

Scrapbook of Articles Relating to Granite Creek

From the 1886 Daily Colonist Newspaper

Compiled by Diane Sterne

January 3, 1886

GRANITE CREEK.

The Best Route to the New Diggings.

(Correspondence of The Colonist).

HOPE, B. C., Dec. 27, '85.

Almost every week I notice some report of the Granite creek in papers published in Victoria and elsewhere, some of which are maliciously false. Nothing, in my estimation, can be more despicable and unprincipled than an attempt to mislead strangers or the traveling public. If you will kindly lend me space I will dispel some of the mistaken impressions which have become general through cheap advertisements by interested parties under the guise of reports from the mines, which are eagerly looked for by the public with a view to obtain reliable information.

Some time since an article was published in one of the Victoria papers through parties interested in the Nicola country (whose greedy principle seems to be that "anything is fair," not only in love and war, but in all manner of dealings) that the most prac-

tical route to the mines was by rail to Spence's bridge, and from thence to Nicola by stage, from whence, you are informed, a good trail branches off to the mines. The imposition on the public would have been no greater had they been informed that the route was by steamer to Tacoma, by rail over the Northern Pacific to Spokane, from thence by trail to the mines.

Now, those same parties who recommended the Nicola did their freighting over the Hope route. It is almost a daily occurrence to hear people complaining that upon arriving at the mines they find not only that they were several days longer than necessary upon the road, but also from twenty to thirty dollars out of pocket by being duped into this "around the world route."

The proper route to Granite creek from all points west of Spence's Bridge is as follows: Either by rail or steamer to Hope, from thence direct to Princeton by the Similkameen trail. Princeton is about ten miles from the mines. This is a gov-

ernment trail, twenty-five miles of which are wagon road. A number of hands are employed constantly in repairing and keeping the trail in traveling condition.

There are five hotels on this route, the first, fourteen miles from Hope, kept by Pratt & Johnson, who furnish a first-class entertainment for both man and beast at the very reasonable rate of fifty cents per meal, ditto horse feed. Fifteen and a half miles farther on Messrs. Wanless & Williams cater for the comforts of the hungry traveller for the same consideration. Thirteen miles again and you find the Summit house with the genial Jack Sproul as host; nineteen miles, over a beautiful timbered, prairie, bunch grass country and natural parks, bring you to the Broomly ranch and hotel, where Jack will do his best to fill you up with good fresh "mowitoh" and other wholesome grub. Then if you are loaded light you can take a short cut to the mines, that brings you there in a few hours at most. However, if you have pack horses you must go by Prince-

ton, which is a few miles farther. There is a hotel at Princeton better known as Allison's store. A short half day's travel up the Tulameen now brings you to the already far famed Granite Creek on the grassy banks of which five short months since the young deer gambled undisturbed except, perhaps, by the prowling wolf or an occasional Indian who passed by unconscious and unmindful of the hidden treasure at his feet. Every foot of Granite creek is already taken up and a large number of claims are already taken on the Tulameen bar. Slate, Champion and Watch creeks also pan out fair and some very promising prospects have been discovered.

GRANITE CREEK.

The population of Granite creek and suburbs is estimated at 2000 souls. There are stores, hotels and saloons in abundance, one tin shop, three blacksmith shops and a bakery. Considerable excitement prevails. Large numbers are coming in weekly and a great rush is expected in the spring. It is no uncommon sight to get up in the morning and find the town almost deserted running off on the craze of some new discovery. I understand since arriving at Hope that the B. O. Express Co. contemplate establishing a line between Hope and the creek as soon as treasure begins again to be taken out.

Since speaking of the route to the mines I wish to say I have been requested by several persons who were misled and caused a great deal of unnecessary expense to mention this matter. I am not a resident of Hope, own no property here and am in no way financially interested in any route.

L. A. DUNNING.

January 10, 1886

The latest news from Granite creek reports the weather to be cold at Nicola, but no snow. Cattle men have not fed any stock. This is the mildest winter they ever had. The residents of the valley have been enjoying themselves turkey-shooting. The company working the mine at Upper Nicola are vigorously pushing forward their tunnels.

Gillies' sawmill for Granite creek left here on Thursday. Large pack trains and a number of siwash trains are freighting from Nicola to the mines.

All the lakes throughout the other valleys have frozen solid. The weather at the mines is mild, with about six inches of snow.

The prospect along the whole of the Tulameen and side creeks is encouraging. The latest discovery is on State creek; there are already three hundred men located on it.

January 14, 1886

THE SIMILKAMEEN MINES.

The Prospects Very Encouraging for the Spring.

**New Discoveries--Weather Mild
--Nicola Trail Good.**

Mr. W. T. Thompson, of Thompson & Ferguson, Granite creek, arrived down on Tuesday's steamer. To a reporter of *The Colonist* Mr. Thompson said that he left the creek on the 8th instant, coming out via the Nicola trail. This trail, for five miles from the creek, is covered with a foot of snow, for a further distance of ten miles fifteen inches of snow covered the surface, and from this to Coutlee's the depth varied from six inches to a foot.

THE TRAIL FOR ANIMALS

is good, and there are a number now at Coutlee's awaiting freight, though there is very little offering at present. The greatest cold at the creek during the winter so far was 2° below zero with no wind, and on the morning Mr. Thompson left it was light above. Bottom ice has formed on the creek, which has for some time precluded mining operations. On Otter lake, which is twenty miles long, only a thin coating of ice had formed, and the weather generally throughout Nicola and Similkameen has been unusually open.

Considerable prospecting is being done with successful results and preparations are in progress on every hand for the prosecution of work as soon as the weather will allow. There are

DOZENS OF MEN ON THE TULAMEEN

whip-sawing lumber and wing-damming the stream. On this river the prospects of its being extensively worked and richly paying are bright. In the middle part of December two Chinamen took out \$2200 in two days. The river is workable for twenty miles and prospects taken anywhere in this length have shown good colors.

Should it prove as rich as anticipated, and there seems little doubt that it will, there is room on this stream for the thousands that are expected to go to the district in the spring.

SLATE CREEK,

a tributary of the Tulameen, nine miles up from Granite creek, is stated to be fully as rich as the latter, a man named McLean crevicing out \$8 in half a day with a jack-knife. Pieces as large as \$2 75 have been secured. However, a fair prospect cannot be made on account of the ice, but the creek promises to be the richest of the new discoveries. The others are Champion Eagle, Hines, and Collins creeks, all of which have given good indications, the former being of the greatest extent.

On Granite creek the larger claims are all ready for fluming in the spring, particular attention being paid to the Knight claim—one of the richest and most extensive on the creek.

GRANITE CITY.

is assuming substantial shape, there now being about 150 houses in the town and neighborhood. One street is fully built up and another partly. Money is somewhat scarce at present and all are waiting for the development of spring. The first of March will be the best time for those intending to go in as it is expected by that time that operations will be resumed.

Mr. Thompson is of opinion that the country has not been done full justice to in the reports that have been circulated about them, though the latter have been very flattering.

THE EXTENT

of the auriferous deposit of the district is not understood by the public and undoubtedly the spring will prove that thousands will be enabled to go to the district and reap a substantial benefit from the mines. Should they prove as substantial in their results as it is confidently expected, an incalculable benefit will accrue to the country generally.

NOTICE.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE THAT I INTEND TO apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, Victoria, to purchase 320 acres of pasture land, situated on Granite creek, Similkameen. Commencing about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from the north of Granite Creek and running up the right bench 80 chains; thence across the flat and up the mountain a short distance, 40 chains; thence down with the bearings of the creek, 80 chains; thence back to starting point 40 chains; the same as staked by me on November 4th, 1885.

R. STEVENSON.

Victoria, Dec. 10th, 1885.

de25w

January 27, 1886

From the Similkameen.

Mr. John Derwent arrived down on Sunday from Granite creek and Otter valley. The Nicola trail one week ago Sunday was open and in good order and the pack trains of Thompson & Ferguson, Jamieson and Wilson were constantly going into the mines with supplies, which still continue to be cheaply sold.

Otter flats, six miles from Granite creek has been reserved by Mr. Tunstall, government agent at Kamloops, and registered as a town site, and government offices, etc., will be erected at that point. When the wagon road is continued to the new town, access to the mines will be a comparatively easy matter.

A couple of weeks ago new rich developments occurred in Collins' gulch, the dry bed of a stream, and at dark in the evening the news arrived there was a general stampede from Granite creek to locate on the new find.

It is expected that work will open the latter end of February in the mines, and by the first of March that everything will be in full swing.

Granite Creek.

Mr. P. L. Trout has published a "Prospector's Manual," which purports to be a complete history of the Granite creek gold mines, with instructions as to how to get to them, and what to do on arriving there. The little pamphlet is neatly printed, and the information which it imparts will doubtless be very serviceable to the large number of miners who will in a few weeks be making their way to the new Eldorado.

Mr. Trout gives a brief history of the discovery of gold at Granite creek, and names the other paying locations in the immediate vicinity. He says that on the north fork of the Similkameen river above eight mile creek where the river flows through a cañon that much resembles the cañon of Granite creek, there are diggings which are immensely richer than Granite creek. The pamphlet contains a couple of maps, one of the paying portion of Granite creek showing the holder of the various claims. Mr. Trout discusses the healthiness of the places, and says that one unfortunate doctor was starved out for lack of patients.

He discusses also the various routes to the mines by the Hope trail—by the trail from Eagle Pass through the Spallumcheen and other routes. He also tells intending prospectors to whom to apply for information concerning the mines and country generally.

