

The British Columbia Mining Critic.

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

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ISSUED WEEKLY.

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

THURSDAY MAY 13, 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.

Subscription. Two Dollars a year, payable in advance. Remittances should be made by Express, Postal Order or Bank Draft payable to the "British Columbia Mining Critic."

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Gold Fields of British Columbia (an incorporated company) may well complain of the *Mining Record's* neglect. In the March issue it promised to give it further attention, and although two issues have appeared since, it has not been noticed at all.

Miners should not be fooled by proffers of "write-ups" published on a coin basis, notoriously incorrect, and of no value. The best write-up that the resources of any county can have is the enterprising weekly that the community supports.

We acknowledge and appreciate the courtesy of the *The Province* and the *Inland Sentinel* for the graceful notice and good feeling expressed for the success of the **BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING CRITIC**.

The attention of our readers is directed to the fact we have not published Rudyard Kipling's "Our Lady of the Snows." Rudyard, you write good prose, but your poem don't assay very high.

The airship is a reality. It has been seen by many persons in British Columbia. In fact, it has landed right in Vancouver inside the court-house. It bore the name "Orphan Boy."

When a new paper is presented to the public it receives its meed of criticism. Some of the critics, those who have themselves published, edited or been closely identified with a publication,

in it," although there are many non-producers (writers) whose opinions are of great value. We invite communications upon how to improve the *Critic*. They must bear the writer's real name and address, "not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith."

The city of Vancouver mourns. We have suffered a loss. On every public building flags are displayed at half mast. Mrs. David Oppenheimer is dead. The sympathy of Granville, of Vancouver, is extended to Mr. David Oppenheimer in the loss he has sustained in the demise of his wife. Not only during the years when he acted as mayor, in a manner which did so much to reflect credit upon himself as well as upon the city, did Mrs. Oppenheimer shed grace and dignity upon the duties of Mayoress, but ever since she has taken an active part in whatever she deemed desirable for the welfare of those who needed help. A good woman has been taken from among us. Indeed, we have suffered a loss, and to Mr. David Oppenheimer we extend our sympathy in his bereavement.

The right to own, acquire and develop property is one protected by law. The manner of enforcing this right is one of the objects of government. When the laws are so administered that he who owns property is safely vested with its possession, and an organized power (government) inspires the possessor with the idea that it will sustain him in asserting private ownership, even by force of arms, then civilized government has attained one of its ends.

One of the fruits of civil government is the corporation, an instrument for good, and, alas, for evil. This is a soulless creature, yet not without life. It is quiescent, but nevertheless effective. It lives through its board of directors, and when we speak of the Two Friends, for instance, reference is made to a body which, for all practical purposes, lives, breathes, acts. At the recent meeting of this corporation, held in Vancouver, the first question submitted to the meeting was, "Shall we permit representatives of the press to attend this meeting?" No definite answer being obtained from the unorganized gathering, it was suggested that the question be determined by the directors themselves. In a short time they decided to exclude reporters. This was, of course, their privilege, but the act was ungracious and impolitic. But one impression could be conveyed by such proceeding—that the directorate sought secrecy. This is an unobtainable article where the many participate, and hence we say to the gentlemen who decided to exclude the representatives of the press, that they did err.

The anxiety among shareholders in the Two Friends mine regarding the state of the workings, was considerably relieved by the report issued to the shareholders by the president, F. C. Jones. The thorough confidence expressed for the ultimate success of those whose money is invested in the Two