

Omenica deposits are to be thoroughly prospected this coming season, and if the expectations of the discoverers are realized, the operation of the properties will add materially to the future gold production of the Omenica district. The nature of the rock is such that crushing could be performed without difficulty at the rate of five tons per stamp per diem, and the total cost of mining and milling should certainly not exceed three dollars per ton.

Meanwhile, a Mr. K. Ladloff, a Russian geologist, has recently laid claim to having discovered auriferous conglomerate reefs in the Cariboo district, and he expresses the opinion that these are, in point of fact, the principal source of gold of the Fraser river placers. The locality of his discovery is that part of the Fraser river between Quesnelle and Fort George, about seventy miles south of the last-mentioned place, above a group of islands called the Woodpecker or Red Rock Islands, the Indian name for which is Tselkenmuh.

The formation consists of Crystalline slates of the Archaean, which form the country rock and the bed of the river. These slates are overlaid in certain limited areas by the uppermost strata of the Tertiary, but the whole surface almost everywhere in this part of the Province is covered by immense masses of glacial drift consisting of boulder gravel and sand. In the formation where the gold has been found in places, true veins between regular walls and irregular silicious dykes, both of greatly varying width, intersect and interlamine, like a network, extensive masses of conglomerate

of different structure but similar composition. They are accompanied by chloritic and hydromica schists, the whole irregularly imbedded in the clay slates by the Archaean, forming a belt about one and a half miles in width.

The gold occurs in the form of a fine dust almost everywhere in these rocks, but predominantly in the bright yellow, red, orange or brown-colored parts of the rocks, superficially decomposed and in their cleavages. The decomposition extends down many feet under the surface; boulders readily crumble to pieces under the blow of a prospecting hammer. Hundreds of thousands of tons of this decomposed ore lies on the surface. In this locality these rocks appear on the surface at many places, forming cliffs, steep walls, round knobs, or hogback on the river banks and attract the eye of the traveler by their color and grotesque shape; they extend on both sides of the river into the unknown wilderness, how far is unknown as yet.

The deeper strata of this formation are rich in fine-grained iron pyrites and traces of gold. There are only faint indications of the presence of other metallic compositions.

The gold is easily detected by using a powerful lens at bright daylight. It can not be seen by the naked eye or with a poor magnifying glass. The surface of certain parts of these rocks, also their interior, is speckled with gold grains. Their shape is mostly globular, only exceptionally flat or flaky pieces are seen. Their distribution is irregular.

It is well known that the gravel