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Early Days in Priest's Valley

R. D. KERR

I came to Priest's Valley from Kamloops in November 1885. That same fall the old white cottage standing next to the school off Coldstream street and the Victoria Hotel were built, and W. R. Megaw who is now keeping store in Vernon, and was then keeping a store in Kamloops, had built a store across the street from the Victoria Hotel on the corner now occupied by the cement-block wall, and I came in to take charge of it.

I remember very well Priest's Valley as it was in those days with its few houses scattered among the pine trees, its waggon trails for streets, and its population of miners, cowboys, ranch hands, trappers, Indians and half breeds with the Victoria Hotel the centre of all social life.

Society in Priest's Valley in those days was "raw, rude and democratic," and usually wore long-legged boots with the pant legs stuffed into the tops of them, and chewed tobacco, but they were a fine lot of fellows for all that.

It was in 1888 when I was working with John Merritt on a tunnel which he and his associates were running in to tap the old bed of Cherry Creek that Frank Schiffer came to us and said he had found the bones of a man. Merritt was incredulous as he knew of no one lost or missing, and said the bones must be those of a deer. However we went to see. The trail from the mines to White Valley then ran through John Merritt's meadow, now Lot 236, and at a place about 100 yards north of where the trail entered the meadow, we found the bones. An examination of them convinced us that they were the bones of a Chinaman. We found bits of clothing scattered about, and remnants of a Chinese jumper with loops of tape instead of button holes, such as Chinamen wear. He must have lain down with his back to a mound; the soil there was red, and although the bones were scattered about, the marks left by his legs and body were plain to be seen on the ground. Between where the knees had been we found a one-ounce strychnine bottle with a small amount of strychnine in it. There was also the exuviae of maggots lying about showing plainly that while the bones had been there for some time they were not ancient bones by any means.

I do not know when John Merritt first came to Cherry Creek but he was there in 1882 when Dewar was killed, and knew all the men on the Creek, Chinese and whites, and as he could account for them all we were both convinced that we had found the bones of Smart Aleck who killed Dewar. It might seem strange to some that Smart Aleck should have had a bottle of strychnine with him under the circumstances; but in those days no miner's kit was complete without a flask of quicksilver to catch the fine gold on the riffles, and a bottle of strychnine wherewith to abate the nuisance of wild animals which became very destructive around a camp left unguarded while the miner was at work on the creek. In those days quicksilver, strychnine, overalls and tobacco all lay on the same shelf in the small country stores. We were no more surprised to find the strych-

nine bottle than if we had found a pocket knife.

It might be asked too why should Smart Aleck commit suicide while he still had a good chance to escape if he were in his right senses; but that is just the point. That Smart Aleck was insane or partly insane, when he killed Dewar and then committed suicide, is the more probable explanation of this sordid and horrible episode. No adequate motive was ever shewn why he should have murdered Dewar. The only reason suggested was that which appeared in the Victoria "Colonist," viz: that some mining ground was in dispute between him and some other Chinamen, and that he was afraid, if it came to trial, that Dewar would prove an adverse witness; but this appears to be far-fetched. Had active litigation been going on over a very rich claim, there would be a motive in getting rid of an adverse witness, but in this case the litigation had not commenced, and besides, if all the mining ground on Cherry Creek had been put up for auction at the time, it would not have sold for more than a few hundred dollars.

We gathered up the bones and brought them in and handed them over to the Government Agent, W. Dewdney. B. F. Young, of Armstrong, has a photograph taken of Price Ellison as he was about to start on his trip to Spokane to look for Smart Aleck, with his whiskers and hair dyed black. When he returned without him the neighbors said, "Smart Aleck was too smart for Price, all right." But if we were correct in our surmise, it is no wonder Ellison failed in his quest.

In 1887 I was on a survey party. T. S. Gore, of Victoria, a brother of W. S. Gore who for so many years was Deputy Commissioner of Lands and Works, was in charge. The party besides Mr. Gore consisted of myself, Frederick Finlaison now living at Shuswap Falls, Thomas Armstrong who was living for a time on Siwash Creek, and later had a pre-emption near George Lynn's at Salmon River. He was said to be a nephew of Rev. James Turner, the well-known Methodist missionary; William Woodward (Gassy Bill) who at one time was a waiter in the Victoria Hotel; Frederick Welling who was Christopher Main's partner, and Mike Barden who was married to a cousin of William Rollings after whom Rollings was named. Alfred McNeill was in charge of the pack horses.

The party was sent out to survey a waggon road from White Valley to Kettle River and any agricultural land there might be along the route. We started at the Coldstream upper meadows and ran through to Kettle River, and surveyed a considerable area into sections at Cherry Creek. We then came back to our starting point and surveyed a lot of land in the vicinity. F. Finlaison and I were the chainmen, and I had to keep a book showing the distances, etc. I had never done work of this sort before, but Mr. Gore showed me how to sketch in the low and high hills, and show the gulches and streams and the distances between, and I soon became an expert at the work, or thought I was. I wonder where that book is now. One thing I shall never forget and that is the awful kick the yellow-jackets had, and we were constantly running into them. The weather was hot and the work hard, but we got along somehow, and the evenings around the campfire were very enjoyable.

William Woodward was a good cook and on one occasion he regaled us with roast porcupine; but he was a tireless talker. I remember one evening in particular. He had been telling us of some baked beans he was preparing for our breakfast the next morning, and after supper he put the beans to bake with all the solemnity and attention to minute details of a High Priest performing a religious rite. He dug a hole in the ground and put some cinders in it and placed the pot on them. He then heaped cinders all around and over the pot which had a lid and then sprinkled some earth over the cinders and patted and smoothed the whole with the shovel, and as he worked he talked.

According to him there were very few men in the world who knew how to bake beans, and he was one of them: it was a gift and if you did not have it you could never acquire it; you had to be born to it like a negro witch-doctor or a poet, and that if the beans were properly baked a latent flavor was released which converted them from a common-place dish into food fit for the immortal gods. In

fact he did make us believe before we went to bed, that we would have something good for breakfast. And as we lay and rested, the moon slowly rose up from behind Camel's Hump mountain and transformed the mountains around us into a scene of surpassing beauty.

It was during one of those strange spells of absolute quiet and stillness which occur in the mountains here occasionally, when there is not a sound to be heard nor a breath of air stirring, and every tree and leaf and branch stands as motionless as if carved out of stone. And as the moon rose it lit up one side of each peak and threw the other into deeper shadow, and in places where the slope was exactly right it caught the tops of the trees and tipped each individual tree with silver until the forest looked like an army of spearmen marching up the mountain side. In places the delicate shades of light against the darker background were very beautiful. And over it all poured the moonlight, softtened and mellowed by the warm summer haze which hung in the air—a light different to the moonlight of a winter night or when the sky is washed clean after rain. In daylight it was a common-place scene, but that night it was elfin-like in its delicate blendings of light and shade. Those mountains never looked the same to me afterwards. It was good to be there. And it was good too, when the time came to turn in and stretch out and wriggle close to the warm dry air beneath us, and experience that delicious sense of rest and relaxation which only healthy young people can feel and they only when they are very tired after a hard day's work.

And still Gassy Bill talked on about his beans, and was telling us for perhaps the tenth time, how a Montana Senator had once praised them, and how sick it made the other cook—it made him look like thirty cents—and so on until sleep, the magician and weaver of strange dreams, intervened. It would be idle to tell of the strange fancies which floated through one's head as it lay pillowed on the bunchgrass sod that night, and of the hills and valleys and whole mountain ranges of Boston baked beans, all smoking and steaming in the moonlight, but we were sorely disappointed when we got up the next morning and found that one of Peter Bessette's hogs had raided the camp and had tumbled the pot with the beans down the bank and was eating them.

One day probably about the 15th of August we were running a line north past Rolling's Lake and were working about half way up the mountain side and about a quarter of a mile south of Andrew Derby's house which stands on the right of the road as you pass from the west over the bridge at Thomas Butter's ranch, when a tree fell on Mike Barden and killed him. As soon as the accident happened Gore sent to camp for a blanket and with it and two poles we made a stretcher, and four of us carried the injured man out to the road, Mr. Gore going on before picking out the best route for us to follow. When we got him to the road he was still alive. We did what we could for him and then started to carry him to Besette's ranch, but by the time we reached the boundary of Bessette's ranch he was dead. When we reached Bessette's I got a horse and came in to Priest's Valley to tell William Rollings of the death of his relative. He was buried in the old cemetery, and W. Dewdney read the funeral service at the grave.

As I recollect the events, the first body to be buried in the cemetery was that of C. W. Hozier's eldest boy. The next was Hugh Armstrong who was shot by John Phillips at Westbank. T. D. Shorts brought the body up the Lake in a row boat and he and L. Norris brought it from Okanagan Landing to the cemetery with a team. Phillips was tried at the Kamloops assizes for murder, but acquitted on the grounds of self defence. He later moved to Bonaparte Creek in Washington where I once met him. He died since. The next to go was Alexander Vance who was soon followed by Mrs. Alfred McNeill, and Mike Barden was fifth.

Alexander Vance was a quiet, unassuming man, and very much respected by his neighbors. It was always said that he was the first manager of the B.X. Ranch near Vernon, but not very much is known about him. The following account of his death is taken from the Inland Sentinel of June 11, 1887: "Mr. Alexander Vance, a resident of Priest Valley for nearly thirty years went riding on horse back last Tuesday, June 8th, and his

body was found soon afterwards, about two miles from his home. It is not known exactly what happened, but the neck was broken when the body was fond." He had gone out to round up some horses and it was supposed that his horse had fallen with him. No inquest was held as such was deemed unnecessary.

He was living at the time of his death on what is now known as Lot 31 in the townsite of Vernon, just south of Carew street where it joins the Pleasant Valley road, and Alfred McNeill and his wife were living with him. His old stable is still standing. William (Hoodlum) Smith was married to Alfred McNeill's eldest daughter, Susan.

The funeral services were held in the house and were conducted by Rev. J. A. Jaffrey, the first resident Presbyterian minister in Spallumcheen. Among those present were E. J. Tronson, Luc Girouard, Price Ellison, C. W. Hozier, John Pringle from Grand Prairie, Samuel Lyons, Amos Delaurier, Louis Bercier, William Smith, L. Norris and Peter Bessette. The attendance was small and the surroundings rude; the only flowers on the coffin were the wild rose which was then in bloom, but no funeral service could be conducted with greater decorum. Everything was done decently, quietly and reverently, and in these circumstances the simple funeral service became solemn and impressive.

His will is dated the 28th of March, 1883, and is witnessed by G. J. Wallace and Alfred McNeill, and John Pringle of Grand Prairie was appointed sole executor. All his property was left to his two sisters, Lucy B. Powell of Cincinati, Ohio, and Harriett Vance of Anna, Illinois.

We do not know the date of his arrival in the Okanagan Valley. Judge F. W. Howay, in his History of British Columbia, says: "In 1864 Forbes G. Vernon and his brother Charles Vernon whose names are indissoluably connected with the development of the Okanagan, began mining on Cherry Creek, but soon recognizing the inherent value of the land and its possibilities, took up about 1000 acres—the celebrated Coldstream Ranch—and entered largely into farming and stock raising. About the same time F. J. Barnard and associates in Barnard's Express obtained the B.X. ranch, some four miles from Vernon, for the purpose of raising horses for their express business. In 1868 Mr. Stephen Tingley, the practical man of the Company, went to New Mexico and brought up overland about 400 head of horses to stock the ranch." It is probable that Vance came into the country with Stephen Tingley, and remained in charge of the horses, but we are not sure of this.

Alexander Vance was not manager of the B.X. ranch at the time of his death. He resigned in 1885, and E. H. Woods who was with the Douglas Lake Cattle Company in Nicola, took his place. In 1888, the year J. C. Haynes died, his son-in-law, C. W. Hozier, was manager of the Coldstream Ranch. He resigned in May or June of that year, and was succeeded by E. H. Woods who in turn was succeeded by R. McCluskey as manager of the B.X. ranch.

I remember the late Thomas McMynn very well, whose death was mentioned in our last report by Mrs. Chrestenza Kruger. He was buried at Meyers Creek, and about a mile and a half away, across the valley of Meyers Creek to the east, his grave stone may be seen from Myncaster station on the Great Northern Railway.

The Rev. J. A. Jaffray afterwards left the ministery. He was appointed Provincial Librarian and Archivist of Alberta on October 16, 1921 which appointment he held until his death on April 28th of this year.

An Old Flintlock

FREDERICK C. WARNER

In 1912 my two sons, Tom and Joe, found an old flintlock gun in the bank of the Shuswap river where it runs through my farm. It was found six feet below the level of the land with the barrel sticking into the bank, and the stock protruding, and under one foot of water. The river bank at that place is steep, and it was found directly under the roots of a spruce tree

14 to 16 inches in diameter. The place is on the east or right bank of the river about a mile and a half down stream from the spot marked "Fish Trap" on Dawson's map of 1877, below the Falls. How it got there is a mystery.

