LETTER BOOK

OF

J O H N E V A N S

THE WELSH MINING ADVENTURE IN CARIBOO

1862 - 1864

JERRY WYNN WILLIAM JONES DAN PARRY EDWARD JONES EDWIN JONES WILLIAM WILLIAMS THOMAS WILLIAMS EDWARD PARRY	These were the men who went away in the spring of 1864; "Mutineers" as Evans called them. They found their way to Nanaimo where they worked in the mines until they got sufficient money to return to Wales.

RICHARD ROBERTS TALIESIN EVANS WILLIAM JONES DAVID ROBERTS HUGH JONES JOHN LUMLEY HUMPHREY JONES WILLIAM OWEN WILLIAM GRIFFITHS WILLIAM JONES HARRY JONES EDWIN LLOYD EDWARD BLACKWELL JOHN JONES	These were the men who stayed with Evans until the expiry of the contract on the 1st day of October, 1864.

ROBERT ROBERTS ROBERT PRITCHARD DAVID JONES BEN CONWAY	These four men remained with Evans during the summer of 1865.

BRITISH COLUMBIAN MINING ADVENTURE.

December 22nd 1862. 26 Mining Adventurers left L'pool on Board the "Rising Sun" for Victoria Vancouver Isd.

Feby. 17 1863. John Evans sailed from Southampton for the same destination: arrived at St. Thomas March 2nd stayed there 2 days. Sailed for Aspinewall on Board the "Tamer" Steamship arrived on the 9th 6 a.m. Crossed Panama same day: delayed until the evening of the 14th when we sailed on Board the "St. Louis" Steamship for San Francisco arrived at San Francisco 28th having met on the way a great number of miners from California going to the Mexican Silver Mines which are being extensively worked at present. On Board the "St. Louis" I came in contact with very many Gold Miners. Some going to California others to Cariboo, from whom I derived much valuable information tho with difficulty, as they did not all co-incide in every respect in their testimonies & opinions: I met many more in San Francisco of the great guns of Cariboo, who were preparing to go up: but from none have I learned so much, and expect so much assistance as from Mr. Nind; he has been thoroughly unreserved; but I was obliged to change into 2nd class at Panama for San Francisco to have an oportunity to come in contact with him - he has been fishing information from all around in his official capacity, and after mature deliberation I think my course seem pretty clear so far, that our location will be - on the Fraser below Quesnelle River, as he finds the (2) ground is still unoccupied, but however before finally deciding, I will glean all I can at Victoria -

While at San Francisco I determined, with Mr. Nind's advice to go up into the interior of California at make the best of my time in visiting all the Mining District, I could reach during the 10 days we had to wait here: after getting a letter of Introduction from a Mr. Davidson a Scotch Gentleman to whom I have been introduced by Mr. Nind and to whom also Mr. White would have done the same: had Mr. Nind not known him - with this preliminary I started off for Sonora where the whole country is being worked by hydraulic and what is called plaza mining. viz River washing. I also visited Columbia District which is about 300 miles east of San Francisco here are some hydraulic mining on a large scale, and about 10 miles from this are Quartz Crushing Mills belonging to Mr. Davidson whom I visited and was well repaid.

April 7th. ½ past 5 P.M. Leaving San Francisco for Victoria on Board the "Brother Jonathan" Steamship with some 600, crowded in a space just only enough for 50 which made it more of a purgatory than anything else in the part I was doomed to be, and instead of having a second cabin as my ticket from Wheately Starr & Co. specified for this part of the trip, I was placed with horses mules cows & sheep, and treated more like hounds than men. There is the greatest rascality and imposition upon passengers, (3) by the Yankees on the Pacific as is scarcely

possible to imagine, and the statments made in their bills about the expense of the journey and facilities is calculated to mislead people as we all found our money dwindling away in a fearful manner both by the unexpected delays and exorbitant charges for everything. We could not get even a glass of Lemonade in the tropics without paying 25 cents for it and still they prohibit any one to take any sort of drink with them.

On our way to Victoria, we called at Portland Oregon, which is 90 miles up the Columbia River, arrived there before day break of the 11th Stayed 3 days which made our delays from Southampton 20 days in all - say St. Thomas 2 days Panama 5 days, San Francisco 10 days Portland 3 days.

April 15th Arrived at Esquimalt Harbour this morning:- Victoria at noon; delivered my letters to Messrs Rhodes & Nicol the latter happened to be here from Nanaimo but being mail day I could not expect long conversation from either: and I have now to close my epistle before post closes & will send my cash account by next mail & hope the men will be here soon. I will call upon the Governor tomorrow. The Bishop is out of Town.

This is a beautiful place --

I am dear Sir

Yours truly

"Jno. Evans"

Victoria April 15/63

Henry B Jackson Esq.

(41 - 1 Blank)

Victoria V.I.

(5)

April 16. Presented my letters to his Excellency the Governor in Company with Mr. Rhodes & was also introduced to the Colonial Secretary Mr. Young. The Governor is a very fine shrewd old Gentleman; very ready to give all the facilities in his power and offered Leases to work any Silver, Copper or other Minerals that I might find free from the payment of any Royalty, the only conditions imposed would be, - to work them.

Introduced also to Henderson Burnaby & Co. owners of Copper Mines on Queen Charlotte Island north of this Island, good one: these being also silver.

Introduced also to Dr. Forbes, the Geologist and author of the Prize Essay on Vancouver Id. and made an appointment to meet him at Mr. Rhodes house to Dinner on Saturday.

Introduced to a Mr. Young owner of Copper Mines on this Island this side of Nanaimo and also to Mr. Finlayson one of the head Factors of the Hudson Bay Co. who told me where to find Copper in abundance on the Main Land but difficult of transit.

Introduced to Mr. Elwyn the Gold Commissioner of Cariboo.

17th Delivered my letter to Messrs. Anderson & Co. but I dont expect much from them.

I found Cinabar in some samples of Copper ore shown to me. Cinabar is the ore from which Mercury is got. The owners were quite elated.

I have also called with Mr. Rhodes (6) on very many people of influence & position here & all very glad to see me on my errand Especially bringing the class of men that follow me, which you may imagine from the puff you will find in the paper I send you by this mail.

April 18 I could scarcely raise my head as I was the observed of all to day from the announcement which appeared in the "Colonist".

Called with Mr. Rhodes upon Mr. Green one of his co-shareholders in a Silver Mine in the neighbourhood of Hope, B.C. they wish me to examine it on my way up the country.

Del'd my letter to Mr. Walker of the Bank, who promised all the assistance he could - seen many people again in company with Mr. Rhodes, who has been very busy with me every day, doing all he could & I shall be glad to give him any assistance in my power in his mine.

20th The Bishop is not at home. I hope to see him perhaps tomorrow. We have called 5 or 6 times trying to catch Mr. Wallace of Dixon, Campbell & Co. but unsuccessful.

Mr. Nind has been very anxious since I came here that I

should go up, and prospect a District he had previously mentioned about; before the men arrived; and if I find it what he represented it, to claim a portion of it, and also examine the country around as to the best means of bringing a supply of water to it; then record 1500 or 2000 inches of water (7) taking a portion ourselves & selling the remainder. He says this is the best paying thing in the country am the water ditches, as plenty people are ready to take it up and gladly pay for it: they have been paying 30 & 40 & even 75 cents per inch per 12 hours to owners of water ditches & if we get even the lowest figure a grand thing may be made out of, provided the cost of conveying be not too great which I must ascertain.

Mr. Rhodes and myself are of opinion that I cannot now do better than go up at once, see the place & he is even very much for my going up to Cariboo if possible - there are better prospects there this season then ever, but Williams Creek the great creek is taken up every inch of workable ground for miles, one instance of 700 ounces taken in a day in a claim recorded this last winter. 7

I am going up the country on Wednesday & have bought a horse for the purpose to save time so as to come down to meet the men if possible & if not I have made all the preparation that I can for them to come up after me. We have taken an empty cottage to house them, should they have to remain here for some days, which will keep them together, & they can live cheaper, it costs 25 doller per month (the house).

The horse will cost 150$. I expect he will be useful in the mine. (8)

The £50 I received before starting I am at a loss to know exactly how to account for what is expended. Some paid in English money & some in Dollers - on all the Pacific Coast I find a $ only goes the length of 1/- at home

Dancers repairing levels 16/6. Microscope 5/6. Cash book 3/6.
Treatises on Gold & copper 4/. Cards 4/6. Writing case 37/6.
Fishing tacle [sic] 22/6. Fare to London 24/. & Cabs 3/6.
Breakfast &c. London 2/. Rail to Southampton 11/.
Extra luggage & porterage 2/2. India Rubber 11/3.
Boat Southampton 5/. Bill & porterage 12/. Straps & wages 4/6
On Board Tasmanian 10/. Purchases & Exes. St. Thomas 30/
On Board Tamer 4/. Aspinwall 6/ Steward 4/6

	£10.13.11	$53.50
Panama Porterage 1$. Hotel Bill 15$. Porterage Back 1$		17.00
Transfer to 2 class 35$ Exes on Board 2$. Porterage S. Frisco 1$		38.00
Clearing the wharf gate 50/. Hotel Bill 'Frisco 25$		25.50
Directory of Vancouver & B.C. 3$ S.Frisco to Stockton 7$		10.00
Stockton to Sonora 10.50 Sonora to Soulsby 2.50 Do.Columbia 1.50		14.50
Columbia to Sonora 1.50. Sonora Hotel 8.00 Coach 8.00		17.50
Breakfast .75 Dinner .75 Sonora to Stockton 8.00		9.50
Stockton to S.Frisco 7.00 on Board Brother Jonathan 2.00		9.00
Portland 3.75 Esquimalt .75 porterage to Victoria 1.50		6.00
Total in English Money £41.19.1		$200.50

There appears a discrepancy between the dollers & English amount, this is owing to the difference in Exchange. Some only allowing 4.75 for a Sovereign but the amount is the English -

Cash in hand £8. 0.11

The mail goes in the morning.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

"Jno. Evans".

Victoria 20 April 1863

Henry B. Jackson, Esq.

(9)

			$ c
1863	Victoria	Brot over	200.50
April 22nd.	Taking possession of the Horse bought & going up by steamer this evening to British Columbia.	Price of Horse	150.00
	Saddle $24. Bridle $3.	Blankets $5.50	32.50

23rd. Arrived at New Westminster early this morning on Board the "Enterprise". This place is being built on the side of a slope rather too much rise from the river. Land in the neighbourhood not very good & thickly wooded, very few good buildings: it being the Capital of British Columbia, still it cannot compete with Victoria; which has the advantage of position & private influence of men in power in its favour, no better site could be selected for the latter; this cannot be said of N. Westminster, it is neither central for the country, nor will it be the only highway to the mines, - two others (one by Bute Inlet the other by Bentinck Arm) being about to be opened.

Started for Hope on Board the "Reliance", the banks of the Fraser being all the way thickly wooded and no signs of rocks until you reach many miles above Westminster, the river seems to change its course constantly, the whole valley is totally worthless from this cause and the poverty of the soil; before reaching Hope you have sights for miles without inter-

$383.00

$383.00

uption similar to the Pass of Aberglaslyn but infinitely more grand.

24. Reached Hope, a place much noted in 1858 as one of the most important Gold fields, but being alluvial washings it was soon exhausted and now in a very decayed state only few people living there mostly Chinese & Indians & only 3 English Families including the Clergyman Mr. Pringle to whom I was introduced; there is a very neat church built - wooden.

25th. Started with Mr. Pringle for Yale in a canoe & inspecting the Silver Lode on our way, as far as I could judge from what was done; this may turn out to be very good property - reached Yale same day 160 miles from Victoria and the head of navigation on the Lower Fraser.

Introduced to Mr. Saunders the Gold Commissioner for the district got 2 letters from him to the Cariboo Comm'rs.

26 Sunday. Attended services in the Church of England - head 2 sermons by Mr. Reeves the Minister - neat church. 2nd Sunday of its opening - Mr. Reeves announced from the Pulpit that 19th/20 of the contributors to this Church were outside its pale.

27th Left Yale on the New Waggon road along the Bank of the Fraser for part of the way, then along the old trail to Chapman's Bar.

28 Left Chapman's Bar & reached Forrest House, a place well described, as indeed the whole country is nothing else.

29 Reached Lytton a small Town on the the confluence of the Thompson & the Fraser & 63 miles above Yale - all thickly wooded and scarcely any land the whole distance worth clearing.

30th Left Lytton along the Banks of the Thompson for about 29 miles: The appearance on both sides is truly sickening nothing but lava & volcanic eruptions. The mountains through which this River runs for this distance seem to be immense heaps of ashes & burning matter having oosed out of the bowels of the earth in immense heaps, without any green verdure to be seen except bunches of tufted grass, and the fir & pine which seems to grow everywhere and anywhere. Leaving the Thompson I crossed a very high mountain on the old trail & reached the Shanty of Captain Venables, who has some good land only wants clearing - here I was allowed the use of his floor for the night to lay on my Blanket, he had no food to give or sell, but I happened to have 2 or 3 biscuits in my pocket.

$383.00

May 1. Left Venables without breakfast & travelled through a country pretty in appearance but full of Alkali water, which indeed is the case all the way up as far as I have been - passed the night wrapped up in my Blanket & lying on the ground in the open air for the first time where the mosquitoes made my acquaintance.

2nd. Travelled today in company with Mr. Cox one of the Gold Commissioners. (12) Our path lay along the Banks of the Buonoparte for miles, which has all the charecteristics of the Thompson, volcanic eruptions & alkali water all along, reached Clinton: the neuclus of a town intended to be built on the Junction of the 2 roads, the one by Douglas the other by Yale about 150 miles above the former - good site for a Town & some moderate good land.

3rd Sunday. I rested. Mr. Cox went his way - no appearance of a Sabbath day here. Gold in such a place is a poor exchange for the blessings of the Gospel at home.

4th. Rose early and travelled all day on a good waggon road, and overtook Mr. Cox before night to his great surprise and the Horse none the worse: we stopped at a Tavern in a wild Forrest of about 50 miles in length. Scarcely ever trod by a white man untill the waggon road was made - slept in our blankets on some sticks: nothing for the Horses to eat but Barley which was 45 cents per lb.

5th Started off early but could not travel far as the Horses were done up for want of food so we rested at the first place we came to open ground & turned the horses to grass at Bridge Creek 100 miles above Lillooet.

6th Reached Lake La Hache, passed good land today several Farms taken up.

(13)
May 7th Reached Williams Lake. The upper end of which is intended as the site of a future Town. Pretty place good land but very limited. This is the last resting place for the miners before leaving for the Mountains of Cariboo.

8th This morning I had to pay 2 dollers for re-setting 2 horse shoes - no grub to be got under $1.50 per meal. Left for a journey of 36 miles through forrest almost impassable from fallen trees, bog & marshes nearly the whole distance & reached Alexandria opposite Fort Alexander one of the Hudson Bay Coy's Posts a most miserable looking place - upper Fraser.

9th Sent my horse down some distance to a farm as I found a small steamer here ready to go up to the mouth of Quesnelle River the highest point I wanted to reach now. Reached our destination evening of the 10th on which day I was taken very ill: having had the 3rd attack of Diarhea caused by the water - and having to listen to the vilest language a man could utter. O! how I longed for home today to go to the House of Prayer.

11th - 14th. Spent these days in prospecting this spot assisted by a man; which was the chief object of my journey, and found the Bar called "Rich Bar" mentioned by Mr. Nind answring to its name but that one of the Commissioners (14) had granted 900 feet in length of the best part of the Bar to 6 Cornishmen which coupled with other reasons determined my mind to let it alone.

The Bar is estimated to contain on a moderate computation 1 Million dollers of Gold; the water would have to be brought upon it by a ditch of about 7 miles in length, or by tunnelling thro a mountain, the distance would be shortened by 3 miles. The expense would probably be 30,000 dollers: the supply is in a lake of about 1 mile square as near as I could judge but once the water was brought upon the Bar or the flat, the whole outlay could be realized from the sale of surplus water alone in less than 2 years, while immense profits could be realized by working a portion of it ourselves - the same water could again be sold to work other bars above and below; still considering that one half of the Bar was granted already I did not feel justified in the undertaking & reluctantly gave up the idea; & when I finally made up my mind I hastened down in order to confer with Mr. Cox whom I expected to meet at Williams Lake & whom I met on the 16th, when I made up my mind to take the men up to Lightning Creek in Cariboo, part of Mr. Cox's District; where I (15) dont hesitate - with God's blessing - but we shall do well. Mr. Cox was very well pleased I had so concluded. My plan is to take 2600 feet of ground in that Creek across the whole width so as to avoid the possibility of missing the stream or lead of Gold running through & sink 2 or 3 shafts simultaneously. This done, I think of placing part of the men on some of the tributory Creeks that are turning out well by which I shall have several strings to my bow.

17th After making my arrangements with Mr. Cox I started off and travelled at the rate of about 40 miles a day expecting to meet the men as I had not heard from Mr. Rhodes since I started, but after experiencing some days delays in getting over the lakes, by way of Lillooet & Douglas, and waiting for the steamer at Westminster, I arrived here on the evening of the 27th, just 5 weeks from the time I started up the country and to my great disappointment found the vessel had not arrived but that she and the steamer Fusi Yama is over due.

The Strathallan that left 14th January & made the passage in 120 days - having reached the line from the Downs in 22 days while (16) it took the "Rising Sun" to reach the same point from 22nd Decr. to 2 Febry. We should be up on the mines a fortnight ago.

While waiting for the men I purpose beginning of next week to go as far as Cowichan 25 or 30 miles north of this to visit a copper district and if I find anything worth having to secure it with a view to the future if all be well. Here follows disbursement

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$383.00

			$383.00
April	22	Victoria Hotel Bill $20.00 Wharfage 25¢ Passage to N.W. 5.00	25.25
	23	Passage for Horse 4.00 Customs duties on do. 1.00	5.00
	"	Wharfage at Westminster 25¢ duties on Saddle 2.40	2.65
	"	Breakfast & Dinner 1.50 24th do. 2.00 Freight of horse 9.00	12.50
	24	Own passage to Hope 3.00 Biscuits &c. 50¢ Hay 50¢	4.00
	"	Oats 1.00 Bed 50¢ Ferry the Horse 1.00	2.50
	25	Canoe to Yale 2.00. Hay 20 lbs. 1.00	3.00
	"	Cord, soap & matches 1.25 Letter to Victoria 25¢	1.50
	26	Collection at Church 50¢	.50
	27	Barley 100 lbs 6.60 Empty Bag 50¢	7.10
	"	Axe 1.25 Victuals 1.50 Duty on Barley 1.00	3.75
	"	2 nights lodgins & 4 meals 6.00 Yale	6.00
	"	Shelter for Horse 2 nights 1.00	1.00
	28	Chapman's Bar Supper Bed & Breakfast	2.50
	"	Boston Bar dinner 1.00	1.00
	29	Forrest House Supper & Breakfast	2.50
	30th & 31st	Lytton Supper Bed & Breakfast	2.50
	31	Nailing Horse Shoe 50¢ Crossing Ferry Thompson River 75¢	1.25
	"	Refreshment 25¢ Barley 1.00	1.25
May	1	Bread 50¢ Letter from Lytton 75¢	1.25
	2	Indian taking charge of horse to grass	.50
	3 & 4	Clinton Letter to Victoria 1.00	1.00
	"	2 nights at Do. exes.	6.75
			478.25
1863 (17)			
May	5	Supper & Breakfast & feed for Horse 83 Mile House	4.75
	6	Supper Breakfast, & Horse Bridge Creek	3.75
	"	Dinner & feed 116 Miles House	2.00
	7	Lake La Hache Supper Breakfast & feed	6.50
	8	Williams Lake do.	6.50
	"	Feed at Mud Lake (Barley 50¢ per lb.)	1.50
	"	Resetting 2 Horse shoes at Williams Lake	2.00
	9	Alexandria Supper & Breakfast	3.00
	"	Sending Horse to Mud Lake	3.00
	"	Dinner 1.50 Supper on Steamer 1.50	3.00
	10	Breakfast 1.50 Dinner 1.50	3.00
	"	Supper 1.50 Passage to Quesnelle 8.00	9.50
	11	Breakfast 1.50 Crossing Ferry 1.00	2.50
	"	Returning Ferry 1.00 Supper for man & self 3.00	4.00
	12	1 lb of Biscuits 1.00 Breakfast for man & self 3.00	4.00
	"	Ferry for self 50¢ ½ lb. Biscuits 50¢	1.00
	13	Breakfast Dinner & Supper	4.50
	14	Passage by Steamer 8.00 Exes. Mouth Quesnelle 1.00	9.00
	"	Breakfast Dinner & Supper	4.50
	15	Charges for Horse Mud Lake	4.00
	"	Oats & Breakfast do.	3.00
	"	Oats & Dinner at Williams Lake	3.00
	"	Supper Do. $1.50 16th Breakfast 1.50	3.00
	16, 17 & 18th	5 meals Lake La Hache (Anderson's)	7.50
	"	Horse feed	1.00
	18	Dinner at Bridge Creek 1.50 Horse 2.00	3.50
	"	Supper 74 Mile House	1.50
	19	Breakfast Do. 1.50 10 lbs. Barley 4.00	5.50

May	19	Hay 59 Mile House 50¢	.50
	"	Dinner 47 Mile 1.25 Hay 50¢	1.75
		Resetting one Horse Shoe	.75
	20	37 Mile House Supper Breakfast & Hay	3.50
		Dinner & feed 20 Mile House	1.75
		Ferry at Lillooet 1.25 Supper do. 1.00	2.25
	(18)	Brot over	598.75
May	20	Hay for Horse Lillooet	.50
	"	Paid Indian for taking Horse to Grass 6 miles	1.50
	21	Breakfast Lake Seaton	1.00
	"	Steamer do.	1.00
	"	Crossing Lake Anderson	1.00
	"	Dinner Anderson House	1.00
	"	Supper Half way House	1.00
	22	Breakfast do.	1.00
		Dinner Pemberton House	1.00
		Crossing Lake Pemberton	1.00
		Do. Lake Lillooet	1.00
		Supper Hot Springs	1.00
	23	Breakfast 10 Miles south of Lake	1.00
		Lift by Waggon	1.00
	24 & 25th	Douglas 6 meals	4.50
		Steamer to Westminster	5.00
		Dinner on Board	1.00
	26 & 27th	6 meals & 2 nights at Westminster	5.00
	"	Steamer to Victoria	3.00
	28	Bottle of Aquafortis, Magnet &c. at auction	2.00
		Receipts	$ 633.25

	Expenditure on the way, say $	$ 200.50	
	On hand Landing £8.1.11 say, as		
April 20, 1863	per a/c sent home	40.00	
	Cash Messrs. Janion, Green & Rhodes)	177.00	
	Pr. Payments for horse, &c.)		
Ap. 23	Cash from Messrs. Janion G & R.	150.00	
May 14	Draft on J. G & R.	60.00	
27	Do. Do.	10.00	637.50
28th May 1863	Balance in hand		4.25

P.S. I now close my letter as I am going tomorrow to see some Copper veins inland & cannot return before the Mail leaves.

