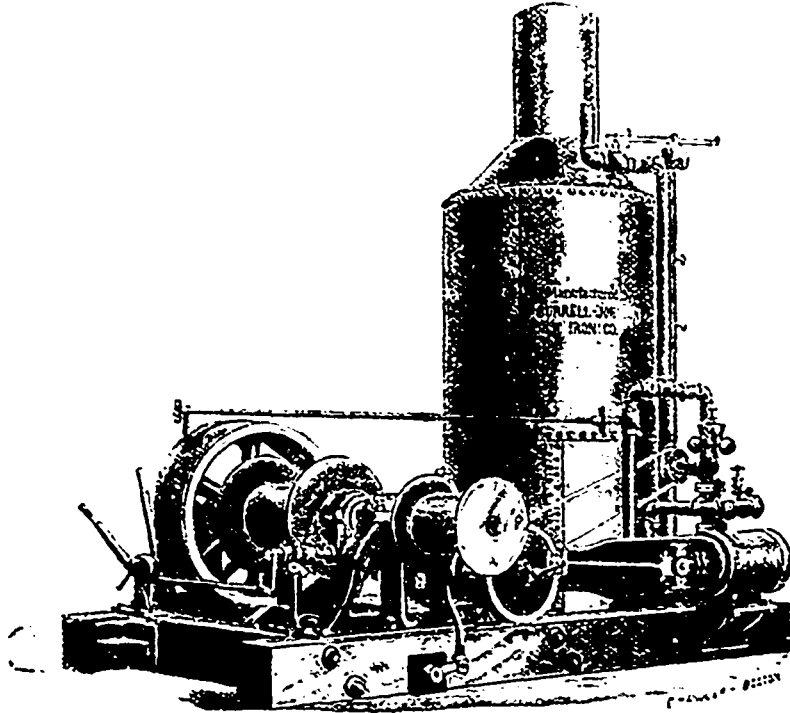


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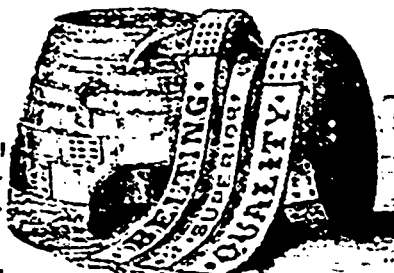
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MINING.

CARIBOO.—Mr. D. Touquoy, of Moose River Mines, was in the city last week and brought with him his usual monthly gold brick, weighing in this instance 45½ oz. gold.

LOWER STEWIACKE.—R. M. Holdsworth, of Shubenacadie, and others have taken up large blocks of areas at Lower Stewiacke reported to contain rich conglomerates.

BROOKFIELD CONGLOMERATES.—The Commissioner of Mines has heard the rival claimants for areas in this district, and we trust that a speedy settlement of conflicting interests may be arrived at. There was quite an array of counsel on both sides, which goes to show that great value is placed on these immense conglomerate deposits. A mill test of some tons of the ore from Panabrook is now being made at Cariboo, and we hope to have the result in time for our next issue. Low grade ores are receiving great attention just now in California, and the rather astonishing statement is made that quartz carrying gold to the maximum value of \$2 per ton can be mined and reduced at a profit. This statement appeared in the columns of the *Mining and Scientific Press*, and in answer to a correspondent asking for more detailed information that journal continued its comments as follows:—

"Not generally can the gold bearing quartz of California be mined and milled with profit if it yields no more than \$2 per ton. Still we have large quantities of quartz that form an exception to the general rule, this material occurring usually in the broad porphyritic belts that run with the mother lode. We have made inquiry of Mr. Ireland, state mineralogist, as to the probable extent of these deposits, and are informed that they are of greater magnitude than has generally been supposed. Until recently very little has in fact been known about these porphyritic belts, save even of our best informed miners having looked upon them as appendages of the great central ore channel that traverses the country from Mariposa to Placer counties, a distance of nearly 70 miles.

"During the past summer Mr. Ireland, as superintendent of the State Mining Bureau, has had the mother lode with all its accompaniments carefully examined from end to end; and it is probable that the report of the expert having charge of that work will prove a revolution as regards the leading features of this, the largest ore-bearing zone in the world. This report to appear in the next volume issuing from the *State Mining Bureau*, will establish that there occurs on and in the vicinity of the California mother lode many million tons of \$2 ore, the most of which exist under conditions that will admit of its being handled with profit.

"Comparing the facilities that exist in California for utilizing low grade ores with those found in Australia, the business stands like this: Capital and labor are cheaper there than here; our machinery, as a whole, is better than their's, we have also the advantage as regards wood and water for supplying motive power, timber for making lumber, etc., the metallurgical process in use being in both countries much the same. Cheap transportation is another element in our favor, there being more railroads in California extending in or near the mining districts than in Australia, those districts being in that country situated farther from the seaboard and navigable rivers than here. Everything considered, there is no doubt but we can handle a lower grade gold-bearing quartz than can be done by the people of the Antipodes or of any large gold-producing country."

If ore carrying \$2.00 worth of gold to the ton can be actually mined and reduced at a profit in California the conglomerates of the Stewiacke Valley, which if reports are correct yield from 4 to 5 dwts. to the ton, are destined to make that region the most famous gold producing district in the world. We have great advantages over California in cheaper labor, cheaper transportation and cheaper fuel and water power. Our mill men are experienced, and our mining machinery manufactured in the Province is of the best description. The conglomerates are easily worked, in fact may be quarried out on a large scale, thus reducing the expenses to a minimum. With all these advantages we should be able to mine and reduce ores more cheaply than California, and if \$2 ore will pay there, conglomerates yielding from \$4 to \$5 per ton should prove a bonanza here.

ALL THE GOLD IN THE WORLD.—In regard to money the popular notion is wonderfully erroneous, and seems to be founded on fairy stories, which speak recklessly of mountains of gold and silver and rooms full of guineas. To those people who think that all the gold in the world, if gathered in one heap, would make a respectable-sized mountain, it would be a surprise to hear that it would not make a small hill. It is quite easy to find the figures which justify this conclusion. At the commencement of the Christian era there was in the world \$127,000,000 in gold. This is an estimate based on careful calculation, and must be nearly correct. But gold is very soft and wears away to an astonishing extent; in consequence, this amount had diminished to \$57,000,000 at the time America was discovered. Then it began to increase. Peru and Mexico added to the world's supply. California increased it still further, and finally came Australia and South Africa. With all these sources of supply, the amount of gold increased until at the present day it is estimated at \$6,000,000,000. Six billions of dollars. And is that not a mountain of gold, you ask? No, nothing like it. Taking gold at \$18 an ounce, which is below its coin value, a cubic inch is worth \$210, a cubic foot \$352,880, a cubic yard \$9,707,960. Thus the total amount of gold is about 613 cubic yards. Now suppose you had a room 24 feet each way—length, breadth and height—that is to say a cube of 24 feet. This cube will contain 651 cubic yards, within a fraction, and in this room you could put all the gold in the world! Of course the gold would have to be one solid mass, but even with that proviso, does it not seem almost incred-