

upraising about fifteen feet, when the water lowers, they will sink the upper shaft to meet the upraise in the tunnel.

The Wasa claim, situated about fifteen miles north of Wild Horse Creek on the same side of the valley, has been bonded or an option has been given to some Vancouver parties. Considerable work has been done on this property, the ore containing gold, silver and copper. The Cambria and Jennings, extensions of the Wasa, and Mammoth, have a very good showing for the amount of work that has been done. On the Jennings there is a twenty foot tunnel, and on the Cambria a thirty foot tunnel, the ore being of the same character as the Wasa. A new strike has been made about two or three miles to the south of the Wasa group on the divide between Six Mile and Tracey Creek. The ledge is six feet in width with three feet of galena traced for a distance of 4,500 feet and is known as the Lady Ann group. Captain Armstrong, of the Upper Columbia Navigation Co., has obtained an interest in some of the claims and intends doing development work this winter.

An important discovery has been made on Shingle Creek a short distance north of the Dibble group of a ledge six feet in width exposed on the surface for 1,500 feet. Assays give \$24 in gold and fifty-nine ounces in silver.

Mr. David Griffith, who has some claims on Bull River, expects to transport ore by means of sleighs this winter to the banks of the Kootenay River. The ledge is about seven feet in width with well defined walls, the ore containing silver, gold and copper.

A new strike was made near Wolff Creek in the neighbourhood of the Lady Ann and Wasa groups, the lead being seventy-five feet in width with gray copper; also on Tracey Creek in the same vicinity a ledge showing three feet of solid galena.

Messrs. Chisholm and Sprague, who own a half interest in the Ramshorn and Little Horn, situate on Tracey Creek, have obtained a bond on the other half interest.

Assessment work and development work have been done on numerous claims situate on Bull River, Sand Creek and Elk River and intervening ground, the distance from Bull River to the Copper properties near Elk River being about twenty miles in a southerly direction, Sand Creek being about half way between. On the Copper properties near Elk River men have been employed for most of the summer getting out ore, it being the intention of the owners to freight the ore to the banks of the Kootenay this winter to be ready for shipment in the spring.

Up on the St. Mary's River a large number of new locations have been made this summer. This mineral bearing belt is near the summit of the Purcell range and extends for thirty miles along the headwaters of the St. Mary's and its tributaries. Herein before prospectors have been heavily handicapped on attempting to work their claims in this region in account of the scarcity of trails and the general inaccessibility of the country, but this fall the St. Mary's trail has been completed right through to Pilot Bay on Kootenay Lake in West Kootenay, the distance from Fort Steele to the summit being about sixty miles, and from the summit to Pilot Bay about sixteen, so that next summer the owners

of claims in this section will be able to take in supplies without much difficulty.

On Perry Creek, a branch of the St. Mary's, which forms a junction with the main stream about ten miles west from Fort Steele, a most wonderful discovery of gold quartz has been made. Last summer Jno. Sherwood made two locations. There are now about forty claims staked off, and fresh locations are continually being made. There are three separate leads which can be traced for a distance of seven or eight miles, the principal ledge being five feet in width of free milling ore, assaying from \$56 to \$200 in gold. A good prospect can be obtained in the surface dirt almost anywhere within the seven miles comprising what is now called the Gold Belt. There is no doubt but that there will be a large and busy camp on Perry Creek next summer. The Chisholm Brothers, of Montana, have a group of seven claims; Mr. DeP. Moffatt, from Helena, is interested in four; Sherwood has four, and Chas. Elwood & Co. have also four, while there are quite a number of single locations. A good many of the owners intend working on their claims all winter. It is understood that Sherwood has bonded his claims to a company, and that Mr. Hugh McQuade, of Montana, has managed to secure bonds on four or five.

On Hell's roaring creek, another branch of the St. Mary's, distant about twenty-five miles from Fort Steele, six claims have been staked off by Capt. Gray and H. M. Casey, of Hope, Idaho. The ore is galena with a slight percentage of copper, six feet in width, and the croppings assay \$6.30 in gold. A tunnel has been run in for thirty-five feet on the ledge, which is gradually widening.

On the Upper Moyie and its branches, comprising Weaver, Boulder, Nigger, and Palmer's Bar creeks, a number of gold quartz locations have been made, and on some of them considerable development work has been done, with good results. Perry Creek and the branches of the Upper Moyie are not far apart, consequently they may be considered as being in the same gold belt.

The Old Ridgeway placer lease on the Upper Moyie has been purchased by Foster & Co., of Kamloops, and an expert is at present examining the property so as to report on the best means to work the ground. The owners intend to begin operations this winter.

The Perry Creek Mining Company has been re-organized and their ground, which comprises about four miles of creek diggings, will soon be opened up again, as thirty thousand dollars has been appropriated for that purpose.

Of course there are a large number of mining locations not mentioned in the above list, but I think the most important discoveries have been included. Altogether from the 1st of July to the 1st of September there were 102 locations recorded in the Government office, and during the months of August there were thirty-one certificates of work issued.

In conclusion, and looking at what has been accomplished this summer, the mining fraternity of the Fort Steele mining division ought to feel satisfied at the progress made during this season considering how the mining interests of this section are hampered through the want of a railway, but it is to be hoped that before long the Crow's Nest