I am, Dr. Sir

Yours truly,

"JNO. EVANS"

Henry B. Jackson, Esq., Victoria 1 June 1863.

(19)

1863 Vancouver Island $633.25

June 2 I reached Saanich on my way to Cowichan a District on this Island (East)

3rd Reached Cowichan but too late to examine any mineral ground.

4th Visited a copper vein of which much was thought in Victoria, and the land is taken up to some extent I had armed myself with a letter from the Assistant Surveyor General to the official in the District in case I felt disposed to take up Land but after careful examination of the ground to some distance on the Mainland (V.I.) I found it though wide, still much broken up, irregular, and liable to be drowned by the sea at no very great depth. I then crossed in a canoe to one of the group of Islands in this district called "Admiralty Island" or "Salt Spring", the same vein ran through into this place, the features near the coast of this Island was better than the Mainland and I would have preempted Land, which would have given us possession of the mineral, but some speculators in Victoria had already done so, though not working it - the ground beyond I would not take as being more difficult to work and not offering sufficient inducements for the present to take it up.

5th Reached Victoria after examining several places said to contain mineral, all of which I declined.

8th Report of two vessels to be within sight waited untill midnight: when I went in company with others & boarded one in (20) the channel which proved to be the Bessie from New Zealand, but heard from them of the Rising Sun being outside the channel:

10th Arrival of the "Rising Sun" in sight of the Harbour: The captain having missed the way & passed the entrance of the Straits, some distance & gone North.
11th Landed in Esquimalt. I having been busy the last few days in looking out for Horses & waggon, and all the intervening days from the arrival of the men in Victoria to our embarkation for British Columbia in fitting out and purchasing provisions.

16th ~~Went on Board the Ellen Anderson, bound for New Westminst~~ [sic]

15th Called upon the Governor, but had to make an appointment for next day as he was going on Board the Man of War just arrived.

16 Had an interview with the Governor, the Colonial Secretary & Attorney General for about hour and a half on the subject of the Mining Laws as applicable to our case: I

$633.25

pointed out their defficiencies and convinced the Governor that if left unaltered, they would put a stop to all Capital being brought out from England for the development of the Mineral resources of the Country: for as regards Gold Mining (except Quartz Crushing & Extracting) in nearly every case the Capitalist had - in the present state of the Laws - to be at the mercy of his workmen; as all the claims had to be taken up in the names of each individual free miner & they could without let or hindrance sell & part (21) with what in reality belonged to his employer but the Law decided was his own, no matter what his agreements may be and more than that, no man can hold from another a Mining claim even as <u>security</u>.

I handed to him our agreements for his perusal that he might see, how liberally the men were treated and that no undue advantage was taken of their condition: in this he fully coincided & said the terms were unparalleled & he was quite surprised as he never before saw men treated so liberally. In the face of all this, I asked him if he thought it either wise or prudent in us allowing the men having the control, further, I remarked that if we were not protected, I felt myself in duty bound to acquaint the public at home of the state of affairs, which would put a stop to any influx of capital from there. I dealt most unmercifully on the Laws as they are & their shortcomings which I found after the interview was over had Gauled the Attorney-General very much as he was the framer of them. I parted with a request from the Governor to write him an official letter stating what I wanted and with a promise he would give me every facility possible. Mr. Rhodes & self concocted a (22) letter, the answer to which reached me at Van Winkle 22nd July.

16th Embarked on Board the "Eliza Anderson" for New Westminster, the whole of Victoria was astir seeing the Welsh Coy starting off.

July 21 Arrived at Van Winkle after a most Labourious Journey of five weeks, having been delayed 3 days between two of the lakes, the flood had destroyed the roads, all travelling stopped. Our greatest trouble were bad roads (if they can be called roads) and musquitoes, the latter were so bad that three-fourths of us were bitten so bad that our hands, faces & necks were swollen to a fearful state & the plague continued to be a complete pest for four weeks, having to make large fires all around our camps every night, creating as much smoke as we could, but nothing daunted the insect would come to welcome the new arrivals through smoke & fire. We had the priviledge of the Company of Dr. Evans the Super't. Wesleyan Minister & party for four weeks. He held services 3 successive Sabbaths with us, at Lillooet, Tenass Lake & the Bush. We composed the whole congregation except one in the latter instance, and all the men went after the Evening Service to the Indian Camp & held a prayer meeting there, the Dr. & myself were not aware of their intention until we heard the singing from a distance.

We could travel unmolested by Indians, thoroughly unarmed as far north as we have (23) come, the news about us having spread amongst them like wild fire, & in our forward advance, we were met with the sign of the Cross & the hearty shake of the hand. I trust & hope & have reason to believe the influence of our holding our family prayers wherever we camped coupled with the singing having not been without a beneficial effect upon the minds of the white population.

An incident occurred while crossing a large forrest of more than 50 miles in width, during a heavy thunderstorm the men sheltered under the trees & the Team went on -- the rain over, all started but six intending to overtake the waggon by what they took to be a short cut went out of the waggon road & followed a mule trail which took them another direction, arriving at our destination at night we did not know what became of the men. When I first learned from one of the men present that he saw one of the number follow this trail we concluded they must have all gone the same way, and as there was no house on the trail for nearly 50 miles I feared they would when finding they had gone astry, make for the waggon across the dense forrest (24) & get bewildered, which subsequent event proved I was correct: - I returned next morning on horseback for the distance of 15 miles but could get no clue of them: I then endeavoured with some Indians—which happened to be in the neighbourhood—to go in search of them and offered reward: but these being also strangers here I could not get them to go. After acquainting all I met, and ordering food for them at all the house on the road should they happen to turn up that way I returned. Next day was Sunday - about 4 p.m. one of them came in with about a dozen mounted Indians as an Escort, he having found their track came up with them & making known to them of his being lost. He was fed & brought in, this was No. 26. We had previous to this intelligence of two others having found their way out of the woods, retraced their steps and found the High road at 3 a.m. Sunday morning: these were No. 5 & 24 late in the afternoon the remaining three came out Nos. 7, 19 & 23, they had gone into the woods in the order they came out; & were without food since 5 a.m. the Friday previous; the last three reached our camp about midnight on Sunday having been compelled at one time to retrace their steps by 2 Black Bears.

After remaining here a day I went (25) to Williams Creek & took three of the men with me to examine all the machinery on the Creek.

23rd I took $2500 from the Branch Bank there less $50 charged for discount & returned

24th to the 28 I had been examining this Lightning Creek, & trying to arrange with the companies already in possession of ground as to their concentrating more together in order to give me a continuous line sufficiently large to operate upon; in this I found all anxious to do all they could, as every one on the Creek were anxious I should remain here & not move to another District. At last I selected for various reasons a spot where smaller companies had failed to get down to the bed rock for want of skill and means. It is 2500 feet in length of the valley & I have applied for a

Lease for 5 years for the full width of the valley including the Hill sides & the water power of the Main Creek with its tributaries falling within our boundaries - one of these small tributaries is being now worked all along its entire length for 3 or 4 miles & paid to one company last year the clear sum of $16,000 to the hand & the nearest company to us now have met the bedrock at the depth of 70 feet and got $100 just on the bottom of their shaft, and were (26) very much dissapointed when they found we had taken this place as they hoped it would be unoccupied untill next season when they expected to be in possession of as much money as could enable them to take it up.

29th We took possession of the ground with the Commissioner's sanction & I paid the deposit of $125 in applying for the Lease. This sanction is in conformity with his Excellency's instructions.

30th After levelling the uneven ground for our tents & other preliminaries I turned the first sod with a silent prayer for success. What we have to look for is the ancient channel of the river & finding that the gold is strewed along amongst the clay and gravel in the old bed of the river; this has to be raised and washed in troughs. In the course of agres the old Channels have been filled up with the alluvial & made into plains of varying from 2 to 3 Hundred feet in width, sometimes more, and over 100 feet in depth in some places. The rivers at present run on the surface of this alluvial, winding its way Zig Zag as you see them at home, & may not be exactly running over the same spot as of old. This we have to find out by sinking untill we meet with the rock below which is called "Bed rock".

The water saturating through the (27) ground into the shafts is the great obstacle the Miners have to contend with. We hope to overcome it & if so we shall meet the bed rock. The ground is known to be rich, from the richness of the Creek higher up & the rich tributaries falling into it - two of them within our boundaries & one the richest in the District.

Disbursements.

June	2	Provisions going to Cowichan $1.37½ Horse 4 days $10.00	11.37½
"	"	Horse feed $1.00 - 3rd. Boat from Saanich to Cowichan $4.00	5.00
	3	Exes at Cowichan $2.12½ - 4th. Boat to Salt Spring Island $4.00	6.12½
	4	Guide $2.50	2.50
	8th	Boat from Esquimalt to the "Bessie" $2.00	2.00
	11th	Cooking utensils $2.00 Tobacco $5.00 Oil 50¢	7.50
	12th & 15th	Breakfast & Dinners $26.00 Wharfage Luggage 50¢ Salt 25¢	26.75
"	"	Bread $12.00 Butter $10.00 Fire, wood & coal $4.50	26.50
"	"	Coffee &c. 87½¢ Medicine $1.12½ Milk & Currants $1.25 Letters $1.50	
"	16	Mosquito Bar $2.50 Twine $2.00 Hotel Bill $48.75	53.25

June 16	Advanced No. 11 $5.00 Advanced No. 19 $2.50 Thread $1.50 Wharfage & Horse 1.00	10.00
" "	Rope $5.00 26 Dinners $13.00 Advertizement Colonist $2.50	20.50
" 17	Wharfage Westminster $6.25 Duty do. $229.44	235.69
" "	Commission $1.50 Victuals $1.00	2.50
" 18	Douglas-Ironmonger $1.40 100 oranges $6.00	7.40
" "	27 Dinners $19.00 Breakfast 75¢	19.75
" "	Chain & Shoe for Waggon &c. $14.00; Boards $2.50	16.50
" "	Twine $1.50 Tolls $48.15 Barley $5.00	54.65
" "	Freight from Victoria to Douglas 1 Waggon $35.00) Do. 4 Horses $40.00: Men $135.00. Goods 108.00)	318.00
" 19	Storeage 4 Mile House $1.75	1.75
" 20	Hay 10 Mile House $2.50: 20th Hay 29½ Mile House 5.00	7.50
" 22	Stables 29½ Mile House 2.00	2.00
		1475.24
(28) June 22	On Board Prince of Wales Tenass Lake Passage of Men $54.00 Waggon $10.00 Horses $8.00 Goods $16.00	88.00
23	Pemberton: Gin for sick Horse $1.75 Salts & Saltpeter 1.00	2.75
" "	Hay $5.00 Barley $7.29	12.29
" 26	Crossing Anderson Lake Men $27.00 Waggon $5.00	32.00
" "	" " Horses $4.00 Goods $7.50	11.50
" 27	" Seaton Lake	43.50
" "	Barley for Horses $8.00 Lillooet, Hay $2.75	10.75
" "	Indian fetching Horse $1.50 Canoe 75¢	2.25
" "	Tolls at Lillooet $34.50 27 Licenses $132.25	166.75
" 29	Lillooet: Hay $1.50 Charges for Horse $5.00 Beans 1135 lbs. $22.60	29.10
	Freight on Goods from Douglas $639.08	639.08
	500 lbs. flour $60.00 - 77 lbs. Barley $10.78	70.78
	Ferry Do. $16.50 Barley &c. $26.85 Brush & Comb $4.75	48.10
" "	Men left at Lillooet to bring tents on $5.00	5.00
	Letter $1.00	1.00
July 2	Clinton. Beef $3.00	3.00
3, 4 & 5	Expenses attending the loss of men $16.50	16.50
" "	3 nights Lodgings for men 74 Mile House 9.00	9.00
" 7	Milk at 115 Mile House $4.25. 8th Do. 127th 4.00	8.25
" 8	Lodgings for men at 134 Mile House 3.00	3.00
" 11	Deep Creek Farm 150 lbs. flour $45.00 Milk 3.00	48.00
" 12	Indian going with message $2.00	2.00
" "	Do. seeking lost horses in the Woods	1.00
" "	Beef $7.50	7.50
" 13	To the Teamster going to Lillooet	100.00
" "	Barley for Horse & dinner at Alexandria	5.00
" "	Do. & supper at 16 Mile House	4.75
" 14	Ferry Mouth Quesnelle $1.25 Barley $2.50	3.75
" "	Soap $18.75 Flour $33.00 Yeast Powder $6.00	57.75
" "	Canvas & soap $2.50: 3 Pans $12.00	14.50
" 15	Sugar 50 lbs. @ 85¢-$42.50 Beans 20¢ lb.-9.00	51.50
" "	Sack flour $16.50. Advance No. 18 $2.50	19.00
" "	Passage & Freight by Steamer to Mouth Quesnelle	244.30
		$ 3236.89

1863.		Brot. over	$3236.89
	(29)		
July	15	Carriage by stage of Tents $113.00	113.00
"	17	Cottonwood: flour 50 lbs $22.50 Yeast Powder $3.75	26.25
"	"	Pasture for Horse $1.00 Flour 50 lbs. $20.00 Beef $13.25	34.25
"	20	Beaver Pass Beef $6.75. Flour 30 lbs @ 55¢ $16.50	23.25
"	21	Van Winkle: Flour 50 lbs @ 46¢ $23.00	23.00
"	"	Beef 40 lbs. @ 25¢ $10.00 Sugar 10 lbs @ 95¢ 9.50	19.50
"	"	1 lbs. salt 75¢ 1 lb. Tea $2.00	2.75
"	22	Flour $23.00 Salt $1.75 Butter $7.00	31.75
"	23	Freight from mouth of Quesnelle 12½¢ 3123 lbs.	390.37½
"	"	Butter $7.00 Yeast Powder $1.00	8.00
"	23 & 24	Expenses for self & three men at Richfield	24.00
"	24	Mutton 7½ lbs. 50¢ $3.75 Flour 23.00	26.75
"	25	Flour $46.00 Butter $14.00	60.00
"	27	Beef $4.00 Butter $7.00 - 28th Beef $16.50	27.50
"	28	Beans $29.00 Butter $7.00 Flour $23.00	59.00
"	29	Sugar 10 lbs. $10.00 Butter $7.00	17.00
"	30	Butter $7.00 - 31st $7.00 Tins $51.00 [?]	65.00
		Bills - 31st Beef $16.90	16.90
		Waggon & Three Horses $690.00 1 Horse $200.00	890.00
June	19	Janion Green & Rhodes 5 Tents	25.00
		Exes to Westminster Duties &c. H. Holbrook	4.25
June	13	Fellour & Roescoe Ironmongers	125.22
"	16	Koshland Brothers Indian Rubber Coats	72.00
"	"	Vignolo & Co. Groceries	588.84
"	"	Janion Green & Rhodes Clothing & Groceries	747.34
"	15	John Dixon, Tins [?]	40.00
"	16	I.S. Drummond Pump	155.00
"	"	Alfred Fellows Ironmonger	60.96
"	"	Searly & Moore Druggist	9.75
"	"	I. Boscowitz Tobacconist	49.25
"	"	Webster & Co. Leather Cutter	22.40
"	"	Colonial Market Provisions	27.50
"	"	Saml Nesbitt Bread	7.50
	(30)	Disbursement Brot over	7030.17½
July	29	Deposit in applying for a Lease	125.00
	24	Discount at Richfield Bank on $2500.00	50.00
Aug.	1	50 lbs. Butter	82.50
	"	50 Sugar	47.50
	"	Beans	31.35
	"	Rice	12.00
	"	Tea	9.00
	"	Beef	10.40
"	3	1000 lbs flour @ 40¢	400.00
"	"	Bullock Estimated 700 lbs. @ 25¢	175.00
		By balance in hand	912.93½
			8885.86

1863 $8885.86

Dr.	Amount of Disbursements up to May 28,1863)			$633.25	
	Balance in hand 28 May 1863)			4.25	
	Cash received up to above period 637.50				
June 2	To cash	Per J. G. & R.		30.00	
" 13	Do.	do.		100.00	
" 16	Do.	do.		1000.00	
" 18	To order on	Do.	Steamboat Co.	318.00	
" 27	Do.	Do.	Foster Lillooet	250.00	
" "	Do.	Do.	Coxon & Elmore	751.25	
" "	Do.	Do.	G.B.Wright & Co.	46.60	
July 15	Do.	Do.	Steamboat Co.	359.50	
" "	Do.	Do.	McBride & Brown	68.00	
" 24	To Cash,	Bank at Richfield		2500.00	
	Amount of accounts paid by J.G. & R.			2825.01	$8885.86

The above is as near correct as I have received the accounts. Mr. Rhodes has paid some, of which I have not yet had particulars: and as soon as soon as I get particulars will send. This is a fearful country: Everything at famine prices & we find such difficulty even to get our own provisions up as the carriers are not to be depended upon.

(31) Even now - we have about 4 Tons of provisions which started with us - still on the Road - and the party to whose care Mr. Rhodes sent it promised me faithfully that it should be here by the first train of his mules which was to leave Lillooet in a week after us. That train of 56 animals passed us some days since without bringing us an ounce & here we are obliged to pay in some instances nearly double the value of what our own would cost; our Butter if brought here would not cost more than one dollar per lb. but we have to pay here 7/- for miserable stuff called Butter.

I cannot yet send you the exact cost of bringing the men to the Mines seperate from other costs but will do so soon as I can. The journey up was so harrassing as I had so many things to attend to with so many men, all looking to me for everything: and the roads for scores of miles in succession; such, that could you see them, you would say to be impassable for animals: & almost so to man; wading to our knees in mud all day long: The idea I had at home of bad roads here, was nothing to the reality.

(32) We have now fairly set to work, and I find them first rate workmen and all putting their shoulders to the wheel in earnest.

