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Our article on The Nicola Coal Field in the August issue has occasioned the receipt of two letters from gentlemen interested in corporations operating in that field, who object to the characterization of the coal which our correspondent gave as "of a low bituminous character, just a little removed from lignite."

In support of their objections our correspondents give analyses which support their views that the coal is bituminous. At the same time the REVIEW begs to say that the words it used characterized the coals as *bituminous*, not as *lignitic*. The REVIEW has no wish to depreciate property, nor to misrepresent facts, and has taken steps to have this matter settled in time for publication in our next (October) issue.

While on the subject of coal, we cannot refrain from again impressing upon investors the fact that coal deposits of great magnitude have been discovered in various parts of British

Columbia during the last half dozen years. With coal on Vancouver Island, in the Nicola District, at Crow's Nest Pass, at Banff, at Anthracite, at Lethbridge, Canmore, Frank, Coleman, Hosmer, and in the Blairmore, Flathead and Elk Districts, and with every grade known, from lignite to anthracite, there is sure to be a surplus for the comparatively limited market now existent. Supply and demand will settle how many of the score of coal companies now in the field can weather the storm; certainly there is no present market for all the coal these companies can send out.

The many improvements which have been made in connection with gold-dredging machinery are attracting much capital to this most successful branch of gold mining. The centrifugal elevator, or refuse ejector, of Messrs. Payne and Peck, and the silt-distributor of McGeorge, are two of the most important new inventions. In view of the fact that some 50,000 acres of good arable bottom lands and orchard country are being yearly destroyed on the North American continent, the invention of McGeorge is likely to be of permanent value. Essentially the apparatus is intended to distribute soil on top of the rocks and boulders left by the dredge so as to re-make arable land. So far the tests made have shown that grass, grain and young trees planted on the new ground have thriven and done well. If further results continue to be satisfactory, the hue and cry of the low land farmers will be effectually silenced.

A piece of news which Eastern shareholders profess no knowledge of is that the dredge of the Ogilvie Gold Dredging Co. has left its rich (?) bar on the Stewart River and gone into contract work on the Klondike River, about half a mile above the bridge; Dawson papers of the 26th of August report the dredge to have been at work on that date. Outsiders (and perhaps some shareholders) might be curious as to why a dredge, built to save gold on a concession extending over more than 80 miles, should have been diverted to a 50 per cent. tribute lay on another concession some 150 miles distant. But if such outsiders were shareholders in the Ogilvie Co. they probably would receive the declaration that their president was omniscient, and not to be annoyed by vulgar questions.