

some 66 feet, through a mass of gangue, impregnated with copper pyrites, azurite and malachite. We picked some very pretty specimens from the walls, but the mosquitoes which had probably got in there out of the wet grew so bad that they almost put our lights out, and we were glad to get into the open air again. The shaft has been sunk close by in a slanting direction about 10 feet in depth, following a red streak of decomposed quartz carrying \$18 to the ton in gold. A ladder runs the whole of the way down with a slide on either side for the ore buckets one up and one down, worked by a horse whim on the surface. An ingenious affair and very simple, there not being the slightest danger of a rope breaking.

On descending the shaft to say we were surprised at the amount of work done would be a mild way of expressing it. Altogether there is about 200 feet of tunnelling with a 100 foot shaft, making 300 feet in all, driven through a body of decomposed copper ore carrying a high percentage of gold. The bottom tunnel, running in a S. S. W. direction, is in over 70 feet and the owners expect to reach the hanging wall in about another 100 feet where they should find more solid ore.

Only two men have been working and they have certainly made a splendid shewing. The owners, Messrs. Beattie, Buxton and Blair, are men not given to talking much about their property, evidently believing that work counts more than talk, and they deserve credit for the way in which they are exploiting this promising claim.

"Grubstaking."

In a country like the United States, wherein are large areas of

mineral lands, much of it unprospected and a very small fraction of it developed; wherein the people are generally prosperous and a large number of them wealthy; wherein mining has been the beginning or the whole of many fortunes, and where those fortunes are still largely employed in the business, constituting a safe precedent; wherein method and appliance advance first, and the technical side of the industry is represented by most competent men—it would seem in such a country, that the homely termed business of "grubstaking" should be profitable employment for incomes beyond reasonable requirements. There are men to be picked out from many, and yet there are not a few, who possess the qualifications necessary to successful prospecting. Hardy, energetic intelligent and honest should be the label on a man before he is entrusted with the funds of his backers. In addition he should possess some knowledge of mineralogy, geology and lithology; but more important than these is experience. Assuming that this kind of a man is to be had, suppose him to be furnished with a monthly allowance—say, \$100—sufficient to support and transport him, pay for assays, etc., and assume that he will keep constantly at work for three years. This would be an investment of \$3600—a less amount than is usually asked for the commonest kind of a prospect. It is almost certain that within the three years the man would find ten prospects worth \$3600 and one worth \$36,000. Of course he would have to be considered and taken care of and he should be. Why isn't "grubstaking" a good investment?—Mining and Scientific Press.