The gun itself is quite a light affair. The barrel at the muzzle end where it is round, measures five-eights of an inch, outside measurement, and at the stock where it is hexagonal or six-sided, it is one inch. The barrel is 27½ inches long, and the total length three feet eight inches. The wooden stock through decay is reduced to about half its former size. It is very much rusted and no date or maker's name can be seen, but some indication of the date and make might be discovered if it were scoured clean. The flint was still in the lock, fastened in with a bit of canvas. Fastened with two screw nails to the stock on the side opposite to the hammer, is a brass plate six inches long by half an inch wide which is well preserved and not much rusted. It apparently served no useful purpose, but was purely ornamental. On the plate there is the figure of a snake four inches long. The snake is engraved with its mouth wide open and a long tongue protruding, tipped with the curious, broad, flat barbs which are seen so often in representations of the Great Dragon of China. The manner in which the head and neck is coiled back over the body and the large scales also suggest Chinese art.

Since the gun was found it has been the subject of much discussion, and many theories have been advanced to account for its being found where it was, some of them fanciful and far-fetched.

It has been suggested that it may have been left on the bank of the river, and the wearing away of the bank at that point by the current which is always changing the course of the river more or less, followed by a further deposit of sediment or mud would leave it where it was found some six feet below the level of the land. If so it must have been there for many years as the size of the spruce stump plainly shows.

It is more than likely it was lost out of an overturned canoe in some mishap on the river, probably by some of the early miners or prospectors. Perhaps by some poor fellow who lost his life hereabouts, and possibly by some young chap from the East who made the long journey to this land of gold with the intentions of wresting sufficient wealth from the bosom of the earth to lift the burden from the shoulders of an ageing father, and bringing the blessings of ease and comfort to a silver-haired mother in her declining years, and had his life snuffed out in one of those fatal accidents which were all too common in the lives of the early prospectors. Or, perhaps, taken with a sudden illness in his lonely tent without a hand to render the least assistance during the long watches of the night, or a voice to whisper a word of hope and comfort, he sank into that dreamless sleep that knows no waking, his body to become a prey to the wild beasts of the hills and every vestige of his camp obliterated by the elements. Who knows? Since the old flint-lock cannot speak it will probably never be known how it came to be lost.

Then again it may have belonged to Hy. Wend, the enterprising tavern-keeper from Hope. We know he was prospecting on the Shuswap for he told W. C. Young who was sent in to report on he mines at Cherry Creek in 1863, that he had found gold on the river.

There is some gold to be found near Shuswap Falls, but very little. What is much more in evidence is iron pyrites, or possibly mica, and sometimes stretches of the river bed present an interesting spectacle with millions of particles of this stuff shining in the wet sands like so much virgin gold, suggesting wealth beyond the dreams of avarice.

Hy. Wend must have been a confirmed optimist or he would never have built an hotel for the accommodation of the miners going in and out of Cherry Creek when there were only about twenty men on the creek, all told, and it has been suggested that he never found any gold on the Shuswap. What he saw was this mica and he thought it was gold, and in the excitement of the moment he forgot where he had laid his gun.

We know very little about this man. He flits for a moment across the page of Okanagan history and then disappears, we know not where. But he was at least, an enterprising chap, and to

him belongs the credit of building the first house anywhere in the vicinity. And while we are on the subject we would like to suggest to those who will have the naming of our highways, and those who will have the naming of the new streets in the future city of Lumby, that Wend or Hywend would be a suitable name for a street or road.

The fish traps on the Shuswap and Spallumcheen rivers were quite elaborate affairs, and the building of one involved an enormous amount of labour on the part of the Indians. They were constructed by driving a row of stakes or poles into the river bottom clear across the stream, and so close together that a salmon could not get through. These stakes inclined down stream, and along the tops which were left about two feet above the water, a horizontal pole was placed, each stake being firmly lashed to it with bark of some sort. Below this row of stakes other poles or stakes for props, were driven at intervals inclining upstream, and these too were firmly lashed to the horizontal pole, the two rows meeting at an angle of about 45 degrees or more. It was below this barrier of stakes that the real traps were placed. They were also constructed by driving a series of poles into the river bed, and they were cunningly devised and so arranged that when a salmon reached the barrier and began swimming back and forth seeking an opening, he was apt to enter one of them and once he was in he could never find his way out again. Immense numbers of salmon were taken this way.

The last one of these fish traps on either the Shuswap or Spallumcheen was built on the Spallumchêen near A. L. Fortune's ranch in the fall of 1892, and was destroyed by the Provincial Police. When the police went to remove it they pushed a canoe along the trap and as they passed each prop they cut the lashings. Soon the whole row of stakes from one side of the river to the other, began to sway back and forth in the current, and finally it all went under together and was carried away, much to the chagrin of the Indians.

In connection with the fish trap at the foot of Shuswap Falls, some of the older Indians tell a story of the Kootenay Indians attacking the Shuswaps. The Kootenays were coming down the river in canoes to attack the Shuswaps, but knowing nothing of the falls, or if they knew, not realizing how dangerous they were, their canoes were wrecked, and in the morning when the Shuswaps visited the trap they found the bodies of their enemies floating against the trap. Only one man escaped alive.

The Discovery of Gold on Granite Creek

JAMES M. LYNCH

In our second Report the statement appears that John Chance, William Jenkins and Thomas Curry were the discoverers of the placer mines on Granite Creek in 1885.

This statement is misleading. The real discoverers were William Briggs, Mike Sullivan and John Bromley. They found coarse gold on Granite Creek in the fall of 1884, but were driven out by high water caused by the fall rains.

These men showed the gold they found to John F. Allison who had a store at Allison below Princeton, and told him they would be back to stake claims in the spring. Allison on the strength of their report, had a large supply of goods packed in for his store in anticipation of a rush to the newly discovered mines. During the winter of 1884-5 John Chance, William Jenkins, Thomas Curry, Wililam McCain and Harry Hobbs were camped at Allison's ranch and heard of the discovery, Briggs, Bromley and Sullivan came out to Hope over the Dewdney trail in the fall of 1884 and there met Joseph Bromley. These four men worked in one of Onderdonk's logging camps during the winter of 1884-5,

and went to Granite Creek in the spring of 1885 as early as it was safe to venture with horses over the Hope summit.

I was railroading on the Onderdonk contract at the time, and stationed at Hope and saw them pack their horses and leave. The other three men however, beat them to it and recorded the discovery claim, but Briggs, Sullivan and Jack Bromely were the real discoverers. Through the courtesy of L. A. Dodd, Gold Commissioner at Princeton, a copy of the record of the discovery claim is here given:

"Record No. 41

1000 feet Discovery Creek Claim situated on a tributary of the Tulameen River named by discoverers Granite Creek, the said Creek flowing into the Tulameen from the south about 12 miles above Princeton; this discovery claim is located about a mile above the mouth of the stream. This claim extends from the lower stake upstream 900 feet a space of 100 feet more or less is left vacant (hard smooth bedrock) an additional 100 feet above vacant spot allowed to make the 1000 feet.

Wm. Jenkins	20466
J. M. Chance	20465
Thos. Curry	4093
E. M. Allison	20479

This application was mislaid during my absence. Should have been entered before No. 39.

July 8th, 1885. J. F. Allison."

James Corrigan kept the hotel at Hope and is familiar with the facts as mentioned above. He is now living at Hedley, B. C.

I left Hope in August 1885 for Granite Creek, but being a tenderfoot and late in getting in did not locate a claim. I did however, secure a contract for, and built a bridge over the Tulameen River, near Princeton. I put in the winter of 1885-6 at Princeton and as I talked with all the parties mentioned above I know the facts. John F. Allison was gazetted as Assistant Gold Commissioner for the Rock Creek Mining Division on the 9th April, 1885.

William Briggs left Granite Creek with about $30,000.00 and went to Eastern Canada. John Chance died at Republic, Washington, a pauper and a charge on the county. Thomas Curry fell dead while on his way to work in the Sally mine at Beaverdel. B.C. Mike Sullivan was at Greenwood a few years ago, but I have since lost track of him. The Bromley brothers are all dead except William who has a farm at Chilliwack. W. Jenkins when he was in on Granite Creek was something of a bully, and carried an ivory-handled revolver with four notches filed in it. After he left Granite Creek he took up land on the west side of Okanagan Lake, above Peachland. B. F. Young of Armstrong bought him out for $900.00. He then recorded 320 acres at the mouth of Meyers Creek. His Record is No. 638 and is dated 5th July, 1888. He thus became a neighbor of John J. Ingraham who had a ranch where the bridge on the Government road crosses Kettle River about half way between Rock Creek and Midway, still called Ingraham's Bridge. There was bad blood between them, and as they were both hot-headed gentlemen from Virginia, the neighbors anticipated serious trouble, but before the quarrel reached a climax, Jenkins sold out to John R. Jackson who was afterwards a member of the B.C. Legislature, and moved to just across the Boundary line from Grand Forks. It was here at Lafleur's blacksmith shop that he got into trouble with a man named Daily. Daily's real name was said to be King, and he was reported to be something of an outlaw and had been run out of the Couer d'Alene mines by the State Police. In the fight which followed Jenkins killed Daily, and then turned his gun on Ben Shaw who happened to be with Daily at the time but had nothing to do with the quarrel, and wounded him severely. There was no coroner's inquest held for the reason there was no coroner to hold one, but the consensus of opinion in the country at the time was that Daily needed killing, but the attack on Shaw, who was a decent man, was unjustifiable. It appeared for a time that the U.S. authorities would take no action in the matter, and E. Spraggett, now living in Grand Forks and Abe Overton who was a friend of Ben Shaw, took the law into their hands. They went across the boundary line and arrested Jenkins and

brought him across to the Canadian side, and later handed him over to the U.S. authorities. He was later tried, not for killing Daily, but for wounding Shaw, and convicted and sentenced, some say to 15 years and some say for life, in the penitentiary. In any case he died in prison.

The Rise and Fall of Grist Milling in the Okanagan Valley

DONALD GRAHAM

In 1877 the Vernon Bros. had a grist mill on the Coldstream Ranch. This mill was typical of two others which were at a later date in operation in the Valley. One of these was on the Tronson and Brewer ranch south of Vernon and one at the head of Okangan Lake, owned by O'Keefe and Greenhow. The part of it which ground the grain was steel and consisted of a corrugated cylinder some ten inches long and some five inches in diameter which fitted into a corrugated casing. Both were slightly tapering, and by advancing or withdrawing the cylinder the mill could be made to grind fine or coarse. This part of the mill did not weigh much, and it with an iron bar for a shaft, a belt and a few yards of bolt cloth was all that had to be imported, the rest of the mill being contructed on the spot. These mills may have varied somewhat in size and construction, but they were all on the same general principle, and all three were driven by water power.

Out of a ton of wheat these mills made about 900 pounds of flour of which excellent bread was made, although a close examiantion of the flour always disclosed a speck of bran it it. The modern roller mill will make from 1400 to 1500 pounds of flour out of the same quantity of wheat.

There were no fanning mills in the country at the time and the wheat was poured into the hopper as it came from the threshing machine, but as the wheat was clean that made little difference to the quality of the flour. One year, however, in 1884, there was some smut in the wheat in Spallumcheen, and some odd looking flour was made from it. In color it was quite blue. The next year O'Keefe and Greenhow put a smut extractor in their mill.

Vincent Duteau at one time had a grist mill at Lavington, and Luc Girouard had another on his place, but beyond the fact that both were driven by water power, we know little about them.

Prior to the introduction of the mills above mentioned, the settlers ground their wheat in coffee mills and used it unbolted; thus anticipating by a whole generation Dr. Graham and his whole wheat bread which we were assured at one time, would bring about the physical regeneration of mankind.

L. W. Patten was the first to install proper facilities for cleaning wheat in a grist mill in the northern end of the valley. In 1882 Alfred Postill built a saw mill on Deep Creek near the farm now owned by Frederick Murray, and Patten who had some knowledge of grist milling, built a grist mill alongside of it, under an agreement with Postill whereby Patten was to have the use of the water power at night and when not required for running the saw mill. The arrangement worked out first-rate. This mill was a more pretentious and up-to-date mill than any in this part of the valley up to that date.

When the mill was up it was found that the arrival of the stones would be delayed as they had been shipped around Cape Horn, and Patten applied to A. L. Fortune for a loan of his mill. This mill was a small affair and worked by hand. It had two handles, and two men working ten hours could turn out about 50 lbs. of flour. It was used in Patten's mill for several months, and proved to be capable of making 50 lbs. of flour

per hour, when it was worked to its full capacity and without any relaxation.