Mr. Trout's little book will doubtless supply a want, and enable many besides miners to get an acquaintance with what will become one of the best known portions of the province. It is regretted that a few typographical inaccuracies have crept into the work, attributable, doubtless, to the haste with which it seemed necessary to get it out to meet the popular demand.

February 7, 1886

ice is apparently nasty.

There are now about 1500 miners in the Granite creek, Colville, and Similkameen districts, and it is confidently expected that this number will be increased to 20,000 before the middle of summer. While the mines to the north are rich in minerals there will never be the output of wealth from them that there will be from the agricultural lands of the Big Bend of the Columbia, when once that favored section is settled and put under cultivation. This belt of wheat land is tributary to the Columbia for a distance of thirty miles back, and embraces a stretch of country as vast as the wheat-producing districts of Walla Walla, Whitman and Spokane counties. The soil is a loam of remarkable fertility and great depth, and is composed of alluvial deposits and decomposed basalt overlying a clay subsoil.

February 14, 1886

THE FIRST IN CAMP,

A New Year's Gift to the First Child at Granite Creek.

A correspondent writing from Granite Creek on the 10th Jan, says: The many readers of *The Colonist* will remember the account of Mr. and Mrs. Ward and child leaving Victoria on the 20th October last for the new mines. Arriving at Hope they were delayed several days by heavy rains. They accompanied a pack train, Mrs. Ward and the little girl being placed on the hurricane deck of a mule. They wound their way through the Bridal Vail valley, following the headwaters of the Skagit until the foothills of the great mountain is reached. They camped several nights while crossing the snow-

capped peaks and passed through several snow storms, but reached the long looked for Granite Creek in good health and spirits. The little girl (Jennie Ward) is a great favorite with all the miners, and on New Year's day they presented her with a purse of \$100, she being the only white child on Granite creek. The sum will be placed in a bank until Jennie is of age.

SIMILKAMEEN GOLD MINES —In the official reports upon gold discoveries lately made in the Similkameen district there are stated among other interesting items, the facts that on Granite creek for 1885 the gold return (actually known) was \$49,000, Tulameen river \$60,000, Similkameen river \$2,500; that 100 mining licenses have been issued to Chinese and that the number of white miners was about 450. Also that the Granite creek mines are reached by three different routes—one via Hope, on the Fraser, a distance of 75 miles, and by the C. P. R. from Kamloops and Spence's bridge, a distance of 50 miles to Quilchamna and Coutlie's by the wagon road running through the Nicola Valley, thence 60 miles by trail to the mines. The route from the last two points to Richardson's passes through a lovely country, covered with grass and sparsely dotted with fir and pine trees. Further on it becomes more densely timbered and mountainous, but affords no obstacle to the cheap construction of a wagon road which, for a distance of thirty five miles, can be built with comparatively speaking little expense.

FROM GRANITE CITY.

A Budget of News from the Mining Camp.

Prospects Favorable for the Coming Season.

Mr. Henry Nicholson, mining recorder at Granite City, is at the Driard, having arrived down yesterday. He left the mines on the 4th, having been detained by the washouts and slides on the railway. When Mr. Nicholson left the creek there were about eighteen inches of snow on the level. The winter has been very mild and favorable to the large amount of prospecting which has been done. Reports from outside creeks have been very encouraging, though little work has been carried on, so too much confidence must not be placed in them.

THE TULAMEEN RIVER

seems likely to be the principal mining ground during the coming season. The Chinese last year took out a large amount of gold; but the whites got in too late to allow of working their claims. However, they were well prospected and with very satisfactory results. There can be no doubt about the richness of the ground on both Granite creek and the Tulameen, as the fact is already shown in the returns. Considerable building is in progress at Granite City of a substantial nature on the two streets of the new town. Whip sawing is largely being done to secure lumber. Other parties are putting up ice for summer use.

THE TULAMEEN BRIDGE,

at the mouth of Granite creek, was nearly completed when Mr. Nicholson left. This will be a great accommodation for miners and packers, and the government have been very much praised for promptly answering the request of the inhabitants of the new mining camp. The Tulameen is a wicked stream and liable to bad freshets; the bridge on this account was a necessity.

It is a matter of congratulation that the sleigh-road to the mines from Nicola was not constructed and the money wasted, as Otter lake, which would form part of the route, does not freeze sufficiently to admit of horses crossing on the ice. Without it, the sleigh road would have been useless.

THE CITIZENS

have subscribed funds to sink a well opposite the court house, which will prove a great convenience. The working of the mining ground fouling the water last season made it impossible to receive a pure supply.

The general health of the camp has been good, not a single case of sickness so far.

The mildness of the winter may be inferred from the fact that the lowest the thermometer reached was 26° below zero and this but for a few days.

The camp has been very orderly during the winter, there being but four cases of drunkenness and only one of assault.

The establishment of

A WEEKLY MAIL

by the postal authorities, it is hoped, will soon be made, though the citizens still continue to pay for the carriage of a weekly mail. The Hope trail would be the most favorable for the carriage of the mail, as it would be received quicker by that route than by any other.

At present there is a good supply of provisions on the creek for the number of men now there—between five and six hundred. The prices still continue to be moderate.

Mr. Nicholson would advise those intending to go to the mines

NOT TO PROCEED THERE

at present, as a large influx would only tend to heighten the price of provisions. Work cannot be carried on for another month, and it is in the interest of all that a descent upon the camp should not occur until the pack trains bring in larger supplies.

February 18, 1886

A New Route to the Similkameen Mines.

A party will start out this week from Yale to prospect a short route to Granite creek from that town. It is claimed by a man who has been partly over the route, that Siwash creek and Granite creek headwaters are very near each other, and that a first class and easy graded route can be secured by going over the mountain opposite Yale direct to Granite creek bringing the former place within twenty-five miles of the new mines.

Should this prove the case after an examination by the party, it will easily be seen that the route could be made the most desirable for gaining access to the mines. The Hope trail to Similkameen is a tortuous one and a great distance is travelled that would be saved by this new route from Yale, and this would also be the case if a wagon road is to be built to the mines. The projector of the new route has every confidence in its feasibility.

February 27, 1886

FOURTH PARLIAMENT.

FOURTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, Feb. 26th, 1886.

Speaker took the chair at 2 p. m.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. Beanlands.

MOTIONS.

Mr. Samlin moved that a return be made of the report of Mr. Lee in reference to a proposed road to connect the Spillamcheen wagon road at Salmon arm with the C. P. R.; the report from Mr. Neil Black in reference to construction of a wagon road from the present Nicola road to Granite creek; also, Mr. A. Stevenson's report in reference to construction of a wagon road from Lytton to Foster's bar. Seconded by Mr. Galbraith.

Mr. Allen said that the construction of the latter road was imperatively necessary.

Motion was carried.

March 3, 1886

GRANITE CREEK.

The Latest from the New Dig- gings.

A Granite Creek correspondent under date of Feb. 16th says: As the spring is opening up a few points in regard to mining here may not come amiss. The weather for the past two weeks has been quite mild, with Chinook winds, snow fast disappearing. Miners beginning to work upon Granite Creek with good returns. Other creeks, viz., Slate, Cedar, Champion and Collins, are nearly all taken up, and active preparations going forward to commence mining as soon as snow permits. Granite City is rapidly building, and people coming in every day, both by Hope and Nicola trails, although not the rush that will be next month. The main river is attracting a good deal of attention, and I hear of some good prospects. Plenty of ground to be secured yet. I think there will be a large camp here or at Otter Flat (six miles up the river from this point), that will last for some time. This whole country is remarkably healthy.—*Sentinel.*

March 7, 1886

HURRAH! FOR THE MINES!

PARTIES EN ROUTE FOR

GRANITE CREEK,

SHOULD LOOK AT THE

Retail Price List of Goods

— AT —

WARDLE'S GENERAL STORE, HOPE.

BEFORE PURCHASING IN VICTORIA.

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| BACON..... | 15 to 18 cts. per lb. |
| BEANS..... | 5 cts. per lb. |
| SUGAR..... | 9 to 12 cts. per lb. |
| FLOUR per sack..... | \$1 75 |
| STRAP PICKS..... | each \$3 00 |
| WASHOE PICKS with handles..... | \$2 00 |
| AXES..... | \$1 50 to \$1 75 each. |
| SHOVELS..... | \$1 25 to \$1 50 each. |
| PRESSED GOLD PANS | \$1 each. |
| Other Goods at the same Low Rates always on hand. | |
| mh7tf | JAMES WARDLE. |

THE ROUTE TO GRANITE CREEK.

Steps Taken by the Residents of Yale to Open it up.

A public meeting held at Yale on the 3rd, instant was largely attended by the inhabitants of the town to consider the best means to adopt for exploring a route and opening a trail from Yale to Granite creek mines.

Mr. William Teague was voted to the chair and Mr. Alexander Lindsay acted as secretary.

