

Salt Spring Island Parish and Home

JUNE, 1896.

There is some prospect of a Chinese laundry being shortly started at Ganges Harbour.

Mr. Levi Davis, who recently sold his ranch to Mr. Collins, has left the Island and gone to his old home in Kentucky.

BIBLE QUESTIONS:—(See notice on third page of cover). 1. Who was Moses' brother? 2. Who was Zacharias' son? 3. Who was the last of the Old Testament prophets? 4. Mention three Josephs in Scripture.

The settlers in the neighbourhood of the Divide seem determined to have a school. Government will pay a teacher if the people will provide the school-house. There is talk of having a new building erected for the purpose before the close of the summer.

Mr. H. W. Bullock has added to and made great improvements on his ranch. It consists now of 220 acres, and is all under fence. A large number of young fruit trees, walnuts, filberts, etc., have been planted. The lake, formerly known as Nelson's Lake, is now entirely within the property.

The gold-mining at Beaver Point has every prospect of proving a success. The ton of quartz which was sent to Tacoma to be crushed and tested assayed very nearly \$16 to the ton. We understand that Mr. Dunsmuir has bought the claim where the mine has been opened, and already has men at work upon it. Several other claims have been taken up.

Salt Spring Island has without doubt been making very great progress during the last two or three years. Since the spring of 1894 new houses have been erected by Messrs. Purvis, Cundell, Horel, Crate, Bremer, Langley, Lakin, Perkins, A. Walter, L. Tolson, Whims, A. Raines, E. F. Wilson, Silverson, Nelson, J. Akerman, A. Wilson, H. Rogers, F. Scott, Dagan, Kirkendall, Johnson, and Beddis. New barns have been erected by Messrs H. and G. Scott, Broadwell, Lakin, Purvis, Lundy, E. F. Wilson, A. Raines, Gray, Cundell, McLennan, and others. Several other parties—Mr. Stevens, Mr. Bullock, Mr. C. W. Tolson, Mr. Betancourt, Mr. Cartwright, and others—have enlarged their dwelling houses or barns. If the gold mining at Beaver Point and the coal mining at Vesuvius Bay and the salt boring at North End all prove successful there will no doubt be a great influx of new settlers. But apart from these special inducements the island is quite capable of affording many a happy and comfortable home, both climate and soil being all that could be desired. Land owners are beginning to hold on to their property. Very little wild land can be bought now for less than \$10 an acre, and for land under cultivation in desirable localities as high as \$100 is asked.

There seems to be every prospect of a good fruit year. Apples, plums and small fruits are all showing up well.

The wife of A. Johnston died May 12th, just nine days after her baby was born. There was a large attendance at the funeral, and very much sympathy was felt for the bereaved husband and the two little motherless children.

Telephone communication has been established between Mr. W. E. Scott's residence and that of his brothers, Messrs. H. and G. Scott. The line is being extended across the end of Ganges Harbour to Mr. Frank Scott's, and it may eventually connect with the Vesuvius post office.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott very narrowly escaped what might have been a very serious accident early in the month of May, owing to a runaway team, without a driver, rushing past them along the steep, narrow road, and almost colliding with their buggy. The owner of the runaways, Mr. Mansell, was thrown out and badly hurt.

A new steamboat, the *Sunbury*, owned and run by Capt. McLellan, lately put in an appearance at Beaver Point, and we believe it is the intention of the owner to run regular trips between the islands and Sidney if he finds there is sufficient inducement for him to do so. Now that the fruit season is coming on, there is great need for a more frequent service than the *Joan* at present gives us.

THE NEW GAME LAW—(Game Protection Amendment Act 1896). "No person shall buy or sell willow grouse, quail, pheasant, doe, deer under twelve months, blue grouse, deer before October 1st each year." "No game bird may be killed between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise throughout the year." "Deer may not be killed from January 1st to July 31st inclusive; blue grouse January 31st to August 20th inclusive; willow grouse, pheasants, January 2nd to September 30th inclusive; mallard, widgeon, teal, pintail, canvass-back, March 1st to August 20th." Section 17 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu thereof:—"17. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to Indians of this province or to settlers in the province with regard to any game killed for their own immediate use for food only and for the reasonable necessities of the person killing the same and his family, and not for the purpose of sale or traffic." "No deer shall be exposed for sale without its head on." Section 31 is hereby repealed, and the following enacted in lieu thereof: "31. It shall be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, on good cause shewn, . . . to remove the disabilities as to the shooting of pheasants and quail in the province, and to declare within what periods and limits the said birds may be shot."