A new era dawned on grist milling here when Rashdale and Lawes built their roller mill at Enderby, the head of navigation on the Spallumcheen. G. R. Lawes was an experienced English miller and G. H. Rashdale had some capital. The prospects of the new Company appeared to be bright for conditions in the Valley were favorable to the enterprise, but almost immediately after the mill was built the two partners found themselves in financial difficulties. They commenced to grind in the fall of 1887, and during the winter of 1888 they had the flour hauled in sleighs to Sicamous. In 1888 they got some backing from the Bank of British Columbia, and for a time the farmers were paid for their wheat with notes on the bank; but when the bank withdrew its support, the partners were forced into liquidation.

The site of the mill was ten acres on the bank of the river and it is now shewn on the plan of the townsite of Enderby as Plan B1070. The changes in the ownership of this land give some indication of the vicissitudes through which the business went. The following particulars were obtained from the Land Registry at Kamloops:

12th June, 1883.—Crown grant to Robert Lambly.

29th Oct. 1886.—Conveyance by deed —R. Lambly to Rashdale and Lawes.

6th Sept. 1887.—Mortgage to secure $21,000.00 at 9½% — Rashdale and Lawes to J. D. Pemberton.

14th Aug. 1888.—Conveyance by deed for the benefit of their creditors—Rashdale and Lawes to J. Nicholles and A. C. Flumerfelt.

22nd Sept. 1888. — Assignment of mortgage—J. D. Pemberton to R. P. Rithet.

29th Sept. 1888.—Assignment of equity of redemption—J. Nicholles and A. C. Flumerfelt to R. P. Rithet.

20th June, 1902. — Conveyance by deed—R. P. Rithet to R. P. Rithet and Company.

9th July, 1903.—Conveyance by deed R. P. Rithet to the Columbia Flouring Mills Company.

The managers of the mill were successively, G. R. Lawes, Samuel Gibbs, Frederick Appleton and Frank V. Moffatt, now of Seattle.

After R. P. Rithet took over the management, the mill was run to the general satisfaction of the farmers for some years, but gradually the farmers became convinced that they were not getting enough for their wheat considering the price of flour, and this feeling was brought to a climax in 1895 when the price of wheat was reduced to $16.00 per ton or 48 cents per bushel. A meeting was accordingly held at Armstrong for the purpose of organizing a company to build and operate a mill as a co-operative concern. The Company was registered on the 27th September, 1895 as the Okanagan Flouring Mills Company, Limited. The capital stock was $60,000.00 divided into 600 shares of $100.00 each, and the registered shareholders were C. O'Keefe, Donald Graham, Donald Matheson, Mark Hill and Daniel Rabbitt.

The whole country was ripe for the change. A very enthusiastic meeting was held in Armstrong, when the whole matter was gone into carefully, and declared to be quite feasible, and it was decided that the mill should be a co-operative concern. Committees were formed for the purpose of canvasssing the Valley for shareholders with instructions to report back at the earliest possible date. When the reports of the Committees were gone into it was found that 223 shares had been taken which was materially added to later, for a memorandum in the office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Victoria, shows that on the 31st August, 1898 there were 88 shareholders who held among them 271 shares on which $21,297.43 had been paid. A committee was then appointed to interview the Municipal Council and ascertain what help might be obtained from them. John Hamill was Reeve at the time. The Committee was received very courteously, which, perhaps, is not surprising since every farmer in the Municipality with the exception of three were shareholders, and nearly all the business men also. The request was made that a grant of $20,000,00 should be granted towards forwarding the enterprise. After going into the matter thoroughly it was decided that the Municipal Act would not permit of a grant, but that the amount asked for could be loaned

towards the carrying out of the enterprise. It is not necessary to go further into the matter than to state that the late T. E. Crowell of Vernon, received the contract for the erection of the mill building, and that T. W. Fletcher of Armstrong (who has lately been stirring up police matters in Vancouver) received a contract for the erection of the elevator. Goldie and McCulloch of Galt, Ontario, received the contract for the machinery and the installing thereof. By the middle of July, 1896, the mill was finished and in running order, and a vote of thanks was passed to the directors for the expeditious manner in which the mill was completed. The Board of Directors at the time were: M. Hill, C. O'Keefe, D. Graham, D. Rabbitt, D. Matheson and P. Ellison.

Among the first lot of shareholders appear the names of Lord Aberdeen and the late Senator Hewett Bostock. Over seventy shareholders answered their names at the first roll call. That the enterprise was justified at the time is amply proven by the fact that the crops of 1896 and 1897 realized $5.00 per ton more than the bid of Rithet and Company of $16.00 per ton. The price paid the farmers was $18.00 per ton which was further supplemented by a bonus of $3.00 per ton on all wheat delivered during the years '96 and '97. I do not recall the price paid in 1898, but a bonus of 50 cents per ton was paid on it at a later date. This was the last bonus paid by the Company. Being a co-operative concern, the idea was brought forward and carried, that in future the price paid for wheat should be the full market value thereof, no provision being made for a sinking fund. This policy was followed with the the result which, to say the least, was "running pretty close to the wind." The Company was however quite successful for about ten years. It branched out in several ways which might be considered as being for the benefit of its shareholders. It became agents for farm machinery which was sold to its sareholders at from ten to fifteen per cent less than it could be bought from other dealers; bought coal oil at wholesale prices; sold bran and shorts at most reasonable prices; crushed grain cheaply; rented sacks for wheat at $2.00 per hundred which were afterwards used as containers for bran and shorts; and made arrangements with the Bank of Montreal under which when the farmers' notes passed through the hands of the Company, the money would be loaned at 7% instead of the usual 8%.

The Indians also benefited, the Company actually doing more for them than the Dominion Government has ever done. The Indians raised chiefly Red Fife wheat which the Company needed for mixing with the softer winter wheats. So they were encouraged in every way to produce it, and supplied with machinery, etc. The result being that when the Company eventually got into trouble $10,000.00 of uncollectable Indian debts were found on the books.

Sometime about 1900 the "writing might have been seen on the wall" when E. C. Clouston, General Manager of the Bank of Montreal, passed through on a tour of inspection. At that time we bororwed up to $60,000.00 annually from the Bank of Montreal. He therefore inspected the premises pretty thoroughly, questioned the Secretary-Manager on all phases of the business, and seemed to be in doubt as if he hardly knew how to look at it. On leaving he said: "Well, from what I can see and from what you say you are doing, you are doing as well here as an other 100-bbl. mill in the Dominion of Canada." Even then we were beginning to feel the competition of the Prairie provinces, and it was becoming keener every year, although the Flour Milling industry was still young.

The Calgary Grain Inspecting Area was created in 1905 and up to August 1906, 1140 cars of grain were inspected, and of this amount 60 per cent was barley and oats which found a market in B.C. The wheat was all used by three small flour mills—the Calgary Milling Company, the Western Milling Company, and the Columbia Milling Company of Enderby; and the Inspector might have added a fourth small mill at Armstrong, B.C. He furthermore stated in his report that there was no western export of flour from Calgary. So the the competition we were feeling so keenly evidently came from points farther east. But it was the competition of the very large roller mills on the prairies which eventually put the roller mills in the Ok-

anagan Valley out of business, just as they in turn had previously put the smaller mills in the Valley out of commission.

During the year 1906 an audit of the books of the Okanagan Flouring Mills Company showed a very large percentage of uncollectable debts, so much so, indeed, that the Company was declared to be insolvent, and at a meeting held in Armstrong on the 11th December, 1906, it was decided to wind up the affairs of the Company. By the 1st June, 1908 the affairs of the Company were fully wound up as shewn by the affidavit of the liquidator, F. T. Jackson, and at a meeting of the shareholders held on the 21st July, 1908, the accounts of the liquidator were passed and confirmed.

The true state of the Company came as a complete surprise to the Directors, and possibly to the Secretary-Manager, F. C. Wolfenden as well, as he was very optimistic as to the amount which could be collected, and of the future of the Company. The Manager of the Bank of Montreal came to Armstrong, accompanied by a lawyer, to settle the matter in some way. After a good deal of controversy, they refused point blank to hold the shareholders responsible. They had the names of the Directors on the notes and intended to look to them for payment. The offer they made was that should the five Directors pay to the Bank the sum of $35,000 ($7,000 each) within one year, they would be given all the time they required to settle up the affairs of the Company. In the meantime the late F. T. Jackson would be placed in charge as receiver. The Directors sought the advice of Joe Martin of Vancouver in the matter. "Accept the Bank's offer. You will find it a very difficult business to collect anything from the shareholders," was his advice. So the $35,000.00 was paid to the Bank in due course.

The mill was started again as a new Company, this time under the management of M. McKay of Salmon Arm. Realizing that the Company was not in the most promising position, the Directors put the mill property in the hands of some real estate men in Winnipeg for sale. A year or two later one of the Directors waited on them to ascertain what prospects there were for the sale of the porperty. Before answering they went to the safe and took out a bundle of papers five or six inches in depth, which they said represented mill properties which they were commissioned to sell, ranging in capacity from 50 to 500 barrels. "It is the most difficult property to dispose of we carry. The day of the small mill is gone," they said, and put the sheaf back into the safe.

The further the Directors looked into the matter the blacker the prospects seemed, and eventually they traded the mill property off for shares in a biscuit manufacturing plant in Vancouver which failed in April 1912, and the five Directors lost about $12,000 each.

There are other aspects of grist milling in the Okanagan Valley which we hope to go into in our next Report, but for the present the matter must rest in abeyance.

Shuswap and Okanagan Railway

GEORGE H. MORKILL

(Continued from last report)

The Act of the Dominion Government passed on 2nd June, 1886, incorporating the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway Company, fixed the authorized capital stock of the company at $750,000 divided into 7500 shares of $100 each. The same Act also provided that before a Board of Directors could be elected, $75,000 in the capital stock of the company must be subscribed and ten per cent bona fide paid thereon. So that $7,500.00 was all the cash which had to be actually put up before the new company could enter upon its functions of building a railway from Sicamous to Okanagan Landing.

The mileage of the road is not given the same in all the Acts relating to it. Poor's Railroad Manuel is, however, regarded as an authority on all matters relating to railways, and it

gives the mileage at 51.3, and it also places the bonded indebtedness at $33,000 per mile. Accepting these figures as being correct the total bonded indebtedness is therefore $1,692,900, and not $1,683,000 as given in our last Report, which was worked out for slightly less mileage. The same authority, Poor's Railroad Manuel, says that of the 7500 shares mentioned above, the C.P.R. owns 7410. It would be interesting to know who owns the other 90.

The total assessed value of the road at the present time, as assessed by the assessors for the three cities of Vernon, Armstrong and Enderby, and the District Municipality of Spalumcheen, and the Provincial Assessor for the extra-municipal territory between Sicamous and Okanagan Landing is $533,845, which is just about $10,406 per mile, or less than one third of the mortgage against the road—its bonded indebtedness—and less than one fourth of its rateable value if it were assessed on the same principal on which farming lands in the valley are assessed and having regard to the actual cost of construction and its earning capacity as a going concern.

Since it was built the road has shewn a steady increase in its earning capacity. During the 18 years between 1893-4and1911-12 40 per cent of its gross earnings increased from $8,-703.12 in 1893-4 to $62,367.28 in 1911-12, and during the past eighteen years its earning capacity must have increased enormously.

Under the provisions of the "Shuswap and Okanagan Railway Guarantee Act 1890" the S. and O. Ry., Co., paid the interest on the bonds to the end of 1892. After that year they paid no interest on the bonds; they paid 40% of the gross earnings of the road into the Government and the Government paid the interest on the bonds, and this arrangement lasted for 21 years—from 1892 until 1913. The interest had to be paid in London, and this arrangement involved exchange and commissions.

In 1908 the beginning of the fiscal year was changed from July 1 to April 1, and the year 1908-9 given in the list of payments by the Company and by the Government given below, is for nine months only. These figures are taken from the Public Accounts of the Province and while they do not show all the money transaction which took place between the Company and the Government, they show the steadily increasing earning capacity of the road. Table A shows the 40% of the gross earnings of the road which was paid into the Government and Table B shows the sums paid out by the Government from year to year as interest on the bonds.

Year	A	B
1892-3	$ 14,805.44	$ 75,393.17
1893-4	8,700.12	52,198.38
1894-5	8,495.38	50,406.73
1895-6	9,074.87	50,574.18
1896-7	10,146.16	50,140.80
1897-8	12,464.82	51,238.08
1898-9	13,993.18	50,624.16
1899-00	14,382.91	50,497.68
1900-1	14,729.02	50,651.19
1901-2	14,743.26	50,228.40
1902-3	19,571.66	50,816.94
1903-4	21,896.27	50,139.15
1904-5	24,021.40	51,238.71
1905-6	28,400.34	50,202.90
1906-7	33,726.39	51,202.50
1907-8	36,301.34	50,190.15
1908-9	27,202.40	26,113.80
1909-10	44,308.45	50,253.90
1910-11	56,325.55	52,158.24
1911-12	62,367,28	50,619.32
1912-13	401,111.81	25,088.70
Total	876,768.05	1,039,977.08
Balance	163,209.03	
	$1,039,977.08	$1,039,977.08

We do not understand the large sum of $401,111,81 paid in, in 1912-13. If it was intended to reimburse the Government in full there seems to be a balance still of $163,209.03 coming to the Government.

