

C. F. CLOUGH, President. L. J. McATRE, Vice-Pres. & Treas. J. F. PIGGOTT, Secretary.

**C. F. CLOUGH & CO.**  
(INCORPORATED.)

**MINING BROKERS.**

ROSSLAND, B. C.

Head Office, - Spokane, Wash.  
36 King St. E. - Toronto, Ont.

J. A. SMITH E. HEWITT.

**THE SMITH-HEWITT CO.**

**MINING AND REAL ESTATE  
BROKERS.**

The Red Building, Columbia Avenue,

ROSSLAND, B. C.

**WALTER C. ARCHER,**

**MINING AGENT.**

NOTARY PUBLIC AND CONVEYANCER.

Full list of Mining Stocks. Quotations given by letter or wire.

Telegraphic address: Archer, Rossland.

P. O. Box 230. ROSSLAND, B. C.

**WE ARE PREPARED TO PURCHASE**  
any of the Standard Stocks at Market  
Quotations, paying cash for same. Wire offerings.

**SAWYER, MURPHEY & CO.,**

**MINING BROKERS.**

Canada Life Building, - TORONTO, ONT.

OFFICES:

ROSSLAND, B. C. SPOKANE, WASH. TORONTO, ONT.  
MONTREAL, QUE.

Contractors for the sale of Treasury Stocks of  
Mining Corporations in the Trail Creek District.

**S. NORMAN & CO.**

**MINING AND STOCK**

**BROKERS.**

Direct Telegraphic Connection with Rossland.

SPOKANE HOTEL.

SPOKANE, WASH.

G. J. REINER.

J. F. KELDY.

**REDDY & REINER.**

**MINING BROKERS AND**

**REAL ESTATE.**

Agents for Deer Park Treasury Stock.

201 and 202 THE ROOKERY.

SPOKANE, WASH.

**THE LIFTCHILD-WILMOT CO**

INCORPORATED.

**TRAIL AND SLOCAN STOCKS,  
AND PROPERTIES.**

Rooms 1 and 2 ZIEGLER BLOCK. SPOKANE, WASH.

**AN ATTACK ON TRAIL CREEK.**

It is evident that Trail Creek is a much over-rated district and Rossland a much over-rated town. It must be so because Mr. Hardman has said so. Who is Mr. Hardman? He is a mining engineer, he has been gold mining in Nova Scotia for 15 years and he was a stopgap in McGill college when Carlyle left it. Any man who has been mining for 15 years in Nova Scotia should be an authority on Nova Scotia. But what Mr. Hardman knows about Nova Scotia must be extraordinary, because he spent sixteen weeks in British Columbia and he knows all about it. He spent five weeks round Trail Creek and has delivered the transient impressions which were made on his mind as the Alpha and Omega of intuitive omniscience.

For instance, he noticed a diminution in the ore piles of the Le Roi in November over August. What then, the reserves of ore in the camp are diminishing. The Le Roi was shipping ore without waiting for the Red Mountain railway. What then, it is a sinister circumstance. Only mines in a small area have as yet been steady shippers. What then, the productive area is limited to that area. This is not scientific observation and a man who bases an opinion on such data is self-confessed an unscientific man. The true man of science is a humble, patient observer, the average mining expert is a quack, Mr. Hardman is an average mining expert. There have been men whose names are great in the mining world, although they have not had fifteen years experience in Nova Scotia, who have visited Trail Creek, silent men, courteous men, men little given to the indiscretion of newspaper interviews. Here is what they have said:—"We are in the presence of a new phenomenon, an occurrence of gold which we have no previous data to measure. We know next to nothing either of its nature or limits; science can teach Trail Creek nothing as yet, but Trail Creek will add a page to the book of science, Patient observation of facts, careful and tentative induction may, and probably will, finally determine the controlling laws of the phenoma." What a gulf between such men and Mr. Hardman! An impassable gulf, because it is evident that Mr. Hardman is of a cast of mind preeminently unscientific. He never can become other than he is. Have you ever noticed a quack doctor at a fair? He has his little stock of medical facts and arguments. He rattles them about in his empty skull and confuses the people with the noise. Men love what they cannot understand. By this trait the quack doctor attracts them. But the quack is on a higher mental plane than Mr. Hartman if a lower moral one, because he seldom deceives himself. Whereas Mr. Hardman is probably quite sincere, which makes him dangerous as an authority, doubly dangerous as a guide.