The chairman, in opening the meeting, said: We are called together to consider the vital importance of the question in opening a trail from the town of Yale to the Granite creek mines, a question that not only concerns the future prosperity of the town, but the miner, the packer, and the trader. The geographical distance by the map, which is only about twenty-five miles and the information I have learned from reliable

Indians who are accustomed to the mountaineering life in hunting through this range, speak very favorably of the pass either by the way of Spuzzum or by the route behind the hill opposite to and east of Hills bar creek, over an open country teeming with feed for eight months during the year. These are important features and should not be lost sight of, for we must look out for feed for the animals as well as for bread and supplies for the miner, which are important in opening up a new section of the country. I think there are very few physical features to overcome on the route, which if practicable would prove highly advantageous as it would cover the distance in about say thirty-five miles through a gold-bearing belt, and striking the Granite creek range in a more central direction would prove to be highly beneficial to the prospector in replenishing his supplies of provisions. The Onequahalla river, Anderson river, Tullome river and Coldwater heads are in or near the same range, and flow in different directions, giving every indication of this

newly-discovered basin yielding gold in remunerative quantities between the Otter valley range on the south and the Fraser river range on the north, embracing an area of 25 to 30 miles wide and 100 miles from west to east, terminating at Nicomin.

It was moved by Mr. F. N. Bossi, and seconded by Mr. J. W. Taylor, that a committee of five gentlemen be appointed by the meeting, with power to call for subscriptions and make all necessary arrangements to send a party out to find the best route to the Similkameen mines from Yale. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Clark, and seconded by Mr. McQuarin, that the following gentlemen act as the committee, viz: Messrs. William Teague, F. N. Bossi, J. W. Taylor, G. McCloskey and A. Bursbeck. Carried.

Thanks of the meeting be duly tendered to the chairman and Mr. Taylor for the use of his hall.

A. LINDSAY, Secretary.

P. S. —Since the meeting it has been arranged for parties to leave on Saturday morning to explore both routes.

GRANITE CREEK MINES.

A Mischievous Correspondent Rapped Over the Knuckles.

Encouraging Prospects---Bril- liant Showing.

(Correspondence of The Colonist.)

GRANITE CITY, Feb. 28.

A very unfair and misleading account of the new gold region of Granite creek and vicinity appeared in the Times of the 19th instant. In justice to the camp and the residents thereof, I will give a report of some few prospects obtained on the different creeks. The Times' correspondent states that outside of Granite Creek

NOTHING HAS BEEN FOUND

to justify three dollars a day to the man. This statement either proceeds from wilful misrepresentation or total ignorance of

the subject. Although only five days in Granite City, the following prospects have come to my notice among many others, which I will not particularize: On Cedar creek, Mr. Matthews' prospect shows from 25c. to \$3 to the pan. D. Martin, on Collins' gulch, panned out \$19 in a few hours day before yesterday. The Eureka company, on the Tulameen river, prospected five bits to the pan; other claims on the same creek equally as well, and some considerably better. Mr. Hinds, on

SLATE CREEK,

is sluicing at the present time and is making big pay. Several others that we know of on the same creek are making from \$5 to \$10 per day. These prospects, understand, were all obtained under the greatest difficulties, the creeks being covered with snow and ice which do not admit of any thorough prospecting. I am not giving you any exaggerated report, but only seek to put the matter in its true light before the public, who are interested.

THE SNOW

is fast disappearing, and things are beginning to look brighter every day. Miners are continually going out for the season's work, and even with the great disadvantages of snow and ice, every day of the week gold dust is brought in and sold both in small and large quantities. Mr. John Pomeroy, on Granite creek, is taking out \$20 per day, and not long since our day's work reached the large sum of

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY DOLLARS.

The N. B. Co. have put in a wingdam 200 feet long, and will commence operations at once. The Honestake, California, Sweepstake, Comstock and other companies are about ready for sluicing, and will soon show a good return for their winter's work and expenditure. There will be considerable demand for workingmen in a short time, but there is nothing definite as yet about the rate of wages.

THE TRAIL TO KAMLOOPS

is now good and pack trains are arriving regularly. The writer of the Times arti-

cle is personally known, and is one of the many to be found in every mining camp and elsewhere who are continually discontented, and take a bilious view of everything under the sun. The *bona fide* settlers and miners are thoroughly satisfied with the outlook and all expect to reap a rich harvest.

GRANITE.

The Granite Creek Mines.

TO THE EDITOR:—Having seen many letters lately in the papers regarding the best way of getting to the Similkameen mines, I may perhaps be allowed to make a few remarks in connection with the matter, as I have resided in that section of country for over twenty years, and have travelled by all the routes that are now wished for. My idea is that it would be the wisest course for the government to select one and then hasten it through to completion. It is not fair to ask any government to build three or four different roads into a new mining camp which may at any date "tucker out." Now, Mr. Editor, there are two wagon roads in existence to within about 40 or 45 miles of the mines, that is to say, the road from Spence's Bridge to Quelshauna and one from Kamloops to the same place. Now, if the road from there was made in at once (a narrow road would do) it would do incalculable good to the mines and dis-

trict and will not be an expensive road and can be travelled at all times of the year. The only place that would not reap any direct advantage from the above road is Okanagon, and the trail now in existence (from opposite the mission there) would, with a slight additional expenditure, be made to meet the requirements of that section. The Hope road is out of the question; it would cost many thousand dollars and only be serviceable for a few months in the year. All parties can be served by constructing a road from Quelshauna, or Alex. Coutlie's, a distance of 40 or 45 miles, which at present is all that is necessary. I am quite aware of the numerous petitions sent down to our members, each petition advocating a different route, and petitions which conflict one with the other have, as a rule, a deterrent effect, and place our representatives in an awkward position. One of those gentlemen has, I believe, been over both roads (Hope and Kamloops Nicola road), and should be in a position to know something about it. If the Hope road was opened it would really benefit no-

body, because all goods and produce can be shipped to Spence's bridge via the C. P. R. just as cheap as they could be shipped to Hope station and then ferried across the Fraser river, to say nothing of packing over the Hope mountains.

MINER.

- Victoria, March 16, 1886.

THE SIMILKAMEEN GOLD MINES.

A Peep at the New Fields and the Roads Thereto.

From Mr. J. F. Allison, who arrived yesterday from Otter Flat, we gathered the following interesting particulars about the Granite creek and other adjacent gold fields: About two weeks ago most of the miners got ready to go to work but the cold snap that set in put a temporary stop to their movements. A few, however, are at work with rockers, and some are trying to sluice,—one or two on the Tulameen river. Many are

BUSY PUTTING IN WINGDAMS.

One company on the Tulameen is turning the water into an old channel draining the bed of the stream for about 1200 feet, which will give a good chance to test the bed of the river. Miners are pressing out, going up the Tulameen river locating claims and recently there has been an

excitement on the

SOUTH FORK OF THE SEMILKAMEEN,

About 14 or 15 miles above Princetown, where a number of claims have been recorded. Prospectors have already located as far as 35 miles above Granite city, and from the number of men daily pouring in from all quarters—Idaho, Washington and Arizona territories, it looks as though an estimate of

TEN THOUSAND PERSONS

as the population of the fields when the season has commenced will not be above the mark. Buildings continue to go up at Granite city and Otter Flat (some six miles above Granite) where the government has made a reserve. All the men are

VERY SANGUINE OF SUCCESS

though it would be better for those intending to try their luck to defer going for about two or three weeks, but though the advice is good it is known that where taken the cases are exceptional ones. In coming out, Mr. Allison met about seventy men on the road going from Hope with

packs and hand-sleighs—there being then about 14 or 16 inches of snow. There were also three ladies waiting at Hope who had brought with them household goods by packtrain, and who were going to join their husbands already at the mines. There is a very great misunderstanding about

THE PRICE OF PROVISIONS

there, as men can be seen packing in food in a manner that would be worth a dollar a pound if they were doing it for others. Flour can be got for \$5 per sack at Granite, and bacon at 30 cents per pound, and a better class of it spiced—in rolls of three pounds for a dollar, for which sum also four pounds of sugar can be procured. Picks are selling from \$3.50 to \$4 each, shovels \$2.50; beef fetches about 10 cents per pound. There is now a new street at Granite, running parallel with the central one, and which is about 200 feet wide. Until the late fall of snow the road was excellent. A few of the miners are already "broken," being of that class who came in without a dollar after having expended the necessary money to get there.

These will have to knock along as best they can for a week or so, when they will probably be able to get work on some of the mining operations.

FROM VICTORIA TO GRANITE CITY

will occupy about six or seven days—that is traveling by steamer to Hope, and thence on foot with a pack, the bare cost of traveling in this manner being about \$8, irrespective of the cost of meals, which can be procured all along for 50 cents each. Without doubt these mines are the easiest of access of any that have been struck. There must now be about 700 or 800 men, and though Granite creek is taken up there is still

PLENTY OF ROOM

on the Tulameen and other creeks, on some seven or eight of which discovery claims have been recorded. Taken altogether, it is thought that few will have difficulty in finding wages-diggings, while the rich strikes will, of course, remain the lottery prizes; but there is little doubt that men will be able to make their living on all the bars of the Tulameen and Semilkameen. There have been a number of quartz ledges located, but

nothing is doing in that way at present. There do not appear to be men at the mines as yet with much capital, but there are many practical, experienced miners from the other side of the line, who have come in with the idea of tracing leads from American territory. These have an idea that the auriferous belt extends from there into the new fields. It is impossible to hire pack trains on the Hope trail at present, those goods that are going in going by the way of Nicola and Spence's bridge. A load of flour arrived the other day from Spallumcheen by way of the Allison trail, and also one from the Mission. The freight charge is $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound from Victoria.

March 21, 1886

(Guardian.)

