

The British Columbia Mining Critic.

"I Am Nothing, if Not Critical."—Shakespeare.

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SOME SLOCAN MINES.

A man who has had a large experience in quartz and placer mining in this province is Mr. E. Roche, of Kaslo, who is now at the Oriental. He was in the Slocan country ten years ago, when there was practically very little mining done there, and has also been through the Youkon country for a couple of years, and so has seen quite a large portion of the Province.

Speaking of some of the mines that are not heard of quite so much as some others, Mr. Roche says that lately there has been a great deal of interest taken in mines on the South Fork of the Kaslo river, one of these, the Lontesuma, situated about midway between Ainsworth and Slocan, is a mine that Mr. Roche thinks will even surpass the great Slocan Star. Only last summer D. J. Munn got a quarter interest in it for \$500, and now, said Mr. Roche, he is one of the lucky men, for his interest is quite worth \$20,000. There is a vein 20 feet wide in the mine and a 700 foot tunnel is being run to strike the ledge at a depth of 450 feet. An aerial tramway, with a capacity of 150 tons, will be put in, and a concentrator of 120 tons capacity. The ore will concentrate one in five. Webb & Co., Seattle, are the principal owners.

The Beaver, on the Blue Ridge, has been bonded to an eastern man named Lefevre. It was the location of the Beaver years ago that really led in the end to the Slocan discoveries. The Beaver came first, then the Montezuma, and then the famous Payne group. The Sullivan, on South Fork, is another mine that is being worked well, and of which little has been heard outside. There are in fact many mines operated by private companies that just go ahead and do not count on notoriety.

"Take the Surprise, for instance," said Mr. Roche. That mine owned by Ferguson & Co., shipped 350 tons during the autumn and winter, the ore averaging 200 ounces to the ton. Then there is the Antoine, owned by Green & Son, of Saginaw, Alexander, of Kaslow, and others, which has shipped 250 tons and averaging 300 ounces to the ton."

Mr. Roche says that the road that is being built up the South Fork will be of immense benefit to the mines, giving them a good outlet and enabling them to

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