lake next season, besides a great many miners prospecting, and I would recommend that an officer be provided at that place as well as a record office and lock-up. In future it is also expected that many miners will winter there, as once the mines are properly opened, work, to a great extent, can be advantageously carried on throughout the year. I would here mention that the officer to be there stationed will require to be one of some experience and judgment, as otherwise complications of a serious nature are certain to arise owing to the valuable interests there centred, etc. Several mineral claims have been taken up during last fall on Wild Horse Creek, but as no assays have yet been heard of, it is impossible to pronounce upon their respective value. About 100 men, whites and Chinese, will winter at the last named place.

"In the Kicking Horse region 135 mineral claims have been located in different directions, viz.: in the vicinity of the summit at Kicking Horse, the First Crossing of the Columbia River, Quartz Creek, Beaver River, the Ille-cille-waet, and the Spallumcheen River, the latter empties into the Columbia River about 30 miles above the mouth of Kicking Horse.

"The mineral rock discovered gives evidence in many claims of gold the majority being galena. No developments, however, have as yet been made of a character to enable me to furnish any definite information regarding their value, etc.

"Upon the Spallumcheen River, where locations extend for over four miles, considerable work has been done upon several of the claims. The ore, a free milling, low grade, galena is abundant, giving returns from various assays of from \$12 to \$64 in silver, to the ton. The ore improves in quality as the work advances and gives evidence of gold, copper, antimony, etc.

"Feeling it my duty to do so, I would again call the attention of the Government to the great and pressing necessity that exists for the establishment of an assay office in this district. It has been frequently represented to me that the cost of shipping ore and having assays taken at a distant place is not only expensive, but unsatisfactory in every respect, as in most cases the returns so obtained cannot be relied on. I feel certain that in a pecuniary point of view the assay office would be self-sustaining, the rapid increase in quartz mining expected throughout the district cannot but lead to such a conclusion.

"It is estimated that about 15 men will winter at Golden City, 150 at First Crossing of Columbia River, and at the Beaver some 250 traders and shers. There will be from 1,500 to 2,000 men along the line of the C. P. R. getting out timbers, etc. The misunderstanding between the Dominion and the Provincial Governments, relative to the precious metals lying within the railway belt in this district, has militated very much against the progress of mining, etc., in Kootenay this year, and it is hoped that with the advent of the coming season, 1885, all such distracting complications may be removed.

"I have, &c.,

(Signed) "A. W. VOWELL,
"G. C. & S. M."

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Table listing various grocery items such as Spices, Starch, Syrup, Sugar, Canadian, Maple, Sugar, Dry Gramulated, C. Coffee, B. Coffee, Central Amer., Control, Tapioca, Tongue, etc.

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Every letter and packet intended for registration must be handed in at the wicket, and a receipt obtained therefor. On no account must it be dropped into a letter box. The registration fee must be paid by a registration stamp, the registration fees on letters to places in Canada and Newfoundland is 1 cent; to Great Britain and the United States, 5 cents.

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Table of Distances

Table showing distances from Victoria to various points on the Mainland and Island. Includes Victoria, Nanaimo, Port Moody, etc.

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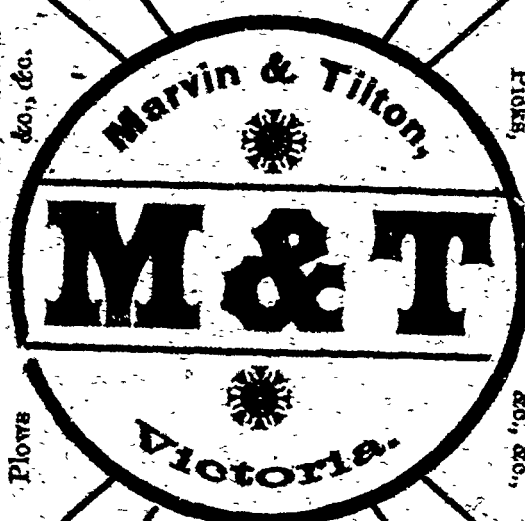
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