

British Columbia Mining Critic.

"I am Nothing, if Not Critical."—Shakespeare.

British Columbia Mining Critic.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

Devoted to the Interests of Mining and the Protection of Investors.

THURSDAY,.....AUG. 5, 1897.

Letters from practical men on topics connected with mining, mining machinery, mining laws, and matters relating to the mineralogical development of Canada, are always welcome.

Manufacturers and Dealers in appliances used in and about mines are invited to send illustrations and descriptions of new articles.

Views and descriptions of mines and mining locations solicited.

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FRANK S. TAGGART, Business and Editorial Offices :
Managing Editor. 319 Cambie St., Vancouver, B.C., P. O. Box 125.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Dominion Government should not act hastily in their decision in regard to mining laws and regulations governing the gold fields of Yukon. We commend the government for being just to itself and for taking the necessary steps to derive a benefit from its national resources, but we say be just to the miner, it certainly would be a most arbitrary act and a serious wrong to enforce a law "reserving to the Dominion every alternate claim in placer grounds henceforth staked off.

Let the government, if it so desires, send out a party of prospectors, locate claims and reserve for itself every alternate claim; but to send an inspector to the miner and say, "Move on, this is our alternate claim," would be a most iniquitous act.

The avowed intention of the government to collect a royalty of from 10 to 20 per cent. of the gross value of the output of every claim is preposterous. Let us suppose that a miner, after contending with the hardships of prospecting, is fortunate enough to locate a claim from which he succeeds in extracting \$1000 value of placer gold, the government steps in and demands a profit of \$200; deduct the expenses incurred by

In reviewing the mining stock market for the past month nothing with any particular discouraging feature has been brought to light. Still the market has been dull with bearish tendencies, but seeming to revive within the last few days on account of large purchases by the local buyers, who are now taking advantage of the low prices. The erection of a smelter for treating low grade ores from the coast district would make it possible for many of the low grade properties to work to a greater advantage and encourage new developments of many promising properties in the outlying district.

THE GOLDEN CACHE PROPERTIES AND OTHER MINERAL CLAIMS IN THE LILLOOET CAMP.

We have visited Lillooet and carefully inspected the numerous mineral claims under development, in particular the valuable properties owned by the Golden Cache Mines Co., Ltd., namely, the Golden Eagle, Golden Stripe, Ruby and North Star. We shall briefly set forth the details of work done by the Golden Cache Co. on their properties, as we believe in so doing we will best serve the interest of our readers. The Golden Eagle property is proved to be a dividend-paying mine beyond the possibility of a doubt. The quartz exposed in the tunnels is immensely rich; free gold is visible to the naked eye everywhere, in the slate as well as the quartz, and one would have no difficulty in crushing the quartz in a hand mortar and extracting \$100 worth of native gold out of the pan per day—assays run fabulously high, but allowing for every possible contingency, to illustrate the dividend producing power of the mine, we have placed the average value at \$50 per ton, and by taking the actual measurements of the quantity of quartz exposed by the tunnels, we are able to estimate very closely the number of tons available at present for crushing.

The work done on the Golden Eagle has been conducted with a view of exposing as large a body of ore as possible, the main tunnel being in 98 feet, cutting through the ledge. At the end of this tunnel a shaft is run down 20