

# RETURN

To an Address of the Legislative Assembly, for a Return shewing Expenditure on Omineca Explorations.

By Command.

ROBERT BEAVEN,

Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

Lands and Works Department,  
28th January, 1874.

DATE.	SERVICE.	AMOUNT.	TOTAL.
1873.			
April.	*William Moore, Explorations, Stickeen District.....		250 00
Nov'r.	Girod & Guichon, Provisions .....	27 00	
	J. B. Lovell, Provisions .....	282 28	309 28
			559 28
	† J. J. May's Expenditure:—		
	Boating up the Omineca River .....	9 00	
	Indian hire, packing from Bear Lake to McKenzie's Creek .....	45 00	
	Mocassins and Buckskins at Bear Lake.....	15 00	
	Indian hire and boating from Bear Lake to Tatlah .....	30 00	
	Clothing at L. B. Lovell's .....	26 63	125 63
			\$684 91

\* Correspondence on this subject has been published in Report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, with a Map of the District.

† Vouchers have not yet been handed in for these expenditures; Mr. May's certificate was, however, forwarded through the Government Agent, who has been instructed to procure vouchers in a proper form.

*Extract from letter of Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to W. H. Fitzgerald, dated 18th March, 1873.*

The Government are anxious to assist the miners of your section in making explorations in the District, and with this object in view, have placed at your disposal the sum of \$1,250 00, to be expended in assisting explorers; and the best manner of expending this money will be by calling a miners' meeting, and letting them elect their men, and pass resolutions as to how this money can be best expended, and for you to see that their views are carried out.

*Extract from letter from A. W. Vowell to Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, 21st August, 1873.*

A miners' meeting was held yesterday at Dunkeld, to decide upon the manner in which the money allowed this District for exploration purposes is to be expended. I enclose a copy of the Minutes.

(Copy.)

"At a public meeting of the miners of the Omineca District, held at the town of Dunkeld this 20th day of August, 1873, for the purpose of taking into consideration what shall be done with the amount donated by the Government for exploring purposes.

"Mr. W. H. Robertson was duly called to the Chair, and R. R. Clark was elected Secretary.

"On motion of Mr. R. Pool, and seconded by George Fairbrother, the following Resolution was offered:

"Be it *Resolved*, That, in the opinion of the miners of the Omineca District, the sum voted by the Government for prospecting purposes in the District is totally inadequate to ensure a favourable result, by sending out any parties beyond the immediate vicinity of the mines now working; and in view of the fact of a party of prospectors, viz., James May and party, having lately returned without having found any new diggings, but who nevertheless are known to be energetic and reliable men, it is advisable that the said sum so donated by the Government be placed at the disposal of one or more of these men, that they may thoroughly prospect the creeks and gulches in the neighbourhood, which are known to be auriferous, but which have not hitherto been fairly tested by individuals on account of expense."

"Carried unanimously.

"On motion of Mr. Allan Graham, seconded by Robert Pool,

"That a committee of three be appointed to obtain from time to time from said prospectors any and all information respecting the work, and communicate the same to the Gold Commissioner and the public."

"Carried.

"The following persons were duly elected on such committee: J. O. Floyd, George Fairbrother, Patrick Kelly.

(Signed)

"R. R. CLARKE,

*Secretary.*

"*Dunkeld City, August 20th, 1873.*"

The above is a correct copy of the Minutes of the miners' meeting, held on the 20th instant, at Dunkeld.

To enable me to see the same carried out, I have to request you to forward to this Office the amount allowed, viz., \$1,250 00.

(Signed)

A. W. VOWELL,

*Gold Commissioner and Stipendiary Magistrate.*

*Extract from Gold Commissioner's letter to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, September 19th, 1873.*

The Committee appointed by the miners to superintend the expenditure of money allowed for exploration purposes in this District have sent out a party of three men, who left here on September 14th, and whose destination is McKenzie's Creek, Bear Lake District, where good prospects have already been obtained.

*Extract from Mr. Vowell's letter to Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, 16th October, 1873.*

I do not think it of any use having the full amount authorized by you (\$1,250 00) expended this year upon exploration.

Mr. May, who had charge of the prospecting party sent out on the 3rd ultimo, as intimated in my letter of 20th September, returned on the 16th instant, and I regret having to report the undertaking as a failure, gold not having been found in paying quantities; and owing to the locality selected being so far off, there was not much time for actual work.

Enclosed will be found a copy of his report, and also a statement of amount expended by his party. The balance of money drawn for exploration purposes will be accounted for in my returns, and until I hear from you on the subject, I will sanction the expenditure of no more money for prospecting.

*Note.*—Report has not yet been sent in. Owing to mail carrier remaining but one and a half days after his arrival and J. May being at present absent it cannot be sent until next opportunity.

(Signed)

A. W. VOWELL.

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## RETURN

To an Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, praying His Excellency to cause to be laid before the House a Return of the names of persons, if any, who have been placed as Settlers in the Province by the Emigration Agents employed by the Government.

By Command.

JOHN ASH,

*Provincial Secretary.*

*Provincial Secretary's Office,*

*February 5th, 1874.*

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There are no Emigration Agents employed by the Government to place Settlers in the Province.

A considerable number, however, numbering in all one hundred and forty-two persons—men, women, and children—visited British Columbia in 1873, after communicating with Mr. Adamson, the Agent at San Francisco, with the avowed intention of settling.

The following is a list of a number who came here last year (many of whom, it has actually been ascertained, have settled in the Province), at Mr. Adamson's instance:—

C. Abbatt  
 O. Dalby  
 D. Williamson  
 J. Kernaghan  
 J. Haslitt  
 B. Baumgrass  
 H. S. Brannin  
 S. Bindley  
 A. Bindley  
 T. Taylor  
 W. Taylor  
 W. Hayman  
 J. Riordan  
 H. M. Warburton  
 J. Cook  
 J. Tarburt  
 J. Hibbert  
 G. Brown  
 J. McGregor  
 I. W. Reid  
 J. H. Bemish  
 H. McMullen  
 R. McLean

J. McLeod  
 J. Crimble  
 A. C. Mackmeyer  
 W. E. Butt  
 T. Guthrow  
 J. C. Hickson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ludford  
 A. Vipond, wife and daughter  
 G. Robertson  
 G. V. Bran  
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Day  
 W. Tyler  
 J. Fisher  
 N. Abrams  
 J. H. Hodge  
 J. Hoskin  
 J. Swan  
 D. McGregor  
 Dr. Jeffries  
 J. Jenks  
 Mr. & Mrs. McConnell & 4 children  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gillarden & 6 children  
 J. Wilson