The new fares for stage and railway travel to the mines (Granite creek), via this city, should attract the whole concourse of miners this way. The fares are (only to be obtained in this city), stage to Port Moody, with 30 pounds of baggage free, 50 cents; railroad from Port Moody to Spence's bridge, 100 pounds of baggage free, \$7 50; stage from Spence's bridge to Coutlie's, 30 pounds of baggage free, \$5. It will be observed that the railway fare is reduced to less than one-half of what it formerly was, and really, for the distance, the baggage allowed free and the rapidity of travel, the fares, to say the least, are very reasonable.

Freight Rates from Spence's Bridge to Granite Creek

Have been lowered to $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. This trail has been open and uninterrupted during the winter. Port Moody or Hammond to mines are $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 cents per pound.

2w

LATEST FROM THE MINES.

First Work Begun on Granite Creek.

The Prospects for the Coming Season.

Valuable Facts for those Intending to go to the Mines.

A reporter of *The Colonist* called on Mr. W. T. Thompson, of Thompson & Ferguson, packers and merchants of Granite City, who registered at the Oriental yesterday afternoon. Mr. Thompson stated that

ON MARCH 10TH THE FIRST WORK was begun on Granite creek claims, though snow had not gone and ice was still in the creek. The South Fork Co., situated a mile and a half from the town, washed their first pan of dirt the day Mr. T. left, it showing \$30. It was washed by Mr. J. Austin, late of the Occident hotel, New Westminster. This was the first dirt washed on Granite creek.

The creek runs up four miles from the town and then branches off in opposite directions, the branches being called north and south forks of Granite creek. From prospecting that has been done on the south fork it is thought that for twenty miles in length it will prove to be

THE BEST GROUND IN THE DISTRICT.

It is deep diggings and pay gold is found almost from the surface to bed rock. The St. Louis company have commenced to take out gold on the south fork, having got down a depth of fifteen feet, meeting gold all the

way. Men are locating the ground every day, and are jubilant over the good prospects secured. It is likely that the whole twenty miles will be located, as there is a rush for it.

On the main Tulameen river a large amount of work is being done. As an evidence of the richness of the gravel on this stream it may be mentioned that the California company refused \$600 for an interest, the latter being 100 feet. Nearly twenty miles of this stream yet remain unlocated, and may prove equally rich as that already worked. The Tulameen is

WORKED BY LARGE COMPANIES,

the San Francisco company having 4100 feet, there being 41 members in the syndicate. Many other companies have located and are working ground from 500 to 2500 feet in length.

A company is being formed for the purpose of working a branch twelve miles below Granite by hydraulic machinery. This is on the main Similkameen river, and is a claim previously worked by Chi-

nese, who packed the dirt in sacks to the water and rocked it, making good pay. White miners now have control of the ground and expect to make a good thing by hydraulicing.

HILL CLAIMS ON GRANITE CREEK

have been sold for as high as \$400. These claims were at first thought to be worthless, but a test being made the hill was found to yield gold of a brighter and lighter color than that found on the Granite and in quantities.

A new creek has been found ten miles from Princeton and has been named "Cow-boy Creek." It is reported that this shows good prospects, but the facts were rather meagre with reference to it when our informant left.

CREEKS THAT WERE STRUCK LAST FALL still remain unprospected, viz: Hines, Champion, Eagle, Gulch, Collins and Cedar. Men are now working on some of them. Slate creek, next to Granite, is supposed to be the best ground, though

on account of snow and ice a fair test has not yet been made.

There is this fact noticeable in connection with the gold bearing creeks of the Similkameen. They all come in from one side of the Tulameen and evidently have their source on the top of the mountain, cutting in their descent through a rich quartz vein. The creeks all carry gold of a similar character. It is thought from this that

SOME RICH QUARTZ LEDGES

will be located by prospectors. One has already been located two miles from Granite creek on the opposite side from the Tulameen. A tunnel has been run in, and the rock received looks good, though no assays have as yet been made.

There is also another fact worthy of note in reference to the Similkameen mines. They are ostensibly

A POOR MAN'S DIGGINGS,

for it requires but little outlay to prove whether the ground located will pay, the

gold being carried in shallow deposits of gravel. Very few men who have gone in have left the camp, as it is an easy matter to find out the worth of the diggings.

Miners, practical and unpractical, are arriving from all quarters of the continent, the average daily quota added to the town being from thirty to fifty per day, and all express themselves satisfied with the outlook.

ACCESS TO THE MINES

is simple and cheap. The railway company are now offering reduced rates to "through to the mines" passengers to Spence's bridge. From this point to Coutlee's is accomplished by stage, and from this latter place to the new town is a little over thirty miles by trail—in the saddle or on foot. The trip from Victoria to Granite creek will

OCCUPY ABOUT FOUR DAYS—

one steamer, one rail and one stage; the other on the trail.

Parties intending to go to the mines would do well to consult the railway agent at New Westminster. There are good stopping places all along the route, and a man can travel from Victoria to Granite City without a blanket, meals and beds of an excellent kind being procurable at short intervals.

At Granite City there are now about 1,500 people, with plenty of good accommodation for as many more, and meals for 50 cents to compare with those in Victoria at the same figure.

The following are the

PRICES OF STAPLES

at the mines: Bacon, 25 to 30 cents per pound; beans, 12½c; hams, 30c; flour, \$5 per sack of 50 pounds (this price being caused by the packing charges); coffee, 50c; sugar, 25c; everything else in proportion to the above.

When Mr. Thompson left, the trail from Granite City to Coutlee's had from four to six inches of snow on it, while in

places it was bare. The trail is good for either foot or horse.

GRANITE CREEK FREIGHT.—The C. P. R. announce freight from Port Moody or Hammond to Spence's Bridge, bound for Granite Creek, at 2c. per pound, making freight from the railway terminal to the new mining camp from 6½ to 7 cents.

March 23, 1886

Mr. Sam. Pierce, one of the first men who visited Cariboo, and who last year "struck it rich" on Granite Creek, returned the other day from London, Eng., where he visited his brother for the first time since he came to America, thirty years ago. Mr. Pierce returns to Granite creek on Wednesday, where he has one of the best paying claims on the creek. Though very cautious in his statements, he admits that the new mines will turn out good.

GRANITE CREEK MAILS —There have been many complaints extending over the past six months of the irregularity or rather the total inadequacy of the system of the delivery of mail matter at the Granite creek mines. As it stands at present the postal authorities only deliver so far as Coutlie's (forty miles from Spence's bridge and fifty-seven miles from the mines). From there letters and papers are taken in hand by a private carrier who, under many disadvantages, finds it impossible to fulfil the self-imposed task with complete satisfaction either to himself or his customers. Papers lie for weeks at Coutlie's, on account of the difficulties presented by their weight, while as a remuneration a charge of 25 cents is made upon every letter taken in to the camp, which, consisting as it now does, of some 1500 persons, is certainly entitled to a regular and efficient service. We believe that the matter has been represented to several of the mainland members, who no doubt will adopt the proper means and bring the matter before the government.

FOR GRANITE CREEK — Mr. R. Stevenson will place an express and saddle train on the road from Hope to Granite creek, beginning April 8th. Passengers will be carried through at \$10 per head.

Granite Creek.

A correspondent writing from Granite City on the 18th inst. says:

Spring is now upon us and mining has commenced. The bigger part of Granite creek will be worked this season by fluming which, in fact, is the only successful way it can be worked. Good pay has been struck on Cedar creek, some nine miles north of here. A large quartz ledge has been discovered on Chambers creek, some ten miles above Otter Flat. This ledge is, I think, the largest ever struck in British Columbia. It measures about 300 feet in width, and crops out over 1000 feet along the vein. This is certainly a rich strike. Snow is rapidly disappearing and business is lively.

J. J.

March 25, 1886

YALE TO GRANITE CREEK.

**A Favorable Route Located, 34
Miles Shorter Than Any
Other.**

YALE, March 24. —The exploring party, in charge of Riley and Northup, sent out by the citizens of Yale to get the most feasible and shortest route to Granite creek mines, returned yesterday, having been very successful in getting to the mines and returning by the same trail. They report a trail can be made at very little expense by the way of Yale and Spuzzum, utilizing the Cariboo wagon road to Suspension bridge and by building a trail from Spuzzum across the country to Otter Flat on the Tulameen river, a distance of 25 miles, where it intersected the Nicola trail, 7 miles from Granite creek. The country traversed from Spuzzum to Otter Flat is very favorable for

traveling, with good feed for stock along the route, and can be kept open without any difficulty all the year. Now that the citizens of Yale have gone to considerable expense, and proved the feasibility of the shortest and most feasible route to the mines, it behooves the government to see that a trail is constructed without delay. This trail is 34 miles shorter than any other.

March 26, 1886

Granite Creek.

Mr. James Ternay, in a letter to the Guardian, speaking of the Granite Creek mines, says that a panful of dirt taken out by one company contained \$30 in dust. Nearly all Cedar creek is staked off. There are at Granite thirteen hotels and saloons, nine groceries, two jewellers' stores, a shoemaker's and a drug store, two blacksmiths' shops and one doctor. Scores of new houses are building.

Granite Creek Mines.

