

been done dropped at 45 and had an extensive surface showing of ore, of which a continuous chimney has been struck, but as the dip of the lead has altered towards the level it is now supposed that it is merely an offshoot from another vein outcropping above, and a tunnel is now being run towards the point of juncture with a view to ascertain the probable value of the deposit. A quantity of ore had been sacked and hauled to the Columbia River for shipment to the Hall Mines smelter; but the closing down of the smelter has stopped the shipment of this ore and operations will be confined solely to development work till the smelter again starts up. The ore is very high grade in copper, the picked ore averaging between 14 and 15 per cent. of copper with small gold and silver values. Bunches of ore have been assayed showing from 20 to 24 ozs. in silver in addition to high copper values. The formation in the neighbourhood is a quartzite and slate, traversed by dykes of felsite porphyry and amygdaloidal trap. The footwall on one side of the contact of the dykes is quartzite consisting mostly of silicious grains, but including some felspathic and argillaceous matter, also a considerable proportion of lime, and on the other side of the line of contact the formation is slate. The hanging wall is felsite porphyry. The ore is a chalcopyrite, high in iron and low in sulphur. This is the first property on which development work has been done to any extent in this part of the district and the results are being watched with interest as there are numerous indications of copper deposits on a strong dyke of felsite porphyry which crosses the mountain range from Fifteen-Mile Creek to Canyon Creek, a distance of about ten miles.

Encouraged by the results of the development work done by the Certainty Company the Empire Mines Company, who have been operating in the Lardeau, propose to start development work in the spring on two claims which they hold on Canyon Creek, about two miles further up the creek than the Certainty Company's property. The assays which they had from this prospect ran over \$100 in gold and copper.

The Certainty Company's property on Fifteen-Mile Creek is entirely a different proposition from the Porphyry and Iron Hill. The veins on which development work has been done have a dip of about 80 degrees and strike at various angles of N. 60 W. to about east and west, being contact veins filling the fissures between slates and quartzites and accompanied by felsite dykes, or filling fissures in the quartzite alone. There are four veins on the property and all have been cut at greater or less depth by the three tunnels and their cross-cuts which have been run. One vein, twenty feet in width where cross-cut failed to show payable ore, though carrying good copper ore on top. The other three veins showed ore in the various cross-cuts assaying from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to  $17\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. copper with small values in silver and gold. These veins vary from one foot to fourteen feet in width. The ore is an excellent concentrating ore and very little ore has yet been struck which would be fit for shipping direct without concentration. One ore body has now been developed by three tunnels covering a vertical depth of 580 feet, pay ore having been proved in each cross-cut. A contract has been let for the further extension of the low level tunnel, which is now in between three hundred and four hundred feet, and the work of extending it another two hundred feet or so is now in hand. In the spring another

low level tunnel will be started at a point about 200 feet still lower down the mountain side. The company have under consideration the building of a road and the inauguration of electric power and power drills in the spring.

Both properties of the Certainty Company are especially well situated for transportation, the Porphyry and Iron Hill being only ten miles from Golden with which it is connected by a good road, while the Certainty property on Fifteen-Mile Creek is only eight miles from the Columbia River and the shipping point on that river is eight miles from Golden.

The prospectus is published of the Golden Placer and Quartz Mining Company, with a capital of a million, of which 500,000 remains in the treasury. This company is to operate a placer claim at the mouth of Canyon Creek, five miles above Golden, and two quartz claims on Canyon Creek, about half a mile from the property being developed there by the Certainty Company.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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*The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions which may be expressed in this column. No notice will be taken of communications unless accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.*

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#### DEVELOPMENT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

TO THE EDITOR:—As one having large interests in and old associations with the province, I trust I may be allowed some space in your journal for ventilating my ideas on a few facts bearing on that progress in British Columbia which we all so much desire; but which, I think we must confess, comes with undue slowness, considering the undoubted latent wealth of the country.

On one point all are agreed; that what is wanted is development, which implies capital. How is this want to be best met?

I have read in your issues many controversies on this subject, and as regards English investors, the arguments seem to travel in a "vicious circle." The colonist wants capital with which to develop his properties: the English investor only cares to invest in developed properties, bringing in a more or less sure and immediate return for his money: he is not so speculative as your American neighbours, and it must be remembered that he is not so near the spot for the purpose of judging for himself: it must not be forgotten, either, that in past "boom times" he has been sorely bitten by much wild cat. Therefore, it is best for British Columbians to recognize the fact that they can only for the most part depend on realizing capital from England, upon enterprises to a certain extent developed or fairly safe to make a speedy and reasonable return.

Now, the first and greatest factor in the development of a new country is railways; and if only English capital can be induced to embark in these a double purpose is served, for the railway itself is thereby constructed, and by that fact facilities are afforded for the investment of otherwise reluctant capital in mining and other ventures, brought within the scope of practical working by moderate freights for machinery, goods, and passengers.

As you truly state, in your January number, a great stride in this respect has been made by the construction of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway. In fact, so far