All I am afraid is, that I shall be obliged to get a small steam engine to master the water. This is the great obstacle in the way: I hope to sink to the "old Channel" before winter sets in: if so, we may master the water below by hand force pump which I bought at Victoria, we have 4 men doing nothing else than sawing as we shall want many thousand feet of boards for making water wheel, sluices & lining shafts and a house for winter.

$7972.92½

We hope to get our Guns up before winter, as we were obliged to leave Victoria without them. They had not come out of the vessel. It is said there will be plenty of the Deer called Criboeff to be had here in Winter; they weigh about 400 lbs the carcase. This will give us a good lift in our provisions.

It will be impossible for me to comply with your request of sending each month. We have no regular means of communication from this Creek.

I am dear Sir,

Yours truly,

Camp "Jno. Evans"

Mouth of Last Chance Creek
on Lightning - August 5th, 1863.

To: Henry B. Jackson, Esq.

$7972.92½

Basford Mines, Lightning Creek,
British Columbia.

Aug. 8 After cutting two very large and deep ditches to draw the water off, we have today commenced the shaft, but do not intend to go down very deep until the water wheel is ready. We are at work with the smithy since the middle of the week. We had to burn charcoal as coal would cost over 2/- per lb. We repaired an old Building which was abandoned and marked on the plan as Log House & placed both the Smith & Joiner in it. We have also put in repair another Log House not marked on the plan, - to keep our provisions. The Sawyers are getting timber sawn for the water wheel & sluices - some men cutting down trees both for that purpose & the pumps. We shall make pumps by boreing trees in the middle & are preparing two such pumps in addition to the one brot up from Victoria which is a small cast iron one with India Rubber hose.

One more of the compies [sic] here, (numbering 10 individual miners) were beaten out by the water this week & having no means to replace their pump which broke they had to abandon it. I am very sorry for them as they were plucky fellows and I thought they would master the water but the above circumstance put a stop to their Labour for this season. Another one close to them - at the head of whom is a New Brunswick Magistrate, will have to follow suit; they have no skill and part of them have expended their all in endeavouring by (34) inefficient machinery to get down to the Bedrock. I am selecting the most skilful of our miners to take charge of the shaft. As I have said before the eyes of all the Creek are upon us, and if we succeed as we have no fear at present , the property here will run up in value at once & claims will sell very high as it is well known there being much gold on the bedrock of the old Channel.

Our situation here is from 2 to 3 miles below Van Winkle, and at the altitude of little more than the summit of Snowdon - Pleasant prospect for winter.

It is impossible for me to keep the accounts seperate in this register, or to do more than give the gross of receipts and expenditures. The Ledger will contain everything seperate & I will from time to time furnish you with the state of affairs.

Here follows the amounts the men are debitted with as far as the goods have arrived: nearly 4 tons being on the way which as soon as they arrive will also be debitted to them.

One Gunny of salt	101 lbs	$37.44
One force pump with hose	121 "	218.78
Ironmongers' Bills, Fellows & Koscoe & A. Fulton	807½ "	479.20
Bellows & Grindstone	43	45.14
Medicine		10.73
Tins	28 lbs	53.52
8 pairs Boots $77.44 4 pairs do. $41.84	78 "	119.28
		$7972.92½

4 Tents 181 lbs. $123.78 Large Kettle 10 lbs. $7.90 131.68
Cobblers Tools &c. $29.06 India Rubber coats 43 lbs. 93.39 122.45

(35)
Dr. Adventure a/c Brot over 1218.22

Tobacco (87¼ lbs. including Boxes $1.47 lb.) 58 lbs. 85.51
Matches $2.00 Candles 30 lbs. $20.70 Mits $4.40 27.10
Sugar 30 lbs. $29.25 Rice 25 lbs. $10.01 39.26
Mustard 15 lbs. $10.11 Syrup 4 lbs. $1.56 11.67
Raisins 112 lbs. $61.18 Keg dried Apples 135 lbs. 62.53 123.71
1 Box of Brandy 24 lbs $22.16 Oatmeal 23 lbs $10.10 32.26
1 Case ground pepper 27 lbs $14.68 Beans 25 lbs 14.27 28.95
Carriage of 553 lbs men's clothing @ 12½¢ 69.12
do. 70 lbs. sundries in trunk @ 34¢ 23.80
do. surveyors instruments 20 lbs 34¢ 6.80
27 Pairs Blankets 270 lbs. 204.20
1 doz. Duck Trousers $26.84 1 Doz blue shirts 33.55 60.39
1 Doz flannel shirts $22.37 1 doz Kersey Drawers 20.87 43.24
1 Tape Measure $1.75 1 Magnet $2.00 3.75
5 Frying Pans & 1 Gold Pan 17.11

1995.09

August 8, 1863.

The above account agreed upon

Signed "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of men "Wm. Williams".

1863.

Provisions purchased up to 31 July	$357.15
Amount of Expenses & Freight do.	$414.37½
Licenses & application for a Lease & discount at Richfield	$307.25
Provisions purchased up to 3 August	$767.75
Freight on 31 Boxes to Douglas & thence to Lillooet	$ 45.17
Tolls at Lillooet July 22 1863	$ 22.75
Provisions & Tools to 13th August 1863	215.50
Carriage & Advances to men to 18th Aug.	1814.67
	5939.70½

Aug. 19th 1863 The above accounts agreed upon

Signed "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of Men "Wm. Williams"

(36)

	Disbursements brot over	$7972.92½
Aug 8th	57 lbs. Beans @ 50¢ $28.50. 20 lbs. Rice $12.00 3 lbs. Tea $6.00	46.50
" 10th	20 lbs. sugar @ 95¢ $19.00 Yeast Powder 3 Boxes $3.75	22.75
" 13th	180 lbs. Beans $90.00 12 lbs Tea @ $1.75 $21.00	111.00
" "	10 lbs. Sugar $9.50 10 lbs. Butter $17.50	27.00
" "	3 Boxes Yeast $3.75 1 Axe $4.50	8.25
" "	Carriage of 2616 lbs. from Mouth of Quesnelle 12¢ by order By Chas. Forrest	313.92
" 18th	Carriage of 5060 lbs from Lillooet at 30¢ by order to C.H. Peter less $20.00	1498.00
" 9th	Advanced to men	2.75
" 18th	Oil $4.00 Flour $25.00	29.00

20th Today we have had a visit from Mr. Elwyn, late Gold Commissioner (but now Lieutenant of the Gold Escort) accompanied by Mr. Fraser the "Times" correspondent. They will both call again on their way down. The expectations of the Government & the whole country is centered on our ability to get down to the Bedrock on this Creek as it will not only be the making of our fortune, but that of hundreds beside. We are now 20 feet down but must stop sinking until our water wheel & pumps are ready which will be towards latter end of next week. We shall also have to cut a ditch of some 1400 or 1500 feet in length and a further length of 400 feet of troughs to bring the water on the wheel in the mean time we are preparing boards and timber for the shaft of which we have thousands of feet ready sawn. When all is completed then comes the "Tug of War" (37) which will establish our fame and our fortune, nearly all the companies on each side of us are (using an American phrase) "played out" several left this week and others are on the point of leaving, being without money or credit - unless some unforeseen circumstance should occur, surpassing any human comprehension, we shall get down, then it will only be a question of some 2 or 3 months for us to find the channel at the bottom; even allowing our being wide of it at present.

	Dr. Adventure a/c brot. over		$5939.70½
15th Aug.	7 Doz. Yeast Powder $55.90 I.R.Boots $70.92	126.82	
" "	Guns & Ammunition 326 lbs.	314.89	
" "	Duty on above	26.82	
" "	4 Kegs Syrup 265 lbs.	88.92½	
" "	1 Keg Dried apples 134 lbs. $52.14½ Butter $73.05	125.29½	
" "	Soap 115 lbs. $38.27½ 1 Keg sugar 125 lbs. $46.87½	85.15	
" "	9 Guinnis Bacon & Ham $28 lbs.	416.80	
" "	8 Boxes Raisins 123 lbs. $58.99½		
" "	Leather $16.44	75.43½	
" "	Filter $7.80	7.80	
" 18th	Oil $4.00 Flour $25.00	29.00	
" "	Flour $287.65 Rice 404 lbs. $62.82	349.47	$10032.09½
" "	Beans $171.14 2 Boxes Lard $74.02	245.16	
" "	Oatmeal $60.67 2 Cask Sugar $53.09	113.76	

Aug. 18	Coffee $98.80 Carriage 4 Doz. Yeast Powder $3.23	102.03	
" "	1 case preserved Meats & 1 Cases preserved vegetables	93.50	
2 15	1 Case Gloucester Cheese $75.72 Wiltshire Do. $97.35	173.07	
" "	1 Box Candles $17.57 Vinegar $51.85	69.42	
" "	Carriage of 1 Box Preserved Meat	19.61	
(38)	Dr. Adventure a/c brot. over	8402.75	
Aug. 15	Carriage of 3 Boxes of Tea 87.	23.05½	
" "	Do. " 8 Hammers - 41½	10.93	
" "	Storeage Mouth Quesnelle	10.00	
" "	Gunny Bags - Vignolo	7.00	
" "	Wharfage & carriage of goods, Victoria	4.00	
5	2 Letters - H.B.J. & H.R.	4.00	
		8461.73½	

August 25th, 1863. The above accounts agreed upon

Signed "Jno. Evans"

On behalf of the men "Wm. Williams."

Aug. 3	Freight by Steamer, Mouth Quesnelle 2204 lbs. @ 2¢	44.08
"	Storeage of do.	10.00
"	Freight by do. 741 lbs. @ 2¢	14.82
July 22	Coxon & Elmore's Bill	88.05
August 5	2 letters	4.00

The goods of which I complained in my last as being delayed have all come up, part on the 15th & the remainder on the 18th. I have ordered a lot more to come up.

I find on reference to my memorandum Book that I have omitted to enter in their proper places the following

Lytton April 30. Hay & Barley	3.25
June 27th Horse shoeing $4.00 Bread $3.00 Lillooet	7.00

Still I am short in my cash of $11.44.

I am also short of receiving the Items of accounts I want from Mr. Rhodes in consequence of which I am unable to furnish you with as full account as I could otherwise.

It has been a very difficult job to keep the accounts up to this, some goods coming in without invoices: (Mr. Rhodes' arrangement was (39) in most instances for the Invoices to be sent to him to be paid). Then again, part of the goods coming by our own Team: part consumed on the way, & part brot. up - some goods brot part of the way by one

$10203.29½

train at a certain price per lb; & by others at various prices the remaining stages. Lot of our goods stolen on the way which is a general occurrence here & it is most difficult to find out by whom it was done as it has to come through so many hands: other goods losing in weight, for instance a Box of Wiltshire Cheese bought from Messrs. Janion Green & Rhodes is invoiced as containing 144 lbs; which when weighed here only weighed 119 lbs: Bacon & Ham and almost everything else get lighter. All the packages are weighed and marked at starting & owing to the bad system of changing through so many hands we are obliged to pay the freight on the weight marked except to the last party delivering. When the Yale Road is finished, I shall have all our goods brought up by that way, doing away with all this trouble & uncertainty: if we get down to the bed rock this winter I intend going down to Victoria & make all arrangements myself as I find Mr. Rhodes' friends at Douglas & Lillooet don't do so well for us as might be expected - but Mr. Rhodes himself is doing everything he possibly can (40) to assist us. Leaving him aside I find the system here is to "get all you can, no matter how".

As far I am able to bring the account together it stands as follows:

Dr.	Cash received up to 5th Aug.	$8885.86		
	To do. by order on J.G. & R. August 15, 1863	313.92	to Chas. Forrest	
	To do. Aug. 18/63	1498.00	to C.H. Peter	
	To. do. Aug. 25/63	68.90	to Chas. Forrest	
	To do. do.	88.05	to Coxon & Elmore	
	Owing for freight	111.15	to Crawford	
	Do. do.	308.56	to Wm. Innes	
	Received for Smith work on the mines	16.00		$11,290.44
Cr.	By cash paid up to Aug. 25th 1863	$10,203.29½		
	Owing	419.71		
	Cash in hand	656.00		
	Cash to account for	11.43½		11,290.44

Since we came up one of our Team Horses died from the effects of the bad water - owing to which hundreds die annually, and we have sold the waggon & the other 3 horses for $775 to be paid on the 3rd of next month - that circumstance will leave the accounts so far as it is known as follows -

Expenditure up this period paid & owing		$10,623.00½
Charged to the adventure	$8461.73½	
To received for waggon & Horses	775.00	9,236.73½
Our joint a/c		1,386.27

in addition to which is to be added £839.14.8 expended up to my landing in Victoria.

I am, Dear Sir
Yours truly,
"Jno. Evans"

August 25/63
To Henry B. Jackson, Esq.,
Manchester

$10,203.29½

(41)

Disbursements Brot. over $10,203.29½

Aug. 26th Yesterday I delivered my letters for yourself & Mr. Rhodes to the care of Mr. Elwyn of the Gold Escort who was kind enough to take them free of charge.

Aug. 28th To day Mr. Fraser the "Times" correspondent came down from Williams Creek on purpose to see how we were getting on. I have reason also to look upon him as the Governor's agent to know the Miners' feelings as touching my innovation from the rest of the Miners in Cariboo; by demanding a Lease - this will cause a new Proclamation & will affect the whole Mining Laws. I showed Mr. Fraser how it effected us, that without a Lease we should be worse off then any on Cariboo. I went into the whole of the mining laws and their bearing on our case & by the way told him that it was in answer to his solicitations thro the "Times" was my presence in the country to be attributed. He took a note of all I said, and also any other suggestions I had to make; he said many of the Miners on Williams Creek were in favor of a Miners Convention & that the Governor was willing to grant it, the nature of which (42) is giving power to the Miners to make Laws among themselves. This is done in California. I told him I would be no party to it as I could not recognize the right of my men to a voice in anything. I must be absolute in this matter, otherwise I lose the very ground I contend for. All I wanted altering in the present Laws was that required to give us protection & which I insisted upon.

He told me from the Governor that I need not trouble myself in the least: that His Excellency would sooner loose the hair of his head then we should be injured, as the hopes of all the country hung on us at the present moment, and our endeavours to get down were most anxiously looked to by all; & would be the salvation of the country as this is considered the richest Creek in the Colony as far as is known.

I gave him all the particulars of what I had done up to this & the time it took to accomplish what is done & is required yet to get down unless some unforeseen difficulties should come to light; I told him we were preparing for a hard struggle if it turned out better than expectation all right; we were then 35 feet in depth from the surface, the ground much too good to last. I gave him (43) particulars of our agreement with the men in all its parts, he is much interested in it & prised the liberal terms by which the men are treated & asked me if there was no objection to the publication of the terms &c. I said there could be none. I gave him your name also as the Head of the Undertaking; he told me before leaving he intended in the course of the coming Winter to visit England & may call upon you. He left about 2 P.M. In four hours after the water came into the shaft from underneath in such force as to lift the ground underfoot at the bottom bodily & filled it up to the top in about half an hour, being about 1600 cubic feet of water. This put an end to our sinking until the pumps &c. are ready - I hope that a week will suffice for that. We have to bore large trees sufficient for two large log pumps, cutting a ditch the length of about 1300 feet - 400 feet of wooden

$10203.29½

Disbursements Brot over. $10203.29½

trough in addition, preparing all the Drums, shafting &c. to put all the gearing to work: & then start.

31st The water continues to force its way up from the shafts: we have started boreing the pumps, preparing the troughs, cut nearly 600 feet of the ditch to bring the water on the wheel & I hope all will be ready to (44) turn this day week.

The following additional payments have been made by Mr. Rhodes as per invoice just received

June 17th		Stabling & Hay for horses	18.00
"	20th	Rent of cottage taken by Mr. Rhodes for the men	35.00
"	"	Bellows $15.00 Grindstone 75¢ Gold scale & weight 12.00	27.75
"	"	Reynolds for meat & vegetables	26.19
"	"	Blacksmith's Bill $42.13. Keg sugar 120 lbs. @ 10¢ $12.00	54.13
"	"	Janion, Green & Rhodes, Flour sacks	8.00
"	"	Gunny bags do.	7.50
"	"	Cartage & Wharfage of Iron	1.00

The above are included in the statement of accounts sent you by Mr. Rhodes dated 9th July of which I have a copy, that is the last communication I have as yet received. However I have sent by far a more complete statement than that. I have omitted one item it consists of $133.75 for sundry saddlery as he has not furnished me with particulars & until that is done I cannot enter it in the Books. I believe part of it is entered in the item of $177.00 to their credit in page 18. - In the letter received with this statement I find the following: "I enclose a copy of the accounts furnished Mr. Jackson which is, I suppose, what you require. To this has to be added our charge for disbursements of 2½% amounting to $130.23." I wrote for a statement of all monies paid by Messrs. J. G. & R. giving at the same time a copy of all I had particulars of: - What I particularly (45) call your attention to is the 2½% charged for disbursements: this comes unexpected upon us. I don't know if it is part of your arrangement with the firm that it should be charged. If so, then the adventure gets so much less money and is charged full amounts. I understood when I left that the money as required should be furnished me to purchase what was necessary: always consulting Mr. Rhodes which is quite right & which I have strictly adhered to, but as I mentioned in my last, that Mr. Rhodes' arrangement was (and as he acts for you in the matter I have no voice) that all bills were ordered to be sent to him for payment; but I find 2½% charged for goods sold by J. G. & R. for cash furnished me for the purposes of the adventure - just the same as if it was all business done on commission with other people through them. It may be all right, but in the mean time I will omit the entry of it until I hear from you. I have been very careful in the disbursement of every dollar & there is nothing in the Books that has the appearance of extravagance - except it be the 100 oranges

$10380.86½

I bought at Douglas coming up. This I did because about one-half of the men were affected with scurvy.

But it does appear to me rather too much to charge the adventure with (46) the sum of 2½% for handing us the money to be furnished by Messrs. J.G. & R. under an arrangement with yourself - equally is it so in my opinion when we purchase a certain quantity of goods from their store, & they paying themselves for us to be charged in that case. The statement of 9th July contains $767.34 of this nature - again, Coxon & Ellmore are traders as well as carriers and customers of J.G. & R., & in transmitting our goods a portion of the way. I pay by an order on Janion, Green & Rhodes, as requested by which mode, J.G. & R. collect their own debts for goods furnished by themselves to C. & E. & we are charged with 2½%.

When we get down to the Gold, I will avoid all this: I think it quite right for them to be paid for anything we do through them with other people in the way of their clearing & forwarding our provisions and that the adventure should be charged with it, but the instances I pointed out are in my opinion exceptions to this rule.

September 2nd. Very rich claims have been struck above Van Winkle on this Creek & are doing every day, on the Bank of the present Creek some hundred of feet above it - great excitement prevails, the same streak of gold must run through our ground.

Great interest has been created in the 2 Colonies by transactions at home: nothing could benefit both British Columbia & Vancouver Island so much as direct communication with Canada through the Rocky Mountains (47) and it would also benefit Canada to the same extent. Canada is an Agricultural Country & is overstocked with grain; this country can never sustain its population under any system of tillage. The soil is not rich, & but partial for raising grain, very heavy timbered, only a small portion of it will repay the expense of clearing its salvation rests in its Mineral resources which has yet to be developed. Capital is much needed. The great produce of the Mines except a small portion is being conveyed to San Francisco & remain there, the high rate of interest in both Colonies will show the scarcity of money for ordinary purposes - 2 per cent per month is the common interest, with the best security - 5 per cent per month has been paid in many instances for short periods.

I have not seen the Land you are interested in on the Island but from what I have been told it is not of very great value.

Dr.	August 31	By purchase of second hand picks		4.00
	" "	23 lbs of nails @ 55¢ per lb.		12.65
	" "	Screws		.50
				$10398.01½
Cr.	Received for Smith work up to August 25th		$16.00	
	Do.	to Sept. 2nd	3.50	19.50
				$10378.51½

(48) General Disbursements Brot over $10378.51½

Dr.	Charge against the adventure brot. over page 38		$8461.73½
June 20	Gold Scale & weights $12.00 Flour Sacks $8.00		20.00
" "	Gunny Bags $7.50 Cartage Wharfage of Iron $1.00		8.50
Aug. 31	Second hand picks $4.00, Nails $12.65 Screws $0.50		17.15
			$8507.38½
Cr.	Received for Smith work to August 25	$16.00	
	Do. to Sept. 2nd	3.50	19.50
			$8487.88½

September 2nd, 1863. The above accounts are agreed upon

"Jno. Evans"

On behalf of the men "Wm. Williams".