A Mr. Jameson has given the Columbian some interesting facts concerning the new mines. He says: "The Lower Tulameen, a few miles below where Granite creek enters it, is a fine looking piece of river, and our informant believes it will yet prove to be the best diggings in that region. About three miles of the stream has been taken up. The Similkameen river has been prospected to a limited extent, and operations there will be carried on vigorously the coming season. Similkameen gold is quite different in appearance from that of Granite creek, being darker and rougher. The mines are stretched over 14 miles of this river. The country here abounds in game, and timber and bunch grass are plentiful. On Granite creek also there are some high gravel beds which have given excellent prospects. Besides the streams mentioned there are about half a dozen other

creeks which have been prospected more or less, in nearly all of which gold has been found in paying quantities. The gold belt embraces a strip of country about 50 miles long and from 10 to 12 miles wide. During the whole winter, prospecting parties have been out, and in many cases, in spite of obstacles, they have obtained excellent prospects.

The Upper Tulameen river has been prospected for a distance of about 15 miles with encouraging results, but none of the ground has been fairly tested. Several companies have wing dams all ready, and some of the claims were to begin washing the day Mr. Jameson left (the 19th). On Granite creek there is a canon three or four miles long where very good pay has been found. Mr. Jameson says he has strings of sluices along this canon yielding from \$100 to \$600 a day. There are probably about 1200 white men now in the mines, besides quite a lot of Chinamen. On the high ground snow is too deep yet to admit of successful prospecting, but on the low country the snow has entirely disappeared, and the ground is

almost free from frost. There is sure to be a rush of miners this season, and Mr. Jameson thinks we may expect to hear of some very rich strikes, as there must be heavy deposits where gold is found over such an extent of country. Persons going to the mines are advised not to start too early.

HO! FOR THE GRANITE CREEK MINES.

A SADDLE AND EXPRESS TRAIN

WILL LEAVE HOPE TWICE IN EACH WEEK

And oftener if business will justify. A Letter and Parcel Express to and from the Mines twice a week.

PACK HORSES MAY BE HIRED AT \$10 EACH TO THE MINES.

Passengers will be carried through in Two Days.

FARE—HOPE TO GRANITE CK. \$10 EACH PERSON

Trains will commence running on first week in April.

Freight at the Lowest Ruling Rates.

ADDRESS:
mh24dw5m

ROBT. STEVENSON,
Hope.

April 2, 1886

FOURTH PARLIAMENT.

FOURTH SESSION.

EVENING SESSION.

March 31, '86.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. T. Davie asked: Will an assize and county court be held at Granite creek during the coming summer; and, if so, about what time will such court assemble?

Attorney-general said that a court would be held there during that time, but the exact date he could not at present indicate.

April 4, 1886

GRANITE CREEK MAIL. — Hon. Mr. Smithe announced in the legislature last evening that he had been informed by telegram from the secretary of state at Ottawa that a mail service had been arranged for Granite creek and a postmaster appointed.

GRANITE CREEK.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said he had received a telegram from the secretary of state at Ottawa, stating that arrangements for the carrying of mails to Granite creek was arranged for and the postmaster appointed.

The announcement was received with marked approval.

THE YALE-GRANITE CREEK ROUTE

As Reported by the Exploring Party.

The government have received from Mr. Wm. Teague, chairman of the Yale committee, a report of the exploring party sent out from that town for the purpose of finding the nearest route from there to Granite City. The names of the explorers were C. W. Riley and W. E. Northrup, who were accompanied by two Indian packers. They left Suspension bridge on Monday the 8th ult., and on the following Sunday at 2 p. m., after having met with considerable obstruction from snow, they sighted the Tulameen river. The distance bearings as given in the report show a great divergence made on the way in, where, after having on the fifth day in left the Nicola trail and going N. E. by N. for two miles, and on Saturday N. E. for two miles, the party made a turn on Sunday, running S. E. by S. for 13 miles. During one part of the way they

HAD TO LEAVE THEIR PACKS

and go ahead to break the trail, sinking at every step from one to one and a half feet at every step. The highest mountain travelled *en route* was the mountain at the head of the Anderson river. From this point, a distance of about twenty miles, they found an easy grade through an open country (studded here and there with small prairies with every indication of an abundance of feed in the summer season) on to the Tulameen country. The grade was so easy that the party did not know they were up until they noticed the water running in the other direction. The estimated distance is about 34 miles from Suspension bridge to a point on the Tulameen river, two miles above Otter Flat, and seven miles above Granite creek, making the

TOTAL DISTANCE FROM YALE 56 MILES, which were accomplished in four days from Granite creek, despite the inclemency of the weather and encountering severe snow storms, and having traveled the whole dis-

tance until within four miles of the suspension bridge on snow shoes, which they regard as satisfactory for a practicable route in opening up and striking centrally a new portion of

AN UNDEVELOPED COUNTRY,

greatly influencing this newly-discovered route above any other yet made. There are but few obstacles to overcome in making an easy, practicable and short trail to the Granite creek country, and the creeks adjacent to the Tulameen, from the suspension bridge, which are considered most important points and should be duly observed and receive the early attention of the government. One of the Indians who packed over the Hope trail last summer was of the party and pronounced the route by way of Yale

TO BE FAR SUPERIOR

to the Hope trail. There were no such mountains to pass over by the way of Hope. If a favorable trail was made the journey could be accomplished from Yale on horseback in one day, and on foot in two days. In submitting the report Mr. Teague gives as his opinion that the auriferous belt extends westerly through this undeveloped stretch of country.

Freight Rates from Spence's Bridge to Granite Creek

Have been lowered to 4½ cents per pound. This trail has been open and uninterrupted during the winter. Port Moody, or Hammond to mines are 6½ to 7 cents per pound.

2w

April 7, 1886

RATES OF FREIGHT

— FROM —

SPENCE BRIDGE

— TO —

GRANITE CREEK.

Spence's Bridge to Coutlee's
ONE CENT PER POUND.

Coutlee's to Granite Creek,
THREE OR FOUR CENTS PER POUND.

Two Hundred Indian Horses have just
got there, and Freight will be Packed
from Coutlee's from this forth for

FROM 2 OR 3 CENTS PER POUND.

I will guarantee or contract to take all
Freight from here to the mines with dis-
patch for from

**Four to Four and a half cents
per Pound.**

R. CURNOW,
Freighter and Forwarder.

SPENCE'S BRIDGE, April 4th, 1886.

ap7 1w

April 9, 1886

THE NEW DIGGINGS —The influx of
population from all parts to the scene of
the gold discoveries on Granite creek con-
tinues to increase. A number of men
left by this morning's New Westminster
steamer for "the mines that ope' in the
spring, tra la."

FROM THE MINES.

Discouraging Reports from the Similkameen.

A party of miners arrived down yesterday from the mines in the Similkameen, and state they have had enough of the mines. Granite creek, they state, has some very good claims; but they are not at present being worked, on account of high water. The ground in Collins' gulch has not turned out well, and is not in any sense rich. Collins, its locator, has been paying wages and no more.

On the Tulameen river a large amount of work has been done, but poor wages has been the only result. The party who have returned sank to bed-rock on this, but got no pay. They also prospected on Champion, Cedar and other creeks, but without securing any pay, small colors only being met with.

Nearly all the length of the various creeks from head to mouth has been staked off without any work having been done on the claims, and the cabins and tents of the miners waiting for the snow to disappear, are scattered throughout the whole country.

Owing to the earliness of the season, proper prospecting could not be done, and all those who have gone and are going in will have to wait for the snow to go and the freshet to subside before being able to work. The consequence is that most of the men in camp have but little cash. It would have been much better if the rush had not taken place until the middle or latter end of May.

The party came out by way of the Hope trail. Snow from the 20-Mile House to eight miles beyond Summit House is still from one foot to an indefinite depth, and it is toilsome work wading through. Beyond this point the trail is good.

About eighty persons were met on the trail on the way in, and the same number leave the district as visit it. The mines may turn out better than the party anticipate, but they are quite satisfied to return home.

From Granite Creek.

Mr. H. N. Coursiers arrived from Granite Creek yesterday, by way of Hope, and is registered at the Oriental. The trail over the mountain is still deeply covered with snow, on the summit it being six feet in depth.

Work was in progress on Granite creek when a sudden very warm spell caused a freshet, and mining is suspended for an indefinite period. Contrary to the statement of parties who returned the other day, Mr. C. says that prospects are good, and especially on the Tulameen. The Homestake company, fifteen miles above Granite creek, about three weeks ago took out \$523 for three days' work. Ground above this claim has been staked off, but is not as yet worked.

In Collins' gulch, the day before Mr. C. left, one claim had taken out \$50 for three days' work. The other creeks pay wages. In spite of the scarcity of money, the only gold being small quantities brought in by prospectors, the feeling is that the mines will turn out well, though there are many who are skeptical in this respect.

Owing to high water it is impossible to work for the next five or six weeks, and it is unwise, for those intending, to visit the mines until that time has expired.

Bridges are being thrown over the creeks on the Nicola-Granite Creek trail, which will be the only route for packing goods or comfortable travel for a month to come.

April 17, 1886

Arthur Perry wrote March 26th to Major Jones of this city as follows, from Granite creek, B. C.:

"In reply to promise, I will tell you as a friend this country is too highly over-rated. At present it is impossible to do a thing at mining, as snow and ice bar your efforts. I have no doubt that there will be excellent discoveries in this region, but the middle of June will be soon enough to come here. I have joined a party of old miners, and expect to locate on Slate creek, fourteen miles from here. All we can do at present is to lie about and eat badly cooked grub and pray for snow to disappear. A few river claims are being worked a little, but not much money being taken out. There are about a thousand men here, and nearly all of them broke. Five women are in the town, and a good many gamblers. I have seen some nice gold taken from different creeks, and there is no question that it is a gold country; but with my little experience I would advise any man with a situation in civilization to stay with it, and not get excited over Granite creek."—*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*.

