

plant, excellent water power, and have drifted in from 400 to 600 feet in several directions. Their bullion includes a couple of thousand dollars' worth of nuggets, some of them worth as much as \$100 each, that have been taken out during the season's operations.

#### THE DUNDEE ASSETS SOLD.

##### Old Stockholders Will Receive Shares in the New Company.

The offer of Morrison & Marshall, limited, of London, Eng., to purchase the assets of the Dundee Gold Mining company, limited liability, has been accepted. The proposition was submitted to a recent meeting of the stockholders and ratified by the terms of the agreement entered into between Morrison & Marshall, limited, and the Dundee company, the present shareholders will receive shares in the new company to be formed to acquire the Dundee assets. A working fund of £43,600 (\$210,000) will be reserved, and of this £10,000 (\$50,000) is immediately available. The total capital of the new company is £160,000 (\$800,000) divided into 160,000 shares £1 shares. All the exchange stock will be fully paid up and unassessable. It will be observed that the capitalization of the new company will be \$200,000 less than that of the present company, therefore enhancing the value of the shares in the latter 20 per cent. For 20 shares in the old company one share in the new company will be given.

The acceptance of this offer puts the Dundee property in good position. All the capital necessary for its further development and the purchase of new machinery is now available. The property is in first class shape, and when work is reinaugurated by a strong company having plenty of capital behind it, there is but little doubt that there will be some appreciation in the value of the shares. The Dundee property, owing to a fire which destroyed the shaft house, and to the further fact that the company was short of funds, has been practically shut down since March last. The pumps have been kept in operation, and some little work has been done in the way of building, but outside of this no attempt has been made to operate the concentrator or to get out ore. The Dundee property is regarded as one of more than ordinary merit, and the stockholders are to be congratulated upon the advantageous arrangement that has now been entered into.

#### CAPE NOME.

##### What Beach Diggings Yield.

Mr. Hector McRae, while in San Francisco met from 75 to 100 miners and prospectors, who came in on the steamship Roanoke from Cape Nome. Some of them," he said, "were formerly of Kootenay and were old friends of Mr. McRae's. They stated on this steamer there was brought down about \$1,000,000 in gold and drafts. Lindeberg, a Norwegian, who came out with the reindeer for the United States government from Lapland two years ago, acknowledged to have the best claims on the five principal creeks. Mr. Lindeberg brought down in dust and drafts close to \$600,000. His secretary, Frank Sanders, tells some marvellous stories about the country. Lindeberg took out in Glacier creek with six men working 16 days, \$80,000.

"C. D. Lane, a well known California mining man who spent the season there, and invested about \$300,000 in mining prospects, took out 400 pounds of gold. The population of Nome during the summer season, ranged from 4,000 to 4,500 people. Over 3,000, however, left before the close of navigation, about the 20th of October. The majority of the prospectors who went in there had but little money at the start, but did very well on beach rooking. The government reserve of 60 feet on the beach pre-

cludes the staking of claims, but gives an opportunity to new comers to earn a decent grub stake. They made from \$10 to \$50 per day on the beach claims. The average earnings of good men working the beach ground were about \$1,000 per month, and in one case a party who had a centrifugal pump on the beach cleaned up \$300 per day, working from three to four men. After every storm these men claim that the ground can be reworked as the beach there is shallow and sandy and gravelly for about a mile and a half out.

"As an evidence that the gold can be worked by a dredging plant one of Lindeberg's party told me that after raising the anchor of the Roanoke 12 cents was panned out from the dirt and gravel which was found sticking to the blades. On the beach claims there is no stripping whatever, as everything is shovelled into the rockers and flumes. About three feet from the surface there is a plastic clay which also carries fairly good values, but it is under this in the ruby and black sands where are found the rich streaks, which are from five to six inches in width. Some of this rich stuff goes as high as \$200 to the pan. About 30 sacks of black sand were sent to the Selby smelting works in San Francisco and gave assay values of over \$100 per ton. Back of the beach the whole country is covered with tundra, a green moss, which is green all the year round. This is used by the natives as a substitute for food when they have nothing else to eat. They claim that after it is boiled it is very succulent and nourishing. This tundra, of course, is frozen solid during the winter season.

"From June until the end of October it rains almost incessantly and makes traveling overland very unpleasant. The prospectors wear 'muckluks,' a long moccasin, which reaches to the hips. This is made out of sealskin. They are both light and waterproof and cost only \$4 per pair. The up-to-date prospecting outfits have steam launches with draft of about 30 inches. These are used for running north and exploring the creeks and inlets to be found in that direction. The auriferous beach has been worked for 28 miles in length, but it has proven to extend for about 100 miles. Fuel for these launches in the shape of coal can be purchased very cheaply in summer, that is, at the rate of \$100 per ton. There is considerable driftwood, but not sufficient for the use of the residents of Cape Nome.