Sept. 3rd I am in expectation of an opportunity to send this down today by the express man whom I expect hourly to pass.

No change in our position up to this but are preparing all we can for our present shaft and others whom I hope to be able to sink this winter, all the timber for everything must be got ready before the heavy fall of snow, otherwise it will be too difficult for us to furnish ourselves with it from the quantity of snow on the ground.

I wish I could possibly spare the time to go down to Victoria as we want many things to carry on the work we did not anticipate and the season is far gone - if we master the present shaft & get down satisfactorily I think I shall go down & do my business, returning here without delay on a sleigh.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

"Jno. Evans"

Sept. 3, 1863

H.B. Jackson, Esq.

$10378.51½

(48) General Disbursements Brot over $10378.51½

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Yours truly,

"Jno. Evans"

Sept. 3, 1863

H.B. Jackson, Esq.

$10378.51½

1863 (49) General disbursements Brot over $10378.51½

Sept. 10th Nothing important has occurred since I wrote last, - we are not yet ready to start the wheel, having had more difficulty in boreing the pumps than anticipated, but will be ready in very few days - the ditch was finished on Saturday: the troughs to carry the water from the ditch on the tops of the wheel are finished, have started putting them in their places today.

Received a letter from Mr. Rhodes dated 21st Aug. acknowledging receipt of mine 30th July & 4th Aug. & advising the sending off of further supply of provisions.

Hundreds are leaving Cariboo on their way down to Victoria, being without work. Many of whom are going to New Zealand there being a rush to that Island now - some new discoveries.

Our neighbours who have lately struck gold in the Hill close to Van Winkle continue to raise large quantities.

19th Part of this week I have been out on the Mountains & Creeks around here with Nos. 4 & 19 prospecting & have fixed on three places to operate upon during winter with part of the men: each will be a tunnell. We expect to strike gold in two of them, the other, silver or lead it is the strongest indications I ever saw in my life.

We have finished today putting up the troughs, it is a complete viaduct for 400 feet & the wheel began to turn, it will take all next week to (50) complete the pumps as we are preparing a double pair, or four pumps instead of a couple as intended at first. We are going to let two pumps work to the depth of about 50 feet & then two more to pump below that depth to a tank we are erecting at the 50 feet from surface, then the upper pump will raise that water to the top - the reason for this precaution is that at Williams Creek they find their log pumps burst if it is continued lower than from 50 to 60 feet from the great pressure, and we have not enough of Iron here to hoop them, therefore I have determined to have separate pumps to lift only about 50 feet each & feed one another this addition to our original plan causes some delay & extra labour but will be the most expeditious & cheaper in the end.

This week I had to furnish Mr. Cox the Commissioner with the particulars of the work we have done since we commenced - this he asked me to furnish him with, that he wanted to send to the Governor that his Excellency could see the magnitude of our undertaking.

I believe we have done more work since 29th July that has been done by all the Companies on this Creek below Van Winkle combined all the season. We have cut down some (51) hundreds of large trees - sawn fully 8000 feet of planking - cut 750 feet of deep culverts - 1300 feet of a ditch through the woods to bring the water on the wheel - 400 feet of fluming or troughs & raised

$10378.51½

them like a viaduct. Prepared immence quantity of timber for shafting & tunnelling - all this has to be lined & fastened with heavy timber & also puddled to enable us to sink in the same way as if we were going to put down the foundation of Bridge Water lights - The level or tunnel into the Hill is progressing well.

24th Tomorrow I expect Mr. Hind will pass down with the Gold Escort & promised to call here for my letter. I hope to have the pumps down by then.

I have had a visit during the last few days from most of the Great Men of British Columbia and among them lawyers, Barristers & the Chief Justice of the Colony, Judge Begbie, all wishing us success, as they say, if we fail to go down with the formidable preparations & the skill already shown - then the Creek cannot be worked.

Williams Creek - The season on this Creek is over until June - but very many will remain during winter sinking & drifting like ourselves.(52) Our winter house will be ready before Sunday it is 36 feet by 18 wide, a large fire place at each end - two storey high, the sides and ends of log timber, the chimneys of stone - fireplaces 2 yards wide, the crevises filled with moss: boarded roof, our saw pits are also covered with boards - as the winter begins to set in we have to push on day and night to get our shaft down before the severe weather come upon us & freeze our wheel.

Sept. 3rd		2 Letters to Victoria	4.00
"	"	Advanced to men for letters	4.00
"	18	14 lbs. Butter	28.00
"	"	Canvas belting 42 feet @ 50¢	21.00
"	21	Heifer	132.00
"	"	Salt	8.00
			10575,51½

Dr.	Adventure - Brot over page 48		$8487.88½
Sept. 3rd	2 Letters to Victoria $4.00		
	Letters for men $4.00		8.00
" 18	Butter $28.00 Canvas Belting 21.00		49.00
" 21	Heifer $132.00 Salt 8.00		140.00
			8684.88½
	Received from Smithy work		7.00
			8677.88½

I have not yet received the cash for the team & horses they have teamed up some of our goods which lessens the amounts.

Cr. Rec'd Blacksmith's work 7.00

Sept. 25th The above accounts are agreed upon "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the Men "William Williams".

I am, dear Sir,
Yours truly,
"Jno. Evans"

Sep 25th 1863
Henry B. Jackson, Esq.

1863 (53) General disbursements Brot over $10568.51½

Sept. 26th This day we started the wheel and pumps as a trial and found them to answer well all I fear of is the early setting of frost to put a stop to the wheel or the pumps breaking, in either case we must leave the shafts until spring, as we have no means at this distance to procure cast iron pumps that can arrive in time or buy a small steam engine should the water be frozen up, however everything works well so far.

28th Today we mastered the water several yards in depth - but as we have to join pieces to the pump as we get down the water master one of the pumps while we put the other in order.

I have recorded the ground we have discovered containing either silver ore, or silver lead it contains the matrix of both for which I paid the usual fee. 2.50

If the lead turns out good I shall claim half a mile.

30th Heavy shower of hail & snow. I took 4 of the men to commence operation on the new discovery. It is at an altitude of at least 2000 feet above this place, in another fortnight I may be able to arrive at some estimation of its value. Nos 3, 4, 19 & 21 are the men left to work there. This is one out of three places we are going to search this winter besides the ground we have located (54) here. I expect gold in two of them.

Oct. 1 Hard frost last night slight fall of snow in the morning fine latter part of the day; we have stopped the wheel to repair the belting or strap and even during that temporary stoppage the water filled the shaft in a short time. We have neither leather, gutta percha nor India Rubber for making straps with, only heavy cotton belting which does not last long and stretches very much requiring constant attention. I bought some provisions by a man passing.

Sept. 30 232 lbs of flour & beans @ 35 cents (order) 81.20

3rd Today I went up the mountain to see the men I left prospecting since the 30th ulto. We are driving a tunnel to cross the vein. The ground we have to cross is a jet black shaly rock the colour of coal and the men as black as colliers that work there. I have taken some of the rock down with me & crushed it into dust which on being washed I find is full of sulphurets, whatever metal the lode contains, it must be very rich as I never saw anything equal to it in my life. A large portion of its width is composed of decayed white quartz with sulphurets, which seems to have boiled out of (55) earth through the black shale.

Yesterday a lot of our provisions came up which started from Victoria on the 14th August.

Oct. 2 To freight on 5128 lbs. from Lillooet @ 28¢ by I.H. Gunsell: Paid by order on J.G. & R. 1435.84

Oct. 10th We have worked this week as if life or death depended on our work in pumping the water in order to get our log pumps extended piece by piece down to the quick

$12088.05½

sand. We found that although we had the two log pumps of 6 inch bore giving 2 feet stroke each giving 22 strokes per minute - and one Iron force pump 3 inch bore worked by 2 men; also 3 men day & nights at the windlass raising water by men of barrels, that we had very little to spare of being masters of the water, as we must necessarily lose much time in adding pieces to the lengths of the pumps, as we went down we thought it would be better to prepare a third log pump equal to the others, which we are now getting ready, and as we had accomplished to extend all the pumps to the quick sand in the shaft we stopped the wheel for some days to complete the rigging required for the extra work.

12th Soon after the past midnight we started (56) all hands to the shaft; but found we must provide more riggins owing to the want of iron - and we were afraid to go on without doing everything we could possibly suggest and that before commencing to sink in the quick sand and then having to stop - we stopped the wheel again.

16th Again we started the wheel which was working the three log pumps simultaneous, the wheel giving 15 revolutions per minute & 22 strokes each pump - or equal to 66 strokes of a single pump per minute. We tried the power of the wheel & log pumps alone without the aid of the force pump or barrels on the windlass (which we want to keep by in case of emergency). We found the large pumps alone mastering the water and had nearly emptied the shaft to the quick sand in little more than an hour. Sunday being so near we determined to stop until Monday morning so as to have the whole week without interruption to fight with the sand the great enemy which we must master before we can reach the gold.

17th Captain Nind passed up today on his last trip for this season in charge of the Gold (57) Escort. I had gone up to the men on the mountain and missed him. He will be down this way on Tuesday or Friday and I will forward my letter to you by him. The men are still driving above and the lode is of immense size. We have not yet crossed through it but have entered into it on one side. We may have to sink before proving it, but will drive through it before commencing to sink on it.

19th We have had a very heavy fall of snow on Saturday night & yesterday, winter seems to have fairly set in with sharp frost, still I trust we shall have some more fine weather to complete our sinking. The machinery were set in motion this morning - it being our final effort to get down this season, if the frost does not set in so severe as to freeze the wheel; or some unforeseen circumstance should occur within the next fortnight, we shall (D.V.) accomplish our object. We find we have plenty of power to spare so that we master the water with ease, no other company on the Creek could say so up to the present. I wish however we had one of Gwynne & Co.'s centrifugal (58) pumps equal in power to the three now at work.

$12,088.05½

1863	General Disbursements brot over	$12,088.05½
August 14	Vignolo & Co. 4 barrels Butter 409 lbs @ 37½¢	153.38
"	8 Mats China rice 400 lbs @ 6¢	24.00
"	16 Bags Bayos Beans 800 lbs. @ 6¢	48.00
"	7 Gunns Bacon 708 lbs. @ 18¢	127.44
"	19 Gunny Bags @ 25¢	4.75
	Janion, Green & Rhodes	
"	5 Kegs sugar 599 lbs. @ 10¢	59.90
"	10 " syrup 50 gallons @ 45¢	22.50
"	Wharfage & cartage	3.00
	Janion, Green & Rhodes	
21st	1 Doz Thigh Boots	90.00
"	1 " Blue serge shirts	22.50
"	1 " Duck pants	18.00
"	3 Boxes candles 75 lbs. @ 35¢	26.25
"	3 Tins oatmeal 224 " @ 11¢	24.64
"	3 Cases Dried Vegetables @ $25.00	75.00
"	2½ Barrels split peas 232 lbs. @ 10¢	23.20
"	10 Barrels Extra Flour 5.75	57.50
"	1 Doz. India Rubber coats	72.00
"	4 Doz Yeast Powders	13.50
"	1 Gunny salt 225 lbs.	6.75
"	32 " Bags 25¢	8.00
	Wharfage & cartage	2.00
October 19	3 Heifers 1420 lbs. @ 25¢ }	355.00
" "	Flour 200 lbs. } Crawford @ $47. } order on	94.00
" "	Bacon 2 lbs } Crawford $1.25 } J.G. & R.	2.50
" "	8 Bars soap }	16.00
" "	1lbs. alum }	2.00
" 21	750 lbs. flour @ $45 (By order J.G. & R. Jones & Cahn)	337.50
"	Freight on 1056 lbs. from Mouth of Quesnelle @ 18¢ less $31. for goods stolen. By order on J.G. & R. Labourdine	159.00
" "	Charcoal $1.50 Salt $6.50	8.00
	General Disbursements Brot over	13944.36½

(59)

Dr.	Adventure Brot over	$8677.88½
Oct. 1st	John King, Flour & Beans	81.20
Aug. 14th	Vignolo & Co. Provisions	357.57
" "	Janion Green & Rhodes	85.40
21	do.	439.34
Oct. 19	Pa. Arees & Co. Beef	355.00
" 19	James Crawford, Provisions	112.50
" "	Alum	2.00
" 20	Jones & Cahn Flour	337.50
" "	Charcoal $1.50 Salt 6.50	8.00
" "	Labourdine Packing from M.Q.	159.00
" 2	J.H. Gunsell Packing 5125 lbs. from Lillooet @ 28¢	1435.84
		$12,051.23½

October 23rd, 1863. The above accounts agreed upon

"Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the men "Wm. Williams".

Oct. 23 As I feared when writing on the 19th, the frost set in so severe during the night, the ice collected around the wheel in such mass, and the icicles hanging from the troughs and all the machinery that came in contact with the water, that threatened the wheel with destruction & when the men endeavoured to turn the water they found it impossible to do so. Everything was locked up by the ice and all of a sudden three arms of the wheel gave way under the pressure, and put a stop to our efforts for (60) this winter to get down, we shall not attempt to any more than repair the wheel ready for spring should the weather change so far as to give us that opportunity. We shall all winter have to tunnel and discover all we can ready for spring washing. I fear from the severity of the weather we are destined to have a bad winter. I never in all my life saw such frost as that on Monday night. We had several tremendous fires around the wheel during the night intending to keep off the frost but to no purpose. During the 20th I took a lot of the men to Chisholm Creek a tributary to this Creek & falling into Lightning within our ground & we have started a tunnel for Gold - 2 months will suffice I expect to get to the rock. Much is also expected from what all think is a silver lead, where our 4 men are working on the Mountain.

We have 3 tunnels now at work and shall drive others if all is well before spring opens.

On writing to Portmadoc & Holywell, will Mr. Boyce please say in his letter that all the men are well and continue to say so in each letter, unless I write to the contrary.

We have a good stock of provisions for winter but not enough - each man eats double the quantity he used at home.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

"Jno. Evans"

Henry B. Jackson, Esq.,

October 23, 1863.

BASFORD MINES.

(61)

October 25th My letter of the 23rd was sent down in charge of a man named Crawford who keeps a small store in Van Winkle, but has a small shanty that he lives in during winter in the neighbourhood of Victoria. On perceiving your address on the letter, he was amased with astonishment; on perceiving his surprise I asked him if he had heard of your name before; he said "Yes & know him well." He was Jamison's of Liverpool!! Head man & left them about thirteen years ago - lived in California, Vancouver & British Columbia ever since although his wife & family remain in England; he held a good situation under Dixon Campbell & Co. but was discharged for his drunkeness. I find men here of all stations in society; sons of wealthy families from England, Magistrates, lawyers & those who have held good situations at home, very few of whom can get sufficient Beans & Bacon to keep body & soul together, thoroughly unfit for the place.

We have heavy snow on the ground & in all probability shall not see the soil again for six months.

Oct. 31 The four men prospecting on the mountain have not yet ascertained the full width of the Lode they are crossing it is of immense width, but we must in all probability sink into more (62) solid ground before we meet with ore. If I had such a lode in the Old Country, no one should ever see me on the Pacific Coast, if it should prove itself to be silver I shall care nothing for all the gold about the country.

On my return from the Mountain to the camp today, my son informed me that Lord Milton, a son of Earl Fitzwilliam had just left, having called & wanted to see me. He returned to Van Winkle & will call on his way down tomorrow (Sunday!)

Nov. 2 Lord Milton called with his servant yesterday on his way down. He is a quiet unassuming young man, but very mean looking. He had travelled on foot through Canada & across the Rocky Mountains, through a wild country but very different in the region of the latter to what he was led to believe. He said the Pass across was a vast plain and no gulphs or precipieces &c. He travelled 700 miles without meeting any sort of habitation & had to pack their provisions on animals backs. I found by the newspapers that he was on his way up to Cariboo to see for himself. My son had explained to him what (63) we had done when he called on Saturday, & seemed rather bashful when he found us not working yesterday & himself travelling on that day. He said it was the only exception he found in Cariboo.

Today we have started another tunnel in Chisholm Creek 500 feet above the one we started on the 21st & I intend claiming 1000 feet of the length of the Creek for mining purposes and anticipate good pay: I had seven men working on the first level

1863 General Disbursements Brot over $13944.36½

which is the lowest on the run of the water & had to build a log house for them to sleep in, as much time is lost in walking down here every day, the house is nearly finished and several yards of the tunnel driven. The party employed on the lower Chisholm level are Nos. 5, 14, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23. Two of the above are taken away Nos. 5 & 14 to come to work in the tunnel near the Camp here. No. 2 tunnel in Chisholm Creek is going to be driven by Nos. 2, 6, 10, 12, 13 - Nos. 7 & 8 will assist them for 10 days in building a log [house] for themselves to sleep in just the same number of days as seven men were occupied in the lower. I find the great utility of this step already appearing: as each will have five men, the lower composed of Flintshire and No. 2 or upper, worked by Carnarvonshire men. When the former saw what I was going (64) to do I found nearly double the work done in their level to what it was before. They have had 50 days start & I mean to keep exact account of the days worked by each.

Nov. 9 Today Nos. 17 & 23 desired to come down to the level near the house & wished me to send 5 & 14 in their place which I consented. 17 & 23, 11 & 26 will work in the level down here. I have also started another behind our house here. Carried only Nos. 20, 24 & 25 - so that we have in all five tunnels at work at one & the same time.

In order to simplify the matter in all my references I will allude to each as follows:

No. 1 - near the House. Worked by Nos. 17, 23, 26, 11
No. 2 - behind the House. Worked by Nos, 20, 24 & 25.
No. 3 - The lower level in Chisholms Creek. Worked by Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 22.
No. 4 - The upper in Chisholms Creek & worked by Nos. 2, 6, 10, 12 & 13.
No. 5 - On the Mountain & worked by Nos. 3, 4, 19 & 21.

Nov. 16 The second log house which is for tunnel No. 4 is nearly completed. No. 7 remains with them for a few days to complete it & No. 8 will assist at No. 3 tunnel the same number of days: both will then go to the men on the mountain (65) to make a log house for them as the one they have is not fit to pass the winter in. The snow is now with them nearly a yard deep. No. 9 is doing the Blacksmith's work and assist at other work when he has opportunities. No. 15 is making Barrows, &c. and my son cooking & Baking as I cannot trust any one else to take charge of the stores &c. about the house: & I am not idle.

I have another tunnel marked out for driving this winter, where gold has been found & known to exist. This I shall commence as soon as I can spare two or three men for the purpose & sure between all, we may expect great success before spring opens. The great mischief is that until some change takes place in the mining Laws here my hands are to a certain extent tied - it is fearfully dear to live here. I am as saving & as careful as I possibly can, still money go at a furious rate. The other day I had

$13944.36½

General Disbursement Brot over $13944.36½

to buy a small second hand saw & had to pay 32/- for what would be worth at home about 2/- & had to send to Williams Creek for three pounds of blasting powder & a few yards of fusee & had to pay £3 or $15 for what (66) cost at home 1/9 - for all the prospects we have of making a good thing of it if we get our health & moderate success during next spring & summer. Still it gives me now many a restless night - you must not infer from this that I fear of the result of our operation: far from it - but I feel nevertheless the responsibility nearly weighing me down.

October	25th	Nail		2.25
Nov.	11th	Saw & nails (1 dol per lb)		16.00
"	14th	3 lbs. Blasting powder		12.00
"	"	4½ yard fusee		3.00
Oct.	24th	John Fraser Freight from Mouth of Quesnelle 712 lbs. @ 18¢. Cash $50. order on J.G.& R. $78.16		128.16
Nov.	12th	Cartage Mouth Quesnelle: C. Forrest 1776 lbs.		3.00
"	"	Storage do. do.		3.00
"	17	Charges for forwarding up to 17th Nov. do.		4.44
		Coxon & Elmore		
June	29	To Bread Butter Tea &c. for men	$4.88	
"	"	4 Bars soap	4.00	
July	30	Cash for men left at Lillooet	5.00	
July	12th	Steamer Freight on 445 lbs.	7.35	
"	21	Freight from Douglas to Lillooet @ 8½¢	37.82	
"	22	1 Tin Coffee	.75	
"	"	3 lbs sugar	1.00	
"	"	8½ lbs. Ham	4.50	
"	"	Tolls on 2204 lbs. by Innes	22.75	
Sept.	2	Freight on 5639 lbs. to Lillooet @ 7½¢	422.92	
"	8	do. 1303 do. 7½¢	97.97	
"	30	do. 118 do. 8¢	9.44	
"	31	do. 1775 to Quesnelle 14¢	248.50	
		(67) Coxon & Elmore brot over	866.63	
		Deduct entered page 40	88.05	778.58

The order on J.G. & R. for the whole $866.63 was given this 19th Novr. but as they sent me the Bill for all together & wished the order in one I then destroyed the first for $88.05.

