

**Transcript, based on the original
letter from Peter J. Leech to Robert Brown, about the 'Sooke River' gold discovery.
Dispatch - July 17th 1864.**

Sir,

Please deliver the enclosed to Dr. Robert Brown if he is in Victoria - if he is not the letter directed to him is to be opened by the Secretary of the V.I. Exploration Committee

P.J. Leech

Sooke Lake
17th July, 1864

Sir,

I have to report for your information that we have found good indications of gold on the Sooke river, at a point - about - 6 miles from the Inlet and about ¼ mile above the Cañon^{[sic][1]} shown in Mr. Whymper's sketch which I forward along with this note.

The parcels which are enclosed contain the prospects made by Mr. Foley.

No. 1 Contains the result of 15 pans washing.

No. 2 Contains the result of 2 pans washing.

No.1 was found immediately above the Cañon;

No. 2 at a points situated about 3 and 5 miles above the Cañon.

Mr. Foley estimates the averages to be about 8 cents to the pan^[2].

The largest prospect was about 25 cents to the pan.

I am

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

P.J. Leech

Footnote

- [1] 'Cañon' is the old-fashioned way of spelling 'Canyon'.
- [2] Later assessment in Victoria showed that the enclosed prospect No. 1 contained 3½ cents to the pan.
- The price paid for 1 gold (troy) ounce these days was about \$17.-