

The Sentinel is one of the oldest newspapers in the Province. It was started by an enterprising and able journalist, Michael Hagan, in 1880 at Emory, shortly afterwards moving to Yale, which was at that time the centre of C.P.R. construction.

A few years later he moved the paper to Kamloops, recognizing it as "The Hub City", but his first visit to the Interior was made in 1882. He wrote vividly, and his words convey the spirit of optimism and excitement that was prevalent in those pioneering days before the railroad made travelling quick and easy.

The following are quotations from his reports on the journey:-

October 12, 1882

The editor and proprietor of the Sentinel has long desired to take a trip up the line as far as Kamloops, at least. He leaves tomorrow, and expects to be absent two weeks.

November 2, 1882

On the 19th inst. we passed over the road from Spences Bridge to Cache Creek, 30 miles. For the first 16 miles there was nothing of importance to note, except it may have been the up-hill course to "Oregon Jack's" (John Dowling) 96 Mile Post. At this place wayside accommodation is provided for travellers and refreshments for man and beast. A few miles further to the right we passed the well known ranch of Mr. Antoine, who is noted for his courtesy and hospitality. In a short time we saw the road to the right leading to Mr. Harper's mill upon the Bonaparte, and although time did not permit our turning from our course, we learned the mill was an extensive one. Reaching Ashcroft, the home of Lieutenant-Governor Cornwall, we found the finest ranch that we had seen in the Province. We believe 2,000 acres had been taken up and fenced, and in a choice site back from the road is located the suitable residence and out buildings, surrounded by improved growth of fruit trees, etc. Some of the finest grain and vegetables in the province is raised at Ashcroft. Over 1200 head of horses and cattle roam over the fields and along the mountain side. We noticed a couple of horsemen and a pack of hounds scampering along the brow of the mountain. An inn is provided at the roadside for weary travellers, where creature comforts are provided.

As dark approached, we wound our way into Cache Creek, so-called from a little ^{creek} of that name. The hotel and principal property is owned by Mr. James Campbell, who came from Welland Co. Ont., many years since, and has built up a location that is a land-mark upon the Cariboo road. At this point is a ^{telegraph} office and a Post Office that accommodates the surrounding country. Some of the bottom land is noted for the quality of its soil, while a mile in advance is the Cache Creek College, or Government School established some years since. Mr. Thos. Leduc is in charge, and Mrs. Schubert is the matron. The building is a commodious one and the roomy grounds all that could be desired, but the institution is not as well patronized as its merits would justify. Mrs. Schubert is the lady some time since spoken of in the papers as having been the first white woman to reach Kamloops from across the mountains, and the wife of Mr. Leduc was the first white child born in the country--1862; both are in apparent good health. We learn that Messrs. J.C. Barnes, Philip Parks, Geo. Stevenson and other settlers have fine ranches near Cache Creek.

As we journeyed from Cache Creek to Savona's Ferry, 24 miles, we passed some attractive ranches, especially that of Mr. Semlin, who was recently elected to the Legislature. Cattle were to be seen spread over

the mountains. The road was the best we had travelled.

Arriving at Savona's Ferry shortly after noon, we put up at the hotel of Mr. James Uren, where the Marquis of Lorne and party~~s~~ recently remained overnight. The name is derived from an Italian who started a ferry at an early date; his grave is now across the river. Kamloops Lake here enters into the Thompson River, of width a stone's throw, and boats can come down from Spallumcheen and navigate 25 miles down the river To Harper's Mill. This is where the present railway contract ends. The natural lay-out is such that a pleasant town could be built up. Nothing as yet upon the south side of the Ferry, but along the bank of the north side is Mr. Uren's commodious and well-furnished hotel, Mr. James Newland's new residence, the pleasant home of Mr. J. B. Leighton, who keeps the stage and telegraph office, and, also, Hudson Bay warehouses. Mr. Jno. Jane's general store is at the north end, and he seemed to keep in stock a variety of choice goods. The little steamer "Spallumcheen" was in port and about to leave, and we must say our farewell to the people of Savona's Ferry was spoken with regret at so short a stay, where in another year or two must be one of the busiest places in B.C.

(To be continued)

3.