He has also something to say about Rossland. It is far ahead of the mines. Certainly of the mines he saw and as he saw them. But the fault was with his eyes. He winds up with the old threadbare accusation about companies and company promoters and a recommendation to investors not to invest except on the advice of a mining engineer like Mr. Hardman. Now, talking about mining engineers, we know that there are mining men who are not mining engineers, and mining engineers who are not mining men. If you wish to invest in horses, do you go to a reliable horse dealer or to a biologist? A biologist can give you a long dissertation about the evolution of a horse, he probably is thoroughly acquainted with the anatomy of a horse, and could make an admirable dissection of one if he is an anatomist as well. But could he give you much assistance in purchasing a likely colt? Not at all. You go to the most trustworthy horse-dealer you know. He tells you the pedigree of the colt. He examines its joints in the light of practical experience, and on his judgment you invest.

Quite so. Apply the same principle to mining. Get a man who knows the district and can gauge the comparative advantages of different properties in the light of previous success or failure, and can give, as near as any human being, an estimate of the chances of the colt or prospect.

One thing in Mr. Hardman's interview is cheerful reading. He thinks East Kootenay will surpass West Kootenay, although the value of his opinion is entirely vitiated by his superficial methods, it is to be

hoped he is correct. The development of every section adds to the prosperity of the others.

THE MINER has prepared a careful statistical article refuting Mr. Hardman's conclusions as to the camp. It gives concurrent proof of what is sufficiently obvious by internal analysis of his opinion, that he is wholly unqualified to speak of this camp at all, much less to combine the authority of a judge with the presumption of a fool.

**A VERY INTERESTING CASE.**

It is not generally known that people can easily purchase land under water. Three gentlemen, however, have for some time been perfectly well aware of this, and have been making good use of their knowledge. The gentlemen are W. A. Clark, J. Burley Smith and A. W. Fraser, all of Ottawa. Some time ago they heard that lots of undiscovered gold mines exist under the Lake of the Woods. Just about a year ago they went to Rat Portage and took with them a diamond drill, with which they started drilling the bottom of the lake for traces of gold.

They ascertained that good showings of gold were under the lake in abundance, and at once set about obtaining possession of a good sized parcel of the bottom of the lake. They made application at once before the Hon. J. M. Gibson, commissioner of crown lands, to obtain mining rights on the lake bed immediately adjoining to the west shore of Sultana Island. Notice was sent of the application to Mr. J. F. Caldwell, of Winnipeg, the owner of the Sultana mine, and he soon found that, if the application was granted, his own operations would be seriously affected, indeed, cut off in one vein, at least, as, under his patent, he only had the right to the land not covered by water, while what the Ottawa men were after, was land running right up to his own property.

The commissioner, on Mr. Caldwell putting in strenuous objections to the granting of the patent, in order to enable him to continue operations in his 350 feet deep shaft, decided to give him a patent sufficient for his purposes to land under the water next his mine, and gave a patent to the Ottawa trio to the rest of their claim.

The wily mining men kept on with their diamond drill, and quietly but surely found out just where other gold mines were located in the lake. There are a number of small islands in the Lake of the Woods, and for these also they obtained patents for mining rights, before the government had decided finally on Mr. Caldwell's objections. For other portions of the lake-bed they got rights, and then made a coup d'etat by applying for a patent on the bottom of the lake adjacent to the Ontario Mining Co.'s property on the west side of Sultana island, between Quarry island, and extending right to the mainland.

Of course this application was vigorously opposed before the Minister of the Ontario Mining Co., for several reasons. In the first place, they claimed that, granting the patent, would be an infringement on their riparian rights, as it would prevent the company from building wharves, or for using the shore for any purpose other than fishing. It would also interfere with shipping facilities, as it would practically cut them off from the lake, and the channel is only about 400 feet wide at this point.

In the next place, they claimed that it was not known to the public that these lands were for sale, and that they should have been listed. Moreover, they said, to grant such a patent would be acting without precedent, as applications of this kind have already been refused by the Hon. A. S. Hardy.

One of the strongest objections taken, however, seemed to be that islands opposite the Ontario Mining Co.'s property belong to the Indian reserve, and so to the Dominion government, and that this will prevent any patent-granting by the Ontario government. This objection will probably cause litigation between the two governments, and already correspondence sometimes of a decidedly hostile nature, has been exchanged by the governments.

Judgment, however, was given in the case this morning, by which Fraser and his associates secure the patent they were after, and obtain possession of the water covered land right up to the Ontario Mining Co.'s shore. J. M. Clark appeared in the argument for the Ottawa men, and was opposed by Messrs. S. H. Blake, Q. C., Watson, Q. C., and Snow.