

siderably above the Emery and Durham. I am led to this conclusion by the present condition of the slate-rock, as seen along the water-ditch going to Lowhee Creek. There must, unquestionably, at one time have been an immense water stream through here, and before it was drawn down to its present level, have turned off opposite or a little below the Alturas, gone through the high hill behind Barkerville and joined William Creek, then also a much larger stream, at the Morning Star claim below the town. This is no idle or useless speculation, for there must be an immense deposit of gold at the flats, which originally fed Stout's and Lowhee Gulches, and which can only be found at last by investigating the formation; and anyone understanding these matters, doing so, will, I believe, adopt my views. This case is multiplied all over the country, so that a correct knowledge of the one attained by actual experience will both assist and hasten the development of the others. That surely is no trivial consideration. Such is Stout's Gulch to-day. What will you think when I state it was not deemed worthy of attention three years ago? Yet this is the natural progress experience creates in mining, as well as in other occupations; and when I see that experience daily maturing in Cariboo, and carefully applied in every direction to the development of her vast auriferous deposits, I cannot but feel that her real wealth and greatness will only be known when most of us have passed away.

There is another stream running into William's, a little below, on the opposite side, called Conklin's, which cannot be overlooked in considering the future of this section of Cariboo. From the great richness of the celebrated Ericson claim, near the mouth, immense expectations were formed, which, so far, have not been realized. If the rich pay in the Ericson had been anything but an accidental deposit, it would certainly have been found in the bed by the Reid Co., who have an extensive, deep, and exceedingly well-worked claim, or by the Home-Stake tunnel in the hill on the left side, because it could never come from the right side, between the mouth of the Gulch and the upper end of the Reid claim, if not farther up for that strip, stretching indeed back to the Canyon on William Creek, is inevitably barren. In truth, Conklin's is very difficult to understand. It is one of those spots, sometimes found in mining countries, which baffle scientific investigation, and which can only be proven by hard labor and expensive ventures. Yet from the interest and importance it derives from an accidental freak of nature, we ought to try to understand it, in some measure, in order to direct the large expenditure of labor and capital it so strongly attracts and freely receives. The extreme richness of the Ericson claim, at the bottom, and the smooth surface of the rocks in the Renfrew and other claims at the head of the Gulch, convince all people of two things—the existence of a tremendous wash through there some, and the existence of a large deposit of gold somewhere in the