When the first issue of bonds of $1,-250,000, was sold they realized between $1,083,000 and $1,084,000 so that there was a difference between the par value of the bonds on which interest had to be paid, and what the Company got for them of at least $166,000.

They were sold to a man named Armstrong, a financial man from London, England, who made a trip out to the Okanagan Valley to look into conditions before buying them. While here he was told that one of the stations on the line would be named after him, and the station picked on was Armstrong. But the owners of the townsite, Robert Wood and Daniel

Rabbitt, had named the town, Aberdeen, so that for a while the town was Aberdeen, and the station, Armstrong. However, when the new post office was opened on July 1, 1892, with Daniel Rabbitt as postmaster, the name was Armstrong, and that settled the question.

The history of this road will be continued in our next Report, but want of space forbids going on with it at present.

The First Directory of British Columbia

MARGARET A. ORMSBY, B.A.

It has been our good fortune to have had access to the first directory of British Columbia. This Directory of the year 1882, was published by R. T. Williams, the pioneer bookbinder of Victoria.

A. E. Howse of Princeton, who owns this copy, collected the data for the Okanagan Valley, including Rock Creek, Similkameen and Grand Prairie. Preceding the list of names there are some four pages, closely printed, of descriptions of different parts of the Valley by Mr. Howse; the state of the roads, transportation facilities, and generally, conditions as he found them.

He mentions the proposed canal in the following paragraph:

"A survey is to be made this year for a proposed canal between the head of Okanagan Lake and Spallumcheen River. As a large portion is already navigable, it is more than probable that a canal will be constructed to connect the adjacent waters. Taking this for granted, there will be no more favorable section for immigrants than this."

There is another paragraph which will bear quoting as it bears out what every candid historian will admit, viz., that the first settlers in this Valley, miners and farmers, were a pretty decent lot: "The residents generally are most hospitable, and ever ready to do each other a mutual service. The inviting appearance of all the residences, and the kindly greeting which awaits him, makes the stranger at home."

And for doing this work Mr. Howse, who we should say is a particularly capable man and well qualified for the work, received only $75.00.

Near the back of the Directory is a list of dates and important events which happened in the Province, beginning with the year 1871, the year of confederation. From this list we learn that the first Dominion flag was received by Dr. I. W. Powell of Victoria on the 16th June, 1871.

We learn too, that on the 14th May, 1877 the first lot of thoroughbred stock was brought into the Province from eastern Canada by J. Steele, viz., 10 Shorthorns, eight purebred Leicester and Cotswold sheep and three hogs. It would be interesting to know if this was the same lot of thoroughbred stock which James Steele and his brothers Thomas and William had, in later years, in Salmon River valley. They were there in 1882. Can any of our members enlighten us on this point?

We also learn that on the 7th December, 1879, John Ussher, Government Agent at Nicola, and J. Kelly were shot, and that on the 31st January, 1881, Allen McLean, Charles McLean, Archibald McLean and Alexander Hare were hanged for the crime at New Westminster. And that the largest nugget of gold ever found in B.C. was found on McDame's Creek, Cassiar, and valued at $1300.00

The following list of names are here given as taken from the Directory:

OKANAGAN

(P.O. Address, Okanagan and Okanagan Mission).

Andrews, Joseph, farmer, Priest Valley.
Bercier, Louis, herder, Priest Valley.
Best, Arthur, farmer.
Brent, Frederick, farmer and mill owner.
Brent, Joseph, farmer.
Brent, Louis, farmer.

Okanagan—Continued

Brewer, Charles, farmer and mill owner, Priest Valley.
Bucherie, Isadore, farmer and stock raiser.
Cain, William, laborer.
Campbell, Roland, farmer
Casey, James, laborer, Priest Valley.
Christian, Charles, laborer.
Christian, Joseph, farmer and stock raiser.
Christian, Louis, farmer, Priest Valley.
Clark, W. H., farmer.
Daily, Stephen, laborer.
Daly, John, laborer, Coldstream.
Delaurier, Amos, farmer, Priest Valley.
Dewar, Aneas, farmer.
Donley, George, laborer.
Duteau, Vincent, farmer, Coldstream.
Ellis, Thomas, J. P., farmer, stock raiser and trader, Penticton.
Ellison, Price, farmer, Priest Valley.
Fulton, James, farmer.
Gillard, Augustus, farmer and stock raiser, Mission.
Girouard, Sue, farmer and stock raiser, Priest Valley.
Greenhow, Thomas, farmer, stock raiser and trader.
Herbert, Octave, farmer and stock raiser.
Heywood, John, miner, Mission.
Johns, Joseph, farmer, Coldstream Valley.
Jones, David, carpenter, Mission.
Jones, Thomas, farmer, Mission.
Jones, William, carpenter, Mission.
Keefer, George, farmer, Coldstream Valley.
Keogan, Michael, farmer and stock raiser, Dog Lake.
Kopp, V., miner, Dog Lake.
Lambert, Stephen, laborer, Priest Valley.
Lawrence, Charles, carpenter, Mission.
Lawrence, Joseph, laborer, Mission.
Lawson, Charles, farmer, Priest Valley.
Lafevere, Alphonse, farmer.
Leman, Frank, farmer.
Lequime, Barnard, farmer.
Lequime, Eli, trader, hotel keeper and postmaster.
Lequime, Gaston, farmer, Mission.
Lumby, Moses, J. P.
Lyons, James, farmer, Priest Valley.
McAdamson, Donald, miner, Coldstream Valley.
McCauley, George, farmer, Coldstream Valley.
McDugal, Alexander, farmer, Mission.
McDugal, David, farmer, Mission.
McDugal, E., farmer, Mission.
McDugal, John, farmer, Mission.
McInnes, John, farmer, Mission.
McKenzie, John, laborer, Coldstream Valley.
McNeil, Alfred, herder, Priest Valley.
Moore, J. B., farmer, Mission.
Nicholson, Daniel, blacksmith, Mission.
O'Keefe, Cornelius, farmer, stock raiser, trader and postmaster.
Ortolan, Francois, farmer, Mission.
Postill, Alfred, farmer, stock raiser, and mill owner, Mission.
Postill, Edward, farmer, stock raiser, and mill owner, Mission.
Postill, William, farmer, stock raiser, and mill owner, Mission.
Powers, John, laborer, Coldstream Valley.
Seymour, George, laborer.
Simpson, George, farmer, Mission.
Smith, William, laborer, Priest Valley.
Thibedau, Peter, farmer.
Tronson, E. J., farmer, stock raiser and mill owner, Priest Valley.
Vance, Alexander, stock raiser, Priest Valley.
Vernon, Forbes George, farmer and stock raiser, Coldstream Valley.
Verselle, Louis, Laborer, Mission.
Walker, George, farmer, Coldstream.
Walters, John, laborer.
Whelan, George, farmer and stock raiser, Mission.
Williams, James, farmer.
Wood, Thomas, J. P., stock raiser, Winfield Lodge, Mission.

SPALLUMCHEEN

(P. O. Address, Spallumcheen).

Ashton, Charles, farmer.
Bailey, William, farmer.
Barrett, James, carpenter.
Bennett, Frederick, farmer.
Clinton, Thomas, farmer.
Crozier, Charles, farmer.
Crozier, James, farmer.
Empchke, Henry, farmer.
Fortune, A. L., farmer.
Furtineau, E. M., farmer.
Graham, Donald, farmer.
Harland, Henry, farmer, Okanagan.
Herman, J. A., farmer, Okanagan.
Hozier, C. W., farmer, Okanagan.
Hutchinson, M., farmer, Okanagan.
James, Thomas, farmer.
Jirod, Philip, farmer.
Knox, Hugh, laborer.
Lambley, Robert, farmer.
Lambley, T. McK., Government Agent and farmer.

Spallumcheen—Continued

Lawrence, William, farmer.
Lind, George, farmer.
Lamby, Moses, farmer.
Mathewson, Donald, farmer.
Micherie, William, farmer, P.O. Okanagan Mission.
Moffatt, Robert, carpenter.
Murray, William, farmer.
Nelson, George, farmer.
Nelson, Thomas, laborer.
Parkinson, George, farmer.
Powell, William, farmer.
Rich, Joseph, farmer.
Richardson, William, farmer.
Shubert, Augustus, Sr., farmer.
Shubert, Augustus, Jr., farmer.
Siddle, Ira, farmer.
Steele, James, farmer and stock raiser.
Steele, Thomas, farmer.
Steele, William, farmer.
Swanson, Henry, farmer.
Thompson, J., farmer.
Thorn, Edward, farmer.
Thornton, John, farmer.
Tilton, J. C., farmer.
Wallace, George W., blacksmith and postmaster.
Wilke, Carol, farmer.
Witcher, Harman, farmer.
Young, Frank, farmer.

GRAND PRAIRIE

(P. O. Address, Duck and Pringle's).

Campbell, Louis, farmer.
Clemitson, R. M., farmer.
Duck, J., farmer.
Hutchinson, Jas., laborer.
Hutchinson, Jno., farmer.
Jones, Frank C., farmer.
Jones, J. T., farmer.
Jones, W. J.. farmer.
Jones, W. H., farmer.
Kirkpatrick, Andrew, farmer.
Martin, George B., M.P.P., farmer
Pringle, John, farmer.
Pemberton, A. G., farmer.
Ross, James, farmer.
Todd, Robert, farmer.
Williams, E. C., Kamloops.

SIMILKAMEEN

(P. O. Address, via Hope).

Allison, John F. J. P., stock raiser and trader, Princeton.
Barcelo, Manuel, stock raiser and farmer, Keremeos.
Cawson, R. L., stock raiser and farmer, Osooyos.
Cole, Thomas, stock raiser, Keremeos.
Curry, Thomas, trader, Osoyoos.
Cox, Timothy, Keremeos.
Gallagher, Joseph, packer, Kettle River.
Haynes, J. C., customs officer and stock raiser, Osoyoos.
Ingraham, J. J., farmer, Kettle River.
Kruger, Theodore, trader and hotel keeper, Osoyoos.
McBride, J.J., farmer, Kettle River.
McCauley, Joseph, Keremeos.
McConnel, James, farmer, Kettle River.
Nicholson, Henry, farmer, Kettle River.
Price, B., trader, Keremeos.
Price, F., farmer, Keremeos.
Richter, F. X., stock raiser
Roar, Samuel, blacksmith, Keremeos.
Swartz, O., laborer, Keremeos.
Ah, Lam, trader, Rock Creek.
Ah, She, trader, Rock Creek.
Ah, Yet, trader, Rock Creek.

Successful Pre-emptors

MARGARET A. ORMSBY, B.A.

An examination of the books in the Vernon Land Office shows there are now living in this district, seven men who have lived continuously for more than forty years on land pre-empted by them.

This we consider a very creditable record for these men. There must be something admirable in the character of a man who could take up a piece of waste land and continue to live on it for so many years, and by industry and intelligently directed effort, convert it into a valuable property. Each of them, having selected his location was content to pursue the even tenor of his way through good times and bad, through good and evil report, until he made a beautiful and valuable homestead of it. And we are happy to say they are all successful men.

It was men like these who, in years gone by, made Canada what it is, and it is men like these who are of real

worth in a community. None of them had much money, and some of them none at all, when they staked their claims; but they were intelligent, industrious men, and independent, and willing to make their own way without assistance from the Government or anyone else.

There are still millions of acres of fertile land to be homesteaded or pre-empted in Canada and the achievements of these men should be an object lesson to so many healthy young men now travelling the highways seeking employment with no place of their own and no home.

Below is given a list showing the names, place of residence, and dates of location.

B. F. Young, Armstrong, June 1, 1877
Thomas N. Hayes, Larkin, Apr. 4, 1884
Casimir Bonneau, Lumby, July 15, 1884
Myles McDonald, Armstrong, Sept. 22, 1884
John Casorso, Okanagan Mission, Nov. 18, 1884
Henry Harding, Armstrong, Oct. 20, 1885
James Gartrell, Summeralnd, June 3, 1887

NOTE.—Since the above was written two of these men have died, James Gartrell on 26th July last, and Myles McDonald on the 29th July. Ed.