The two items on the same page as owing to Crawford & Innes I shall reduce as under, since I found they were overcharging.

Nov. 19	James Crawford Freight on 741 lbs. from Lillooet to Soda Creek @ 12¢ by order on J.G. & R.	88.92
Nov. 19	Saul & Co. (Or Innes) Freight on 2204 lbs. from Lillooet to Soda Creek @ 11¢	242.44

Memo. Coxon & Elmore has paid the 1¢ toll on this lot at Lillooet hence the difference of 11¢ instead of 12¢ per lb.

$15226.15½

1863 General Disbursements Brot over $15226.15½

Saul & Co. owe us $532.56 after deducting the above $242.44 the amount the 3 Horses waggon was sold at to them, viz $775.00.

Dr.	The adventure Brot over		$12,051.23½
October	25th	Nails $2.25	2.25
Nov.	11	Nails & saw	16.00
"	14	Blasting Powder & fusee	15.00
Oct.	24	Freight from Mouth Quesnelle John Frazer	128.16
		Charges & storage to Chas. Forrest	10.44
		Coxon & Ellmore's Bill	778.58
Nov.	19	James Crawford Freight	88.92
	19	Saul & Co. Freight on 2204 @ 11¢	242.44
23rd Nov. 1863			$13333.02½

The above accounts agreed upon "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the men "William Williams"

(68)
Nov. 28th Today on my return from Chisholm Creek and the mountain, I found the express had passed & had brought me your letter and one from Mr. Rhodes. It gave me great pleasure to hear from you & to learn that Mrs. Jackson & the family are well, as also yourself.

The men were also well pleased with your sentiments regarding them: this is the first time they have heard from their families since we care to Cariboo.

I fear that some of my letters will have been delayed somewhere on the way as I find from Mr. Rhodes' letter that he has only just received about a few days before writing to me, my letters to him of the 25th Aug. 3 Sept. & 25 Sept.

I intend if possible to go down to Victoria about January or Feby. at latest to make provision for next summer, but I want first to see the result of some of the numerous trials now in progress & in contemplation.

We are all in good spirits & perfectly satisfied of striking in several of them before spring opens. Tunnels Nos. 1 & 2 are progressing but slowly owing to the quick sand. No. 3 is 96 feet in length today. No. 4 66 feet in length: this latter will be driven at the rate of 4 feet per day, which will be in favor of the Carnarvonshire boys of about 2½ days each for 5 men, both lots work like Tigers: No. 3 have come to the gravel, but which (69) is not yet near enough to the bed rock to be oriferous. In my next I hope to announce to you of our having got to the "pay" - I think I mentioned in a former part of my Journal that the rock on these mountains (Cariboo) are only visible on the surface, but in very few places it is covered with a thick

$15226.52½

1863 General Disbursement Brot over $15226.52½

layer of soil, then underneath that a layer of hard clay & gravel underneath the clay - this is the general character of the valleys & mountain sides. All the mountain & indeed the whole country is covered with moss, brushwood & heavy timber. This makes it so difficult to find out any traces of minerals on the surface such as can be detected wherever its presence exists in the Old Country - in a great many instances with us here in searching in Creeks for the bottom of the declivity or valley by which ran the ancient stream, it is found under the hill side and not where the present Creek runs, part of the mountain having slid down by the action of water, filling it and driving the stream wide of its original channel; on the very top of our mountains have been found ancient beds of streams that have deposited gold in the gravel - whence the gravel clay, sand & gold could have come from & be deposited at such altitude, no satisfactory solution of the problem can be given, but it is pretty generally agreed that (not) the gold must have originally come out of the Quartz rock - of which this country is full but none have been discovered rich enough to pay for working. The poverty of the Quartz rock can be accounted for by the richness of the deposits in Creeks - or vice versa.

Several hundreds are wintering on Williams Creek, Lowhie & Nelson Creeks. As far as I can gather from reliable sources which is Mr. Cox the Gold Commissioner here, that Mr. Diller of the Hard Curry Company (whose company struck gold last winter on Williams Creek) has taken down the largest sum for one individual this year $100,000 or £20,000, this is pretty good for one man when we consider that no one under the present laws can hold more than 200 feet in length by one hundred in width. His partners were not so rich having been fonder of gambling & drinking than he. They took in one day 201 lbs. of gold. This was the largest take of the season - they who employ labour have to pay very heavy wages, none work for less than $10 per day, some get $16. Cameron, a Canadian has also gone down heavy (ly) loaded. The last account I have seen of their weekly dividend was $3100.00 per share one hundred feet.

Although our outlay has been great, few weeks washing after striking gold dirt will quickly balance the other side.

I had much trouble to get to our boys on the mountain today, the snow was very heavy & my boots had frozen like iron on my feet. The length of their tunnel (No. 5) is 87 feet; the lode in its width takes up near 60 feet of that. We are not ready to commence sinking. There are fellows about watching us like vultures to see the result so that when we strike the ore, we are obliged to stake our ground, viz., mark out our boundaries then they will rush to the available ground left. This is one evil of the present laws that a discoverer has very little advantage over these skulkers who takes advantage of others labour. The log house

$15,226.15½

1863 General Disbursements Brot over $15226.15½

for this lot (No. 5) will be ready next week which will make the third branch dwelling we have. Each 12 feet by 10 feet inside all wood except the fire place;when the house is completed I am going to send two other hands there to sink a shaft on a lead of Gold known to exist near them which we are pretty confident of finding. I am also going to start (72) another shaft on the Hill side opposite our depot here. Sleighing has begun & foot boats or snow shoes are in requisition.

I have not yet heard from the Governor regarding the Lease, but it troubles me none. Mr. Rhodes writes me of his being Knighted.

You may be a long while without another letter as the Express only comes this way but seldom during winter.

The Branch Bank at Richfield is not likely to be of any service to me, the distance too great for me to go there with no advantage over sending the Gold when found - to Victoria - the Gold of this Creek will only sell in the Bank for 17 dollars per oz. The same fetches 19 Dollars in San Francisco. The gold of Williams 1 dollar less the escort charges ½ a dollar per oz for conveying it down. This is heavy & they will not give a guarantee even then so that very few people send their gold by them but go with their own treasure a lot together.

I shall visit Williams Creek again before going down to Victoria & Mr. Cox the Commissioner, who is there for the winter to relieve Mr. O'Reilly has invited me to stay at his house while there.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

"Jno. Evans"

Henry B. Jackson, Esqr.

$15226.15½

1863 (73) BASFORD MINES

General Disbursements Brot over $15226.15½

Nov. 30th This morning, just after I had closed my letter & sent it off, the following communications were sent me by Mr. Cox the Commissioner from Williams Creek. (You will bbserve, Mr. Cox is the Commissioner for Cariboo West & South-west, and Mr. O'Reilly that of Cariboo East & North-east. Headquarters of the former being Van Winkle and that of the latter Richfield, all our claims are under the jurisdiction of Mr. Cox. At the end of the Mining Season 1 October Mr. O'Reilly left for Sandwich Islands to have some rest during winter. Mr. Cox taking his place Pro. Tem. along with his own & residing at Williams Creek.

Copy.

Gold Commissioner's Office,
Richfield, Nov. 28, 1863.

"J. Evans, Esq.

Dear Sir - I beg to enclose herewith extract from a letter which I have just received from the Colonial Secretary.

I shall feel obliged by your transmitting me from time to time a report of your progress for transmission to His Excellency the Governor.

Trusting your enterprise may prove as successful as your energy deserves,

I remain,
Dear Sir
Very sincerely yours,
"Wm. Geo. Cox."

(74)

P.S. You will see a public notice in Van Winkle Town respecting the forthcoming election for the election of a Member to represent Cariboo West.

Saturday the 12th next month is the day fixed by me for polling.

Wishing you & your son a Merry Xmas also all the men
"W.G. Cox".

No. 378

British Columbia
Colonial Secretary's Office
22 October 1863.

Sir, X X X X With reference to your letter conveying the application from Mr. Evans for a Lease of Mining land on Lightning Creek, I am to acquaint you that His Excellency has the same under consideration.

It would appear to be in exact accordance with the Gold Fields Regulations and you have full power to deal with it to that extent, as Gold Commissioner, and you are therefore to protect Mr. Evans rights untill they receive official confirmation.

$15226.15½

1863 General Disbursement brot over $15226.15½

Mr. Evans would appear to be carrying on his operations with great assiduity, the Government take a deep interest in his success and desire to encourage his attempts to the utmost of their power.

I have, etc.

signed "Wm. A.G. Young"

W.G. Cox, Esq. J.P.
Cariboo District.

(75) The date of my application was 28th July. It took the Express some three weeks to arrive in Victoria with the letters, the Red Tapes took two months to acknowledge receipt (22nd Oct) & in all probability the condecention [sic] shown in sending it so soon as that even is to be attributed to the intervention of Mr. O'Reilly who passed here on his way down early in October & promised me he would urge the Government to send an answer to my application. Considering that Mr. Rhodes & some of his friends have waited three years for a Lease to work a mine near Hope (the one I inspected for them 25th April) I must not grumble if we get ours when the men's time will have expired.

Both tunnels in Chisholm Creek are in gravel now, another fornight should bring the lower one to the bed rock. The other has 10 days more to arrive at the same point.

December 2 The mountain party (No. 5) have not got through the lode. I shall not commence sinking there until I have ascertained the full width of it.

It has been thawing since yesterday, wind from the south. No rain but a heavy shower of snow caught me before I arrived at the camp.

(76) No doubt you have expected to hear from me about the India Rubber or "Gum" boots as they are called here. I have had opportunity enough by this time to prove the quality of the Liverpool Boots and to compare their relative quality with those from California. I must say they are not equal to the latter for the purposes of Gold Mining, the rough usage they are subjected to soon tell on the flimsy leggings attached to those of the L'Pool Rubber Co. while the American boots have stout cloth nearly as strong as fustian to make the leggings of their boots. If they made theirs with strong cloth in the upper portion of the Boot leaving plenty room about the knee for bending without running the risk of ripping as is the case with every pair we have had - I think you would do well to send a good consignment of them to this country. Thousands of pairs are bought every season and the retail price in Cariboo range from 20 to 30 dollars.

You can calculate what would be their cost be delivered

General Disbursements Brot over $15226.15½

in Victoria - before reaching here there would be the addition of some 40 cents per lb. for transit, including weight of boxes and 10 per cent duty.

Decr. 7th Yesterday three men came from Van Winkle as a deputation from a public meeting held for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Cariboo West in the Legislative Assembly about being opened for the first time in (77) British Columbia. This deputation informed me, the meeting unanimously agreed to ask me to allow myself to be nominated. I said I must decline entering into the matter at all on that day, as it was devoted to some higher purpose: & besides I had not the least intention to aspire to the position, that I had plenty on hand to occupy my time & thoughts - they were however determined not to be defeated; but used every argument within their reach. At last I told them I would enter more fully into the question if they left me until today to consider.

After considering that I had to go down to Victoria during winter and the Session would be a short one & no extra travelling expenses having to be incurred & the vast importance to ourselves would be a change in the Mining Laws which if returned I intended to propose, & their promising to carry on the election without my troubling myself, I consented. After this interview they showed me a letter from Mr. Cox the Commissioner which contained a hint that directed their attention to this place the same evening, they, unknown to me raised a subscription amongst themselves to defray the expenses of two electors to go down to Quesnelle Mouth to canvass for me.

Decr. 8th This morning the two men (78) went down after calling upon me for my written address to the electors, Saturday the 12th being the Polling Day at both Towns.

My opponents were Dr. Black of Williams Creek Hospital and a Mr. Nelson, French Canadian.

Decr. 12th The polling took place at Van Winkle.

Dr. Black	3	But when the news came up from the mouth, we found that the two men who were nominated my Agents there got on the spree in going down and only reached
J.Evans	50	
Nelson	0	

the evening previous to the election, so that they had not the opportunity of doing anything if they tried, much less had the electors as it was found afterwards they (the canvassers) were bought over by Dr. Black with drink. Only 4 voted for me there, who only came to know of my being a candidate in the afternoon. Dr. Black spent 1600 dollars there, polled 127 but Mr. Cox who is the Returning Officer struk out all the votes of Chinamen. I enclose a note received from Mr. Cox after the election.

The present arrangement for British Columbia is, the Government nominate 10 members and (79) people five, one for Cariboo

General Disbursements Brot over $15226.15½

East, to include Williams Creek and tributaries and all east of this. One for Cariboo West from Van Winkle to Quesnelle Mouth to include Cottonwood & all the country west of this - one for Lytton Yale & Hope - one for Lillooet & Douglas District & one for Westminster. The two first to represent the Mining Country & interest.

I find now they are very dissatisfied at Quesnelle Mouth after finding how matters stood.

Decr. 15th I went to Williams Creek to see Mr. Cox to record ten claims in Chisholme,Creek and to take out another License in your name so that we have now 28 of them. I stopped there two nights & was the Guest of Mr. Cox & while there the Express brought the result of the Election from the Mouth up, & he learned then how the two men had acted - his indignation knew no bounds.

Decr. 31 We are now on the Eve of another year & when I am writing it is New Year with you. The cold for the last few days has been intense. We are approaching the Bed rock in the tunnels on Chisholme Creek for we find the "colour" in the gravel: what is meant by colour is (80) small particles of Gold mixed with the gravel but not deep enough to find large pieces - one of the tunnels No. 3 there is now over 70 yards in length & the other No. 4 over 60 yards but we expect gold soonest in the short one No. 4 as it is there we found the colour this week.

The tunnel No. 5 on the Mountain although its width not yet ascertained, we have found mineral some beautiful specimens of lead ore. I expect we shall find it is silver lode intermixed with Galena or lead ore.

On the 15th I took away No. 11 from Tunnel No. 1 & No. 5 from Tunnel No. 3 & set them to sink on the mountain for Gold near Tunnel No. 5. I also took No. 15 from Barrow making & No. 24 from Tunnel No. 2 & set them sinking opposite the House on the Hill side. Each party have by this (31st Decr.) sank two small shafts in all but have not yet found any channel & have commenced fresh ones.

12th Decr.	Tobacco 7¾ lbs. @ $3.	23.25
	Matches 6 boxes	3.00
	2 Letters from & to Victoria	4.00
	Nails 9 lbs.	9.00
15th	Charcoal $3.00 Expenses to & from Williams Creek 4.00	7.00
	License H.B.J. $5.00 Recording 10 claims $50.50	55.50
31	Yeast Powder	3.75
		$15341.65½

BASFORD MINES

General Disbursements Brot over $15341.61½

(81)

January 4th I sent my last letter by the Expressman from Cariboo also another to Mr. Rhodes.

The weather is getting more and more severe here.

The operations for the present are as follows:

Tunnel No. 1 Worked by Nos. 17, 25, 26
Tunnel No. 2 Worked by Nos. 20, 23
Tunnel No. 3 Worked by Nos. 14. 16, 18 22.
Tunnel No. 4 Worked by Nos. 2, 6, 10, 12
Tunnel No. 5 Worked by Nos. 3, 4, 19, 21
Shaft on the Mountain worked by Nos. 5, 11
Shaft opposite the House here worked by Nos. 15, 24
No. 13 Cooking. Nos. 1, 8 preparing timber
Nos. 7, 9 The Blacksmith & Joiner, each with his proper work.

I am preparing an agreement to be signed by the men here, as I believe it is necessary since the one we executed in England is of no avail here in the Colony. I am advised in this by Mr. Cox & others. I am bewildered seeing so much money go for provisions & the length it takes to prospect. I only hope we shall come upon gold in large masses in one or more of the places before the expenses reach the limit. As far as any human foresight can go we are certain to meet (82) with large quantities of Gold in the places in operation during winter & have the main locality to operate upon when summer commences.

January 8. We have crossed the entire width of the lode in Tunnel No. 5 on the mountain & have set the men to commence sinking on it. The full width at the depth where our tunnel has intersected it is about 30 yards, so wide a lode I never knew before, I look more upon this as something for the future, as the country gets opened & facilities increase. There is no doubt of this lode containing immense wealth.

January 13. I have stopped Nos. 1 & 2 Tunnels for thepresent The men engaged have been for the last few days (except No. 17 who is ill) sinking & looking out for a Hill "lead" of Gold. Four small shafts have been sunk. Three more are in operation in the neighbourhood of this house. Two have been sunk on the Mountains by Nos. 5 & 11 in the second we came to Gold Ten small pieces in the first panful of "dirt". We have started another today knowing there is a larger lead in the place.

Tunnels 3 & 4 have not yet come to the bed rock. The former is about 76 yds in length & the latter (83) about 73 yds. There was every indication today when I visited them of their being close to the bed rock in ~~the~~ No. 4 & I intend going up tomorrow although the labour is very great to walk through the snow. We have had an addition of between 2 & 3 feet within the last 48 hours.

$15341.65½

General Disbursements Brot over $15341.65½

It is now a most exciting period with us as we do not know what a day may bring about at some of the undertakings.

Jany. 6	Laumeister & Co. Flour 600 lbs. @ 49¢ $294.00		)By order	
	" 1 Doz. Yeast Powder $15.00		)on J.G. & R.	309.00
" "	From Williams Creek 10 lbs. steel @ $2.00			20.00
" "	" " " 2 " Borax @ 2.50			5.00
" "	Letter per Express to Victoria			2.00
" 9	A Van Vleck of Williams Creek		)	
	1 Grind Stone 77 lbs @ 1.00	77.00	)	
	Fixings	10.00	)	87.00

The $87 - by Order on J. G. & R. in favour of G.B. Wright & Co. Our flour is very nearly finished. Our Tea, Bacon also. We can have no beef for months to come.

Jany. 15 Another (No. 16) is added to our sick list from Rheumatic pains.

Jany. 19 Nos. 2 &14 are today added to the same list. Many of the others are complaining very badly & I fear they will have to yield.

Jany. 22 No. 24 has dropped work being unable to hold out. 17 is getting better slowly; he has been so seriously ill that I had strong fears of his recovery, he is not yet out of bed.

(84)

Dr.	Adventure brot over page 67	$13333.02½
1863 Dec. 12th	Tobacco	23.25
	Matches & letters	7.00
	Nails, charcoal & Axes	16.00
	License & records	55.50
	Yeast Powders	3.00
1864 Jany 6	Flour & Yeast Powder	309.00
	Steel & Borax	25.00
	Letter to Victoria	2.00
	Grindstone & fixings	87.00
		$13860.77½

January 22nd 1864. The above amount agreed upon

"Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the men "William Williams".

January 15th Tobacco 7¾ lbs. @ $3. Laumeister & Co. 23.25

" 22nd We have got on the Bed rock in No. 4 Tunnel, but not on the Channel. We have now to run with the rock towards the left as it dips that way & have the Black

($15787.90½)

General Disbursements Brot over $15787.90½

sand in the deposit, which is the invariable companion of the Gold, but the latter cannot be reached untill we come to the deepest part of the ravine which forms the clearance.

Jany. 19th	G.B. Wright & Co.	4000 lbs. flour @ 40¢	1600.00
	Do.	1000 Bacon @ 1.00	1000.00
	By order on J.G. & R.		

The above to be delivered in the following order in consideration of prepayment: Feby. 1 500 lbs. of Flour. Fby. 15th 500 lbs. flour & 100 lbs. Bacon and at the same rate every ten days untill completed. I congratulate myself on making a good bargain since flour here is 50¢

(85)

Dr.		Adventure brot over	$13860.77½
		Ommitted last page Yeast Powder	.75
Jany.	15	To Tobacco	23.25
"	19	To Flour	1600.00
"	"	To Bacon	1000.00
			$16484.77½

January 22 1864.

The above amount agreed upon "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the men "William Williams"

January 23 On visiting the men on the Mountain today I find they have had good "prospect" yesterday in the ground they work on for gold. Nos. 5 & 11 have taken the Laurel of getting the first "prospect" of Gold in paying quantities. We are now only waiting for the melting of snow in that place to get water before commencing to "wash". The parties driving Nos. 3 & 4 Tunnels have been dissapointed as they were very confident they would be first in consequence of which they lose a premium of $40 I had promised them. I hope the old saying will be verified "it never rains but it pours" We have made a start. Who next?

Jany. 25th My 48th Birthday which I nearly forgot until I commenced writing: The express goes down tonight.

