

of gangue matter is such as to permit of very cheap smelting, so it is estimated that such ore is well within the commercial limit and can be treated at a profit, despite the fact that there is no appreciable quantity of gold or silver present.

The formation in which these deposits occur would appear to extend for a considerable width east and west, and is found again to the north-west on the shores of Skidegate channel, near the Narrows, constituting a large area of territory which may prove productive, and is at least, well worth prospecting.

This past summer a number of claims have been staked in the vicinity of the *Suede* group and farther up the coast, but, at the time, no work of any sort had been done on them and they were not visited.

On September 2nd, the trip northward was resumed in the gasoline launch to Skidegate, a further distance of 45 miles, a stop being made at the *Old Shaft*, some seven miles south of the Sand Spit.

The *Old Shaft*, judging by the size of trees growing on the old dump, was sunk some 40 to 50 years ago, but by whom it is not known, nor does there seem to be any Indian tradition regarding it. The property has recently been taken up again by Shelden & Shabbar, who have bonded it to D. R. Young and associates, who were unwatering it, employing one white man and two Indians. At that date the shaft had been unwatered to about 90 feet depth, and the foreman reported having sounded it for a further depth of 45 feet. Some short distance above the 90-foot mark, two cross-cuts had been found, one to the east and one to the west, extending about twenty-five feet from the shaft. The shaft had not been cleaned out, so, of course, nothing was visible in it as to ore.

The country rock in the vicinity, as exposed on the beach, is an agglomerate, in which a fissure was seen a few inches wide, carrying copper pyrites in quartz. Selected samples of clear mineral assayed 10% copper and two oz. of silver to the ton. This fissure led directly to the old shaft, distant only a few feet, and it was evidently on this fissure that the shaft had been sunk and along which the two cross-cuts had been driven. The fissure, as seen on the beach, was too small to be of any importance, and the old dump exhibited no commercial ore. The owners claim to have discovered a more extensive fissure, running north and south—that is, at right angles to the first, at a distance of some 100 feet to the west of the shaft and in the woods—to which it is proposed to drive a cross-cut from the shaft at some depth. The white man in charge did not know where the exposure of this north and south vein was, and it was consequently not seen by the writer.

GOLD HARBOUR.

Mr. John McLellan, a British Columbia assayer, has been working during the past summer at Gold Harbour, a bay of Moore channel, on the west coast of Moresby island, just south of Skidegate channel. It was at this point the Hudson Bay Company, in 1852, found and mined a deposit of gold-bearing quartz. Mr. McLellan examined the old workings but could find no continuation of the values, though he discovered in the vicinity another small quartz vein carrying gold in considerable proportions. He reports the vein as being rich but very small; he erected last season an arrastra driven by water power and managed to extract a certain amount of gold, bringing a small "brick" to Victoria.

VICTORIA, B. C.:

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, I.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

1908.