April 21, 1886

FROM GRANITE CREEK.

Latest from the Mines---Progress of the Town.

Second Advice for Intending Miners.

Mr. W. Cusack, representative of S. J. Pitts, arrived down from Granite creek yesterday. He reports matters at the mines at a stand still at present owing to spring freshets. Only two claims on Granite creek were taking out any money and it will be six weeks before any work can be done. Practical miners who were over the mining ground on the creek last fall, have estimated that \$400,000 will cover the wealth of the creek and think that this will be taken out during the

coming season.

OTTER FLAT.

The townsite at Otter Flat is being taken up and several business buildings are already erected, while others are in course of construction. This point is six miles from Granite city and is at the junction of the Tulameen river and Otter creek. It is thought that this will be the chief mining camp during this year, as Cedar creek is one and one-half miles distant; Collin's creek two miles; Slate creek three miles; Bear creek eight miles, and Champion creek fourteen miles, all tributaries of the Tulameen river. The prospecting party from Yale struck the district at Eagle creek, above the last named creek. All these creeks are gold-bearing and have been but slightly prospected.

THE PRESENT TOWN.

At Granite city the new bridge is of substantial construction, 200 feet in length and seven feet wide. Four other bridges on the trail from Otter Flat to Coutlie's are in course of erection. The business men of the town employ a night watchman, each paying \$5 per month. This has tended to preserve good order. The business of the town consists of nine general stores, fourteen hotels and restaurants, among which are such names as the Driard, Stanley house, Cariboo house, the Adelphi, etc.; two jewelers, three bakers, three barbers, three blacksmiths, two livery stables, a shoemaker, butcher, chemist, attorney, doctor, while eight pack trains are owned in the city. The buildings are two hundred in number, and occupy two streets—Government and Granite.

THE ROUTE.

The trail from Hope is not yet in order, though Mr. R. Stevenson had started to make it passable. The trail from Coutlie's is free from snow and in good condition. However, as the freshet will not be over for six weeks, it is useless men without capital going in for the present, as it would only result in discouragement to themselves and discredit to the district.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

Mr. Wm. Jensen, who arrived down from Granite creek yesterday, says that there is a good deal of dissatisfaction among those at the mines who find they have gone in too early. There is not, and will not be, employment for at least six weeks time for those who have to work for others, and he advises people, if they have not got enough to keep them for, say two months, not to go in. The freshet has set in on the creek and there are only about two claims working on Granite creek. Several claims started in working and took out pay, but they had to discontinue owing to the water. In all gulches snow is still very deep. Where there has been a general prospecting, parties are satisfied with the result. Some whose funds were at zero have left again, among them being several practical miners. These latter, however, will return when the season opens. The country is not condemned by practical miners by any means; but is like all new fields—whether good or bad—over-puffed by some and over-condemned by others. All will be able to speak better when everything has been in full swing for a time. So at present those who have only about enough to enable them to get to the mines had better wait until the time mentioned.

FROM THE MINES.

Progress Made--Probable Prospects--A New Strike.

Why the Mines have been Unfavorably Reported.

Mr. W. T. Thompson yesterday registered at the Oriental from Granite creek. He left the mines on Wednesday morning last, and made Spence's bridge in sixteen hours' time on horseback. The trail from Granite creek to Coutlie's, by way of Allison's, is entirely free from snow and the bunch grass is green on the hills all along the route. The trail by way of Otter valley is temporarily closed on account of high water in the streams, but bridges are being built over these. Mr. D. McBeth, the contractor, is pushing the work and as soon as the water is low bridges will be ready for travel.

MINING OPERATIONS

on the creek are delayed on account of continued high water, though when Mr. Thompson left the water had fallen two feet and was still lowering. Snow on the lower altitudes has disappeared and in all probability work will be recommenced in ten days. Some of the claims that got in work before the freshet took as high as \$200 per day.

Collins creek, between Granite city and Otter Flat, has lately shown good prospects, some very pretty coarse gold having been secured. The gold is much brighter in appearance than that on Granite creek. Those who have claims on the creek are more than pleased with the prospects. With the exception of Cedar creek, where prospecting is now being done, work on all other creeks has not begun owing to the high water. A new gold-bearing creek has been discovered ten miles from Allison's, emptying into the Similkameen. It

is reported by prospectors as showing good colors.

The New Brunswick mining company, one of the largest and richest companies on the Tulameen, are about to begin operations on their 2000 feet of ground. Prospects have been flattering and the chances are that large results will be secured. The California Co. also are about to resume operations. They own a large extent of ground on the Tulameen.

The sawmill of Woodland & Gillis is now in full working order, and lumber is being supplied by them at half the price of last fall. This firm intend building a road up the creek in order to distribute the lumber to the miners cheaply and quickly.

With regard to the gloomy statements of parties who have

RETURNED FROM THE MINES,

Mr. Thompson says that they have chiefly been made by unprincipled men without means to carry them through until work begun, and having gone into the district before there was a prospect of securing any work or testing ground, they were unable to remain. There has nothing as yet transpired this year that would cause the statements previously made about the richness of the ground to be withdrawn, and all those who were in last fall and who understood the nature of the country have every faith that so soon as the water has lowered and mining is in full sway, infinitely greater returns will result over those of last year. During last season work was not carried on in a thorough and practicable manner, there having been but a couple of companies who did any sluicing. Every preparation has been made this year to flume and work over the entire creek and save all the gold, the best part not yet having been touched.

RETURN FARES.

In compliance with a suggestion made, Mr. G. Kyle, general superintendent of the Onderdonk line, has issued orders that the same rates of fare be given from Coutlie's to returning passengers as those

going in. Tickets are placed on sale at the creek from Coutlie's through to Moody. Mr. Kyle has generously met the proposals made by merchants of Granite creek with regard to freight and passenger traffic to the mines, which has resulted in benefit to all parties concerned.

Mr. Thompson brought down \$4000 worth of dirt, taken from Granite creek.

April 27, 1886

GRANITE CREEK.

Some who went over a short time ago have returned, and report that high water has commenced and work may not be expected to commence again, to amount to anything, for a couple of months. Pack trains are constantly running between Coutlie's and Granite creek, and there are several four-horse teams running between Spence's Bridge and Coutlie's. Oats can scarcely be bought here at any price. Pack trains ran throughout all last winter between here and Granite Creek, and caused a good demand for feed-grain, hence the present scarcity. Mr. James Corlett has taken on shares Mr. W. Charter's ranche (in the forks of the Nicola and Coldstream rivers) and is actively employed in

PUTTING IN A LARGE CROP.

This gentleman has not been long out from Scotland, and we wish him all success. Mr. Sincular (late Canadian Pacific railway sub contractor) passed through Nicola the other day on his way to Kamloops on business. He intends returning through Nicola with a band of

horses which he intends to ship to Victoria or elsewhere for sale. Mr. Geo. A. Caughell left Nicola a few days ago with his stallion for Chilliwack. His present intention is to return to Nicola after the season is over. The members of the

METHODIST CHURCH

in Nicola welcomed an addition of three members to their number last Sunday in the Lower Nicola schoolhouse. We think this schoolhouse ought to be called "The Woodward Schoolhouse," because nearly all the scholars are either Woodwards or near relations of that numerous family, and the present esteemed teacher has a leaning that way. Rev. A. R. Sheriff, late of California, has returned from Granite Creek, whither he went a short time ago. He ruptured a blood vessel in his leg going over there, which partly caused his quick return. We are glad to learn that his condition is not so bad as might be expected under the circumstances. "Coming events cast their shadows before" will explain certain very, very important events which are likely to happen in the Lower and Nicola Lake portions of Nicola soon. W. W.

May 5, 1886

GRANITE CREEK.—Arrivals from the Granite Creek mines confirm the report of the government agent there to the effect that the freshet will prevent work for some time to come. Many miners, whose funds will not permit them to remain, are going elsewhere, until the season really opens, and from this cause more men are leaving the mines just now than are going in.

May 12, 1886

Upper Country News.

Mr. Thomas Daley, of Keremeos, is at the Oriental. He came over the

HOPE TRAIL,

reaching the summit without any difficulty, but was from that point obliged to have his horses sent back, and come the balance of the way on foot. He encountered three miles of snow, averaging about three feet in depth, which effectually prevented the horses' further progress. There is a lot of freight at Hope, and a number of horses on the other side, waiting to come in, but this is quite impossible on account of the blockade which should, he says, be speedily raised. He reports matters very quiet at

GRANITE CREEK,

and would not advise parties going in until July. He believes there is a great future before the mines, which only require development to insure their success. As many people are going in to, as coming out of, the mines, and he attributes the bad reports received here entirely to those persons who have gone in without any means in an unfavorable time, and been obliged naturally to return. The crops are progressing favorably, and the settlers are well contented.

SMITH'S LEADS,

near Osoyoos, are to be worked this season, having been bonded for \$60,000 by a Portland company. The people are looking forward to good times in consequence, which will certainly result if the company proceeds, as is expected, with the work.

GRANITE CREEK.

Reliable Particulars of the Present Condition of Mines.