The So-called Okanagan Arc

J. C. AGNEW, C.E.

Since the publication of our last Report we have been able to secure some more information about this rather remarkable phenomenon, but not much. They apparently know nothing about it in the Department of Meteorology of the United States nor do they know anything, apparently, about it in the Department of Meteorology for Canada, beyond the fact that its occurrence in 1908 was reported, as the two following letters show:

United States Dept. of Agriculture,
Weather Bureau, Washington,

July 5, 1928

Mr. Leonard Norris,
Vernon, B.C.

Sir:

Your communication of the 19th June, giving an account of certain peculiar lights seen in your city, has been received.

I am sorry to say that we are unable to say what they were though we know of nothing else nearly so probable as a form of the aurora.

Let me assure you that you were not imposing on us at all in writing to us at length about this phenomenon, but on the contrary doing us an especial kindness.

Respectfully,

C. F. Marvin, Chief of Bureau.

Meteorological Office,
Toronto, Canada, Dec. 28, 1929.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of the ninth December, I received your letter and enclosure of the 13th August, and regret that it has not been possible to go into the matter thoroughly. We have no work on the distribution of the Chinook Wind, except a short one by the late Director, Sir Frederick Stupart, a copy of which I am enclosing.

With regard to the light seen in the sky from time to time, it would appear to be an aurora from the description given of it in the Hedley Gazette. It was seen in a good many places—Summerland, Bella Coola, Big Creek (Upper Fraser Valley) on the night of the 18th August 1908. No doubt it is the same phenomenon that you have seen from time to time.

Yours truly,
J. Patterson, Director.

Hector Richmond, Junior Entomologist at the Court House, Vernon, was the first to give us information of its appearance in Alberta. He and a companion saw it on the night of the 9th Sept. 1929. The entry in his diary reads: "Had a strange phenomenon this evening, a bright arch stretched from horizon to horizon. It looked like a bright searchlight." They were

then about 30 miles south of Edson on the C. N. Ry., in the foothills of the Rockies. The time was between 10:30 and 11:30, and the moon was down. It was uniform in width from end to end. He describes it as being a pearl arch.

Sergeant A. G. Birch, of the North West Mounted Police, now stationed at Vanderhoof, in his letter to this Society, says: "I have seen this light on two occasions, once in Similkameen in August 1928, and also on returning from Sugar Lake in July 1927. On neither occasion was there any sign of the Northern Lights, and this fact impressed me as being peculiar, and made the phenomenon mare puzzling.

"The light was very luminous in appearance and apparently emitting a phosphorescent glow, and was entirely different in appearance and action to the Northern Lights. The description given in the Hedley Gazette, comparing it to the rays of a searchlight with the exception of the rays not tapering, but maintaining a uniform width, describes the phenomenon exactly."

Those who saw it as it was in 1908 and 1916 will readily understand Hector Richmond when he describes it as being like a pearl arch, and Sergeant Birch when he says it appeared to emit a phosphorescent glow.

It has been slow work, acquiring data relating to this light; one of the chief drawbacks has been the want of books of reference. In fact when we commenced our investigations we could find nothing here bearing on the subject except the Encyclopedia Britannica and Burdock's Blood Bitters Almanac for 1927. Both are first rate as far as they go, only they don't go very far. It is surprising too, how few people in the Valley have seen it considering the frequency of its occurrence. The people in the Okanagan Valley seem to lead such regular lives that they are all in bed by eleven o'clock, and there is no one abroad at that hour but the constable or, perhaps, someone going for the doctor.

J. Duff of Sidney, a member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, has written making the following suggestion: "In place of taking an altitude it might be more convenient to note the time and mention what prominent stars are on, or close to, the arc; repeating this an hour later to see if any apparent shifting occurred. Long distance phone might be used to stir up other observers to do the same."

This suggestion has so much to commend it that we hope our members will act on it the next time it occurs, and it will occur again no doubt; those who eee it should use the long distance phone and give notice to others. Any reasonable expense incurred will be cheerfully borne by the Society. If the moon is due to rise soon after, the exact time of its appearance should be noted. Our attempts to fix the time of the rising of the moon by the Nautical Almanac, and by other means has not been very satisfactory owing to the difference between local and mean time, and to the interference of the mountain tops with the mean horizon.

The fact is that at the present time we are not properly organized for carrying on such work, but we hope soon to be.

James Douglas mentions having seen a band of light somewhat similar to the band of light seen so often in the Okanagan, when he was building the first fort at Victoria in 1843. The entry in his diary of the 17th March of that year, reads: "Saw a luminous streak in the heavens this evening which lasted from dusk until nine o'clock when the moon rose and obscured it. Its highest altitude was at Betelguix in Orion, due south from the position we occupied at the time of its appearance and extended from thence in a continuous line to the southwest point of the horizon forming an arc of about 90 degrees. At Betelguix its breadth was . . arcs . . and it diminished gradually towards the southwest horizon. We cannot account for this phenomenon, unless we may suppose it is produced by the reflection of the waters in the straits of De Fuca, although it is difficult to account for its existence on any such principle. It was also seen last night."

It is not very clear what he means by the above statement. James Douglas was a poor diarist. His diaries are hard to understand. One commentator in referring to the diary from which the above extract is taken, says "it is one of the most exasperating documents I have ever read." It is

fairly clear that what he saw was a streak of light which ran in a general southeast and northwest direction, otherwise he would not have associated it with the reflection from the waters of the Strait of Jaun de Fuca. If we take what he says literally—that the star Betelguse was then due south of where he stood and that the luminous streak extended from the star to the southwest point of the horizon—it would then be running at right angles to the Strait, and with the two thus running in totally different directions, there would be no mental suggestion connecting them. We shall probably never know exactly what it was he saw on that occasion.

In our last report we expressed the opinion that the explanation of this phenomenon will be found in a proper understanding of the topography of the country to the south of us, and of the effect produced by the prevailing winds from the southwest, and we have no reason so far, to alter our opinion. F. W. Godsal of Victoria, is our authority for saying the Chinook wind blows over Victoria. In his article on the Chinook Wind which appeared in the Calgary Herald on 28th January 1928, he says: "Victoria at the south end of Vancouver Island also enjoys a Chinook effect, caused by the Olympic mountains in the State of Washington to the southwest . . . the Chinook affects only the extreme south end of Vancouver Island, and the coast of Washington opposite."

Bancroft in his History of British Columbia, page 98, refers, in a light vein, to the luminous streak seen by Douglas, he says:

"The 17th, Friday; was it their lucky or unlucky day? Was that luminous streak which lingered in the heavens after the day went out, shining brightly there until the moon came up and frightened it away; was the sign portentious of good or ill to this beginning? And did it speak to the savage or the civilized? For five consecutive nights it did not fail to make its appearance, and was the wonder of the time."

And the author of another well-known History of British Columbia, takes Bancroft to task for his flippancy and gibes at Douglas, in this manner:

"Bancroft, in recording this incident, seems equally at a loss to account for the phenomenon. If that author, who never lost an opportunity to sneer at the men who laid the foundations of British Columbia, had taken the trouble to examine the astronomical records of that period, he would have found that the 'luminous streak' was the great comet of 1843, which was visible from the Northwest Coast on the 27th February, and for seven weeks afterwards. This comet was the brightest of the century up to that time, and was one of the largest ever observed. Its tail was said to be one hundred and sixty million miles long," etc.

As if a man like Douglas could possibly mistake the comet of 1843 for anything else but what it was.

Shorts Creek

MAX H. RUHMANN

At a meeting of the Society held at Vernon, June 24th last, the following resolution was passed:

"That our Secretary be instructed to make application to the Geographic Board of Canada to have the creek flowing into Okanagan Lake on the west side, through Lot 686, officially named Shorts Creek in honor of the late Captain T. D. Shorts, and

That while we deprecate needless meddling with place-names and believe it is best to leave to time and circumstances the settling of all such matters, we consider there are special reasons for making this request, viz.:

(1) Captain Shorts was the first settler to pre-empt land on the creek, his record being dated 23rd July, 1883.

(2) In 1886 he and T. Greenhow built the first steamer on Okanagan Lake, and Captain Shorts was master of her.

(3) This stream has been known as

Shorts Creek for over thirty years and is shewn as such on all Government maps.

(4) That it is only fitting and right the name the stream now bears should be confirmed officially so as to prevent interference with it in years to come."

The application was made and in due course we received the following acknowledgment of it:

Geographic Board of Canada
Ottawa, Ont., 4th July, 1930

Dear Sir:

I have received your letter of the 25th ultimo and accompanying Resolution of the Okanagan Historical and Natural History Society relative to the name Shorts Creek, Okanagan Lake.

The matter came before the Board at its regular monthly meeting yesterday, when it was pointed out that while the Creek had an earlier name, Biche Creek, as on Dawson's Map of the Southern Interior of British Columbia published by the Geological Survey in 1877, the name was submitted to and considered acceptable by the Board a few years ago.

While the Board does not generally publish decision regarding small features, it was decided yesterday, in the circumstances, to formally approve the name Shorts Creek for publication. If the Society's records contain any information as to the applicability of the name Biche River, I should be glad if you will let me hear from you.

Yours faithfully.

R. Douglas, Secretary.

Max H. Ruhmann, Esq.,
Sec.-Treas. of the Okanagan
Historical and Natural History
Society, Vernon, B.C.

It is some satisfaction to us to know that the name has now been formally passed for publication by the Geographic Board, and thus placed beyond any interference, as far as such may be done.

The Name Kelowna

MRS. WILLIAM BRENT

There seems to be some confusion as to the meaning and character of this word. My knowledge of it leads me to think that while it is an Indian word it is not an Indian place-name; it does not belong to the same class as Spallumcheen, Penticton, Osoyoos and other well-known Indian place-names which have been in use by the Indians from time immemorial.

I left the Okanagan Valley to go to live with my father, Col. Houghton in Montreal in 1893. About a year before I left I was living with my cousin, Mrs. D. Nicholson, at Okanagan Mission, and going to school. One Sunday afternoon in May or June 1892, Bernard Lequime came to Nicholson's house, and among other things he told us he was trying to find a suitable name for his new townsite on the lakeshore. Frederick Watson, the school teacher, was there at the time, and all present took part in the discussion which followed. Bernard Lequime told us of the name, Kim-ach-touch which the Indians had given August Gillard. He seemed to be impressed with it, but thought it would seem awkward and uncouth to those not acquainted with the Indian language. The name Kelowna was then brought up, and nearly all present thought it would be a more suitable name. The pronunciation of it was also discussed, and various methods of spelling were suggested so as to preserve the Indian pronunciation in which as J. W. S. Logie says, the 'o' is sounded as in 'now', 'allow', etc. For some years around Kelowna it was always pronounced this way, but latterly use and custom has changed it to its present pronunciation with the 'o' as is 'snow', 'go', etc.

From what I saw and heard that afternoon I am satisfied that F. M. Buckland is quite right when he says August Gillard was primarily responsible for the name, and that the name would have been Kin-ach-touch (I would pronounce this word Kum-a-

stoose) had not Kim-ach-touch seemed uncouth and awkward to the whites.

The Indians never named a place by calling it after an animal. Following the mode of life they did, such a custom would have been confusing and inconvenient.

Kelowna means grizzly bear; Skumhist means black bear. Quill means red in the Indian language and Quillskum-hist means brown bear. Kim-ach-touch or Kum-a-stoose means bear's face, and this was the name given August Gillard by the Indians. There are peculiarities in the Indian language which are sometimes hard to explain. It is not surprising that both Bernard Lequime and F. M. Buckland thought the name meant brown bear, because, if questioned regarding the meaning of the name, the Indians would disclose the fact that what they had in mind when they bestowed the name on him, was the face of a brown bear. The name however, cannot be more closely translated than as "bearface."

The Indians of the Okanagan Valley

MRS. WILLIAM BRENT

When the Indians of the Okanagan Valley were discovered by the white men in 1811, they were not debased savages nor sunk in superstition, and there is much to be said in favor of the view held by many, that they were a people who at one time had probably attained to a higher degree of civilization than they enjoyed at the beginning of the last century.

They were not idolaters: they did not worship idols. Their religious tenets were simple; they belived in good and bad spirits and believed it was necessary to propitiate both. Their principal religious ceremony consisted of the Chief calling his people around him in solemn conclave, and then taking the peace pipe, he blew three whiffs of smoke towards the four points of the compass, and three towards the heavens, in salutation of the invisible and invincible powers beyond. While this ceremony and their religious tenets may have been crude and elementary, there was nothing in either revolting to the finer feelings and instincts of the human heart.

These Indians did not burn witches at the stake as did the Puritans of New England, and such horrors as the auto de fe of the early Christian church, and the modern abomination of birth control, were alike unknown to them.

