

has to be employed. The district may in time render a fair day's wage as a mineral district, for the first gold found by the natives was in this section, and Chinamen and Indians semi-occasionally still make wages by prospecting on the Thompson.

Ashcroft, a small town some fifty-five miles from Kamloops, can either be reached by boat or road, over rolling prairie or slight hills that wear a grey and arid look, as if they longed for water, in fact, the continual cry all over the province a mile from the river is for irrigation; sand and clay, trap and basalt constitute the topography of the country to Ashcroft. The town at present contains a promiscuous population of some 1,500; but from this town to Lytton, at the mouth of the Thompson, the river is too full, rapid and rocky for mining, and the best way to travel in this country, even with a light load, is to take a guide, an axe and a spade, and not object to working yourself, for affectation is not tolerated, and an Englishman, although he came from "Lunding," is quickly, tersely, and emphatically informed, in language more energetic than polite, that not "being a guverment officer, he isn't worth a dam," so that even in this district, style and government pay count, and a man can put on all the frills imaginable. Lytton being at the junction of the Thompson with the Fraser is some forty-three miles below Lillooet, and fifty-seven miles above Yale, the town constitutes a good market for produce, and at present claims a population of near 600, a mixture of Roughs, Chinamen, Siwashs and Indians who reside in tumble down log shanties. The town itself is situated upon a flat some 200 feet above the body of the river; there are several small farms and some mines in its neighborhood, mostly worked