

**NANAIMO****FREE PRESS**

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June 5

**EAST COAST MAIL SERVICE**

Under the present arrangement of the mail service, many of the settlers along the east coast of this island and the islands adjoining have a very poor mail service, and they are not to be blamed in the least if at times a "growl" is heard from them regarding the time it takes their mails to reach them from Nanaimo or Victoria but a few miles distant. Among those who are thus greatly inconvenienced are the settlers on the south end of Gabriola Island, Salt Spring Island, Cowichan, Maple Bay, and many other points. Their facilities for procuring the mails are, under the present arrangements, the very worst, but might easily be remedied.

Those points on the east coast of the island which are at a considerable distance from the E. & N. Railway could easily be brought within reach by the steamer ISABEL. Already this steamer stops at most of the points alluded to, but is not authorized to carry mails. By a proper subsidy, she could be made a mail boat and stop at all the points where the settlers are. By this arrangement, the great inconvenience to which they are at present subjected would, to a great extent, be overcome.

It is earnestly to be hoped that the matter will come before the Post

June 11

**COUNTY COURT**

(Before Hon. Mr. Justice Crease.)

The Court opened at 10 o'clock, when the case of J. Foster versus [Alex. Hoggan](#) was resumed.

The defendant called Mr. Bray, Government Agent, who testified that there was a difference between the map and the survey on the ground at Gabriola Island.

Mr. R. Heyland, Civil Engineer, testified that the land in dispute, according to the posts and blazes on the island, and the Crown grants, was without a doubt on Foster's land, but if the shore line was taken it would be on Hoggan's land.

In cross-examination, Mr. Heyland stated that, according to the provincial law governing surveys, the land in dispute was unquestionably on Foster's land.

Mr. Mills frankly admitted that the evidence showed that the land in dispute legally belonged to Foster, but Hoggan had paid the government for the ten or twelve acres which was practically the dispute, although ingeniously placed by the plaintiff at one acre, and had done some hard work on the land. He would as His Lordship to reserve his decision, and he would see if an amicable arrangement could not be arrived at between Mr. Norris, on behalf of the

June 21

**ANOTHER SEAM OF COAL**

Mr. B.H. Wake, who for years has been an enterprising settler on Valdez Island, a few days ago discovered an outcrop of coal on his land, just at high water. The ledge is situated on the gulf side of the island, and the coal found is similar in appearance to that found this section of Nanaimo district. The outcrop is a thin one, but can be traced for some distance and is pitching towards the gulf. Mr. Wake is the lucky owner of 360 acres of land, and is consequently jubilant over the recent find, for it, no doubt, is an indication that coal exists under his land.

Valdez Island is the next island south of Gabriola Island, and separated only by the narrow channel known as Gabriola Pass. It is but a short distance from where the bore is being put down on Gabriola Island. We sincerely trust that the "find" of Mr. Wake may lead to the discovery and energetic working of an extensive and valuable seam of coal.

There is no doubt but this entire section of Vancouver Island and its adjacent islands is underlaid with coal, but it is somewhat difficult, in many cases, to determine at what depth the coal can be reached. That being the case, these outcrops become valuable as an indication of

Office authorities and that steps be taken in mitigation of the present abominable system.

June 5

**PROCLAMATION**

Electoral District of Nanaimo  
To Wit:

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of the District of Nanaimo that, in obedience to Her Majesty's Writ to me directed, and bearing date the third day of June, in the year of Our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and eighty-nine, I require the presence of the said electors at Old Court House, Nanaimo, on the fourteenth day of June instant, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of electing one person to represent them in the legislature of this province.

The mode of nomination of candidates shall be as follows:

The candidates shall be nominated in writing; the writing shall be subscribed by two registered voters of the district as proposer and seconder and by three other registered voters of the said district as assenting to the nomination, and shall be delivered to the Returning Officer at any time between the date of the proclamation and one p.m. of the day of nomination, and in the event of a poll being necessary, such poll will be open on the twenty-first day of June instant at

Old Court House, Nanaimo,  
Schoolhouse, south end Gabriola Island,

Schoolhouse, North Wellington,  
Schoolhouse, Nanaimo River

Bridge,  
School house, Alberni,

of which every person is hereby required to take notice and govern himself accordingly.

plaintiff, and himself.

Mr. Norris, on behalf of the plaintiff, had no objection to this, and His Lordship reserved his decision.

June 14

**RHUBARB THAT IS RHUBARB**

Mr. James McLay, J.P., of Gabriola Island, left at our sanctum today several giant stalks of rhubarb which he had grown on his farm on that island. The rhubarb is of the Victoria variety, and three clear stalks weighed 6 1/2 pounds.

This is demonstrative evidence of adaptability of the soil and climate of Gabriola and the skill and judgment of the cultivator, Mr. McLay. Last year Mr. McLay took several first prizes for fruit and vegetables, and the products of his labor are sure indications that he has made farming a science. Let those beat this rhubarb who can.