Much sickness prevails amongst us, about half the number are complaining, mostly from (86) Rheumatism.

The following is a copy of the Agreement I have prepared & which must be signed as soon as I get an opportunity by a person coming here that can act as a witness to the signatures.

Agreement made and entered into this first day of August One thousand eight hundred and sixty three.

Between John Evans late of the City of Manchester, England on behalf of Henry Beecroft Jackson, Esquire of the said City and himself of the first and the several Workmen whose names are below of the other or second part.

$18387.90½

General Disbursements Brot over $18387.90½

The said John Evans agreed to furnish the necessary means to carry on the work in accordance with the terms and provisions of an agreement made and entered into between the said Henry Beecroft Jackson and John Evans and the several Workmen therein named dated Manchester July 16th one thousand eight hundred and sixty two.

We the undersigned Workmen on our part do hereby individually and severally agree to respect, renew and to in all things abide by the agreement entered into between the said Henry Beecroft Jackson and John Evans and ourselves in the aforesaid agreement in all its provisions - to serve the said Henry Beecroft Jackson and John Evans truly and faithfully in regard to the mining adventure in which we are engaged to the end of this Mining Season of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four and to hold ourselves amenable to the Laws of British Columbia in regard to the aforesaid agreement, as if said agreement was made and entered into in British Columbia.

And we hereby individually & severally further agree that should we or the said John Evans pre-empt, record or purchase any mining claim or claims in our names or in the name of any or either of us, to hold the same only untill such time as we may be called upon by the said John Evans to sell or transfer the same to the said John Evans or any other party whom the said John Evans may nominate to receive the same, and we hereby agree to give up to the said John Evans or any party whom he may nominate to receive the same at such time and in such manner and on such terms as the said John Evans shall think fit. And the said John Evans is to have the sole and exclusive control and right of disposal of the same as also the proceeds of all the adventure in whatever form or manner it is derived.

omission here

The said John Evans on his part undertakes to apply all the proceeds whatever when got at any time up to the end of Mining Season of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four in conformity to the terms and purposes of aforesaid agreement made in England Sixteenth day of July one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two and hereby renewed and confirmed in the Colony of British Columbia and that we the said Workmen disclaim any right to the disposal of the said Claims or the proceeds thereof further than holding them at the will and command of said John Evans to be dealt with has specified in our aforesaid agreement, any Law or Equity to the contrary notwithstanding.

As witness our hands this first day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty three.

Without some such provisions as above, I would be entirely at the mercy of the men, until the Law is altered. I cannot hold ground enought o operate upon without a Lease & no Lease is granted on ground that is available for individual miners & any claims in the men's names they could sell and appropriate the money unless I had them fast.

I am, Dear Sir, Yours truly,

Jany. 25/64 Henry B. Jackson, Esq. "Jno. Evans" $18387.90½

1864. (89) BASFORD MINES

General Disbursements Brot over $18387.90½

Jany 26. My letter goes off today. Today Nos. 18 & 22 are added to the sick list, their limbs, as well as those here previously are quite Black, their sinews contracted & the flesh where the pain exists seems as if it was bruised.

Jany. 27 Few days ago I expected No. 17 was getting well but now in spite of our efforts I find he is sinking. Every appearance of inflamation of the Lungs. I have applied every outward remedy within reach, still no improvement. I have sent my son off to Williams Creek to the Doctor to fetch some more suitable medicine for him & the other men.

Feby. 3 Nos. 25 & 26 left off work too ill to move. No. 15 is also bad; in all we have 9 invalids. Some are improving, amongst others No. 17, which was the only one really dangerous. I made them go into hot bath daily. Yesterday we have commenced boiling spruce buds for a drink as we find they are affected with scurvy in addition to Rheumatism.

Feby. 5 There is very great improvement in the men's health, the best medicine after all is the spruce drink sweetened with syrup.

I have only just returned (90) from the Mountain having been there since yesterday morning, the 4 men working at No. 5 Tunnel having been engaged since Monday in sinking shafts in various places seeking gold near the Gold found by Nos. 5 & 11 mentioned in my last - & will continue for few days longer. I shall go up if alls' well tomorrow again to watch proceedings. I want to see the result of several trials in hand before I leave for Victoria so as to arrange the plans for working during my absence. The weather is very mild & in spite of the great depth of snow we shall commence sawing planks to make washing troughs or flumes as they are called here, almost immediately.

Nos. 3 Tunnel have struck the bed rock today & found a small prospect, but they are not yet on the Channel. They have now to drive to the right in the direction of the dip of the rock, seeking the Channel. I expect they will have to drive no less than 20 yards more before meeting it. Nos. 3 & 4 Tunnels, the former has the Channel to the right of it & the latter has it to the (91) left, both working as hard as they can to be the first to reach it.

I expect the Expressman to come down on Monday & he is to pay me the balance due for the waggon & horses $532.56 with one per cent per month interest on the same for six months $31.92. Total $564.48.

$18387.90½

	General Disbursements Brot over	$18387.90½
Jany 27	Doctor's Bill	20.00
	Essence of Ginger 2 Bottles	4.50
	Carbonate of Soda 2 oz.	2.00
	1 Gill of Castor Oil	4.00
	Candle Wick	2.00
	Recording 6 claims on Jackson Gulch	15.37½
Feby 3	Carriage of Medicine from Williams Creek	2.00
Jany 26	Postage of Letter to Victoria	2.00
" 6	Carriage of Steel & Borax from Wm. Creek	2.00
Feby 6	Tobacco 7¼ lbs. @ $3.00	21.75
Jany 28	14 lbs. Steel from Quesnelle Mouth @ $1.60	22.40
" "	Borax 1 lbs. @ $2.00	2.00
" "	Freight on do. @ 40¢ per lb.	6.00
	Carriage of Grindstone from Wm. Creek	9.00

Feby 8th There is very great improvement in the health of the men 15 & 22 are starting off to saw Timber for flumes or Troughs on Jackson Gulch so as to be ready for washing as soon as the snow melts. No. 2 is also ready to start off but I am keeping him down for a few days to attend to those that are worse. No. 17 is going to dress himself today for the first time since the middle of last month. They are all getting (92) on well and are well attended to.

The Express has just gone & my letter not ready as he only promised to come by night. He has brought with him the following communication from Mr. Cox --

Copy Richfield, 6th Feby/64.

My dear Sir,
Herewith I forward you copy of a letter just received from Col. Secretary, it explains itself, so whatever steps you wish to take, I shallbe pleased to back you up.
With kind wishes for yourself & son,
Believe me Dr. Sir,
Faithfully yours,
"W.G. Cox"

"No. 3 Colonial Secretary's Office
4 Jany. 1864.

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th December enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Evans to yourself dated 4th December in which he expresses doubts as to whether he can obtain a Lease for 1000 feet of ground (by which I presume is meant 10 claims of the ordinary size). The Locality is not mentioned but I presume Mr. Evans refers to the explorations on Chisholm Creek.
His Excellency directs me to state that he has perused Mr. Evans' letter with great interest and I am to inform you that you are hereby authorized (93) to grant (under the Gold

$18502.93

General Disbursements Brot over $18502.93

Fields Act 1859 Section Xl and rules and regulations 7th September 1859 Rule 20 and following rules) a lease to Mr. Evans of any portion of presumed auriferous soil to the extent of 10 or 20 claims, not only at the above spot but at any other locality in which he has, in your opinion, made any explorations or done any work deserving of such encouragement. Mr. Evans will of course comply with the conditions in rule 20 of the 26th September 1859. Such lease will be held on the terms of representing the ground contained in such lease, by such number of men as to the Gold Commissioner may from time to time seem adequate according to the nature and advanced or backward state of the works, machinery, &c.

You will make in duplicate a short memorandum of the lease with maps &c. and require Mr. Evans to sign each copy and to see that the boundaries are sufficiently fixed and maintained. Every such Lease will be without prejudice to any rights existing at the time of granting the lease. You will then send down one copy of the memorandum signed to this office in order that the necessary lease may be prepared.

I have, &c. &c.

W.G. Cox, Esq.J.P., "W.A.G. Young" (signed)
&c. &c.

(94)

The foregoing letter refers to one that I wrote to Mr. Cox previous to my recording the claims on Chisholm Creek, in which I pointed out the difficulties that I found facing me & preventing my prospecting several places during this winter which I had intended.

~~(95)~~

The Colonial Secretary's letter in a great measure has removed those difficulties, but not all; I dont want to go & pay $125.00 for the priviledge of trying or proving each place. I might feel disposed to prospect which must always be done as a deposit on making application for a Lease, as on the one hand I might find after a month or two's work it was not worth continuing & the money would be forfeited, & on the other hand I do not feel disposed to spread our efforts too much (although it may suit the Government for us to do so) I would rather concentrate our whole force on 2 or 3 good places as soon as we ascertain the most desirable to retain. However I may here remark that this is the first instance of such concessions as are contained in Mr. Young's letter.

Before making application for a Lease I shall wait untill we get to the Channel with Tunnels Nos. 3 & 4 since I have (95) recorded them - none of the men except my son know in whose names they are recorded, as also the last 6 Claims.

15th Feby. Today Nos. 2, 18 & 25 are off the sick list. The latter two have gone to No. 3 Level, there are six there at present working two shifts as I want to prove the value of that & No. 4 soon as possible after which I shall go down to Victoria

$18502.93

General Disbursements Brot over $18502.93

The remaining four invalids are doing very well and will be soon at work.

19th Feby. No. 3 Tunnell. They have reached the bed rock today, but they have to cross as they are not on the original Channel. They have struck the rock to the left of the Channel and No. 4 to the right so that each have to follow the rock untill they reach the deepest part of it before coming to Gold.

For the last three weeks I had the four men employed at No. 5 Tunnel, prospecting for Gold on the Mountain by sinking Shafts. They & Nos. 5 & 11 have sunk several shafts already in several of which we have found gold. They shall continue to do so for few days longer, after which they shall resume their own work.

I have bought two bullocks for killing, they cost 45 cents per lb. viz. the flesh . I have not yet paid. The express is due today. I have not yet heard from home for three months.

Dr.	Adventure brot over		$16484.77½
Jany. 27	Doctors Bill $20.00 Ginger $4.50		24.50
	Carbonate of Soda $2.00 Castor oil	$4.00	6.00
	Candlewick $2.00. Recording 6 claims	$15.37½	17.37½
Feby. 3	Carriage of Medicine from Wms. Creek	$2.00	2.00
Jany. 26	Letter to Victoria $2.00		2.00
	Carriage of steel & Borax from Wms. Creek		2.00
Feby. 6	Tobacco $21.75		21.75
Jany. 28	Steel $22.40 Borax $2.00 Carriage $6.		30.40
	Carriage of Grindstone from Wms. Creek		9.00
			$16599.80
	Deduct for Blacksmith		20.50
			$16579.30

Feby 19th 1864
The above account agreed upon "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the men "William Williams".

Feby. 22 The Tunnels on Chisholm to all appearance are getting near the channel, but since the express goes down on Wednesday morning I cannot announce its accomplishment by this mail, although not on the Channel we find Gold in small quantities which is but rare to be met out of the Channels in great depth.

I send also a copy of my letter to Mr. Cox & hope to be able to go down to Victoria with the next express following this. I shall wash the gold on Jackson Gulch by Hydraulic - the most efficient and economical method for the place. All the men will resume work after this week - nearly all well.

I am, Dear Sir,
Henry B. Jackson, Esqr. Youre truly, "Jno. Evans"

(97) General Disbursements Brot over $18502.93

Feby. 24 Yours of the 19th November 1863 came to hand today. The expressman having taken it up to Williams Creek by mistake, which prevented me from replying in due course to some parts requiring explanation - & which I still consider necessary, but before doing so you will excuse me in diverting a little from the subject of our enterprize.

I am glad to find that both yourself, Mrs. J. & family are well & trust you will continue so. I was glad to hear about Master J, not only from yourself but from my son, who is very much pleased with him. Please accept my thanks together with the men for the good wishes expressed for our welfare by Mrs. J. Master J. & yourself & for the care bestowed on my wife & family together with those of the men.

The missing despatches were sent down by Mr. Elwyn of the Gold Escort by a letter received from Mr. Rhodes. I find he did not deliver one sent to him for a month past due.

I cannot add anything to what I have already written about money matters. I have not expended any but for food. Some clothing that was necessary, such as thigh boots, India rubber coats &c. and tools & materials for the work, and which was indispensible. I cannot spin out the money (98) better than I have done. I have left the buying of all our provisions &c. in Mr. Rhodes' hands & have consulted him in all my movements as far as I was able to do at this distance. It was at his suggestion that I came up the country to judge for myself before the arrival of the men, but as to the locality for me to operate he is no more able to assist me than you are in Manchester. I must be governed by circumstances & to a very great extent be my own Councellor and use my own judgment. I am not depending solely on Basford Mines for our success I have taken the precaution of operating on several places simultaneously during this winter & it is only a question of time & limits of expenditure that I have to contend with. The expenses of living here is by far more than I anticipated & the length of time it required to prospect the ground also. We have satisfactorily prospected Jackson Gulch but must wait the melting of snow to get water to wash the gold & to make the best of it I must do so by Hydraulic: which is nothing more or less than a fireman's hose - but larger - receiving the water at a higher elevation & its force is obtained by being (99) propelled by its own weight from the higher elevation of one end of the Hose which receives the water to the one which discharges it against the soil & gravel in the Creek & the water in its force carries all through the troughs laid below & the gold is deposited - (being 7 times heavier than the gravel) - in the riffles, or sort of wooden grating laid on the botton of the troughs.

We have sunk 20 shafts this winter, all of which did not cost as much labour as one of our tunnels on Chisholme Creek & up to this date we have not reached the Channel in either. I mean the original Channel, but from the quantity of water coming upon us we

$18502.93

General Disbursements Brot over $18502.93

cannot be far off both of which we are prosecuting with the utmost vigour.

Feby. 29 All the invalids are away and at work, being in want to go down to Victoria and time so pressing as the season for washing will be upon our heels before I can return unless I can go down soon, I must notwithstanding all that remain here untill I see the result of our explorations on Chisholme Creek & go through all the necessary preliminaries about Leasing the ground before (100) going down so as to have my mind at rest while away. Mr. Rhodes cannot possibly do all I want down there else I would not go down at all. I have put 9 men on No. 3 Tunnel & 6 on No. 4 to hurry on the work. Nos. 14, 16 & 17 have been added to the former & Nos. 5 & 11 having completed their prospecting on Jackson Gulch I have added to the latter or No. 4 Tunnel.

Touching again upon the subject of capital. I trust we shall not want any more before we begin to produce, but should it be otherwise I can say that it would not at all be wonderful since flour which cost $6.50 at Victoria, will by the time it reaches here be from $80.00 to $100.00. We cannot get it by the cheapest method ourselves for less than the $80.00 per 200 lbs. Everything else far higher in proportion. I can do no better than I do nor more economical. Your anxiety must be great Mine is greater. As soon as the wheel begins to turn the other way $20,000.00 or $30,000.00 is a mere trifle to get back for so many. Then people have paid sums like that here for one hundred feet.

March 5th Continuing to snow another 6 inches added last night & this morning. The men working (101) on No. 5 Tunnel on the mountain have resumed their work. Yesterday I was obliged to take them to prospect for Gold owing to the illness of so many men. I find that Cunningham & Steel whose names you have seen already connected with these mines, sent down some Galena to be assayed, which they found amongst the Gold in the Channels of their claim - & which proved to contain a large proportion of silver. None have found a lode with it in, up to the present time, but the North Wales Company. I shall take some of the one with us for assaying when I go down. You will remember this is No. 5 Tunnel. No. 3 continues to produce Gold as we go on, although the Channel in both that & No. 4 have not yet been reached. We try it in the dish almost every day.

On Monday Nos. 2 & 26 will leave for the Mountain to commence a Tunnel for Gold where Nos. 3, 4, 19 & 21 have been sinking & were finding good prospects in the gravel going down but were driven out by the water coming from below. A small Tunnel will master it & prove its value. As soon as the weather is a little milder No. 7 will start for Jackson Gulch to make the Troughs for washing. The timber (102) is sawn & ready. Nos. 15 & 22 have commenced sawing on Chisholm Creek for Tunnels Nos. 3 & 4 as we are in full confidence of their being wanted for the same purposes.

$18502.93

General Disbursements Brot over $18502.93

March 10 I understand the Expressman has gone up to Wms. Creek. I cannot be ready to go down with him this time to Victoria but must try & be ready for the next: We have had two feet additional snow since Friday, it is not at all likely that we shall see it thaw before end of April to enable us to wash the dirt: but we have plenty to do. As soon as the Channel is reached in the Chisholm Creek Tunnels, I shall give them plenty jobs untill I return from below.

I have only received $150.00 on a/c of the money for the waggon & Horses but money goes so fast & anxity has nearly weighed me down for fear it is done before returns begin to come in. What then? I shall have only one alternative left to discharge the men & ruin our prospects. This is looking on the enterprize from a desperate point of view & had I known it would be so costly to live before I started I would never have undertaken (103) the responsibility, and it availe nothing to say when the means of subsistence is finished that we have valuable claims. They cannot be worked without hands.

1060 lbs. Beef @ 45¢. Horatio Nelson By order on J. G. & R.			477.00
7¼ lbs. tobacco			21.75
Letter to Victoria			2.00
2 Boxes candles 25 lbs. each $30.00	$60.00	Order on	
6 shovels	36.00	J.G.& R.	
6¾ lbs. Bacon	6.75	for G.B.	506.20
500 lbs. Beans 50¢	250.00	Wright &	
170½ lbs. Sugar 90¢	153.45	Co.	
5 lbs. nails			5.00

March 11th I have just returned from Chisholm & the mountain. I was in hopes to be able to announce our having reached the Channel by this opportunity, & although the nature of the ground and the immense quantity of water that comes from that direction into the Tunnel are the best indications of our near approach, still we have not yet accomplished it. No. 3 has nine Flintshire & No. 4 has 6 Carnarvonshire men each eager to be first. The six men are ahead of the nine do what they will: their Tunnel is longer than the other. The matrix from the Tunnel on the Mountain is first rate (104) & I am very anxious to get some of the sample assayed.

I have written to Mr. Rhodes asking him to procure two Hydraulics for me, ready by the time I come down. I find that several others are preparing to Hydraulic different places in the District next season. It is the best paying of all gold mining when there is plenty of water to operate with as one man with Hydraulic Hose will do half dozen men's work in the same time.

People begin to pour up through the snow - poor fellows they come meet their ruin as no one will employ them for at least

Come

$19514.88

General Disbursements Brot over $19514.88

two months & wages will be lower next season. It is also reported that provision will come down the Road is finished now all the way from Yale to Alexandria thence by Steamer to Quesnelle Mouth - distance from us 43 miles. I must confess I am not always in the best temper seeing so much money go.

I cannot make out the account against the adventure to go by this mail as W. Williams works during night shift this week & sleeps in the day so that he cannot go through the accounts with me. All the men's whole account are seperate in the Ledger including advances there.

Feby. 24	By cash to a/c Saul &c.	150.00
		$19364.88

I am, Dr. Sir,
Yours truly,
H.B. Jackson, Esq. March 11/64. "Jno. Evans"

(105)

March 18	Tobacco 8 lbs @ $3.00	24.00
" 25	Sluice Fork	10.00
" "	Nails 5 lbs @ 1.00	5.00
" "	Letter to Victoria	2.00

Dr.	The Adventure Brot over	$16579.30
Feby.	Beef $477.00 Tobacco $21.75	498.75
"	Letter $2.00 Nails $5.00	7.00
"	Goods from G.B. Wright & Co.	506.20
March	Tobacco $24.00 Nails $5.00	29.00
"	Sluice fork $10.00 Letter 2.00	12.00
	Advanced to men for Bible Societies	2.75
		$17635.00

March 26, 1864

The above account agreed upon "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the men "Wm. Williams".

March 26: Nothing of importance has occurred since my last despatch. Nothing but the most monotonous life of it.

No. 3 Tunnel on Chisholme, we have had a large piece of rock to cut through which intercepted our progress towards the Channel & hope not to meet another as it takes a long time to get through rock with powder at 16/- per lb. a price which is at once prohibitory.

