

carrying a good percentage of copper and gold in paying quantities. The ledges are large, some being reported 300 feet in width. This district has a great natural advantage in excellent water communication. The ledge I saw on the Sarita River, about a mile from the steamer, is 270 feet wide and the ore can be loaded on a scow from the mouth of the tunnel, just above high water mark; there are other claims equally well situated. The steamer also called at Sechart, Barclay Sound, where large bodies of fine Bessemer iron ore have been found, also limestone in abundance. The ore can be easily mined and brought down to a well-sheltered deep-water harbour. There is a quicksilver claim within a mile from the Sechart wharf.

I took advantage of the stopover at Alberni to visit the Duke of York hydraulic claim on China Creek, and am much indebted to the Superintendent, Mr. M. W. Leveridge, for his kindness in showing me over the property where work is going on. The Company's leases cover three and a half miles of the creek in length by ten chains on either side in width. Near the upper end of the claim a dam has been built and the creek water directed into a flume a mile and a quarter long to a pressure box, the water then passes through a 22-inch pipe 750 feet long, with a fall of 140 feet, and is delivered through a 7-inch monitor with force equal to 418 h.p. The flume is a most interesting engineering work; for some distance it is carried on trestle work sixty feet high, then along an almost perpendicular bluff suspended by chains. At the time of my visit the monitor had been working 240 hours in opening up the ground preparatory to systematic working of the whole of the gravel in the benches and bed of the creek. Another interesting feature is the derrick used in moving the boulders and stumps of trees. It is the first of the kind in use in this Province, and is the invention of Mr. Leveridge, Sr. The boom is adjustable to a maximum length of ninety feet and anything up to six tons in weight can be moved 180 feet in three minutes with the greatest ease. The derrick is operated by water power with only one man in charge. This property has been handled in a masterly manner. Mr. Leveridge only arrived on the ground in January last; since then he has made the necessary surveys and commenced hydraulicing, having meantime cut on the spot all the timber used and rivetted the steel pipe plates, which were imported rolled and punched. About \$30,000.00 has been spent on the property. The capacity of the flume is 6,000 inches and it is intended to work two monitors with which it is estimated to handle from 2,500