

1. "British Columbia mining has had enough to stagger under during the last three years, owing to the apathy of the investing public, and the bad odor into which the whole province got through the selfish misrepresentations and actions of the boomers who flourished from 1896 to 1901."

2. "The Review is also insistent on taking the ground that any industry dependent for its existence upon the supply of Government aid, either in the shape of bounties or duties, had better be left to die a natural death inasmuch as its prolonged existence is at the expense of the rest of the community, and inasmuch also as no amount of artificial feeding can make the infant strong and lusty."

3. "British Columbia must work out its own salvation in the matter of its mines," etc.

If I may be permitted, I will make reply to this unjust arraignment of the mining industry, and this province, my warrant being nine years' residence in Rossland, and twenty-two years in the province.

Loyalty like charity begins at home. Were it not that so large a proportion of our population, have as yet only brought their physical beings here, having left their hearts and their loyalty in the provinces or countries from whence they came, you would have been deluged with refutations of this vicious, and misleading attack, which savors of knocking a man down from behind, and kicking him for falling.

Re paragraph "1." If after the word "boomers" you had added "who flocked there in large numbers from all over the Dominion and the United States" and flourished, etc., you would have made a fair statement of fact.

Re paragraph "2." Take away your bounties and duties from all the other industries and put them on a parity with us, and let them live a natural life, or as you put it, die a natural death with us, and we are satisfied, but don't exact tribute from us for the protection of all the other industries, and leave us without, and then flout us with being dependent on them. Give us an opportunity for a natural life, and we will willingly take our chances of a natural death.

Now, as to "artificial feeding." You should have said artificial choking, followed by artificial death, for no jury of fair-minded men, holding an inquest on the mining industry, could ever bring in a verdict of death from natural causes. For evidence of choking I beg to refer you to a Canadian Tariff Book, "Duties of Customs," chap. 16, page 9, section 14, and following sections.

Section 14—Meats fresh, not elsewhere specified. . . . .	.03	per lb.
" 15—Canned meats, poultry, game, extracts of meats, fluid beef and soups.	25 p.c. ad. val.	
" 16—Mutton and lamb, fresh.	35	" " "
" 17—Poultry and game.	20	" " "
" 18—Lard, lard compound, cotton-lene, etc. . . . .	.02	per lb.
" 23—Soap, common laundry. . . . .	.01	" "
" 24—Soap, Castile, mottled or white. . . . .	.02	" "
" 25—Soap, not elsewhere specified.	35 p.c. ad. val.	
" 26—Pearline and other soap powders.	30	" " "
" 30—Eggs. . . . .	.03	per doz.
" 31—Butter. . . . .	.04	" lb.
" 32—Cheese. . . . .	.03	" "
" 33—Condensed milk, including weight of package. . . . .	.03¼	" "

Section 34—Condensed coffee, milk foods and all similar preparations.	30 p.c. ad. val.	
" 35—Apples, including duty on the barrel. . . . .	.40	per bbl.
" 39—Potatoes. . . . .	.15	" bush.
" 42—Hay.	\$2.00	" ton.
" 43—Vegetables, not otherwise provided for.	25 p.c. ad. val.	
" 49—Oats. . . . .	.10	per bush.
" 50—Oatmeal.	25 p.c. ad. val.	
" 53—Rice and sago flour, and sago and tapioca.	25	" " "
" 55—Wheat. . . . .	.12	per bush.
" 64—Sweet potatoes and yams. . . . .	.10	" "
" 65—Tomatoes, fresh. . . . .	.20	" "
" 394—Clothing, general.	35 p.c. ad. val.	
" 219—Boots and shoes, h. e. s.	25	" " "
" 407—Caps, hats, etc.	30	" " "

And so on, *ad infinitum*, for things we consume.

And now for some few things we use, starting with something we use in large quantities.

Section 21—Candles, n. e. s.	25 p.c. ad. val.	
" 291—Shovels.	35	" " "
" 289—Picks, mattocks and tools of all kinds.	30	" " "
" 229—Bar iron or steel, costing less than 2½c per lb.	\$7.00 per ton.	
" 236—Steel, costing more than 2½c per lb. . . . .	.05 p.c. ad. val.	
" 238—Iron and steel railway bars.	30	" " "
" 243—Forgings of iron or steel of whatever shape or size.	30	" " "
" 248—Cast iron pipe of every description.	8.00 per ton.	
" 252—Wrought iron or steel tubing, plain or galvanized threaded or coupled, or not 2½ inches or less in diameter.	35 p.c. ad. val.	
" 253—Other iron or steel pipe or tubing, n. e. s.	30	" " "
" 254—Iron or steel fittings for iron or steel pipe of every description.	30	" " "
" 269—Wire rope and wire cable, n. e. s.	25	" " "
" 315—Steam engines, boilers, ore crushers, rock crushers, stamp mills, cornish and belted rolls, rock drills, air compressors, pumps, and all machinery composed wholly or in part of iron or steel, n. o. p.	25	" " "
" 412—Blasting and mining powder. . . . .	.02 per lb.	
" 414—Nitro glycerine, giant powder and other explosives. . . . .	.03	" "

and so on *ad infinitum*, for things we use.

The above are a few of the imposts which comprise the artificial choking to death of the mining industry. In strong contrast to these duties on what we consume and use in winning our product permit me to refer you to sections 492 and