June 20

**MONSTER CHERRIES**

Mr. D.S. R. Roberts of Mudge Island sent to our sanctum, today, a sample of Queen Anne cherries, grown on his farm, that it would be difficult to beat, even in the highly favored climate of southern California. The cherries are of large size, luscious, and of the finest flavor. Verily, Nanaimo and the surrounding districts are magnificent for fruit culture.

June 21

**MONSTER CHERRIES**

Mr. W.M. Flewett, of DeCoursey Island, arrived in town

the "lay of the coal" in the neighborhood, and therefore of almost incalculable value to the coal prospector and operator.

Mr. Wake's land is on the northern end of Valdez Island, with a footage on the gulf and also on Gabriola Island, and is not over ten miles distant from Nanaimo.

June 24

**A SEVERE ACCIDENT**

Mr. Richard Chapple, an elderly resident of the south end of Gabriola Island, met with a severe and painful accident yesterday. From Mr. Chapple it was learned that he was watering a colt which became frightened at some birds and jumped, throwing him to the ground. As the colt jumped over him, he was struck on the head with one of the hoofs, which made a very severe wound.

June 26

**SCHOOL TRUSTEE**

Mr. Jas. McLay was re-elected School Trustee for the north school district of Gabriola Island.

June 28

**SOUTH GABRIOLA SCHOOL**

The examination in this school took place this morning and was conducted by the teacher, Mr. F. Smith. The exercises consisted of recitations, reading, writing, spelling, mathematics, etc.

**ROLL OF HONOR**

Head of school, Thomas Degnen.  
Regularity and punctuality, Mary Degnen.

Proficiency, Joseph Martin.  
Deportment, Moses Martin.

Given under my hand at Nanaimo the fifth day of June, one thousand, eight hundred and eighty-nine.

M. BRAY  
Returning Officer

June 10

### COUNTY COURT

(Before Hon. Mr. Justice Crease.)

The County Court opened at two o'clock, and the entire session was occupied in hearing the evidence in the case of John Foster versus [Alex. Hoggan](#).

The parties are owners of adjoining quarter sections of land on Gabriola Island, and the plaintiff claims that the defendant has encroached upon the land of the defendant[?] to the extent of about one acre.

The evidence of the plaintiff, Mr. E. Priest, and Mr. Bray was given for the plaintiff, and the evidence of the defendant and his wife for the defendant.

At half-past 5 o'clock the court adjourned till 10 o'clock tomorrow morning to obtain the evidence of Mr. R. Heyland.

Mr. S. Perry Mills, of Victoria, appeared for the defendant, and Mr. Norris for plaintiff.

today with a large assortment of produce from his splendid gardens on that beautiful Isle of the Sea. In addition to his usual assortment of produce, he brought up, and laid on "ye editor's" table, a quantity of cherries of the Yellow Spanish variety that for size, flavor, and lusciousness capped the climax of anything we have hitherto seen in the shape of cherries.

Mr. Flewett says the continued dry spell is beginning to tell on his gardens, and a shower of rain would be gladly welcomed by the parched earth and the sun-burnt vegetation.

He says the crows are playing sad havoc with his fruit, and for clear audaciousness he never saw the like. He has been put to his wits end to save his crop from these "black robbers," and says that the old yarn that crows can smell powder is exploded. He says they know, as well as any human being, what the intention of a man is who has a gun in his hands. For, just as soon as he appeared with a gun in his hands, the "black sentinel" would give the danger signal, and their "cawships" were at once out of reach.

Necessity, however, is the mother of invention, and Mr. Flewett, seeing that the crows took no notice of his moving about while he had no gun, adopted the plan of secreting the laded gun in the bed of strawberries, and the crows would hop on to it and over it in search of the luscious fruits. Mr. Flewett would then walk up to the gun and, quickly raising it, fire and kill the crows. This is a wrinkle for the farmers.

Those present included: Magnus Edgar, Secretary of Board of Trustees; Thomas Degnen and James Lewis, Trustees; and [Mr. J. Martin and Mr. W. Martin](#), Mr. R. Peterson, and [Mr. Jas. Gray](#).

All present expressed themselves highly pleased with the progress made by the pupils and congratulated Mr. Smith upon their advancement.

June 29

### NORTH GABRIOLA SCHOOL

The examination of the above school took place Friday morning under the superintendence of Miss M. Clunass, the teacher, in the presence of a number of friends of the pupils. The exercises consisted of recitations, readings, and songs by the pupils. Following is the

#### ROLL OF HONOR

Proficiency, [Sarah Hoggan](#)  
Regularity and punctuality, [Robert Hoggan](#)  
Department, John Eastham

A special prize for spelling was won by Annie Eastham.

At the conclusion, Miss Clunass handed in her resignation as teacher, much to the regret of the Trustees and residents of the north end of Gabriola Island.

Among those present at the examination were: [J. McLay](#), J. Stephenson, and [Alex. Hoggan](#), Trustees, and Mr. and Mrs. White, Mrs. Stephenson, Mrs. Foster, and [Mrs. Hoggan](#).