It is true that when a marriage was contracted the property consideration passed from the bridegroom to the father of the bride; but women were not bought and sold as chattels as in many eastern countries. Nor was the property consideration the only preliminary; the consent of the two families had to be obtained. A marriage was looked on as an important matter which might affect the honour and standing of the tribe, of the family. And here as elsewhere the story of true love did not always run smoothly; sometimes one of the families would withdraw the consent they had given or the young people might change their minds, and the bad blood thus engendered might involve the whole tribe and fierce fighting take place over the alleged insult or injury or for the possession of some dusky Helen of Troy.

In 1811 these people did not live in fortified villages and raise grain as did the ancient Hochelagans. It was not necessary for them to plant corn because they had an abundant supply of food in the fish and game and the edible roots and berries of the country and their mobility—the ease with which they could move from place to place—probably served them better in case of attack than a fortification.

Alexander Ross in his book "Adventures on the Oregon or Columbian River" has this so say of the Okanagan Indians: "The men lead an active life —between hunting, fishing and making canoes, they are always employed. Nor are the women less busy—curing fish, drying meat and collecting roots and firewood—with their family and domestic affairs, their whole time is occupied

and indeed they may be said to serve in the double capacity of wife and slave. They have in general an engaging sweetness, are good housewives, modest in their demeanor, affectionate and chaste, and strongly attached to their husbands and family. Each family is ruled by the joint authority or will of the husband and wife, but more particularly the latter." When this was written in 1849, Ross had been married for a considerable time to an Okanagan Indian woman and we may naturally suppose he would write more favorably of them than some other white man; but what he says is, in the main, probably true.

Their social organization was loose, so loose as to border on anarchy. Each family was a law unto itself; and while a kind of nominal authority was given to the Chiefs by these self-governing families, the authority and privileges of the Chief were strictly limited. They tolerated no dominate caste, and they refused to be priest-ridden. The outstanding trait in the character of these men, was their independence and love of personal freedom. They would not submit to authority.

With the white man, what his neighbor thinks is a matter of first concern to him, because he knows that what is only public opinion today, tomorrow may crystalize and become a law which he will be forced to obey. No such consideration weighed with the Indian; always he knew he was free to do as he liked, and what his neighbor thought or did not think, was a matter of complete indifference to him. The white man, ruled by the majority and therefore more or less always under the thumb of authority of some sort, may, as compared with the Indian, be more prone to take his opinions ready-made and follow the crowd, instead of standing on his own feet and thinking for himself.

The rigors of the life they followed tended in a marked manner, to weed out from among them, the weak, the vicious, and the incapable, so that today the average Indian, in mental endowment and acumen, is quite the equal of the average white man; it would be strange if this were not so. The want of anything like an adequate education is however, a tremendous drawback to the Indian. The coming of the white man was not an unmixed blessing to him; but the white man has to the credit side of his account with the Indians, two things at least—the schools and the inestimable boon of Christianity.

We have not the exact figures, but the latest authority we have been able to consult, shows that, in Canada, roughly one man in a hundred is an Indian. So that the number of men of mixed Indian and white blood in this country must be small as compared with the total population. Yet when we consider the number of these men who have become prominent as legislators, teachers, members of the learned profession, and in the Civil Service, the number is astonishingly great. They seem to possess a certain mental aloofness, a freedom and independence of judgment which makes them different from the whites, pure blood; and these qualities make for leadership among men. The half breed will either live entirely to himself, or, if he takes part in community life at all, he is apt to forge to the front. These men are in a sense "well-born." They on one side of the house at least, have descended from a race of men who for many generations never knew what it was to receive a command from another and feel that they were under compulsion and bound to obey that command. Always they were free men, and, they say, blood will tell.

This is an aspect of Canadian history which seems to have been strangely overlooked, viz., the natural aptitude of men of mixed Indian and white blood, for public office, and for leadership, as demonstrated in the history of Canada during the past hundred years.

When we see an Indian and notice his casual style of clothing himself, and his want of personal cleanliness, we are apt to grin; but, a few generations back, and the difference in manners and customs between the whites and the Indians was not perhaps so very marked as it is today. R. L. Stevenson, in his Essay on John Knox, in comparing the manners and customs of that date with the manners and customs of the age in which he lived, says: "We could not let those great folks of old into our drawing rooms. Queen Elizabeth would positively not be eligible for a house maid."

Perhaps nothing illustrates more clearly the extent to which the whites have admitted the North American

Indian to an equal footing wth themselves, while refusing a similar recognition of the negro and the oriental, than what took place in Washington some time after the inauguration of President Hoover. The President's wife, Mrs. Hoover, gave a tea and sent an invitation to Mrs. DePriest who was the wife of a member of the United States Congress, the representative from Chicago. The DePriests were negroes; and at once a storm of dissent and protest swept over the United States, and much discussion followed in the press and on the plaform. This simple act of official courtesy was looked on in some quarters as striking at the very foundations of society; and in some of the State Legislatures in the South, it was the subject of Resolutions, and many speeches were made denouncing the action of Mrs. Hoover as fraught with evil and dangerous to the future welfare of the nation. In fact, the discussion was so widespread and warm that a new term was invented, "depriestism," meaning, the social recognition of the negro, and it was so much in use that for a time it seemed likely we would have a new word added to the English language.

And all the while this unholy row was going on over the invitation to an afternoon tea, extended by Mrs. Hoover to the chocolate-colored lady from Chicago, who "came early, stayed late, and seemed to enjoy herself," Charles Curtis, the Vice-President, was reported in the newspapers as being proud of his Indian blood, and proud of the fact that as a boy, he was brought up with the tribe of Indians to which his grandmother, who was a half-breed Kaw Indian, belonged.

Yet this fact elicited no unfavorable comment whatever.

Belvidere Townsite

FREDERICK H. BARNES

The Government Reserve at Enderby containing 14 acres and known as Lot 149, was subdivided and the subdivision lots offered for sale at auction by Walter Dewdney, Government Agent, at Enderby, on the 14th February, 1885. The place was then known as Belvidere.

Either at the auction sale or shortly after, all the lots in the townsite were purchased by Robert and T. McK. Lambly except one, Lot 9, which was bought by their brother-in-law, Alfred Postill. Lot 149 was divided into 20 lots of an average of .7 acres each, and the price at which they were sold was $100.00 per acre or $70.00 per lot.

Fortunately we have been able to secure from the Lands Department, Victoria, a blueprint of this ancient townsite, through the good offices of the Deputy Minister, H Cathcart. This blueprint, drawn to a scale of two chains to the inch, has the slough which runs along the front of the lots and leading up towards Fortune's ranch, marked "Line of proposed canal to Okanagan Lake." The lots are numbered from north to south, and the north boundary of Lot 1 is the centre of Cliff Street.

This blueprint shows the location of the big wheat shed built by the Lambly Bros., and of Robert Lambly's house and stable. The warehouse is in Lot 3 close to the river bank, and Robert Lambley's house and stable are on Lot 2.

Since the blueprint was received Oliver Harvey has marked on it the approximate location of his store which was Enderby's first post office. The store stood on Lot 4 near its northern boundary and not far from the river bank. This building was built for H. F. Keefer by Hamill and Pringle in the fall of 1885 under instructions from Oliver Harvey. H. F. Keefer was a successful sub-contractor on the C.P.R. during its construction, and was a cousin of George A. Keefer, one of the divisional engineers. H. F. Keefer at that time had a number of stores along the line of construction on the C.P.R. Later Oliver Harvey and W. B. Bailey bought out the Keefer stores.

The old wagon road ran in front of Harvey's store, between it and the river bank, and west of the big wheat shed where the steamboats landed.

The Brides of Enderby

ZILLAH MAY MEIGHAN

In his history of British Columbia, Judge F. W. Howay tells us that the city of Enderby owes its name to a unique circumstance. At a gathering at the home of George R. Lawes, who with Mr. Rashdale built the roller flour mill at Enderby, a well-known poem by Jean Ingelow was read and discussed, and the suggestion was then made that Enderby should be adopted as the name of the place instead of Belvidere and that the suggestion met with instant approval.

When the Enderby postoffice was opened on the 1st November, 1887 with Oliver Harvey as postmaster, some of those who had not been present at this literary meeting naturally inquired where the name came from, what it meant, and who suggested it. We were told to read Jean Ingelow's poem "High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire," and we should then know all about it.

The high tide mentioned in the poem is something which actually occurred; but the poem viewed as a purely historical narrative, has its weak points.

According to the poem, long ago when any danger threatened the town of Boston, in Lincolnshire, the alarm was given by ringing the church bells. The tune they played was always "The Brides of Enderby," so that this tune when played on the church bells, always threw the town into a turmoil of excitement, and sent men hurrying home from the fields, pale with fear and apprehension.

One Saturday evening in the summer of 1571 while the men were still at work in the fields and the women were in the pastures driving home the cows to be milked, the bells suddenly clashed out their dreadful warning peal; and the people were amazed. Everything seemed to be secure and peaceful. There was no armed force attacking the town, no conflagration raging, no insurrection, nor were pirate ships attacking the place from the sea; but a very high tide was creeping in spreading death and devastation abroad in the land. The poem in part reads as follows:

The old mayor climbed the belfrey tower
    The ringers rang by two, by three
"Pull as as you never pulled before
    Good ringers pull your best," quothe he.
"Play uppe, play uppe, O Boston bells
Ply all your changes, all your swells
    Play uppe The Brides of Enderby."

Then some looked up into the sky
    And all along where Lindis flows
To where the goodly vessels lie
    And where the lordly steeple shows
They sayed, "And why should this thing be
What danger lowers by land or sea?"
    They ring the tune of Enderby.

"For evil news from Mabelthorp
    Of pyrate galleys, warping down
For shippes ashore beyond the scorpe
    They have not spared to wake the town
But while the west bin red to see
And storms be nonne and pyrates flee
    Why ring the Brides of Enderby?"

We sometimes wondered too, on reading the poem, why the people of Boston selected this particular tune, and what sort of dames these ladies were, these Brides of Enderby, whose grace and beauty were celebrated in song, and later on—when people knew more about them, no doubt— men, when they heard the tune, turned pale and shook with fear. It appears however that they, like the Furies and Mrs. Gamp's friend, Mrs. Harris, are purely mythical. One of our members, J. Forsythe Smith, Dominion Fruit Trade Commissioner, London, wrote direct to the authorities of the city of Boston, and their reply in part reads as follows:

"In reply to your inquiry about the word 'Enderby,' there are three small villages between Spilbury and Horncastle: Bag Endergy, Mavis Enderby and Wood Enderby. Jean Ingelow wrote some years ago in reply to a similar inquiry, that the 'Brides of Enderby' were purely her own imagination. I believe a tune to fit the words was written at a later date, but was never played on the bells of Boston Church."

Whatever may be said of the merits of the poem as a whole, there can be no question of the music and charm of those three lines—the lines which suggest the clash and rhythm of the bells:

Play uppe, play uppe, O Boston bells
Ply all your changes, all your swells
Play uppe the Brides of Enderby.

Ogopogo

W. H. BRIMBLECOMBE

The question has frequently been asked: How, when and why Ogopogo? The orgiin of the application of this name to the unidentified creature sometimes seen in Okanagan Lake, is simple.

In Vernon there has been since the War, an organization of amateurs, who, under title of "The Kalamalka Players," have raised several thousand dollars for charitable purposes. In one of their "Folly" performances, the writer sang the Ogopogo song originally created by Davy Burnaby of the "Co-Optimists." Perhaps a word is necessary here, as to who the "Co-Optimists" are.

For many years the late Mr. Pellissier was, with his "Follies," looked upon in London, England, as furnishing to the lovers of musical and light comedy, much the same type of refined humor that "Punch" affords its readers. After the Great War, it may be said, his mantle fell on Davy Burnaby, who with his company of Co-Optimists, soon captivated England and now hold a wide and most enviable reputation. A programme presented by them is the epitome of good taste and good fun.

Some months afterwards, on the 23rd August, 1926, to be exact, a luncheon for the Vancouver Board of Trade was given at the Kalamalka Hotel by the Vernon Rotary Club and the Vernon Board of Trade. L. M. Richardson of Vernon, presided, and the writer was asked to sing. As it had been well received on the former ocassion, he decided to sing the Ogopogo song again. At the time there was considerable talk about the mysterious creature in Okanagan Lake, and the possibilities of making a little fun were recognized; indeed the Secretary of the Kalamalka Players, H. F. Beattie, who was ex-Secretary of the Vernon Board of Trade, wrote a parody of the original for local use.

On the occasion of this lunchean, the name and tune caught on, and the guests left the Kalamalka Hotel to spread the fame of Ogopogo far and wide. Recently some of the coast newspapers have been using the word as a common noun to designate any unidentified creature in any of the lakes in the interior of B.C. So that we are now in a fair way of having a new word added to the English language.

