

He has failed as yet to obtain his concessions but is hopeful of being able to.

The steamers on the northern route are again having their carrying capacity tested and in nearly every case, freight has to be left over. Claim owners, managers and others interested, are proceeding to the diggings to again take charge for the coming season and a rich golden harvest is anticipated.

Mr. M. Marks, the manager of the Grand Forks of Bonanza Co. leaves on the Cutch and takes in horses, men, etc. He will place a machine on the company's property on Last Chance, Hunker Creek, and work will be pushed to the utmost.

The Dawson Board of Trade is advocating the reduction of royalty on gold output, from 10 per cent. to 5 per cent.

Mail matter is being delivered at Bennet in a little over five days from Dawson.

Capt. Steadman has left Dawson with a snug fortune. He took some \$16,000 out of one of his claims, during the first months operations. It is stated he cleared some \$40,000 in connection with the Anglo-Klondike Mining Co.

It is rumored that some Frenchmen are going into Dawson by automobiles. The machines are being sent to Lake Bennet and are said to be an automobile of five horse power and a motor cycle of three horse power.

Meat is said to be cheap and fairly plentiful in Dawson at present, prices ranging from 25c to 75c. wholesale.

THE ATHABASCA GOLD MINE, LIMITED.

We are in receipt of the first annual report of the Athabasca Mine, and are pleased to note the prosperous state of the mine, which is due to a very great extent to the careful and economic manner in which it is being managed. During the year 1,275 feet of development work has been done, as follows: 720 feet of drifts, 360 feet of cross-cuts, 165 feet of raises, and 30 feet of winzes. 5,150 tons of ore have been mined and sent to the mill, 20,000 tons of waste have been mined and thrown over the dumps, and a further large quantity of waste has been holed in the stopes from which the ore has been removed. This work has been carried on entirely by hand labor in hard ground. Altogether about 40,000 tons of ore and waste have been handled at a total cost of \$74,824.35, including all cost of labor, material, supervision, and sundries; or at a cost of \$1.87 per ton. It is satisfactory to record the fact that the year has passed without an accident of any kind, either in or outside the mine. 5,350 tons have been handled on the tramway at a cost of \$1,090.40, or at the rate of 20 1/3 cents per ton, which figures include all cost of supervision. The gravity tramming has proved an important factor in handling the ore, and is entirely satisfactory. The tramway is a three-rail one, with 5/8 inch diameter cable and cars with a capacity of two tons. The 10-stamp mill has worked during the year 353 days and 6 hours, and has been idle during the year 11 days and 18 hours. The causes of delays were as follows:

For clean-ups.....	7 days 22 hours
Owing to freezing of water supply in February.....	1 day 22 hours
Dominion Day, holiday.....	12 hours
Owing to break in flume on December 28.....	1 day 8 hours
For other causes.....	2 hours

It will be seen that for causes connected with the mill

there have been only two hours delay from the beginning to the end of the year, and including all sources of delay, except clean-ups, only 3 days and 20 hours delay. This is a record for which those who are responsible for the care of the mill are entitled to credit. From the commencement of the year a steady improvement was effected in every department until June, when a drop occurred owing to scarcity of labor caused by the dislocation of the labor question through the untimely and uncalled-for legislation known as the Eight-hour Law.

The average values of the ore have been steadily increasing, and we note that in November 388 tons were milled, producing \$11,592.50, or at the rate of \$29.86, and in December the values showed \$30.25 per ton. Experiments have been made with regard to the treatment of the tailings by means of the cyanide process, and have proved satisfactory.

The Company own Crown Granted claims as follows: The Athabasca, Manitoba, Alberta, Algoma, Ruby Fraction, and Triangle Fraction, and has acquired the following by purchase:

Millsites containing 5 acres and 3/4 acres respectively. Compressor site, 3 to 4 acres; rights of way for flume, pipe line, tramways, etc.; water rights, 4 in number, and 20 acres of timber rights, and by location the Loretto and Rose Fraction mineral claims.

There has been a net profit of \$31,504.55 realized on working expenses, with a total of produce of \$124,089.95, including 4 months of 1898.

The mill is a 10-stamp.

Mr. Fell, the manager, in his remarks, says: "The vein has fully answered our hopes in values, even if the breaks have rendered extraction more costly than was expected. With increased depth and with mechanical appliances for mining, the mine ought to be within 6 months in a condition to supply a second battery of 10 stamps, under which circumstances the net recovery from the cyanide plant alone would be sufficient to pay a substantial dividend.

FEBRUARY RETURNS.

Period of run.....	27 days 14 hours
Number tons crushed.....	347
Value of Bullion recovered.....	9544.59
Gross value of Concentrates recovered.....	1767.50
Total value recovered.....	\$11,312.09
Total value recovered per ton of ore crushed	\$32.60

CAPE NOME.

Rumors have been rife of late of a committee having been appointed by American miners at Cape Nome to order the expulsion and exclusion of Canadians from the goldfields there. In the absence of any authorized government these irresponsible parties might be able for a time to carry out their object. There is at present a bill before Congress to establish civil government throughout the Alaskan possessions, including Cape Nome, General Randall has been appointed Commander of the Military District of Alaska. It is understood that he will proceed to Alaska as soon as navigation is open and troops will be placed where they will be required to maintain law and order.

Mr. George Hinton, manager of the Royal Electric Co., for B. C., has returned from his trip through the Kootenays, and informs us that there is no occasion for any fears in regard to the Rossland situation. His company is putting in some very extensive plants both there and in the Boundary. Mr. Hinton is well satisfied with the outlook in both camps.