

The Fraser is navigable from Soda Creek to Quesnel, a distance of sixty miles. So strong is the current that while the stern-wheel steamer takes nine hours to make the trip up stream, the return is made in one-quarter of that time. Precipitous banks, wooded to the top, border the river. When navigation closes, the stage runs through to Quesnel, passing on its way fine cattle ranches and farms. The altitude is sufficiently low to admit of wheat being ripened. At Quesnel there is a flour mill with all modern appliances, also a lumber mill. The timber is mainly fir, the largest trees measuring about forty inches in girth, twelve feet from the stump. Well-stocked stores indicate that Quesnel is the base of supplies for a wide area.

The last section of the road is from Quesnel to Barkerville. Up, up we climb until we reach a summit of 5,000 feet, and the famous Lightning Creek comes in sight. Tailings, old timbers, and falling cabins tell us that here in years

Deep Gravel Mining. gone by hundreds of men worked with pick and

shovel. But Lightning Creek is not wholly deserted. Mining still goes on, though the modern method differs from that of early days. By boring, it has been discovered that below the thirty feet of surface-gravel worked by the old miners, there is a stratum of clay about seventy feet thick, beneath which are other gravels carrying gold. To work these deep gravels a shaft is



"CARIBOO CAMERON'S" CABIN.