Among other guests at the Occidental are W. B. Sheppard and W. L. McClure, who arrived yesterday from Granite Creek, and give an account of the mines there similar to the last reports furnished. The freshet is strong at present, and will not, Mr. Sheppard thinks, allow full scope for work until the beginning of next July. The bridge along the Otter Flat trail is nearly completed; and on their return journey the prospectors met large quantities of

FREIGHT GOING IN TO THE MINES,

by way of Coutlie's, showing that merchants have as much, and perhaps more, confidence in the diggings than have the miners themselves at present, though there is comparatively no work going on there just now. A few companies are at work on the south fork, about three and a-half miles above Granite City—where paying claims—if there are any at all (besides those already located on Granite Creek proper) will, it is expected, be found. Portions of the creek at this point have been wing-dammed, for the purpose of testing the gravel and bed-rock. The channel here is very narrow; rises very abruptly and then widens out, so that there is quite a flat on each side of the creek, which will make it more difficult in finding the paying part of the channel than in ordinary cases.

COLLINS' GULCH, CEDAR CREEK, BEAR CREEK AND OTTER FLAT

have not, so far, come up to the expectations of those who have been testing them; one company on Cedar creek having sunk a shaft reaching bed-rock, at a depth of sixty feet, only to find that there was not even a color, though the latter had shown pretty freely in one of the higher strata. The principal object of Sheppard's and McClure's search was

quartz indications; but in this they were unsuccessful. This, however, they mentioned in conjunction with the information that the snow on the higher benches had prevented an extended search, and they also admitted not having been to the end of Nicola valley.

BUSINESS

is naturally a reflex of the state of the mines, and though with such a number of men there, stores, hotels and saloons are all doing some business, yet many proprietors find themselves already confronted with the request for "jawbore," which is rather early in the day to be very promising. More men are leaving than are going in, which is more from a knowledge that the season will be late than from being aware as to how the fields will "pan out." That must be left to the subsidence of the freshet and to hopeful hearts and sturdy determination to discover.

GRANITE CREEK AGAIN.

The Other Side of the Picture.

ESQUIMALT, May 14, 1886.

TO THE EDITOR:—I send a letter from a young man now at Granite Creek, sent to a friend of his, and as I think it may do some good to publish it I beg to enclose a copy of same, requesting you kindly to insert it in your paper..

VICTOR JENSEN.

GRANITE CREEK, April 22.

"I arrived at Granite Creek all safe. It took us five days from Hope to Granite, for we had about forty miles of snow to walk through, from about two to twenty feet deep. No pack-animals can get in by this trail before a month or more. I do not see any use in a man coming in here before the middle of June or July, and even then, in my opinion, he had better keep away. This camp is not what it was represented to be; and I have found out since that the glowing statements about Granite Creek were false.

It is time that claims on Granite creek were paying wages, taking the outlay into consideration; the diggings are very deep and it would cost three or four hundred dollars to open them up. I don't see any poor man's diggings about them.

There are hundreds of men leaving this place; men who have been here all winter and spent all they had prospecting. Old miners, too, say that the country does not amount to much. There is a little gold, but it is in spots, and they are few and far between. There is no work to be got here yet, and if you did happen to get work you would have to wait until they took the money out of the ground to get pay. This is the poorest mining camp I ever saw. Old Mrs. C—— is up here running around like the balance of us. We cannot do much prospecting on account of the snow and frost. The lower parts of the creeks are all claimed. Jensen brothers have built a

house for store purposes about six miles up the Tulameen from Granite, at a place called Otter Flat. I saw some gold the other days that a couple of boys brought in from Collins Gulch, four miles from Granite. There was about three or four ounces and I think they worked about a month to get that much out. If any of the boys want to live on bacon and beans and leave the country dead broke there is a good chance up here. Still, something better might be struck after the snow goes off. I am sorry I came up here so soon, and hate to leave now until I know if there is anything or not.

A. S.

GRANITE CREEK ITEMS.

Discovery of a New Creek.

We have been permitted to make the following extracts from a letter written by the gold commissioner at Granite Creek, and received by the minister of mines on Saturday:

"I have the honor to inform you that a new creek named 'Boulder creek,' has been lately discovered. It crosses the Granite creek-Nicola trail at a point about eleven miles north of this place (Granite City), and empties into Otter creek on the west side, near the head of the lake of that name.

FIVE PANS OF DIRT YIELDED FOUR DOLLARS.

The prospect was obtained on a bench about thirty feet above the present channel. A number of persons have started with the intention of staking off ground.

* * * There are about

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MEN

at work on the South Fork of Granite creek, concerning which sanguine expectations are entertained. The Spokane company are down 18 feet and daily expect to reach bedrock. The water is still at a high stage, and mining on the rivers and Granite creek is almost entirely suspended.

MR. A. E. HOWSE,

of Nicola Lake, whose mercantile business during the last few years has increased so rapidly as to necessitate extensive enlargements to his present premises. He informs us that as soon as the necessary materials can be obtained he will build an addition to his store, and also a large storehouse. During his recent visit to the east he purchased direct from the manufacturers a large stock of goods, and in conjunction with Messrs. Thompson & Ferguson (of Granite Creek) has six car loads of merchandise *en route*.

MESSRS. THOMPSON AND FERGUSON

are going to build a large storehouse at Nicola Lake for the accommodation of the public generally, but particularly for their own use, as a point from which they will forward their freight to Granite Creek. The majority of the Granite Creek freight is now teamed to Nicola Lake and thence packed to its destination. The teams on the road between Spence's Bridge and the Nicola Lake have been very busy the last week. Freight is a cent a pound from Spence's Bridge to Coutlie's or Nicola Lake, which is lower than it has been for several years, if ever before so low. Irrigating has just commenced and water is plentiful so far.

June 6, 1886

Granite Creek.

A gentleman who arrived from Granite creek yesterday says that little work can be done in the mines before the last of July, owing to the water. About 700 men are in camp, doing little or nothing, and many would come away if they could. The gentleman referred to was very earnest in his expressions of disgust.

June 17, 1886

FROM GRANITE CREEK.

Latest News From the Mines.

**Work Resumed With Good Prospects--The Hope Trail--
"Lord" Douglas in Gaol.**

Messrs. Eugene Sperry and H. D. Graydon have just arrived in the city from Granite Creek. We learn from them that when they left the mines, on Thursday last, the water was just going down, and that it was expected work would have begun the first of this week. Owing to all the wingdams having been washed away, new ones will have to be put in before mining can be resumed. There is probably a population of 400 at Granite Creek now, exclusive of the Chinese. These latter are securing

LARGE INTERESTS,

as they are buying up the claims of the many who are either disgusted or "busted;" and according to our informants, the "dead broke" constitute nine-tenths of those in camp. They calculate that as many are coming out of, as going into the mines.

The Hope trail, which these gentlemen came down by, is in good condition, all the snow having disappeared. The accommodations in the way of comfortable inns and the like are all that could be desired. They express themselves as highly delighted with the

SCENIC EFFECTS

on their journey, while their bronzed faces and hearty appearance tell of good cheer, and the invigorating influence of the mountain air.

They have little doubt that, once operations can be successfully resumed, as much gold will be taken out this season as last. They fail to see any reason why it should not be so, since really little

MINING WORK

has been done yet, and the prospector has a wide field before him. Many of the reports depreciatory of the mines have been set afloat by men without any mining experience or without the necessary funds to pursue the work. There are a good many quartz-men at Granite Creek, and, on the whole, there is a fair prospect of a "boom" this summer. All the claims on the creek had been

LAI D OVER

until the 15th instant, so that, if the gold commissioner does not issue any new orders to morrow, the 18th, or three days afterwards, all the claims on the creek that are not represented will be forfeited, unless some reasonable cause can be shown for their non-representation. A good many, consequently, are going in to represent claims, and as many to "jump" them, if possible. It is reported that

"LORD" DOUGLAS,

with some of whose history Victorians are

familiar, is at the mines. At present, it is said, his prospects of "making a stake" are decidedly poor, since he is in durance vile, charged with stealing a satchel, the property of Doc. Simpson.

Major Downie, of Downieville, California, well-known in the mining annals of California, is now at the mines taking a look 'round.

July 1, 1886

ARRESTED.—A young man who has been spending money freely about town lately, was arrested yesterday on suspicion of having been concerned in a robbery up country. When searched \$500 was found on him. He claimed that he had been to Granite creek and sold a claim to a Chinaman for \$800.

GRANITE CREEK MINES.

— — —
"Don't You Go, Tommy, Don't Go."
— — —

Among the late arrivals from the mainland is Professor Menzies, who has returned to the practice of his magnetic powers in this city. During his trip of five weeks' duration he was through the entire Similkameen district, and finds that the discoveries, so-called, on the upper creeks do not fully bear out all that is claimed for them. Many men have worked hundreds of feet of ground, and

DO NOT MAKE LIVING WAGES

from that, and can do better in any of the streams of Colorado. Granite Creek proper is not yet bringing out the gold which is undoubtedly in the bottom. The works are very extensive and costly; and men who are not well provided with means, and who are going to work in their own behalf, had better seek the north or south fork of the Similkameen instead of reaching out for those higher creeks that have been pronounced so rich, previously. There are numbers of men through all this section who have not means enough to take themselves from the places where they are now trying to eke out an existence. At Granite Creek there are many good honest workingmen who cannot get employment, and, under necessity are even

COMPELLED TO SEEK THE GARBAGE FROM THE HOTELS.

