

"Gold mining operations in the Yale Division are not so extensive as they should be, considering what energy, perseverance, and capital might accomplish. At present they are principally confined to Chinese rocking on the bars of the Fraser River. A few may be said to be making wages, whilst the remainder are only making a bare subsistence. It is impossible to arrive at even an approximate estimate of the yield of gold in this division. There are several recorded claims on the flat opposite the town of Yale, but no workings are carried on at the present time.

"Mining in the Lytton Division is confined to Chinese and Indians working on the Fraser and Thompson Rivers, the majority of whom secure but scanty remuneration for their labor. There are only a few recorded claims in this division. From reliable sources I have received information that the amount of gold exchanged at Lytton is about \$12,000. It is not possible to obtain a correct estimate of the total yield, as some is carried away or remains in private hands.

"It is safe to add \$3,000 to the above, making the total \$15,000.

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) "FRED. HUSSEY,
"Government Agent."

KAMLOOPS.

MR. TUNSTALL'S REPORT.

"KAMLOOPS, January 7th, 1885.

"To the Hon. John Robson, Minister of Mines, &c."

"Sir,—I have the honour to state that, in consequence of the Chinaman who formerly supplied me with information, being absent from this place, I have been unable to furnish the mining statistics of the Kamloops District for the year 1884.

"I regret to say that the efforts of the Government prospecting party, which left here last fall to find gold in paying quantities have proved unsuccessful. I herewith enclose Mr. Ratchford's report.

"I have, &c.,
(Signed) "G. C. TUNSTALL,
"Government Agent."

MR. RATCHFORD'S REPORT.

"KAMLOOPS, January 8th, 1885.

"To Geo. Tunstall, Esq.:

"DEAR SIR,—We left Kamloops on the 21st of September, 1883, and arrived at Kirby's Landing, Columbia River, on the 28th September. Cached a part of our provisions and proceeded up the river; found gold everywhere but not in paying quantities; saw where there had been a good deal of prospecting done. On the 7th of October came back to cache, and during the winter explored the surrounding country with very little results. We are of the opinion that placer mining in that section is very limited, there may be ledges. The country we passed through between Eagle Pass and Goldstream, being anything but favorable. Left the Columbia on the 4th of March and arrived at Kamloops on the 15th.

"I remain, &c.,
(Signed) "JAS. RATCHFORD."

KOOTENAY.

MR. VOWELL'S REPORT.

"KOOTENAY, B. C.,
"23rd December, 1884.

"To the Hon. John Robson, Minister of Mines:

"Sir,—I have the honour to enclose herewith the "mining statistics" for the present year, together with my report upon the mining industries of the district.

"The following returns are the result of much careful enquiry, and are as correct as it is possible to have them, owing to the many difficulties in the way of obtaining accurate information.

Wild Horse Creek.....	\$36,730 00
Bull-Moyea Rivers.....	17,232 00
Lesser Creeks and Bars.....	6,864 00

Total.....\$60,826 00

"As compared with past years the returns from the placer mines are satisfactory, but I must point out that the mining interests of this district in the future, will depend almost entirely upon the development of the promising quartz mines which are now being opened. At and since the time when placer mines were first discovered at Wild Horse Creek, and in the Big Bend country (some 20 years ago), miners have been prospecting for that class of diggings along the Columbia River, upon its tributaries, and throughout the Selkirk range of mountains, with no very favourable results.

"It is true that in the early days many difficulties existed which are now being gradually removed by advance of settlement, encouraged by the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railroad through the Province.

"Deeming the country to have been only partially prospected, miners have gone out in different directions this year searching for shallow or placer mines, but I regret that in no instance has any marked success attended their efforts.

"The season, however, has not been favorable in consequence of the heavy and constant rains which have prevailed throughout the summer, the water in the different rivers and creeks being continuous at a high stage which prevented the effective prospecting of their beds.

"The quartz developments in the vicinity of Kootenay Lake are full of promise, it being no exaggeration to state that mountains of ore have been discovered. Mineral claims have been located upon the west side of the lake this year which far exceed in richness anything hitherto discovered in the section.

"Forty-nine (49) mineral claims have been taken up in that locality, and a large company has been organized for the purpose of bringing in machinery and commencing active operations upon several of the mineral claims next spring. A waggon road is under construction from Sand Point, a station on the North Pacific Railroad, to Bonner's Ferry, on the Kootenay River, to complete the line of transport from the North Pacific Railroad to the Kootenay Lake mines.

"Many old Californians, familiar with Leadville and other valuable quartz mines of notoriety, will have visited Kootenay Lake during the past season.