The winter sets in in November and is very severe. Mr. Lane's nephew, Mr. Price, and 12 others, wintered there last year and experienced terrific hardships, the thermometer going down as low as 68 degrees below zero. To make matters worse they have terrific storms and piercing winds off the cape. About 1500 people are wintering there now and these have to depend upon about 1,000 tons of coal sent in by an English syndicate for fuel during the winter. The price asked during the winter is \$125 per ton. Game and fish are fairly plentiful and seal blubber can be had at all times from the natives. From St. Michaels over the ice is 800 miles, but the trip is very perilous. A good many men who attempted to go in last winter over the ice have never been heard of since.

"The trading companies have made handsome profits on the cargoes of supplies sent in during the summer. The trade is controlled by the Alaska Commercial company, the North America Trading Company and the Alaska Exploration Company. The last named company had completely sold out its stock by the middle of last month and the business was in the hands of the first two companies named. Mr. Julian Liebes, of the Alaska Exploration Company, told me that they expect to have two ocean steamers of about 3,500 tons each, on the route next summer. The other two companies will have four or five more and Mr. Lane is negotiating for a 5,000 ton steamer. They all estimate a big rush and are figuring on carrying in from 40,000 to 50,000 people

after the opening of navigation in May next year. Behring sea opens about the middle of that month and some times a week or ten days later.

"The Alaska Exploration Company is a British corporation, of which the chairman is Mr. Simon Simonds of London. The firm of Liebes & Co., of San Francisco, are its agents in America. This company purchases 90 per cent of its goods in Canada. It buys its hams, canned goods, clothing and mining supplies in Eastern Canada, and they are fresh and of the best quality. The company has stores in Dawson, Skagway and Cape Nome, and the miners who came in on the Roanoke say that it treats them much better than the other two companies.

The fact that miners do not have to pay royalties to the government and the accessibility of the diggings by comfortable steamers, no doubt, will be great inducements to gold seekers. Among all the men I talked to I did not run across one disappointed man. The camp is well protected with a company of United States regulars and good law and order is maintained," concluded Mr. McRae.

#### NORTH STAR WILL SOON BEGIN TO SHIP ORE.

##### Large Reserves Are in Sight.

Mr. Frank Robbins, manager of the mining interests of Messrs. McKenzie & Mann, reports that work on the North Star mine, in East Kootenay, is making excellent progress under the able superintendency of Mr. J. L. Parker. The North Star has large reserves of ore, and as Mr. Robbins says, Mr. Parker is getting at the ore in such good shape that the output will be large. Mr. Parker, he says, is the right man in the right place, as his experience in mines both in Europe and this continent, eminently fit him for the position. Mr. Robbins is more than pleased with the results which he has already attained. A tramway with a capacity of 60 tons in 10 hours is being constructed to the railway line. This tramway is a mile in length. The railway is graded up Mark creek, one of the tributaries of the St. Mary, to the end of the tramway. It is anticipated that steel will be laid within the next two or three weeks and then shipping from the North Star will be commenced.

In relation to the Boundary Creek country where Mr. Robbins is engaged in looking after the properties of McKenzie & Mann, he said that the town of Phoenix is growing rapidly. A number of large and small buildings have been and are being constructed, and the population is between 800 and 1,000. On the Brooklyn and Stenwinder a large hoisting plant is being put in, which will be able to hoist 500 tons a day from a depth of 1,000 feet. A new compressor is being added that will have a capacity of 30 drills. The power is to be increased so that it will aggregate 400 horse power. From this time it will be seen that mining on an extensive scale is in progress on these two properties and that work is to be pushed, to the end that they may be made to produce at the earliest possible moment that is in consonance with economical mining.

#### KAMLOOPS McKINNEY.

Reports from the Kamloops, at Camp McKinney, say the main working shaft is down nearly 80 feet, and it is expected that the ledge will be encountered at a depth of 150 feet. A crosscut will be run from the 100-foot level. The ledge has also been opened by a series of cuts and several shafts, including one of 50 feet, the width varying in the main shaft from three to five feet. A thirty-horse power boiler and hoist has been ordered and a plant will be installed as soon as the development opens up sufficient ore to supply a ten stamp mill. The average value of the Kamloops assays reaches \$15 a ton.