

## FIRE MOUNTAIN.

At a meeting of the directors of the Fire Mountain Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability, held at the company's office in this City, on Nov. 1st, Mr. J. M. Mackinnon was elected a director and Vice-President in place of Mr. J. W. Girvin, resigned.

Under continued and steady development this mine is looking so well that it was decided to withdraw all the shares from the market for the present, and it is not at all probable that the shares will be again offered to the public under par.

The following report has been received from Mr. J. R. Brown, Managing Director of the Company:

Fire Mountain, B. C.

October 1st, 1897.

To the President and Directors of the Fire Mountain Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability, Vancouver, B. C.

Gentlemen,—In accordance with your request, I beg to submit a short description of the Money Spinner group of mines and the other assets, the property of the Fire Mountain Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability.

The mining claims of the company consist of the Money Spinner, Neptune, Free Gold, Midas, Princess and Star, and the fractions known as Neptune, Midas, Wonderful, Princess, King and Mill fractions, on which latter the mill of the company is located. The total area is about 350 acres. The surveys are now completed, and the necessary steps for securing a Crown Grant of the majority of these properties will be taken.

With the exception of the Star mineral claim, the mineral property of the company is in a solid block, and the surface indications point to the existence of several strong lodes, most of which, from the surface showing, will eventually make good paying properties.

On the Money Spinner, the surface showing of the very strong ledge—which is from 6 to 10 feet in width—is remarkable, and carries high values in an essentially free milling condition. The development of this property has so far justified the expectations of the company, and has continued with depth to give good results, retaining its free milling character with greater width, and has a very even value. The development so far is an adit level running on the vein, which is now in over 140 feet, while a chamber has been cut at 75 feet and winze started, which is now down 35 feet, and running on the vein, which is at this point 5 feet wide. The work is progressing by night and day shift, and every foot so far shows a strong true fissure vein, with constant increase in strength and value. Previous to the starting of this development work, and before any great expenditure had been made by the company, great pains were taken to strip the vein on the surface, and with success, as can be seen by the exposure of the vein in the many open cuts along its surface; in places, as already mentioned, the vein so exposed is never less than 6 and more often 10 feet in width; again, in many of these cuts free gold can plainly be seen; sometimes there is a capping of quartzite over the vein, which, however, is easily removed, exposing the same rich character of quartz beneath; the vein has in this way been exposed for about 1,000 feet, although traceable for a very much longer distance.

Sufficient of this work, however, has been done to justify us in the erection of the mill, a description of which I give below.

At the point at which the adit level runs in on the vein, the mountain has an angle of about 50 degrees; the dip of the vein (which has a north-east course), is about 60 degrees. The vein has a strong clay gouge on each wall, and in places shows considerable disturbance, but so far no great displacement, while the ore is remarkably clean. Constant tests of the drillings never fail to show colors, and often in considerable quantity.

As I mentioned before, the surface showings on the remaining properties of the company are such as to justify the expectations that eventually development will prove up other mines on the property of good value, but showing in many cases that the high gold values are carried in the copper, and are not entirely free milling. A property of this size, however, cannot be thoroughly prospected in the short time we have had at our disposal; we have concentrated our efforts on the Money Spinner claim and the mill for handling its output. It must, however, be borne in mind that, unaided by the Provincial Government, we have been obliged to build a wharf for handling our freight; and to construct 16 miles of a pack road, on which we had to build a number of bridges, opening up a very extensive mining country. This road is now being used by many others who have located very promising properties, both free milling and often veins carrying azurite and barite ores, including a very good grade of copper and lead sulphurets, which have lately been discovered; in fact the whole district seems to be a net work of intrusive serpentine dykes carrying high gold values, either free or in combination with copper, principally. In the middle belt of the mountain, however, where is situated the Money Spinner group, trachyte, porphyry and phonolite have intruded themselves through the original sedimentary country rocks, concealing the latter or altering it almost beyond recognition by metamorphic action. I think the geologist will find this quite an interesting field.

The mill of the Fire Mountain Gold Mining Company, now under construction, will be finished this Fall. It is situated in an air line one half mile from the tunnel of the Money Spinner, and will be connected with it by an aerial tramway now on the ground. The plant of the mill consists of one 5-foot improved Huntington mill; two large Frue vanners; one boiler and engine, 20-horse power; one Pelton wheel, with 500 feet fall, capacity 30-horse power, which can be increased to double that capacity by the addition of another wheel below; one saw mill, capacity 30,000 feet per diem; one bullion and retort furnace; the necessary copper plates, ore crushers, ore bins, terminals, tracks, etc., and is capable of handling 30 tons per day of Spinner rock. The mill is so constructed that it can easily be increased in capacity by stamps or additional Huntingtons at a very small extra cost, the power being available. The usual men's quarters, offices, etc., are erected, and nearly 30 pack horses are steadily working in the transportation of the machinery from the townsite to the mill. The management has every expectation that before Winter fairly sets in, the mill will be running day and night in order to keep up with the output of the mine, which, by development alone,

has already put 600 tons of good milling ore on the dump and several thousand tons in sight.

The Star mineral claim (the only one belonging to the company not grouped with the others) is situated at the east end of Fire Lake at its outlet, and has a very strong vein of gold quartz exposed in places, but so far undeveloped. This claim is located at a point where Fire Lake constantly discharges into Fire Creek at all seasons some 10,000 inches of water with unlimited head. Probably, in the near future, this water on the Star mineral claim may, as the many promising prospects of the district are developed into mines, furnish power to work them all, and, apart from its very promising mineral value, be of value for this and as a future townsite.

The real estate of the Fire Mountain Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability, consists of the townsite of "Tipella" and adjoining lands (about 400 acres), situated at the head of Harrison Lake, and connected by a good pack trail with the company's mines, some 16 miles inland. The townsite of Tipella has great natural advantages, not only from its position at the head of navigable waters, but also from the fact of its being the only all-the-year-round point for boats, and will eventually command all the trade, not only of the Fire Mountain district, but of all the very promising mining country lying southeast of the Lillooet country, and from the town of Lillooet, and is about 180 miles shorter to the coast than by other routes.

The importance of Tipella as a townsite was appreciated as early as 1859, when the Royal Engineers, in a map made for the War Office, marked this point on their map as a desirable site for a town. Considerable clearing and grading has been done by the company, and a large wharf has been constructed. So far the company have not considered it advisable to push the sale of lots, deeming it better to let the town have a natural growth. A general store, livery stable, boarding house, store houses and a few small houses comprise the present building improvements. The townsite is provided by nature with the best of water in unlimited quantities, both for power and domestic purposes, and is well situated for draining, being very high and dry. The company's steamer, the City of Tipella, makes daily trips, carrying the mails between the Harrison Hot Springs and Tipella, the distance being 40 miles.

Trusting that this report will be satisfactory in the information given,

I remain, yours truly,

JOHN R. BROWN.

Managing Director,  
Fire Mountain Gold Mining Company,  
Limited Liability.

## AN EXPERT'S VIEWS.

Continuing his remarks on upper country mine centres, in part published in last week's issue, Mr. T. H. Fraser speaks of

## HALCON HOT SPRINGS.

on the western side of Arrow Lake, where a trail of six miles has been made, Pringston creek being half-way. Three miles from Pringston creek a valuable mineral belt was discovered some time since, consisting of a huge outcrop, heavily mineralised, trace-