On one occasion, near Peachland, it was swimming along parallel to the lake shore and not far from it. The late J. L. Logie of Okanagan Centre happened to be on the road at the time and saw it, and he chased it for some distance. It was then rushing through the water at a tremendous

speed and he was on the road in his automobile, and chased after it along the road which at that place follows the lake shore. The report of this chase with an automobile after making the rounds of the B.C. newspapers, eventually found its way into the columns of "Punch." After that, of course, no one could say the Ogopogo of the Okanagan Lake was not famous.

The song as written by Davy Burnaby ran thus:

"One fine day in Hindustan, I met a funny little man
With googly eyes and lantern jaws; with a new silk
hat and some old plus-fours
When I said to that quaint old chap: Why do you carry
that big steel trap
That butterfly net and that old gun? He replied,
Listen here my son.

'I'm looking for the Ogopogo. The funny little Ogopogo.
His mother was an earwig, his father was a snail
I'm going to put a little bit of salt on his tail
I want to find the Ogopogo, while he's playing
on his old banjo
The Lord Mayor of London, the Lord Mayor of London
The Lord Mayor of London wants
To put him in the Lord Mayor's show.'"

And the parody by H. F. Beattie:

"Oh! Vancouver Board of Trade
Gird up your loins; be not dismayed
Crusaders stalwart from the coast
Fill each his glass, and hear Vernon's toast
Ante-deluvian or B.C.
A monster you may chance to see
A d-- sight more up-to-date you will say
Join the chorus with a Hip-Hooray

I'm looking for the Ogopogo
The bunny-hugging Ogopogo
His mother was a mutton * and his father
was a whale
I'm going to put a little bit of salt on his tail

I'm looking for the Ogopogo
As told me by Harwood (Joe)
The Lieutenant-Governor
The Lieutenant-Governor
The Lieutenant-Governor wants
To put him in the B.C. show."

* An allusion doubtless to the statement sometimes made that the creature has a head like a sheep.

The Audibility of the Aurora

L. NORRIS

The peculiar sound emitted by the Aurora has been heard recently on Shuswap Lake. Should any of our members hear this sound we should be very much obliged if they will report it to us, and report it as fully as possible. If the truth were known it would probably be found that the Aurora is always accompanied by a sound, but it is so faint that the observer has to be very close to it to hear it.

In fact until comparatively recent years, the reality of this phenomenon has been questioned. For instance. the Encycl. Britt. 11th Edition, in its article on the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights, says: "Whether auroral displays are ever accompanied by a characteristic sound is a disputed question." It then proceeds to quote Captain H. P. Dawson who was in charge of the British Polar station at Fort Rae in 1882-3, who says: "The Indians and Voyageurs of the Hudson's Bay Company who often pass their nights in the open, say that it (the sound) is not uncommon . . . . there can be no doubt that a distinct sound does occasionally accompany certain displays of the Aurora."

In the November number of the Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, 1929, the following quotation is taken from P. H. Gosse's "The Canadian Naturalist," 1840, page 47: "I have never heard any sound accompanying the Aurora Borealis, though I have seen very many, and some splendid ones, and though I have often eagerly and intently listened; yet I cannot doubt the fact for I have been assured by persons of undoubted veracity that they have distinctly heard an accompanying sound, though exceedingly rarely. Some of these individuals could not be suspected of having taken the idea from books. It has been described to me as being like the rustling of a silk flag in a smart breeze. These were all heard in Newfoundland where it is much more common than in this country (Province of Quebec)."

In the next number of the Journal, the one for December 1929, the following letter from W. H. Harrison of Linden Avenue, Victoria, appears: "In the Journal for November, I read with much interest your quotation from the book "The Canadian Naturalist," in connection with the remarks made by H. P. Goss on the possibility of hearing the Aurora Borealis. I have seen many very brilliant displays of the Aurora Borealis in Eastern Canada, the Central West, and Northern Alberta, but on only one occasion did I hear a sound. About 25 years ago at Sackville, New Brunswick, on a still, frosty night, as I watched the lights running across the sky, I heard very distinctly a rustling or crackling sound. I listened very carefully as up to that time I did not know that such a sound was ever heard. On looking the matter up in my encyclopedia, I found that on rare occasions the Aurora Borealis made a sound such as I have described, and shortly afterwards I found reference to the same matter in Wordsworth's poem, entitled "The Complaint of a Forsaken Indian Woman." The poem referred to contains the following lines:

In sleep I heard the northern gleam
The stars they were among my dreams
In rustling conflict through the skies
I heard, I saw the flashes drive.

On the other hand Dr. W. J. Humphreys, Ph. D., in his "Physics of the Air" (New York, 1929, 2nd Edition.) a standard work, gives a long list of sounds which may be classed as meteorological and concludes in this manner: "the sizzle of St. Elmo's fire, the faint crackle of the constant stream of feeble electric discharges from mast tips or other points thus strangely illuminated; the swish of the aurora, due apparently to auto suggestion, and hence, wholly subjunctive; and, of course, many more. But the explanation of all are easy, if not immediately obvious, and hence their further listing is quite unnecessary."

He certainly takes an easy way of accounting for the sound made by the Northern Lights; he leaves us to infer that it is only auto suggestion. It would be strange if all those who thought they heard it were victims of auto suggestion, and the sounds they thought they heard sound like the swishing of a whip, the swishing of a silk flag, etc., were wholly "subjunctive." It is just possible that Dr. Humphreys is a bit too incredulous.

The Encyclopedia Brittanica is our authority for saying that it is now generally conceded that the Aurora Borealis represents some form of electric discharge; if so, why stumble at the sound. Most electric discharges are accompanied by a sound, from the St. Elmo's fire to which Dr. Humphreys refers, to the clap of thunder with which we are all familiar.

C. A. Pope, of Victoria, says he lived for some years at Deloraine, Manitoba, and while there he and others heard it quite often. He was surprised

to learn that the phenomenon was ever questioned.

If some of our scientists would leave their books and get out onto the plains of Manitoba where they would have a chance to hear this sound, they, with the help of the telephone and the microphone, might in a short time be able to tell us more than we know now of the nature and cause of the Aurora Borealis.

Some Place Names

L. NORRIS

Blue Springs. The postoffice at this place was opened on the 1st October, 1892 with Alexander McDonell as postmaster, and closed on the 1st February, 1896 at which time Alexander McDonell was still postmaster.

When the writer saw the spring on the side of the road in 1884 it was several feet across and several feet deep and the water which was clear as crystal, was tinted a beautiful emerald blue. It was impossible to say whether the colouring matter was in the water or had been deposited by time on the bottom and sides. A close analysis of the water even now might disclose what it was that coloured it. In recent years the little basin which the spring had formed was destroyed, and the water is now brought down to the road in a small trough which empties into a large horse trough on the side of the road. There is now no suggestion of any blue colour to be seen in the water; but anyone seeing the spring as it was in 1884 would know at once why the place came to be known as Blue Springs.

Creighton Valley. The postoffice at this place was opened on the 1st March, 1897 with W. H. Phillips as postmaster who was followed in turn by H. Hutchinson on the 1st June, 1902, A. Barb on the 1st May, 1905 and J. F. Wilson on the 1st July, 1905 who remained in charge of it until it was closed on the 1st June, 1917. Creighton Valley was named after John Creighton, the first settler there.

John Creighton was unmistably Irish. He was an old British soldier who had fought in the Crimean war and served through the Indian mutiny, and was in receipt of a pension from the British government. He came into the Valley in 1884, and after recording several different pieces of land he pre-empted on the 4th October, 1889 what is known as Lot 142 and this is the land he held as a pre-emption claim when he died on the 10th July, 1890. The "Inland Sentinel" published in Kamloops, refers to his death in its issue of the 19th July, 1890: "Vernon has lost one of its old pioneers in the death of John Creighton. He had been ailing for some time. He had many friends in the community, and will be greatly missed." His death was not registered.

He was a fine man in many ways. He had his own soldier's code of honour which he lived up to strictly and was always ready to do a kind act to assist a neighbor, and despite his rather peppery temper was well liked by his acquaintances. He played skillfully on the flute and was always ready to play when asked, and on many an evening the crowd in the bar-room of the Victoria Hotel was kept quiet and decorous by the music he discoursed. In this connection Jack sometimes told a story on himself. It was while he was still a soldier. The Colonel of his regiment had sent for him and ordered him to play. Under the particular circumstances Jack considered it an imposition and was angry. The result was that as long as he was in the Colonel's presence he played only one tune, over and over, and that tune went to the words:

Go to the devil and shake yourself
And when you come home behave
yourself.

"That," Jack used to say, "Cost me ten days in the guard house."

It was in the bar-room of the old Vernon Hotel one Sunday morning in June 1887. George Warren who was in charge of the hotel had gone off to Spallumcheen and left Jack Creighton

in charge. The bar-rooms in those days were kept open all Sunday, and all Sunday night for that matter. The usual crowd was sitting around smoking and chatting when a highly-respected resident of Priest's Valley entered and looking around inquired "Where's Warren?" and then Jack spoke up, "George Warren," he said, "has gone to Spillymechane and he left me in charge, and he tould me to give credit no to anyone, and naythe I wunt." The aforesaid highly respected citizen flushed up—he was not looking for credit at the bar, he was looking for George Warren—but knowing with whom he had to deal he went out without saying anything, and that evening a friend was able to assure George Warren in the Lansdowne Hotel that he need not worry over what was going on in Vernon; that the man he had left in charge would obey orders.

Jack Creighton was not a fighting man, he was not big enough for that, but he had a tongue to be dreaded. He could raise a blister in fewer words than any of them.

George Warren was a nephew of Capt. J. D. Warren of Victoria, who with J. and A. Boscowitz at one time owned the S. S. Sardonyx which at one time ran between Victoria and San Francisco. George Warren was purser on the Sardonyx until his health failed, and he came to the Okanagan Valley. During the winter of 1886-7 he lived at the Coldstream ranch

Creighton's estate was sworn under $300.00 and W. Dewdney, the Government Agent was appointed administrator. After Dewdney's death the estate was taken over by F. J. Fulton of Kamloops who wrote a letter to Moses Lumby who was then Government Agent at Vernon, in which he said there would probably be a residue sufficient to erect a stone at the grave, and asking to be advised as to what would be a suitable epitaph to have engraved on the stone. Lumby knew nothing about Creighton and handed the letter over to the Provincial Constable who suggested the following:

Sacred to the memory
of
John Creighton
A brave British Soldier
Who fought in the battles of
Inkerman
Balaklava
and
Alma
And served through the
Indian Mutiny
Cannon to right of him
Cannon to left of him
Cannon in front of him
Volleyed and thundered.
Stormed at with shot and shell
Boldly he fought and well
Now he's dead and gone to; well
Of such is the kingdom of heaven
Requiescat in pace
Good old
Jack Creighton

The suggestion was stupid and unseemly, nor was any stone erected at the grave.

John Creighton while he lived in this Valley bore a name unsullied by any dishonourable act, and he had to his credit a whole life spent directly in the service of his country, upholding its honour on many a battlefield—a splendid record—and it is gratifying to us to know that his name will be perpetuated in Creighton Valley. Otherwise he, like many another good man who had served his country well and faithfully, would soon be forgotten—buried in a grave unmarked by any monumental stone, his only epitaph the passing jest of a vacant and irreverent mind.

Monashee. Do any of our members know where this name came from and what it means? The range of mountains west of the Arrow Lakes and the Columbia River has heretofore been called the Gold Range and this is the name given it by Dr. Dawson in his report of 1877. The term, Monashee, was, locally, usually applied to the mountain to the north of the mineral claims staked by McIntyre and Riske. The Geographic Board of Canada has however, re-named this range, and it is now officially known as the "Monashee Mountains," and is shewn as such on the map accompanying their sixteenth report, issued in 1919.

Robson and Begbie

L. NORRIS

In November 1862, Judge Begbie, later Sir Matthew Baillie Begbie, was judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, and John Robson, later Hon. John Robson, Premier of British Columbia, was publishing a newspaper called the "British Columbian" at New Westminster which was then the capital of the Colony.

On Wednesday, Nov. 26th, 1863, the following letter appeared in the British Columbian:

"Sir: There is an old proverb about closing the stable door, etc., its verification may be seen in the late circular issued by the Government. I know, the Magistrates know, the public know, that a constable in Elwyn's office was working two claims during his term of office, and that he only held his position while the success of those claims was doubtful. Others in that office held not alone one claim, but many; and it is said the virtuous Elwyn will look upon this circular as a most precious vehicle of resignation.

That the Chief Justice signed the cheque assuring Travis of his pay is well known, and as there are more ways of killing a cat, etc., why it is just possible that His Honour may receive dividends without purchasing a certificate.

What is the difference between a good mining claim and a desirable pre-emption claim.

