

ish Columbia press. That your press will recognize that it is its duty relentlessly to slay the "wild cats" we have no doubt, for the advancement of British Columbia, or at all events, the popularity of your mines must be materially hindered by the flotation of a crowd of unblushing swindlers.

No better illustration of the enormous growth of public interest in this country in the Pacific province and its mines could be produced than a list of the brokers (members of the London Stock Exchange) who have already allied themselves officially with corporations formed to carry on mining, financial, trading or exploration business in B.C. and the Yukon. I have therefore carefully prepared a list of these firms and propose to follow it up in succeeding letters by analysis of the constitution of the various boards of directors, promoters, solicitors, engineers, local advisory boards, and, indeed, all officials connected with the different companies already in existence, feeling sure that it will be of interest to your readers. The names of the various jobbers comprising the "B.C. Market" in London are more difficult to procure, but I hope to send these in a subsequent dispatch.

LIST OF B.C. AND KLONDIKE BROKERS:

Vertue Lubbock & Co., London; Hardie & Turnbull, Edinburgh; Godefroi Bros., London; Vivian Gray & Co., London; Finlay & Clapperton, Glasgow; Fielder & Abercrombie, Manchester; F. W. Bently & Co., Huddersfield; C. J. Allen & Son, London; George Reavely & Co., London; Douglas Cairney, Glasgow; W. Craig Murray, Dublin; Middleton & Teaser, Bradford; C. Camos Appleyard, Halifax; Stephen P. Wills, Swansea; Sir R. W. Carden & Co., London; J. A. Reilly & Co., London; G. A. Phillips & Co., London; Adam Duffin & Co., Belfast; Browning, Todd & Whish, London; A. J. Schwabe & Co., London; Hook & Bradshaw, Liverpool; W. & F. Cuthbert, Birmingham; R. Whitehead, Manchester; F. E. & S. Smith, Sheffield; T. Robertson & Co., Edinburgh; Moores, Carson & Watson, Glasgow; Faithful Begg & Co., London; H. H. Thompson, London; Bell & Provan, Glasgow; Egerton, Jones & Simpson, London; Malcolm, Cock & Lemon, London; Scrutton & Son, London.

There is really very little going on just at the moment, but prices keep firm on the stock exchange and we are all looking for a busy time.

Among the companies already formed this year are:

1st. The Dominion, Fairview & Golden Klondike Syndicate, limited, capital £130,000. This corporate concern was severely criticised, and its chief ornament, the Rt. Hon. Lord Bateman liked the criticisms so little that he promptly resigned.

2d. The Klondike Bonanza, formed by Ironmonger Sola, with a capital of £150,000, only a portion

of which was subscribed.

3d. The Klondike Hydraulic, an impudent scheme, which was badly mauled by the press. It had the huge authorized capital of £310,000, but I hear that the underwriters were let in to the extent of 70 per cent. of their contracts.

4th. Another impudent scheme, The "De Windt" Exploration Co, Ltd., capital £250,000, formed to buy up Mr. Harry DeWindt. This has already been designated The "De Windt" Relief Fund, and only obtained, I believe, about £4,000 of the £166,667 offered to the public, who are not according a very generous support to anything at the moment.

5th. The British Columbia Mineral Properties Ltd., Mr. P. R. Ritchie's Co., the Klondike & North-West Territories Exploration Co., Ltd., with a capital of £200,000. This was issued privately but I don't think much of its prospects.

We are all very pleased to have the better news about Golden Cache. I just hear that, including Mr Oldroyd's holding, some 225,000 shares are held in this country at between \$1.50 and \$2.00. The complete collapse of this property would have been a bad blow to B.C. The whole series of events are most perplexing, and it looks very much as if some one "in the know" on your side had been running a big bear and has now what we call "covered," that is, got them back at the lower price.

C. J. WALKER.

BRIDGE RIVER DISTRICT.

Mr. Arthur Noel has just arrived in Vancouver from Bridge river. He went in from Lillooet about a month ago, during the severe weather: and, although many were forced to make camp, through storms and ice on the river, Mr. Noel found little difficulty in reaching the Ben d'Or group of claims on Cadwallader creek. He reports that the staff of miners at work have, since his last visit, made great progress. The tunnel on the Little Joe claim is run in on the ledge sixty feet, opening up a body of quartz three feet wide, impregnated with gold. About ten tons of rich quartz are now on the dump, and there is evidence that a body of ore exists of sufficient quality and quantity to insure large returns to the fortunate owners. A stamp mill and all necessary machinery will be installed as early as the elements will admit. When Mr. Noel was crossing the Bridge river on snowshoes, and with a 40-pound pack on his shoulders, the ice gave way and he sank into the stream, but saved himself by clinging to a piece of floating ice until he reached solid ice, when he regained his feet and made a run for camp, twenty miles distant, arriving safely without any serious after results from his unexpected icewater bath.