

## MINING MATTERS.

## WORLD'S GOLD PRODUCTION.

The Engineering and Mining Journal of New York has compiled a table showing a very close estimate of the gold production of the world for 1899, as compared with the previous year. The figures were secured from official sources as far as possible. In the article accompanying the table it is stated that in 1898 the production of gold in the world reached a total of \$289,147,779. In 1899 this great total was again exceeded, the table showing that the production amounted to \$313,954,468, the increase being \$24,806,689. A still larger result would have been attained in 1899 had it not been for the almost total stoppage of gold mining in the Transvaal by the unfortunate war with Great Britain. Had work continued there without interruption there would have been nearly \$20,000,000 to add to the report. In that case the Transvaal would have held the first place as a gold producer; as it is, it yields that position to Australia, but still holds the second place, the United States being third in order, with a total of about \$800,000 below the South African republic. Russia still holds the fourth place, while Canada, which has made great advances, is fifth and Mexico sixth. These six countries produced in all \$285,735,241, or over nine-tenths of the total.

As to Canada, The Journal says: This country now holds the fifth place and is becoming a gold producer of much importance, chiefly owing to the large production from the Klondike and other mines in the Yukon region, which amounted this year to about \$14,000,000. The total production of Canada in 1899 was \$18,049,593, showing an increase over 1898 of \$4,349,593, or 31.7 per cent. In addition to the Yukon gold there was an increase from British Columbia and some also from the mines of western Ontario, while there was a small decrease from the Nova Scotia mines.

## NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO.

A Mine Centre letter says that the gold output for December was \$20,000, being \$6,000 from the Olive and \$14,000 from the Golden Star mine.

The diamond drill procured by the Mattawan Iron Mining Company, for the purpose of testing iron deposits near Finmark, has arrived at that place and will be taken to the scene of operation at once.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The White Horse copper claims have been bonded to an English company for \$2,000,000, according to current report.

A report from Vancouver of Jan. 7 says: It cannot be said that during the past year Ymir had any boom. It had nevertheless what is perhaps better—a year of steady growth and development. The only shipments from Ymir made up to December 31, 1898, amounted to about 200 tons from the Blackcock and Dundee mines. With the commencement of the new year, however, several of the large mines reached the producing stage. During the first few months the Ymir, Porto Rico, Dundee and Blackcock were all producing, but several unforeseen accidents put a temporary stop to the production. The total production for the year was: Ymir mine, 17,850; Porto Rico, 4,400;

Dundee, 700, Blackcock, 180 tons. Of this total nearly half was produced during the last three months from the Ymir and Porto Rico alone.

## Winnipeg Hides Inspection.

The following report of the committee appointed last year by the board of trade, to investigate the subject of the inspection of hides, was presented at the meeting of the council of the board of trade Wednesday evening, and fully explains the situation:

"Your board of hide and leather inspectors beg to report that the matter of Winnipeg inspection of hides having been referred to them, they report as follows:

1. That the majority of raw hides shipped from Manitoba and the Northwest are directly exported to the United States and the American dealers and tanners do not ask for, or in fact recognize Canadian inspection.

2. The Canadian tanners do not ask for Winnipeg inspection of hides.

3. Shipments of hides from this province to Ontario and Quebec are made, for the most part, direct to the warehouses established there by the business houses, who purchased them in this country, and sold in those provinces. If purchasers buy on inspection they ask for inspection by the inspectors at Toronto and Montreal.

4. Fully two-thirds of the hides shipped out of Manitoba and the Northwest are shipped in a frozen state, and it is impossible to inspect frozen hides in the manner they are handled.

5. The Winnipeg inspection of hides has been, so far as it is known to your board, satisfactory, but the course of trade is so tended as to remove any demand for inspection at Winnipeg.

Your board of examiners believe that the above is a correct explanation of the fact, evidenced by the hide inspectors' returns to the board, that inspection at Winnipeg is a thing of the past, and unless radical changes occur in the methods followed by the trade, there is little likelihood of many hides being inspected in this city."

John M. Morton, United States agent on the Seal Islands, reports that the seal herds diminished 20 per cent during 1899.

The George E. Tuckett & Son Co., of Hamilton, Ont., has sent about two tons and a half of tobacco free to the Canadian contingent, the Dominion Express Co. carrying it to Halifax for nothing.

Davis & Sons, of Kingston, Ont., ship builders, will commence at once building a new steamer for a Rat Portage firm, to run on the Lake of the Woods. The steamer will be seventy feet in length, and is to be completed for next summer's traffic.

Good reading for the new year, predominates in the January issue of "The Cosmopolitan." Among the sixteen well known writers who have contributed to its pages are: T. Quiller-Couch ("2"), with a stirring bit of fiction entitled "The Lady of the Ship;" John Luther Long, who has furnished a story in a new field, which he entitles "Dizzy Dave;" Kirke La Shelle, who tells of the tricks of "The Theatrical Advance Agent," and Semmar MacMannus, who brings forth another of his clever Irish stories under the title of "Patrick's Proxy."

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Headquarters for Commercial Men

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First class accommodation for Commercial Men

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Best accommodation for Commercial Travellers.

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Accommodation First-Class in every respect.

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## THE MANITOBA HOTEL.

SMITH BROS., Props.

Refitted and refurnished throughout. Commodious Sample Rooms. Everything first-class.

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New Management. Rates \$1.25. Renovated and Refurnished. Commodious Sample Rooms. Heated by Hot Air. Livery and Feed Stable in connection. Inside Closet.

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Newly remodelled and heated by hot air. Commercial headquarters. First-class Sample Rooms.

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New Building. New Furnishings. Furnace Heating. Acetylene Gas. First-class. Large Sample Rooms.

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