KAMLOOPS IN 1882

This is the continuation of Michael Hagan's description of Kamloops in ~~1882~~/ October 1882. As editor of the Sentinel, then in Yale, he decided to take a trip into the Interior to estimate the development of the country. He has just arrived in Kamloops.

The extensive Grist and Saw Mills of the Shuswap Milling Co. at this place somewhat surprised us. Capacity - 15000 feet of lumber and 50 barrels of flour daily. They are extensive, the machinery of the best, and the work done in a satisfactory manner. At present a large quantity of grain is on hand, a heavy stock of superior flour piled in sacks, and at the saw mill a quantity of logs convenient. We found near the mills some 1000 hogs, many of them of large size, and a dozen men busy killing; about 50 dead ones hung up ready to be cut for smoking. It would appear that in consequence of so few white men employed upon the Railway at this end of the contract, there is very little market for either flour or pork. We are credibly informed that in consequence of the high freight that it don't pay to ship far down the line. Flour is held at retail \$4 per hundred, pork 6 cents, beef 5 and 6 cents, potatoes 1 cent, butter 50 cents, eggs 40 cents, cheese 20 cents, hay \$20 per ton, oats 1½ cents.

There are two blacksmith shops, one owned by Mr. A. McKinnon, and the other by Mr. James Guerrin. The uncertainty as to the future route of the Railway causes parties here to hesitate as to investment of capital. However, altogether the prospect for Kamloops is bright.

Personally we had the pleasure of meeting Messrs. G. C. Tunstall (Govt. Agent), J. A. Mara, Jas. McIntosh, W. B. Wilson, and T. B. Humphreys, who, by the way, takes his late defeat like a philosopher. Rev. Mr. Horlock and Mr. Walter Smith arrived here from Nicola this evening. The Revd. gentleman is to preach in the Court Room twice ~~this~~/evening tomorrow.

The Post and Telegraph Office is in charge of Mr. A. J. Venn, who is evidently prepared in his post, and is to be held blameless for the numerous disappointments caused by telegraph failures.

The "Spallumcheen", Capt. Minetto, purposes respecting The Sunday Rest movement, and consequently we will have an opportunity of seeing Kamloops in its Sunday appearance.

Oct. 27. After spending a few days very pleasantly at Kamloops (and can truly say that the Hotel conducted by Mr. Spellman is one of the best in the Province), we again left by the "Spallumcheen", destined for the upper end of the Lake. As we were leaving Kamloops we noticed the remains of the steamer "Marten" upon the bank. She was a large-sized boat, built by the H.B.Co. in 1863 to run on the Big Bend route, between Savona's Ferry and Seymour, where a portage of 45 miles brought the gold-seekers of those days to the centre of attraction. The boat failed as an investment for the Company, but, falling into the hands of Messrs. Mara and Barnard, was utilised upon the inland waters for some time, until injured by running upon a rock. Soon after she was stripped of the machinery, a part of which is now in the "Peerless".

Nothing of special interest occurred for some distance on our course; passengers were half a dozen, and freight heavy. The banks of the Thompson River did not present anything worthy of special attention, although a number of ranches were passed, viz. - Mr. Victor's, to the right, 3 miles above Kamloops; Mr. T. Harper's fine ranch upon both

sides of the river, 8 miles on our way; Louis Campbell's, right hand side 12 miles up; Mr. Jacob Duck's extensive ranch both side of the river, 18 miles upstream. We learn that Mr. Duck recently bought out his partner, Mr. Alex Pringle, for \$12,000 - land, cattle, etc. The residence on the main travelled road is a landmark upon the Kamloops and Okanagan road.

Messrs. Null and Braley come next upon the north side; upon the south side is the ranch of Mr. Geo. B. Martin, member elect. Mr. Lerue is situated upon the same side; Mr. A. Pemberton, Mr. Ross, and also Mr. Thos. Graham on the north side.. Mr. Chas Williams is located upon the south side 36 miles up the river; he has rented his ranch, and is keeping stoe at that landing. We noticed at Mr. Williams' a fine garden of vegetables, and, notwithstanding the land is high, no irrigation is required. A Mr. Bryan and Mr. Chase have good ranches nearby.