The gold we were getting in this Tunnel some time since was not the deposit on the Channel but from the inclination of the rock still in the same (106) direction it is certain that it is nothing more or less than a portion of the oriferous gravel having stayed on a rather flat part of the rock on its way down to the Channel from the mountain sides. $19,405.00

General Disbursements Brot over $19405.00

No. 4 Tunnel. We are now in oriferous gravel, but from the fineness of the gold, we have yet some distance to go before coming to the deepest part of the Channel. The fine gold is deposited highest not being heavy enough to penetrate through to the bottom. I hope we shall be down in time before the heavy thaw comes on so as to make use of the water for washing.

No. 5 Tunnel. The shaft at the far end of this Tunnel is down as far as we can go, and we are starting to sink near the mouth of the Tunnel as the matrix in the first shaft dips towards the mouth and we must find where the sides meet.

Jackson Gulch is only wanting water to commence washing the gravel.

Plenty hawks about watching our operations & the results

(107)

April 2 No. 5 Tunnel on the Mountain having come to the Heading joint or the opposite side of the vein or Load from the shaft we sank first & finding the Load is situated between the two we have commenced the third.

April 9th Found letter received today by Express from Mr. Rhodes. I find that the mail is very irregular from California owing to immense numbers going to Boyce River in Washington Territory to some new Diggings found there. California is to a great extent depopulated, masses going to the Mines with the general rush & from the state to avoid the draft: I have not heard from home since receiving your second letter. Another from you awaits me at Victoria, but I cannot go down untill I have completed my arrangements here. The irregularity in the Steamers coming from San Francisco here will delay a while our getting the Hydraulics to wash Jackson Gulch.

April 16 Some ore from No. 5 Tunnel was shown to a number (108) of my countrymen who live in California & have been working for a long while in Washoe Territory in the great Silver Mines there & they say it is exactly the same stuff. I shall take a lot of samples with me down for assaying.

April 23 Everything is ready now in No. 3 & 4 for washing. As soon as we get down, all the troughs &c. are laid in both.

Thawing sets in & we are going to commence on Monday to wash Jackson Gulch. We cannot do much untill the snow is partly cleared. It is nearly 6 feet deep there in places yet.

April 28 Today I received a letter from Mr. Rhodes he expects the Hydraulics up by next steamer from California. Still expecting me down Your letter has not been forwarded.

I am happy to say that gold in No. 4 is increasing in size & more numerous. I took out of the sluice boxes yesterday

$19405.00

General Disbursements Brot over $19405.00

larger grains than we have had yet. Our near approach to the Channel & the gold increasing as we press forward is now certain proof of our being close to the lead & that we have a lead (109) the delay in fully ascertaining this, considering the time was getting very long & the money dwindling away has nearly weighed me down & I began to fear of my health and in spite of our increasing prospects, it will be sometime before I can enjoy my usual health as I have gone back in spite of myself. A trip down will I hope put me right. I am up on the mountain & through the several places almost every day - this in my weak state I feel very labourious.

This week four men came up intending to locate on Jackson Gulch, but to their great dissappointment they found us on the very ground they were dreaming of making their "pile" on, while on their way up from Victoria. I have also marked 2000 feet on Chisholm: this, with the 600 feet on the Gulch will be quite enough for us. Even if Basford Mines should dissapoint us.

April 30 Since writing the above we have taken out of sluice boxes some very nice gold on Jackson Gulch. We shall commence next Saturday to enter for the first time some "gets" which will go (110) on increasing as our operations are being fully opened Every day the Gold in No. 4 Tunnel is increasing in size & I am now in good spirits & hope to be able to disengage myself so far as to be able to go down to Victoria in a week.

April 2	Laumeister & Co.	Candles 20 lbs @ $1.			20.00
" 8	John Mathias	10 lbs. Mercury, 1 Sledge Hammer			35.00
" "	Laumeister & Co.	7½ lbs.Tobacco	$21.00	Order dated	
" 12	"	18 lbs.Candles	18.00	18th April	
" "	"	1o lbs. nails	9.00	/64 on	
" 16	"	20 lbs.Candles	20.00	J.G. & R.	
" 18	"	10 lbs. nails	9.00		77.00

I am afraid I shall not have as much protection now the new Governor has come here as before. The Commissioner knew I was in high favour by the old one. If I find I shall not be protected I shall concentrate our operations accordingly, work as hard as we can to get out all the gold in the claims already discovered until they are exhausted & cut home. There is no probability of our being able to do so this year. The men begin to see they will require to enter into re-engagement by the work we have before us.

$19537.00

Cash from Saul & Co. to a/c 134.00

Basford Mines

I am, dear Sir,
Yours truly,
"Jno. Evans"

Henry B. Jackson, Esqr.

May 21, 1864 $19403.00

BASFORD MINES

May 2 General Disbursements Brot over $19403.00

(111)

Little did I anticipate when sending my letter off this morning that a mutinous spirit was working itself. The document which I drew up & sent a copy of Jany. 25, I arranged to get signed today. It was approved of at the time by Wm. Williams 17 who represented the men, but now when he saw we had struck the lead in Chisholm and every appearance of doing well this summer, instead of explaining the meaning of it to the men as I intended him to do by sending him to each lot before my arrival with a friend to witness, he had misrepresented the whole thing as an imposition and an attempt on my part to deprive them of all rights at the end of the season. They were all so thunderstruck and ill humoured that I did not get the explanation at the time. However next day when I explained everything what the document meant nearly all the men agreed to sign it in a moment but the fellow was not satisfied without attempting a strike. He went with three others to Williams Creek to see if I recorded any claims in their names (112) before they went I told them if they moved out of the House on any such errand they were never to return. They had another object in view, that of finding out employment as they expected 10 to 20 dollars a day & I well knew they could get none. I had recorded all the claims in the names of the Carnarvonshire men with one for you one for myself & son with No. 14 - selecting all those I could trust - the laws are so prejudicial to the interest of capitalists that the workmen can deprive them of their rights without ceremony.

May 5. This morning the four started off & returned same evening. Next morning I ordered them off the premises. They had tried all they could to get all away except some two or three. I found 4 others were equally guilty. They had also to seek better fare all Flintshire men - no wonder at your remark when we met them at Holywell, you expressed a dislike to many. I have retained the most valuable - all the other men are right glad they are gone and very little less work will be done as all the 18 are determined to work so much harder. I have had (113) anxieties which nearly weighed me down, as I had lost faith in some of them for a long time past, still I wished to retain them, expecting to see a favourable change. Now they have gone never more to return. I am beginning to revive in spirit. The fellows who are no longer with us are Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 23, 24, 25. Please stop the supplies to the families of the above - 17, 23 & 24 were really the culpable parties & the others were led astray. It has been a very valueless week this week no one could stick to his work untill I finished with those men which I did this morning.

May 9 I drew up another document similar in purport to the other & got all the eighteen to sign it, while the others are now carrying loads from Van Winkle through the snow - for 10 cents per lb. & will be able to earn enough to get beans, bread and a little Tea but not much butter or Bacon with such hard work as many broke their constitution by the labour last spring.

$19403.00

General Disbursements Brot over $19403.00

May 10 I went to Williams Creek to see the Commissioner and get the priviledge of keeping all the (114) ground previously held without increasing the number of men untill I return from Victoria to which place I am starting tomorrow morning. It was granted at once & he begged of me not to allow any of those fellows ever to return. They cant get employment for some time as miners.

We have not yet reached the rock in the channel of Chisholme Creek. Untill that is done we cannot get the heavy gold although what we have is beautiful for its size. I may send you just the first sample taken out of both that Tunnel & also a little taken out of the sluices on Jackson Creek. 4 South Welshmen have located on that creek next below us & since we find so much gold there, it will all be located probably before my return. The snow is thawing fast & we are taking advantage of the water to wash off the top dirt. The gold falls on the rock & remains in the crevices so that the men will not attempt to wash much of it for a fortnight or 3 weeks. We are satisfied of our having got good pay as we find the gold (115) rolling on the rock under the operation. I find it is the same thing they do on Williams Creek as with enough of water now as much work is done in a day by forcing the water on the gravel & dirt as will be done in ten ordinary days work by the usual method.

The first small sample I am going to send to you if I can. I am claiming 500 feet extra on Chisholme as discovery claim & will try to sell one or two claims while I am below during about a week I intend stopping at Victoria.

May 11	Gold dust from Jackson Gulch	8	12
" "	" " " Level 4th Chisholme	9	20

The man, No. 13, selected to sign the Book with me is up on Chisholme & it is impossible to get it done regular this time untill I get time to make proper arrangements. I intend returning here in about 3 weeks. They run coaches for a great distance day & night. I dont want them to wash much gold in my absence.

April 30	8 lbs. Tobacco	$19.00	) Order on	
May 2	Boxes Candles	38.00	) J.G. & R.	
" "	1 Chest of Tea	59.40	) May 6/64	
"	1 Sluice fork	10.00	)	126.40
May 6	Doctors Bill			20.00
" "	4 Records & 4 Bills of Sale Claims			30.36

(116)

I am taking down samples from Nos. 5 Tunnel on the mountain for assay. Many old California miners say it is a gold vein below where we have sunk others from the same place think it is what I have always - silver lead - we may not be able to complete our work of proving it this summer as we want to push on the gold washing while it is season reserving that untill winter.

Ozs.	Dwts	grs.
	18	8

$19579.76

	Oz.	Dwt.	Grs.
	18	8	

General Disbursements Brot over $19579.76

I must get the adventure to accept the private advances made to the families of the men that have left as well as all other expenses due as such - since the work done by them must be considered equivalent.

On my return here from Williams Creek I met the reprobates resting on the snow & taking their frugal meal on the road side. I did all I could ever since we came to make them all comfortable. They shall be subject to the torment of their own conscience. I could get plenty men here to take their place but I shall only take hired men.

I am, Dear Sir,

Henry B. Jackson, Esq. Yours truly,
May 11/64.

"Jno. Evans"

(117)

May 13 This day we took out of the No. 4 Tunnel sluice boxes the first nuggets which weighs 6 dwts 12 grs.

May 14	From Messrs. Laumeister & Co.			
7th	One Firkin of Butter 93¢	$139.50	) Order on	
" 12th	10 lbs. Nails	9.00	) J.G.& R.	
" 14th	103½ lb. sugar @ 90¢	93.15	) 14th May	
" "	5 lbs. Tobacco	12.00	) 1864	253.65
15th	Letter to Victoria			2.00
16th	Recording 5 Discovery Claims			12.87½
19th	Jones & Cahn, 58 lbs. candles @ 1.00 1 axe 5.00)			63.00
	Order on J.G. & R. (			

May 14th No. 4 Level Chisholm Creek Gold Dust 9 15

Dr.	Adventure brot over	17635.00	
April 2nd	Laumeister & Co.		
	Candles 20 lbs. @ 1.00	20.00	
8th	John Mathias 10 lbs. mercury)		
	1 Sledge Hammer)	35.00	
" "	Laumeister & Co. 7½ lbs. Tobacco	21.00	
" "	" " 18 lbs. Candles	18.00	
" "	" " 10 " Nails	9.00	
" 16	" " 20 " Candles	20.00	
" 18	" " 10 " Nails	9.00	
" 30	" " 8 " Tobacco	19.00	
May	" " 2 Boxes Candles	30.00	
"	" " 1 Chest of Tea	59.40	
"	" " 1 Sluice Fork	10.00	
" 6th	Doctor's Bill	20.00	
" "	4 Records & 4 Bills of Sale claims	30.36	
" 7	Laumeister & Co. 1 Firkin of Butter	139.50	
" 12	" 10 lbs. nails	9.00	
	Carried over	18092.26	1 7 23 $19911.28½

Oz. Dwt. Grs
1 7 23

General Disbursements Brot over $19911.28½

(118)

Dr.	Adventure Brot forw'd.	$18092.26	
May 14th	Laumeister & Co. 103½ lbs. sugar	93.15	
"	" 5 lbs Tobacco	12.00	
15th	Letter to Victoria	2.00	
16th	Recording 5 Discy. claims	12.87½	
19th	Jones & Cahn 50 lbs. Candles 1 axe	63.00	
		$18275.28½	

May 19th, 1864
The above accounts agreed upon Per Pro "John Evans"
"Taliesin Evans"
On behalf of the men "Richard Roberts".

May 21st	Gold Dust No. 4 Level Chisholm Creek	4 21	
May 20th	Jones & Cahn 2 lbs nails 1½ inch		2.00
" 24th	Wm. Sewell 124½ lbs. Beef @ 45¢ Order on J.G. & R. dated 24th May		56.02½
" " 28th	Laumeister & Co. 10 lbs. Nails $9.00 / 5 lbs. Tobacco 15.00 / 200 lbs. Flour @ 45¢ 90.00 — Order on J.G.& R. dated May 28/64		114.00
" 24th	Jones & Cahn, 1 lb. Borax		3.00

May 24th The snow having melted away and the weather being very dry, Jackson's Gulch is at present too low to continue "Ground Sluicing" so that I have set the men at work to make preparation for washing up the ground that has been ground Sluiced. The two Sawyers Nos. 21 & 22 are engaged sawing boards for sluices &c. not having sufficient on hand. They will have finished there on Saty. and will come down to Nos. 4 Tunnel to do the same there. No. 7 Making Sluice Boxes & riffles, &c.

28th The gold in No. 4 Tunnel continues to be very fine the ground not being solid enough to hold the coarse (119) gold. Old miners speak well of our prospects and state that the ground has every appearance of being very rich but that we cannot expect much gold until we get to the "Bed Rock Channel" or some other hard substance such as clay, which will hold the gold.

May 28th Gold Dust No. 4 Tunnel Chisholm Ck. " 6 "

Dr.	Adventure brot over	$18275.28½
May 20th	Jones & Cahn 2 lbs Nails	2.00
24	William Sewell - Beef	56.02½
" "	Laumeister & Co. 10 lb Nails	9.00
" 28	" " 5 " Tobacco	15.00
" "	" " 200 " Flour	90.00
" 24	Jones & Cahn 1 lb Borax	3.00
		18450.30
	Deduct for Blacksmith work	3.00
		$18447.31

June 3rd 1864. The above accounts agreed upon "John Evans"
Per Pro "Taliesin Evans"
On behalf of the men "Richard Roberts"

1 18 20
$20080.31

		Oz.	Dwt.	Grs.	
		1	18	20	
	General Disbursements Brot over				$20080.31
June 4th	Gold Dust Chisholm Ck. No. 4 Level		7	18	
" "	" " Jackson Gulch	3	4		
June 3rd	Letter from Victoria $7.75 do to Vic. $2.00				9.75
" "	Tomahawk $3.00 1 Joiners Cross cut Saw $5.50				8.50
" 6th	10 lbs. Nails $9.00				9.00
" 7th	For Examining the Records				1.00
" 8th	Letters to Quesnelle Mouth				.50
" 19th	Letter to Victoria				1.00
" 24	Beef, Major Thorpe. By Order on J.G.& R.				80.40
		5	10	14	
					$20190.46

9r

(120)

June 6th Not having come to any satisfactory result with either of the tunnels in Chisholm Creek, I have removed the men working in No. 3 Tunnel & put them to work in No. 4, so that two shifts are now at work in that tunnel believing it to be much nearer the Channel than No. 3.

June 8th No. 4 Tunnel has come to where they have met the bed rock from the opposite side, and we find that the channel is covered over with a false bed rock or slide through which we shall have to cut our way before we get to it & find gold in paying quantities.

June 11th	Gold Dust No. 4 Chisholm Ck.	3	3	"
" "	" " Jackson Gulch	2	6	16

June 16 Having returned from Victoria after a very tedious journey I arrived safe on the 16th June, having left here on the 12th May.

June 17th The Season is so extraordinary dry that there is no water in the creeks to work with, only some couple showers of rain yet this year. We are obliged to leave Jackson Gulch and for the present concentrate all our force on Chisholm & also prepare to renew our effort to go down on Lightning. Some exceedingly good results having been effected above us this spring, which (121) has given a new impetus to few companies to strive to get down to the bed rock and we are confident of the result. Very coarse gold having been discovered higher up the Creek - one piece weighing over 30 oz. the largest yet found in Cariboo and all the tributaries of Lightning Creek being oriferous, we stand very good chances - two of them emptying into our claim, viz. Chisholm & Last Chance Creeks. New discoveries made this year in the latter and our shaft being opposite the lower end of it, we shall no doubt get good pay from that Lead independent of the great Lead of Lightning which all the Companies on these flats are looking out for.

Chisholm Claims, the gold is very much scattered in No. 4 Tunnel. We have crossed over 40 yards containing gold. This width is too great to contain it in concentrated mass and untill we come to it in a deeper Hollow we cannot get it big. We are encountering great obstacles which delays our progress in the

11	0	6
		$20190.46

	Oz.	Dwt.	Grs.
	11	0	6

General Disbursements Brot over $20190.46

shape of a high ledge rock crossing the creek underground like a rock constituting a waterfall. This is what has scattered (122) the gold at the points where we are working. This we are striving to pass and shall accomplish though with much loss of time & labour. What gold we found is much larger, or coarser than any we found in the British Columbian Court at the Exhibition which is a proof of a large lead being here. No. 3 Tunnel is not yet on the Channel. I fear we shall see the 12 months fully round in our Labours before getting much, which will be up on the 29th July. There are many companies here who have worked hard for three years before getting any gold & then raising 100 to 300 oz. per day. One thing is certain, we cannot be expected to leave this year, so much preparation cannot be left off in a hurry & with God's blessing not without good result, though it has cost me up to few weeks ago immense anxiety which I hope never to experience again. The Tunnel No. 4 Tunnel is 90 feet perpendicular under the surface.

June	19th	Licenses	95.00
"	23	Beef Wm. Sewell 125 lbs. @ 10¢	12.50
May	12th	Expenses at Beaver Pass self & Horse	5.00
			$20302.96
"	16th	To balance for Horses & waggon Saul & Co.	204.00
			$20018.96

(123)

May	13	Expenses - Cottonwood $3.00 Ferry 50¢	3.50
"	"	10 Mile House $1.50 Quesnelle Mouth $1.75	3.25
"	14	Passage & Board to Soda Creek	11.50
"	19	Soda Creek 5 days Exes	13.50
"	"	Coach fare to Yale $80.00 Dinner Deep Creek 1.50	81.50
"	"	Supper Blue Tent $1.50. 20th Breakfast 111 Mile House $1.50	3.00
"	"	Dinner 74 M. House $1.50 Supper Clinton $1.25	2.75
"	21	Coffee at Orr 50¢ Cooks ferry Dinner & Supper 2.50	3.00
"	22	Breakfast Lytton $1.00 Boston Bar Dinner $1.00	2.00
"	"	Yale Supper Bed & Breakfast $3.00 Boat to Westminster $2.00	5.00
"	23	Dinner on Board $1.00 3 days at Westminster $7.12	8.12
"	26	Dinner on Board the Otter for Victoria $1.00 Passage $2.00	3.00

Arrived at Victoria Evening of the 26th after the delays of 8 days on the road owing to the floods carrying away bridges & the fires in the forests through which we had to cross. The day after I arrived at Victoria the forrest surrounding Westminster took fire which for three days threatened to consume the whole Town.

