Granile and Limestone.000

Schist

Slale

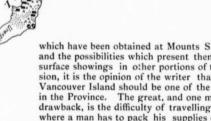
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These last mentioned have been found in semi-crystalline slate country rock, very similar to that which makes up the Sooke mountains. The magnetite occurs on the Gordon river near San Juan, usually with limestone (fully crystalline) on one wall, and a basic igneous rock on the other wall.

In addition to the ore bodies found on the west coast in this mining division, several deposits of black sand (auriferous) have been discovered at points where beaches occur. These are all limited in extent. There is no doubt that the source of the gold is the Sooke mountains, that range being composed of the semi-crystalline graphitic slate with intercalations of quartz.

As a field for the prospector, in view of the results

which have been obtained at Mounts Skirt and Sicker, and the possibilities which present themselves from the surface showings in other portions of this mining division, it is the opinion of the writer that this portion of Vancouver Island should be one of the most promising in the Province. The great, and one may say, the only drawback, is the difficulty of travelling in the interior, where a man has to pack his supplies on his back and fight his way through sallal, devil's clubs, fallen timber and underbrush. The total shipments for 1900 reached 14,346 tons of ore, valued at \$450,914. This output includes shipments from other districts on Vancouver and. Texada Islands.



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