If Judge Begbie could accept twenty acres of land from Dud Moreland, and if the said Moreland could on appeal, to the said Judge, procure a certificate of improvement in opposition to the will of the resident Magistrate, why he, the said Judge, can hold a claim, or twenty, and feel no qualms of conscience withal. The fact is, sir, that much of the action of official residents in Cariboo, was a burlesque on the majesty of British law. Constables whose poverty was conspicuous previous to their entering Cariboo, could on a merely nominal salary venture on an outlay of risk from which prudent men of means would shrink. The superior of these men, so far from discountenancing, set the example of venality. Thus officers and officials became creatures of interests and the instruments of all who had prospects to offer in exchange. I blame not the needy for this, but the Government who appointed and sustained them.

There are men in this Colony, and in the Magisterial corps too, above reproach. It is the interest of every executive to appoint such men, with salaries at least approximating their necessities. Let the officers of these men be men of character also, and let us hear no more of needy spendthrifts being placed in positions of responsibility merely to make a raise. I cannot conclude this without advertising to the most abortive efforts of the Chief Justice and the Magisterial corps of Cariboo in the matter of gambling. The chink, chink of the gambling table—the curses of its devotees—nay even the dead victims of its fury, told with startling vividness its horrors. Yet no hand arrested its course, no official power denounced its presence. It may be proper, it is surely easy, to scathe a poor wretch on whom the verdict of 'guilty' has just fallen; but it would cause us to see in our Chief Justice a nearer approach to the fearless dignity of the British Bench, did he arrest the vitality of crime by the destruction of its cause.

(Sgd.) "A"

New Westminster, Nov. 7th, 1863."

The Assizes were due to open on Monday the 31st, and if Robson held the letter over and published it on the eve of the opening of the Assizes, thinking some results would thereby follow its publication, he was not mistaken for the Judge had him hailed into court and sent him to jail..

The Judge's explanation of how he came to own the land, is rather involved—Robson in his paper called it a rigmarole — but he made one point quite clear, viz., that he had not received the land as a gift, but had bought it from a man named Cox, and that he paid ten shillings per acre for it. Such being the case, the letter was clearly false and libelous, and Robson was properly punished.

From the newspaper reports, it is not quite clear exactly what happened in Court on Tuesday morning, the

morning on which Robson was sent to jail, but whatever it was it had the effect of thoroughly arousing the people of New Westminster, and that night the largest public meeting that had ever been held in the city, was held in the fire hall, at which many speeches were made, all denouncing the Judge and upholding Robson, and a committee of the more responsible citizens was appointed to bring the matter to the attention of the Home Government and have it investigated.

The committee consisted of H. Holdbrook, W. E. Cormack, J. A. R. Homer, R. Coxon, P. Smith, John Ramage and W. J. Armstrong. The last named was later Hon. W. J. Armstrong, Provincial Secretary, and is the father of Mrs. (Dr.) Morris, now living in Vernon.

Robson was sent to jail on Tuesday morning and on the following Friday morning he appeared in Court and submitted the following apology and was discharged.

"May it please your Lordship:

"The communication signed 'A' which appeared in the British Columbian of the 26th ultimo, was published in the ordinary course of business, and was only cursorily glanced over by me before it was handed to the compositor, and I was not aware that anything it contained could be construed into contempt of Court, otherwise it would not have been inserted in that paper.

Your Lordship stated on the Bench that you paid ten shillings per acre for the land which the communication implied you accepted as a gift; consequently the communication contained a statement not warranted by facts; and I have to express my regret and offer my apology for allowing such statement to be published in the said British Columbian newspaper. I am, My Lord,

Your Lordship's humble servant,

JOHN ROBSON.

New Westminster Jail, Dec. 5th, 1862."

The people of New Westminster were inclined to look upon Robson as something of a martyr; and he seems to have rather stressed what he had to suffer while he was locked up. The first paragraph of his famous editorial "A Voice from the Dungeon" reads thus:

"Fellow Colonists: We greet you from our dungeon. Startled by the wild shrieks of a dying maniac on the one hand and the clanking of the murderer's chains on the other, while the foul and scant atmosphere of our cell, loaded with noxious effluvia from the filthy dens occupied by lunatics, renders life almost intolerable. Our readers will overlook any incoherency or want of connected thought in our writings."

When this fuss blew over the sky remained clear for a few days, but not for long, for on the 13th December, the two following letters were printed in the British Columbian:

"Dear Sir: I hope you will pardon my presumption in appearing in your columns. I feel it a duty I owe to the freedom of speech and the liberty of the press to raise my voice and wield my pen against the shackles of one and the gag of the other and use both against trickery, jobbery and high-handed tyranny, let it be found either among the humbler classes or those in authority. This much then is my excuse for appearing before your readers; and I at once ask the question: have aliens the right to pre-empt land and purchase and sell the same? I answer; no they have no such right according to the Pre-emption Consolidation Act 1861, clause 3. What grounds had O'Reilly to refuse giving a certificate of improvements to Cox and Wade? I answer two. First they being aliens and consequently could not hold land, and secondly the piece of land in question being a site of a proposed town (see the 3rd clause). Who was the pre-emptor of said piece of land? Dud Moreland. Had he a right to sell that land to Cox and Wade? No. He being an alien could not pre-empt land, and second having no certificate of improvements could not sell according to clause 15, viz., 'No interest in any plot of land shall be capable of passing to a purchaser unless the vendor shall have such certificate of improvement as aforesaid.' Did Moreland sell that land to Cox and Wade? He did. Did Cox and Wade sell twenty-two acres to Judge Begbie, he setting his own price? They did. Had they a legal right to that land? No. Did they get a title? The did. By what law did they get that title? I cannot find any law giving them a right to such title. By whose authority did

they obtain a title? By the order of Judge Begbie to Mr. O'Reilly. Who is Judge Begbie? He is the Supreme Judge of the law courts of British Columbia sent out here with authority of the Queen to administer laws in righteousness and mercy, and to uphold the dignity of the Bench; in a word to enforce and defend the law, striking terror into the hearts of all evil-doers, and commanding the universal praise of all those who do well. Has he answered that end? No. He has palpably failed.

Libertas.

New Westminster, Dec. 12th, 1862."

"Sir: The paragraph in my former letter (and for the publicaton of which you were sent into prison) was the result of a conversation held with one of the principals therein mentioned. I met Moreland at Williams Lake, who complained to me of the Colonist accusing him of parcelling out his land at Cottonwood into town lots and disposing of it as such. He further stated that while he had not sold any portion of his land, he had given twenty acres of it to Judge Begbie. Knowing that the land was valuable because of its position as a possible townsite, I remarked, "For Government purposes I presume?" "No," he said, "For his own personal use." I then said, "Is this the land for which O'Reilly refused a certificate, but which was subsequently granted on appeal to Begbie?" "Certainly," was the answer, "and I intend to sue O'Reilly for damages when Begbie comes down." The matter of this conversation was repeated and re-repeated by Moreland who seemed to look upon the alleged transaction as nothing more than a kindness worthily bestowed and gratefully accepted. The antecedents of our Chief Justice had prepared me for your imprisonment. My only surprise is that he ended there. But Sir, the monsters of society have their uses, and the man who dared in a British Colony, to consign an innocent publisher to prison will be the synonym of Jeffries in malice and of Bomba in infamy. The age of fossilism is past.

(Sgd.) "A"

New Westminster, Dec. 12th, 1862."

After the publication of these two letters there was but one of two courses open to Begbie—either to send Robson to jail or resign. But he did neither, and Robson rejoicing in his liberty proceed straightway to take it out of the Judge. For months afterwards the British Columbian reeked with invective directed against him. The public was told that the Supreme Court was foul and required cleansing, that the offense of contempt of this Court was no longer possible, and that the dismissal of Begbie was a sine qua non. It also said that the Judge bore on his forehead the brand AN UNJUST JUDGE which could NEVER be erased, and that Begbie could never regain the confidence of the people. In fact, there was little a newspaper could say against a Judge which the British Columbian did not say against Begbie, and say with variations.

The law as it then stood permitted a pre-emptor once he obtained his certificate of improvement, to sell his land, and the Crown Grant would then be issued to the purchaser.

It seems only too clear that in this case the Judge was guilty of a grave dereliction of duty. It was a grave offence against decency and the duty of a Judge to be interested in the land in any way either by gift or purchase, when questions relating to the title to it were before him in his capacity of Judge. His decision too when it was handed down, was a decision which, prima facie, would be hard to justify. Moreover, the Government did not pay him his salary to enable him to visit the cabins of pre-emptors whose title to their land was of doubtful validity, and thus put himself in the way of being offered land for nothing, or next to nothing. He was not paid for that.

On the 28th March, 1863, the British Columbian contained the following item of news: "Judicial Chickamen—The Str. Flying Dutchman, arrived Sunday, bringing 60 passengers among who was ex-Gold Commissioner Elwyn who, dame rumor saith, has in charge $8,000.00 being the winter proceeds of Judge Begbie's share in the Barker claim. We would advise Judge Begbie to follow Mr. Elwyn's example and become an 'honest' miner."

This is the Mr. Elwyn mentioned in the first letter signed "A." He was Gold Commissioner in Cariboo, and when the circular (letter) also mentioned in the same communication,

was issued, it left him the alternative of either giving up his interests in the mines or resigning his office. He resigned, and he is here held up as an example worthy of emulation by the Judge.

Things in the Colony must have been in a bad way when their only Judge had sunk so low that he was unable to pervent attacks of this sort from being made on him in the public press. Fortunately, at the time, the men in the Colony were, with a few exceptions, a particularly decent, law-abiding, fine lot of men.

Under it all Begbie took no action and entered no word of protest, nor did any of his friends take up the cudgels on his behalf until Dud Moreland rushed to his rescue with the following letter which was printed in the Victora Colonist on the 17th March, 1863:

"Editor, British Colonist:

Sir: In your number of the 9th instant, I observed an article accusing me of bribing Judge Begbie and of Judge Begbie receiving said bribe. This I declare to be false. Judge Begbie came to my house prior to my applying for a certificate. My partner and myself of our own free will gave Judge Begbie twenty acres of land on Cottonwood River which land was suitable for the purpose he required of it. Six weeks after the gift I applied to Judge O'Reilly (not Judge Begbie) for a certificate for my farm; he refused it on the grounds that he thought the Government intended to reserve the land. On the law being made clear to him he immediately granted the certificate. I send this for the purpose of clearing Judge Begbie from all accusations on that score. I have a perfect right to give Judge Begbie or any other person, any part of my property in British Columbia when I see fit to do so.

(Sgd.) D. C. Moreland.

Cottonwood, Dec. 26th, 1862."

Agnes C. Laut in her book, "The Cariboo Trail," has this to say of Begbie: "In private life he was fond of music, art and literature; but in public life he was autocratic as a czar and sternly righteous as a prophet."

It would be interesting to hear from the prophets, and have their opinion. He may have been a man of an autocratic and imperious temper, but in this case he seems to have taken his licking lying down.

Editorial Notes

J. C. AGNEW, C. E.

Several minor errors inadvertenly crept into our last Report which we now hasten to correct: The Bay in Long Lake is Cosens Bay, no "Cousin's Bay." C. D. Simms did not arrive in the Valley until 1887, and Myncaster station is on the Great Northern Railway and not on the Kettle Valley Ry. Also in the fourth line from the bottom of the article on the Cherry Creek Mines, the word is "registered," not "incorporated."

The iron safe brought into Rock Creek by W. G. Cox in 1860 was quite a modern affair. It had at one time a dial and a cross-bar handle for shooting the bolts. The body of the safe is 2 ft., 9 in. high and it stood on castors which, with the feet in which they were set, raised it another 7 in. In width it is 2 ft., 6 in. by 2 ft., 1 in. deep. They must have lost the combination at one time for the dial and handle were knocked off, and a hasp and staple riveted on so that it could be fastened with a padlock. The hasp has since been knocked off. The frame is constructed of iron bars about three and a half inches wide by about 5-8 of an inch thick. The outer walls and lining are of thin sheet iron, and the space between of about 4 in. is filled with some sort of morter or cement, white and friable. The last time they gained access to the interior of it, they evidently threw it down and pounded a hole through the bottom with a sledge hammer, which was probably not hard to do owing to the thinness of the iron sheets. As a burglar-proof safe it was a joke. It is now lying on the upper Keremeos townsite.

Through the kindness of John Hosie, Provincial Librarian and Archivist, we have been furnished with a certified copy of the diary kept by James Douglas, while he was building the first fort at Victoria, with explanatory notes attached. It is a curious and interesting document and well worth perusal. The copy has been filed with our Secretary, and may be seen by anyone interested in such things, at any time.

In our last Report mention was made of a movement to have the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, erect a monument to commemorate the establishment of the great trade route through the Okanagan Valley from the Columbia River to the far north. The project has not been dropped. Unfortunately we encountered a difficutly we did not foresee, and until this difficutly is overcome the matter will have to rest in abeyance.

THE END

The Armstrong Advertiser Press

W. R. Powell.