

Richfield, Cariboo District, P O address,
Barkerville, from which place it is only one mile distant, is situated on Williams Creek, Cariboo. The first and richest discoveries of gold on the creek were made immediately below this town. The neighboring mines are almost all worked upon the hydraulic principle, and yield largely every year, giving fair promise also of continuing to do so for an indefinite period. The only quartz-crushing mill (four stamps) existing in the colony, has been erected within half a mile above this town, and is worked by steam power in connection with a sawing and planing mill. Richfield contains the court house and district jail, and occupies a greater altitude than any other town in the colony, being over 4,700 feet above the level of the sea. The climate is very severe during the winter, but warm and pleasant during the summer season.

(See Barkerville)

Salt Spring Island, Vancouver District, P O

Parry T C, postmaster

Skeena, Cariboo District, P O

Hankin Thomas, postmaster

Soda Creek, Cariboo District, P O, steam-boat landing, 413 miles from Victoria, is located on the east bank of the Fraser. An extensive farming district exists in the neighborhood, and a large quantity of the flour now consumed in the upper country is obtained from wheat grown in the district and ground at the two grist mills located at this place. Connected with Quenelmouth by weekly steamer line, and with Yale by regular weekly stages.

McLoese Robert, postmaster

Dunlevy P C, general merchandise

Somenos, Vancouver District, P O

Kier A R, postmaster

Sooke, Vancouver District, P O

Muir Michael, postmaster

Spencer's Bridge, Yale District, P O

Murray John, postmaster

Sumas, New Westminster District, P O, is a promising settlement on the prairie of the same name, fronting on the south bank of Fraser River, and running south to a range of mountains near the U. S. boundary, a part of the Sumas prairie running to the U. S. line. This part has the settlement of York, and is connected by wagon road with the towns of Nooksack and Whatcom, in Washington Territory. Sumas is entirely agricultural excepting one store, the postoffice, and the steamer landing on the river, as places of business. A commodious school house, a Methodist Church and parsonage, are the only public buildings. A fine grist mill supplies the community with flour.

Miller D W, postmaster, and general merchandise

Burr — Miss, teacher

Telegraph Creek, Cassiar

Hockin & Fraser, forwarding and commission, restaurant, and liquor saloon

Van Winkle, Cariboo District, P O, 550 miles from Victoria, is situated at the confluence of Van Winkle and Lightning Creeks, and is the center of that mining district. In 1862 it was a promising and prosperous town, about 2,000 men being engaged in mining on the creeks and gulches in its vicinity. The failure of that time to prospect Lightning Creek, on account of the difficult nature of the ground, caused the town to decline, but recently it has revived, and now has a population of about 300, of whom but 12 are women. Twelve claims, or companies, are engaged in mining, of which the Spruce Point, Van Winkle, Victoria, and Vancouver, are paying fair dividends, the others still prospecting under great difficulties, owing to the abundance of water in the ground, and the depth of the channel. The opening of these claims usually costs from \$20,000 to \$40,000. The yield of gold from the creek is about \$12,000 per week during the season. The climate is very good and healthy, though the winters are long, snow lying over five months, and the thermometer ranging as low as 40° below zero. The stage between Yale and Barkerville passes through the town.

Austin John, liquor saloon, and boarding

Bates A S, butcher, and general merchandise

Boedy & Townsend, general merchandise, and liquor saloon

Bendixen, Moline, liquor saloon

Bilsland A W, carpenter

Bilsland W, millwright

Booth R, carpenter

Burton Thomas, blacksmith

Cooper & Brown, liquor saloon

Dodd W, liquor saloon

Evans John, mining surveyor

Fletcher & McNaughton, general merchandise

Harper E, carpenter

Hough Richard, engineer

Housman W H, liquor saloon, and boarding

Hyde George, hotel

Langen W, liquor saloon

Lindsay Alexander, postmaster, and telegraph operator

Mahrer John, liquor saloon, and bakery

Maury W, liquor saloon

McDermott R, liquor saloon

Millross W, painter

Montgomery J, blacksmith

Morgan Harry, liquor saloon

Morris G M, agent Bank British North America

O'Hare P, dairyman

Peebles John, blacksmith, and brass foundry

Robertson John, blacksmith

Semple Robert, engineer

Smith Samuel, general merchandise

Van Volkenburg J, butcher

Victoria, the capital of British Columbia and its dependencies, incorporated by Royal Charter and P O, is situated on the southeast of Vancouver Island, immediately opposite the entrance to Puget Sound. It is considered to be one of the most beautifully located cities on the Pacific Coast, possessing a climate during three-fourths of the year which cannot be excelled, the cool and invigorating breezes from the snow-clad mountains of the Coast Range of Washington Territory preventing the occurrence of any excessive heat. The winters, however, are generally wet and stormy. Victoria was originally a free port and carried on an extensive and very profitable trade with San Francisco, Puget Sound, Sandwich Islands, and other places. In 1865, the free port was abolished, since which time it has gradually diminished in population, and retains only a part of its former commercial prosperity. Almost all of its stores and some of its churches are constructed of brick and stone. In the character of the latter buildings it will compare favorably with any city of its size on the Pacific Coast. None of its buildings exceed two stories in height. The extensive government buildings, tastily built of brick, occupy, with their grounds, a large portion of the eastern part of the city. Cary Castle, the gubernatorial residence, a large stone building of ungainly appearance, built at a cost of \$50,000, is situated in a secluded spot in the suburbs. A beautiful public park containing a magnificent race course one mile long, encircling a small eminence called Beacon Hill, occupies a large tract of land between the northern portion of the city and the Gulf of Georgia. Victoria is efficiently lighted with gas obtained from Nanaimo coal, but a scarcity of good water for domestic use is experienced, a limited supply only being now obtained from the Spring Valley Water Works. Land adapted for cultivation is of limited extent, the surrounding country being generally of a rocky or heavily timbered character. Shipping not drawing over 16 feet of water can enter safely into its snug little harbor, which is securely protected from every wind. The Bay and neighboring waters swarm with various kinds of fish, and game and wild fowl are abundant. The present population slightly exceeds 5,000 inhabitants. It is connected with Puget Sound, New Westminster, Nanaimo, Portland, and San Francisco by regular lines of steamers. Two newspapers are published: the *British Colonist*, daily and weekly; and the *Standard*, daily and weekly.

Allsop T & Co, land and insurance agents, Government

Andean William, clothing, crockery, etc, Government

Anderson George W, bakery, and groceries, Fort ARMSTRONG WILLIAM, tobacco, cigars, etc, Johnson

Ash John, physician, Fort

Astrico Andrew, hotel, Store

Bagnall J & Co, musical instruments, etc, Fort

Bail Charles, blacksmith, and wagon maker, Johnson

Bank of British Columbia, W C Ward, manager, Government

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