

sitting-room—whilst many diggers had washed out 5,000 dollarsworth of gold dust daily.

As much as 200 dollars to the pan has been yielded by the rich "pay-dirt" of this district, and five dollars is a common average. The Government Surveyor reported that from five dollars to seven dollars per pan was the average on the claims at Bonanza Creek, which is in the same neighbourhood as Klondike, and that the gold-bearing country between the Stewart River and Klondike was considered, by all the old miners, the best and most extensive gold-country ever yet discovered. Along the easterly watershed of the Yukon, experts conclude that there exists a gold-bearing belt upwards of 300 miles long, and of indefinite width—without running into the British Columbia portion of it.

The pan used by miners, it should be explained, is an ordinary tin instrument, about a foot and a-half across, with a depth of some five inches. There are about ten pans to the cubic foot of soil, and the "pay-dirt" may average five feet in depth, which would make the possible value of a 500-foot claim work out at no less than 4,000,000 dollars. At this creek (Bonanza) one miner got 800 dollars from one pan, and offered to back himself to take out, within twenty minutes, twice as much more. Another had employed several men all the winter getting out dirt to wash when the spring came. After paying each of these hands 15 dollars a day, by the simple means of picking out from the heap of "pay-gravel" such nuggets as were necessary for the purpose, he had, on the dump, from 100,000 to 150,000 dollarsworth ready to wash out when the water should flow in the summer.

Such instances might be multiplied indefinitely, but it would be a mere repetition of marvellous stories of rich finds.

There is, then, plenty of gold at Klondike.

The known gold-bearing region comprises territory, in the Canadian Dominion alone, rather larger in extent than *France*; but the district, in which the rich finds were recently made, is that of the Klondike, a tributary