

NOTES (NOTE: these are rough notes – dates, sequence, and names and questionable)

(Brief jottings to guide him into the others he wrote).

George Batstone

Granite Creek

Arrived there April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1898

There were three or four one room log cabins.

The old Cariboo Hotel built 1865 (NOTE: should be 1885) was taken down and the logs used for firewood.

Thousands of dollars of gold handled there year 1865 (NOTE: should be 1885)

Chinamen ripped up the floor and panned the dirt. There were cracks in the floor where the gold being spent over the bar slipped through.

Population about five besides ten Boston boys.

A jail there, police and little government building. No road to Princeton then. They were building it pick and shovel.

One log hotel

Cook's store

A.E. Howse store

Several Chinaman houses everything built of logs

In these places everything was paid in gold passing their buckskin pokes over to pay for what they bought.

Gold weighed on gold scales.

Tell about dynamite in A.E. Howse's store which was run by Charlie Vevely (?)

Mr. Hugh Stunter (?) was police Gov agent

Mr. Walter Holmes was formen on Sleves on placer mine – also was road foreman when mine was closed

20,000 of gold taken out of pot hole on Granite Creek just below Cooks store

Chinaman had water wheels run by water power with an endless belt with can fastened on belt which picked up the seepage water after dam was put in at low water and overflow from dam carried in large flume past their diggings. They could only go down 16 ft. and only a few places that they reached bedrock where the big amt. of gold was so that means the Creek is very rich (?) in gold still and some day thousands will be taken from it.

China new year was a big event there.

Gold in Granite Creek was found all the way up the Creek from mouth of Tulameen River to Newton Creek which was some 3 miles and none beyond that.

The Sliverson Hydraulic was a big placer mine which had a 5' square flume built along the side hill and ran about 3 miles up to north forks of Granite Creek. They use the monitor and a day and night shift, white men on days, Chinamen on nights.

Took out a lot of gold on benches above the creek.

The miners would work in the quartz mines in winter over in the Kootneys and ride their cayuses from there in the spring and work in the placer in summer.

Judge Murphy (explain why judge) and his partner had a good claim and rich bedrock. I saw several good clean there. Their claim was named the Poug.

Mrs. Hugh Hunter Gov. agent's wife used to keep their gold for them.

I saw a gold pan three quarters full of their gold.

There was one old Chinaman called Frenchy who lived in a little cabin and did washing. Tell about our shirts being washed.

Lee Man a Chinaman who took up what is now Coalmont for a ranch was the banker for the Chinaman. He would go good for their grub and everything they needed to work their claim. Then when fall came they would pay him in gold what they owed him. I took John Coleman (President of Boston and B.C. Goldmining Co.) there when he came from New York to be at the mine for a week or two. He wanted Gold from Granite Creek to take back to show stock holders (that was before his mine was producing he got several hundreds (?) worth among which was some very nice nuggets with rose quartz in them. He had a tie pin and a watch fob made from nuggets.

Indians used to come in with pack trains of small cayuses bringing supplies from Spence's Bridge and Nicola into the different stores, hotel, etc. They as well as the Chinamen spoke the Chinook language, I too spoke it but have forgot a lot of it. There were very few white men mostly Chinamen and Indians. When ranches were haying they would only have a few whitemen. They would be mostly Indians and Chinamen.

Stage from Spence's Bridge would come in once a week stop over night at Jack Thynnes ranch on a Friday leave Thynnes in morning for Princeton stopping at Tulameen a little while then on to Granite Creek, unhitch their horses from stage put on riding saddles for the passengers and pack saddles for express mail etc. There was no road from Granite to Princeton they were building it leave Princeton next morning and stop over at night at Thynnes ranch arriving in Nicola the next night.

Alex McPhail, one of the first ranchers who ranched on Otter Creek and who lived to be 94 years.

-----  
Mr. Guliford, another Rancher (Gilliford) lived on Pikes Mt. died close to 90 years now.

-----  
Both of these earliest ranchers in that part.

-----  
Mr. Myren of Otter Valley a well to do rancher and early prospector rancher. (He was Norwegian).

-----  
Mr. Dodd one of the first Aspen Grove ranchers came from England. Stopping place for stage at noon. Stage stopped over night both ways at Thynnes Otter Valley.

-----  
Charlie Thomas one of the first store owners in Princeton.

-----  
Jim Walace built and owned first hotel in Princeton.

-----  
Dan McKay owned the Granite Creek hotel a log building.

-----  
A.E. Howse Nicola – owned practically the town of Nicola – owned the Stage lines. After Jack Clarke had biggest store in Nicola commanded all the freight from Spences Bridge owned the Driad Hotel Nicola. Built first saw mill in Princeton right where Main St. is also built the biggest store at that time. Was the best off man in the country. Also had log store Granite Creek.

-----  
Geo. Armstrong, A. E. House son in law, had one of the first stores in Lower Nicola. Then built the biggest store that is still run as Armstrongs store in Merritt.

-----  
Bert Ervine, Rancher, carpenter Prospector worked as water boy in Stevensons placer mine in 1898 when only a young man.

-----  
Bob Clarke his brother a most successful Rancher in Nicola.

Judge Murphy called the judge because he was the most educated and well read person in the country and the placer miners looked to him to settle their disputes. Had one of the best placer claims on Granite Creek.

-----

Cook who came in on the first gold rush at Granite Creek had first store in early days also probably first store at Princeton.

-----

Tom Rabbitt of Otter Flat so called in early days now called Tulameen. Rancher came into country same year as Thynne.

-----

Kit Summers, rancher and one of the wealthiest men at Princeton built hotel since burnt down had first butcher shop in Princeton log building with Charlie Richter his partner. Cougar skins on the walls. Richter had cougar hounds. Kit owned many buildings in Princeton.

-----

Bob Steveston (Stevenson) President of Stevenson Hydraulic Gold Mining Co. Granite Creek.

-----

Walter Holmes foreman for Stevenson. Sheriff and road foreman for years. Granite Creek.

-----

Dan Munroe one of the earliest stage drivers. Rancher in later years. 6 horse freighter from Spences Bridge to Princeton via Granite Creek.

-----

Jack Clarke, Nicola owner of stage going from Spence's Bridge to Princeton, Granite Creek. Owner first threshing machine. Did all the threshing of grain from near Spence's Bridge to near Kamloops.