27th	Tape $1.50 Two ft. Rule $1.50 Cups & Saucers $1.25	4.25
"	Crucibles $1.80 Do. Plumbago 37¢ Screws gross 1.50	3.67
"	Hatchet $1.25 Twine 75¢ Glasses 88¢	2.88
	4 Gold Pans $5.00 14 lbs. quicksilver $8.40 Hops 75¢	14.15
	3 skins of wash leather $3.00 Repairing 2 watches $8	11.00
	Thread 1 lb. $1.50 Station-ery $5.12 Tobacco $88.25	94.87
	Powder & fuse $15.50 5½ lbs. Borax $2.00 Garden Seed $1.00	18.50

		Oz.	Dwt.	Grs
		11	0	6

May 27	Rope 37 lbs. @ 18¢ $6.66 Tax 37¢ Medicines $9.00	16.03
	Assaying ore $15.00 Matches 1 doz. boxes $3.00	18.00
June 7	Victoria Hotel Bill $30.00 Boat to Westminster 3.00	33.00
" "	Breakfast & Dinner $2.00 Supper Westminster 1.00	3.00
" 8	Boat to Yale & Bed $4.00 Breakfast & Dinner $2.00	6.00
" 9	Carrying Hydraulic by Steamer	2.62
" "	Breakfast Dinner & Supper & Bed	4.00
	(124) General Disbursements brot over	$20391.05
June 10	Coach fare to Soda Creek	80.00
" "	Breakfast 10 Mile $1.00 Dinner Lytton $1.00	2.00
" "	Supper Cooks Ferry $1.00 11th Breakfast Oregon House $1.00	2.00
" 11	Dinner Clinton $1.25 Supper 74 Mile House $1.50	2.75
"	Travelling all night 12th Breakfast 127 Mile House $1.50	1.50
" 12th	Dinner Deep Creek $1.50 Supper Mud Lake House $1.50	3.00
" 13th	Breakfast Alexandria $1.50 Horse through forrest $5.00	6.50
" 14th	Ferry 50¢ Supper Quesnelle Mouth $1.50	2.00
15th	Bed & Breakfast do. $2.50	2.50
"	Freight from Quesnelle on 3072 lbs @ 15¢ $460.80)By 5 Sacks Potatoes $55.30 Brown & Gillis)order on J.G.& R.	516.10
" "	Nelson & Co. 480 lbs. Bacon @ 31¢ $180.80) " 307 " Sugar @ 13½¢ 41.44)By Order " 219 " Butter 48¢ 105.12)on " Freight on 1042 lbs. from Douglas @ 22¢ 229.24)J.G. & R.	572.56
" "	" Do. on 218 lbs. @ 22¢ 47.96)	
" "	G.B. Wright & Co. 900 lbs. flour @ 28¢ 252.00)By order 4 Boxes Candles @ $12. 48.00)on J.G.&R.	300.00
" "	Horse to Lightning	15.00
"	Beaver Pass Dinner & feed for Horse	4.00
June 25th	Gold Dust No. 4 Tunnel 4 2 5	
" 30th	Gold Dust No. 4 Tunnel 5 3 14	
" 4th	Letters Mr. Jackson $7.00 Men $10.00	17.00

16th Cottonwood Night Exes self & Horse

The gold entered up to this date 30th June is correct "John Evans"
For the men "John Lumley"

July 10th	Letter Humphrey Jones	2.00
" 11th	Dr. Adventure $18447.31	
June 3	Letter, Joiners tools & nails 27.25	
" 7 & 24	Letters, Beef & Records 82.90	
May 12. June 19 & 23	Licenses, Beef & Exes 112.50	
" 13 & 14	Expenses 18.25	
	Carried over $18688.21	

20 6 1

$21923.96

		20 6 1	
	General Disbursements Brot over		$21923.96

(125)

Dr. Adventure Brot over	$18688.21	
19th May Coach fare to Yale	80.00	
19th to 26th Expenses & Steamer	41.87	
27th Goods, &c.	183.35	
June 7th Expenses at Victoria 11 days	30.00	
7th & 9th Expenses & freight to Yale	18.62	
10th Coach to Soda Creek	80.00	
10th to 15th Expenses	22.25	
15th Potatoes	55.30	
" Freight from Quesnelle	460.80	
" Nelson & Co. Goods	572.56	
" G.B. Wright & Co. do.	300.00	
16th Horse & Exes home	23.00	
4th Letters at Victoria to England	17.00	
July 10th Letter Humphrey Jones	2.00	
June 7 Hydraulic	548.00	
Bibles & Testaments	7.50	
July 23 C.T. Romie - 105 lbs. Beans & 5 lbs Tobacco	50.75	
	$21181.21	

July 25th The above account agreed upon "Jno. Evans
On behalf of the men "Richard Roberts"

June 7 Hydraulic		548.00
Bibles & Testaments		7.50
July 23 C.T. Romie 105 lbs. Beans @ 40¢	Order on	42.00
5 lbs. Tobacco @ $1.75	J.G. & R.	8.75
Iron at Van Winkle		13.75
Wm. Sewell 143½ lbs. Beef @ 20¢		28.70
April 11 Pellows & Roscoe Ironmongery		98.62

July 25 Gold weighed John Evans & John Lumley 4 9 6

July 25 There is very great excitement on Chisholm Creek. People come down from Williams Creek in scores, owing to the discovery of a Quartz vein with gold in (126) it some few hundred yards above our claim.

We have not yet arrived at a satisfactory point in our Tunnels on Chisholm. We have driven about 40 yards in various directions trying to pass the high ledge & get into ground sufficiently flat & level to hold the gold that came down the Creek. We are obliged to sink shafts from the surface & hope soon to get to better ground.

26th We are fairly in now with our main work on Lightning Creek: our next neighbours have just failed to get down being too few men. They have got very good pumps, & I have agreed with them to come to us untill we get down & we shall furnish them

24 15 7
$22671.28

with the same number of men to go down with their shaft, by so doing we shall prove the top end of our own claim. We are very confident of going down. Their pumps are rigged also in our shaft. One Company above us, a little beyond Van Winkle on this Creek are taking out about 100 ounces per day, but our aim is at present to strike Last Chance lead which falls into Lightning somewhere near our shaft. Chisholm & Lightning gold Leads come also into our claim.

ounces ✓

(127) I have not yet come to any definite understanding with the men as to the future. They want to go down first on Lightning before entering into re-engagement. They must bear the disadvantage consequent: The end of the Season is October: after which month they must provide for their own families, in all probability we shall get down on Lightning by end of August. Our preparations are enormous.

Aug. 12th Few days ago our new Governor came up & we gave him a Salute of 17: He made a very short stay on Cariboo having to go down soon as the Indian outrage has not yet been quelled. There will be great deal of fighting before it is over. They have just shot the government guide who went out with the volunteers.

We are making a double shaft to go down through the Quicksand, one solid Box of Timber 6 inches thick: 6 feet wide, 8 feet long & 20 feet deep with the 3 pumps inside, to go down in one solid mass inside the shaft & if this does not master the difficulties nothing will, short of powerful steam engine, but we find that two of our pumps are masters of the water (127) & once down unless we have to drive much to strike the lead from the bottom of the shaft, less than one month will bring all the outlay back. The men are expecting advantageous terms after their term is up but I shall enter into no agreement that shall not comprize the repayment of all advances and also the half of all the mines to ourselves.

The next mail will bring you intelligence of how far we shall have succeeded. We hope to be down in a little more than a fortnight with God's blessing.

We are not attempting to wash any gold on Chisholm now untill those shafts are down.

July 25	Laumeister & Co. Order on J.G. & R.		
June 11	3½ lbs. Tobacco $9.62 20th 5th do. $13.75		
27	10 lbs. nails $9.00 5 lbs do. $4.50 July 1		
	10 lbs. nails $9.00		
July 9	200 lbs. flour $78.00 14th & 22nd 400 lbs. do. $155.00		
" "	Tobacco $13.75	292.62	
	6 Letters to England for men $3.00 2 Letter up $1.50	4.50	

24 15 7
[$22968.40]

Oz. Dwt. Grs.
24 15 7

General Disbursements Brot over $22968.40

Aug. 2nd Beef 109 lbs. @ 25¢ 27.25
3 Tompkins & Jones Packing from Mouth Quesnelle Order on J.G. & R. 38.00
6 Brown & Gillis Packing 8271 lbs. @ 10¢ Order on J.G. & R. 827.10
June 7 Rec'd from J.G. & R. $500.00. This is not to be thrown out as it is being accounted for in the disbursements.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

H.B. Jackson, Esq., "Jno. Evans"
Aug. 12 1864.

BASFORD MINES 24 15 7

(129)

General Disbursements Brot over $23860.75

Sep. 1 Your letter of the 29th June has caused me such pain since it came to hand, that I am almost distracted, which has driven off sleep & rest. Prospecting here takes so much longer times than any one unacquainted personally with the upper country have any conception of, and the inadequate machinery for the formidable work to be done increases ten fold the difficulties. Had I know before leaving home the work to be done I could have provided ourselves with a small steam engine & Iron pump which would have enabled us not only to reach the bottom of Lightning before end of last fall and being independent of water power could work all winter where large pay is known to exist. Placed as we were, nothing remained but set to work fixing such machinery & contrivances as the country could afford.

The mining portion of our work we find no difficulty, but the log pumps will not stand the pressure and although it cost us all last season (130) and a great portion of this to rig them in the two shafts, we have been obliged to take them out replacing them with an elevator pump, which is a canvass belt with a kind of scoop or wooden bucket as it is called, fixed to the belt & revolves over a drum at the top, thereby raising the water up in a peculiar way. This is a most primitive way but is the only alternative in the absence of Iron pumps. Had we the latter even such as are used in medium size Mines in the old country, we could often do in three days work which takes a month to accomplish now.

I am so discouraged with these difficulties & the fact of our having reached the limits of supplies, although confident under all circumstances of accomplishing it, still frost may set in too soon, if so, I shall go down broken hearted.

24 15 7
$23860.75

24 15 7

General Disbursements Brot over $23860.75

The country is rich, but for the want of proper means to master the water, - which I consider is the only difficulty.

This is the worse season that ever was experienced on Cariboo.(131) A great many claims on Williams Creek situated on a flat similar to ours, have failed to go down, the difficulties being the same as ours. In many instances they were carried on with money taken out from rich paying claims. Consequently it cannot be said it is owing to want of capital.

Sepr. 19th The water increases & we are now rigging four sets of elevator pumps, the greatest number which we can possibly get to work. We have the best shaft in British Columbia & if we cannot get down with our present number of pumps, nothing that this country can furnish will suffice. I had to go last week to Quesnelle Mouth & also Williams Creek to procure canvass which is both expensive & scarce. On going through the latter place, so many woeful faces I never saw in my life, all complaining of the same thing - the debtor prison there is full - & untill this country will be worked like Australia with proper machinery it will never rise - a good waggon road is now completed(132) within 21 miles of our camp so that machinery can be brought up, but where is the money to get it.

15 June	Barnard, Freight to Q.M.		Order on J.G. & R.	155.10
July 20	Laumeister & Co.	Flour $38.00		
Aug. 1	5 lbs. nails	4.50	Order on	
4	5 " "	4.50	J.G. & R.	
12	3 " "	2.70	29th Aug	55.50
18	Tacks & Nails	5.80		
	Fred Littler			
Aug. 6th	Beef	$25.25	Order on	
" 13	Do.	27.00	J.G. & R.	
			Aug.15/64	52.25
	Fred Littler			
" 20	Beef	20.75	Order on	
" 28	"	23.90	J.G. & R.	
	Fat	1.00	Sepr.2/64	69.65
Sep. 2	Beef	24.00		
	Nelson & Co.			
Sep. 9th	Freight on 8399 lbs. Douglas to Q.M. @ 20¢			
		$1679.80		
	Steamer charges	75.63		1755.43
		Order on J.G. & R.		
Aug. 14th	Letters for men			8.00
	Do. Mr. Rhodes			1.00
	Do. from do.			.25
" 17	Do. from do.			1.00
" 29	Jones & Cahn 6 lbs. Tacks			7.50
Sep. 4th	Letters to from England			.75
	Copper Tacks $5.00 Nails 7.50 Twine 2.50			15.00
Sep. 12	Letter (No. 3) 25¢ Horse to Cottonwood $10.00			10.25
"	Feed at Edwards			2.50
"	Dinner at Cottonwood		24 15 7	1.00
				$25995.93

Oz. Dwt. Grs.
24 15 7

(133) General Disbursements Brot over $25995.93

Sept.	12	Supper & Breakfast at Smiths	3.00
"	13	Ferry $1.00 Dinner & feed at Q.M.	4.00
"	"	Twine $2.50 Canvas $32.50	35.00
"	"	Canvass $46.50. Butter $86.62	133.12
"	"	Supper, feed 10 mile House	4.00
"	14	Feed & Breakfast - Smiths	4.00
"	"	Grass for Horse 1.00 Supper & Hay Edwards $5.50	6.50
"	17	Canvass Wms. Creek 61 yds. @ $2.00	122.00
"	"	Nails $7.00 Twine $1.50 Coffee 50¢	9.00
"	15	Alden & Co. Iron Boxes $13.00 Nails $7.00	20.00
"	"	38 Yds Canvass $57.00 Copper rivets 2.50	59.50

Dr.	Adventure brot over		$21181.21	
July	Iron $13.75 Beef $28.70		42.45	
	Ironware $98.62 Laumeister & Co.	292.62	391.24	
	Letters $4.50 Beef $27.25		31.75	
Aug. 3	Packing. Tompkins & Jones		38.00	
" 6	Do. Brown & Gillis		827.10	
June 15	Do. Barnard		155.10	
Aug. 29	Laumeister & Co.		55.50	
" 15	Beef		52.25	
Sep. 2	Do.		69.65	
" 9th	Freight Nelson & Co.		1755.43	
	Miscellaneous - page 132		47.25	
	Goods & Expenses as above		400.12	
			$25047.05	

Sept. 21, 1864 The above a/c agreed upon "Jno. Evans"
On behalf of the men "Richard Roberts"

Sep. 21st Yesterday the Gold Commissioner ordered notices to be posted declaring the season at an end and (134) permitting all the claims to be laid over untill 1 June 1865. Nothing could come of a more unwelcome nature to me inasmuch as the men knowing that their families were unprovided for, from this out came to a resolution to leave off work even before bottoming the shaft. Three have left for Victoria this morning and ten more are going down tomorrow. Four are going to remain here all winter prospecting. My son & self will remain here untill hard weather sets in and then go down also to Victoria.

As far as our original agreements are concerned the whole concern is ~~xxx~~ broken up with poor results, and all are free to go. The men wanted me to re engage them, paying a certain amount as wages. This I could not do. I told them I had no authority to do anything such thing. They then said, although it was wrong to leave the work in the state it was, they must do something for their families. They could not even stop untill the weather prevented us from sinking.

24 15 7
$26396.05

General Disbursements Brot over $26396.05

Before coming to any conclution as to the future, they asked me if I would not (133) get Iron pumps during winter instead of losing season after season, as we and some two thousand more have done, this and last year fighting against difficulties with material inadequate to the work. The next question - On what terms would I take them on in Spring?

In answer to the first - I said had I known before leaving home the nature of the work to be done, I would have been provided with such means to cope with it as would succeed without difficulty, thereby much valuable time & thousands of dollars in money would have been saved - that now having expended so much I could not - however desirable (& no one of them felt the want of proper pumps more than I did) - I could not promise but on arriving at Victoria I would make enquiries as to cost &c. I would do all I could to get them. As to the second question - The only condition they could return to the claims are the following; They must in future find their own provisions work untill they paid back the advances you made & from that time henceforth I would furnish a man for man of themselves to work the claims and divide the proceeds. All except No. 5, after I had fully explained the (136) matter - said they would accept the terms & return in spring, if they could save enough money during winter to enable them to do so & provided Iron pumps be got - Had we them last season we would have gone down before end of last season - I find that many of the Companies who have lost the two seasons on Williams Creek are going to amalgamate, and bring up a more powerful machinery next spring and the next company to us here are going to fetch two sets of Iron pumps from San Francisco. They have lost three seasons.

Sep. 24 The Express brought me a letter from the Secretary of the "Artesian Gold Company" Capital $132,000.00, whose claim is on the flat of Williams Creek offering me the management of their mine, and also suggesting a plan of joining interest with them on something like these bases - They to furnish adequate steam power to effectually do all the work and also paying the men nominal wages, say the cost of living in Cariboo, - our furnishing the labour and divide the proceeds equally. (137) I think something may be done - I shall neither accept or refuse, or suggest, or offer any plan untill I see & consult Mr. Rhodes - We have already exceeded our limits but we have several thousand dollars worth of goods & provisions on hand which lessons the outlay - Under the circumstances my hands are tied. If I could get proper pumps I would rather go on ourselves; as we have as promising ground as any in Cariboo and everything in good working order and with proper means to raise the water a short time would suffice to go down - but as it is, week after week is lost & no nearer much to get to the bottom than we were several weeks ago - If I do not succeed in getting the means to purchase Iron pumps I must do the next best thing - you may rest assured I shall not commit you to anything, nor take any important step

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without first consulting Mr. Rhodes: in all things I will keep your interest in sight.

5th October. Nos. 9, 10 & 21 are sinking a shaft on a nameless creek 4 miles from this. No. 19, my son & self (198) are sinking another within a mile of the house. As soon as we bottom both I shall go down to Victoria with my son and make some arrangement for spring - here I must comply with a pressing request of No. 10 to ask you to continue the allowance for his family for the present - he has a wife & seven children. All I promised is to convey this prayer to you - The four are going to complete the work on Chisholm during winter & will raise a quantity of gold.

If I find Mr. Rhodes's hands tied I must then do the best I can with the property here & send you the results trusting to providence as to myself, with doing my duty.

Sep. 20th	Letter to Victoria $1.00 21st. do from England 50¢		1.50
" "	Packing canvass from Wms. Creek		3.00

October 8th The weather continues very fine & I am very sorry the men felt it their duty to go down to Victoria, before accomplishing an object we had so much at heart which could only be worked at during about one third of the year.

I may go up to Williams Creek on Monday to see the ground owned by the "Artesian Company" previous to my going down to Victoria.

(139) I find that within the last few days, some of the abandoned ground above us has been taken up, by monied men I am acquainted with, and they intend bringing up steam engines & Iron pumps next spring to work the same. The more the better as they will assist us to drain the under-current.

It is a long time since we left home, but owing to the long distance & the Journey up, 13½ months work is all we have done after all under so many disadvantages that we had to contend with. It is no wonder at our slow progress - Here whenever any party of men find out they cannot progress without a certain article it is too late to send down for it for that year - hence the reason so many seasons are spent by companies in Cariboo before they get to the pay - Now good roads are made nearly all the way, several companies are procuring machinery that will do the work, which can now be brought up; things here will wear a different aspect. I am full of confidence for the future if health & life is spared.

Packing Keg of Butter from Q.M. 9.36

$26409.91

24 15 7

	Oz.	Dwt.	Grs	
	24	15	7	
				$26409.91
Deduct for Coffin made $10.00. Grinding &c. $3.25 Gold dust paid as cash in various sums of the foregoing $274.62	17	14	1	287.87
	7	1	6	
				$26122.04
Cash given to men on starting for Victoria				20.00
Letter from Victoria				2.00

(140)

In summing up, when the Adventure in its original arrangements is at an end, I must say I am greatly dissapointed 1st at finding difficulties I never expected.

2nd. So much longer time being take up to prospect & the Claims being opened than I ever dreamed of.

3rd The capital required & expenses, or cost of living.

But I am not dissapointed in the ultimate of the country, now failure being so generally felt throughout the District time will be saved in future & much expenses obviated by the introduction of more powerful machinery than the country can now afford. The country is teaming with wealth but more than four times the time & expenses is lost in coping with difficulties with inadequate power.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

"Jno. Evans"

Henry B. Jackson, Esq.,

October 8, 1864.

7 1 6

$26144.04

	Oz.	Dwt.	Grs.
	7	1	6

General Disbursements Brot over $26144.04

(141)

BASFORD MINES.

Oct. 24 On the 22nd, I went to Wms. Creek to record 7 claims on a new Creek. We have discovered gold in it and claim 350 feet extra making in all 1050 feet of the Creek The claims are in your name & mine, My son - Nos. 9, 10, 19, 21. We have completed sinking one shaft since the men went away. This affair being apart from the general agreement the other men will have nothing to say to it. 4 men will remain all winter & they will have to pay seperately for all they use. We shall also sink another shaft on another Creek when that is finished . My son & self are going down for the winter & the four men will go to Chisholm Creek to complete prospecting there.

The arrangement I make with the above four men: They pay for their own food to us and in consideration of that assistance one claim will be worked free for you & me, I mean between us. We have discovered good gold in the new Creek - & I am coming up if all's well and nothing happens to start operations there early in March so as to be ready for washing (142) when the water is available.

Oct. 31 The other Creek is within half a mile or so to this House and called Davis Creek. The weather is beginning to be bad & in all probability I shall have to go down before we complete the second shaft since the men left for the winter.

Novr. 6 We have stopped doing anything on Basford Creek untill spring owing to the snow becoming too deep to travel over the mountain with provisions. We find it contains good gold at the depth of 28 feet from surface & have taken about 4 ounces from the bottom of shaft and still we are not in the bottom of channel.

I am going down on Monday the 14th inst. The shaft on Davis Creek is down about 28 feet & still proceeding with it. I shall if possible come to some arrangement with the company mentioned before as soon as I see Mr. Rhodes & tell him my plan with a view to our mutual benefit.

Sep. 10 & 17	Beef	56.00
Oct. 24	Exes to Wms. Creek	6.00
" 22	7 Records on Basford Creek	18.00
Novr. 3	Letters from England for men	1.50

I cannot send the a/c anything like complete as Mr. Rhodes has not furnished me with invoices of goods he paid for last June. I will write from Victoria to inform you of what I am doing.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours truly,
"Jno. Evans"

H.B. Jackson, Esq.

7	1	6

$26225.54