Trade is stagnant and everything is overdone. Many pass by the richer places on the south and north forks of the Similkameen, hurrying to Granite and the upper creeks, only to use up their means and find themselves unable to make a livelihood; whereas they would, and can, find better returns by not going so far as Granite City. Many persons have reached after water for bench claims and discovered that they were taking from streams that dried after the main melting of the snow. The bench claims

on Granite Creek which, no doubt, are rich, cannot be worked until after the streams have been mined, as nobody will be permitted to carry the debris from the benches into the creek while every foot of the latter is being worked. The people are all healthy, and at every point on the wayside one meets with nothing but civility and good treatment. The prices of goods are reasonable, considering the cost of transportation. The trails, mainly, are good, with the exception of that portion which requires to be taken to avoid fording the Skagit river. This part is dangerous from its roughness and the narrowness of the path which winds in some cases along the very brink of steep bluffs.

The above particulars can be vouched for; and this being so, the evident moral to be drawn from its perusal is: "Don't Go!"

July 20, 1886

GRANITE CREEK.

Slow Times With a Late Season.

Mr. R. Stevenson, who has just arrived from Granite Creek, says that the flumes are all in and the wing-dams are about completed. The water is very low and the whole of the bed of the stream, for a distance of four miles, is being worked. Some of the men were taking out pay but nothing great, and the season is regarded as being very late. The mines have so far, failed to realize the very vivid expectations. The miners still going in are arriving principally by way of Kamloops, Okanagan and from the American side; while again, others are leaving in numbers sufficient to keep the population at about the same figure as that it has been for two months past—1,500 people, about 800 whites and 700 Chinamen. Mr. Stevenson is getting assays made of a new ledge (20 feet thick)

that he has discovered in that district. He thinks the quartz prospects generally are very good.

July 23, 1886

GRANITE CREEK MINES.

Reports Still Unfavorable.

A gentleman who arrived yesterday from Granite Creek confirms the late reports we have given of the flat times prevailing there; and says that with the exception of Granite Creek proper and the Beaver and San Francisco claims in the Tulameen river, all claims have been left. Along the creek extending some four miles above and below Granite city miners are busily working, and with these, it is thought, that the results will be good enough; although with the exception of what was taken out last year nothing is known of the richness of the creek. Until more favorable reports of the digging are received it is thought that no more men will go in, the number of arrivals having most materially lessened.

July 25, 1886

Granite Creek.

Mr. A. J. Johnston of Granite Creek, writing to a friend at New Westminster on the 19th inst., says:—We were scared yesterday by a bush fire, which threatened the city all day. We fought it with shovels and without water; the wind changed and that was a point in our favor. The danger is over, because the material for fire has been consumed.... A good many companies are ready to begin sluicing, and in a month everyone will know what this district as a field for miners may be worth. The water in the creeks is very low, and if the dry weather continues the whole country will be prospected. It may, but it may not be, very rich."

July 30, 1886

Granite Creek.

A gentleman lately from Granite Creek informs *The Colonist* that the water having subsided, mining interests are looking up. The claim owners are doing well—as well as at any time since the diggings were struck. All the old and several new claims are being worked with marked success. Five hundred dollars in dust were received at Victoria yesterday.

August 8, 1886

GRANITE CREEK FREIGHT,

which has been transported *via* Hope will come *via* Nicola again, it being considered the cheapest route. I am informed on good authority that freight from Hope to Granite Creek is $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound, and that owing to a scarcity of feed on that trail several pack trains have been obliged to turn out. The feed on the trail from Coutlie to Granite Creek is excellent, and the trail is in good order. Packers say that it pays them better to pack from Coutlie to Granite Creek for $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound than to pack from Hope to Granite Creek for $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents. Freight from Spence's Bridge to Coutlie is 1 cent a pound, and some large lots have been drawn for $\frac{7}{8}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent. Those who have claims on Granite Creek are reported to be very well satisfied with the pay, although not so large as they expected. Messrs. T. Woodward & Son have *en route* from the Waterous Engine Works a new complete grist mill, with 30-inch burr stones. They will build a new mill, and seem determined to keep fully abreast of the times. W. W.

LOWER NICOLA, Aug. 4th.

August 12, 1886

Major Downie has arrived from the interior. He reports times very quiet at Granite Creek, but believes the prospects in the Tulameen country are excellent. Chinese are rapidly buying out the white miners at Granite Creek, and soon but few of the latter will be found there.

August 19, 1886

Highway Robbery.

Mr. Thompson, of Messrs. Thompson & Ferguson, who arrived here from Granite Creek yesterday, met with an exciting adventure on his way from the mines. He was riding along the Hope trail when two masked men suddenly jumped out from ambush and made the usual demand. Instead of throwing up his hands he endeavored to get his pistol from his pocket, and the action being observed, one of the men fired at him twice, missing him each time. Thompson turned round and fired with better success, for he says that one of the men fell in his track. Thompson's horse, alarmed by the shots, galloped off, and its rider did not think that under the circumstances it was advisable to return. He had, at the time, several thousand dollars worth of gold dust in his possession.

August 22, 1886

NOTICE.

TAKE NOTICE THAT H. N. COURSIER AND A. G. JOHNSTON, carrying on business at Granite Creek, under the name of Coursier & Johnston, have this day made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors to Wm. Heathorn and J. L. Beckwith, of Victoria, to whom all accounts duly verified must be sent in.

Dated 9th August, 1886.

THORNTON FELL,
Solicitor for the Assignees.

September 1, 1886

GRANITE CREEK.—Parties who arrived at Hope from Granite Creek yesterday, report that they heard nothing of the acts of lawlessness referred to in the Columbian.

September 7, 1886

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—Mr. Wm. Marsh, of Lower Nicola, was fired at when riding along the road near Coutlie's on the 31st ult. The bullet passed through his hat. The would-be assassin was concealed in the bushes by the roadside. The footpad is not even suspected, as Mr. Marsh is not known to have an enemy in the country. The object was probably robbery. Parties packing gold from Granite creek are becoming more wary as thieves and tramps are becoming more numerous.

September 9, 1886

NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE THAT THE UNDERSIGNED IS Trustee under an Assignment in Trust for the creditors of all the effects of John Austin and Catherine Austin. Creditors are requested to send in their accounts, sworn to, at once.

Dated at Granite City, Aug 2nd, 1886.

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DUNCAN A. McDONALD.

September 22, 1886

The Semilkameen Country.

Mr. J. F. Allison, who returned this morning to Princeton, Semilkameen, after having paid a flying visit to Victoria, informed us that there is as much mining going on on the south fork of the Semilkameen as there is on Granite Creek, and that a number of claims were paying very well. Though, of course, events have proven that the gold fields are not equal to what was at first so enthusiastically expected, yet there are now about 300 whites and some 600 Chinese there. In Granite city, a good many storekeepers have failed or left, and the place is about settling down to a normal condition. The Old Channel company are doing very well drifting; and a few bench claims are doing tolerably well. Mr. Allison thinks the camp will be a good one for some years. There was a nugget taken out of Slate creek the other day worth \$215. The principal difficulty of mining in this district is the comparative scarcity of water. Speaking of the storekeepers,

our informant said that in some cases goods are actually being sold cheaper than they could be procured in Victoria; also that there is a fearful amount of drunkenness amongst the Indians there, which he puts down to the fact of there being so many saloons that all are not able to make a legitimate living.

The Granite Creek Mines.

Mr. A. M. Nelson, just returned from Granite creek, has furnished the reporter with a few items of news from the mines. The latest excitement among the gold hunters was caused by the finding of a \$215 nugget on Slate creek. About 25 men are prospecting there and the indications have been rather favorable so far. A great many have not lost faith in the Similkameen country yet, and Mr. Nelson says there is scattered through it a much larger number of white and Chinese miners than most people have any idea of. So far as Granite creek is concerned more than half of the claims are worked out, but a good deal of attention is being given to bench diggings. The old Channel company which are still drifting have been making two thirds expenses all along. A one-fourth interest was recently sold for \$750. Water has been very low for some weeks; in fact, too low for mining; and it is said of the miners that if they ever pray at all, they are praying for more water. Our informant adds that higher water is expected very soon, but whether it is as a result of the gold diggers' supplications or not he cannot say. There are very few idle men in camp at present. The gamblers have all gone away and six whisky shops have closed up since spring; but unfortunately these cannot be claimed as triumphs for morality or temperance, seeing the gamblers and saloon keepers left because the dust was not there. Things are severely quiet just now at Granite creek and cheap. Building that were erected there some months ago at a cost of \$1500 could be purchased for \$25, and they are a drug on the market at that price. People have gone out of the real estate business altogether.—*Columbian*.

October 12, 1886

GRANITE CREEK.—Mr. John Pomeroy, a miner from Granite Creek, arrived Saturday night, and reports that there is no news of special importance in the camp. Several miners have left for Kettle river to investigate the reported new strike there.

October 22, 1886

(Columbian.)

Mr. Allison, who came down from Similkameen a few days ago, says gold mining has been going on in that country for the last 17 years and it will continue to go on for 17 more. Gold is being taken out of Granite Creek, and he says it will keep a few men employed every year; but there was never anything to warrant last year's boom. High diggings are worked there which pay \$1 80 per day to the man and when water can be brought to them they will be worked to better advantage. Mr. Allison thinks that quartz mining will be carried on extensively in the Similkameen district before many years.

(Guardian.)

November 28, 1886

HOPE TRAIL.—A despatch from Hope yesterday says: "Stevenson's pack train arrived from Granite Creek to-day; he reports the trail good; weather fine; and expects to make one or two trips more for merchants anxious to get freight in this way."

Compilation From the 1886 Daily Colonist Newspaper

Diane Sterne 2014

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