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F. X. LEMIEUX, Communes, Octava, Our

SALUTATORY.

The publication of this journal is in response to the imperative demand of the investor and capitalist. The marked advance in the progress of lode mining in the southern interior of British Columbia, is worthy of especial mention. The present indications are that the output of ore in the two districts of Kootenay, east and west, and the separate district of Vale will at the close of the present year amount to HALF A MILLION OF TONS of gold-copper and argentiferous lead ores, the value of which will certainly not be less than TEN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, which the province will contribute to the wealth of the world. The volume which this industry will reach within five years is not easily foretold, but it will certainly be something of which the friends of British Columbia's mining interests may justly feel gratified, if the past be a criterion.

OUR MINERAL INDUSTRY.

There were produced in East Kootenay generally for the four years from 1896 to 1899 inclusive, 5202 tons of ore 3004 ounces of placer (valued at \$60.076), 295,376 ounces of silver valued at \$177,357, and 397 pounds of copper, value \$69; 7,740,285 pounds of lead, value \$280,623. The entire total of the 5202 tons as above, including the placer gold amounted to \$507,885.

In 1897 the value reached its highest mark when it was \$163,796. In 1899 it was \$66,294.

In West Kootency taking the statistics by the various mining division which comprise this district, for the same period we have Ainsworth