John Hays Hammond Will Soon Be With Us

(Special to The Miner.)

FAIRVIEW, B. C., Oct. 14.—John Hays Hammond, one of the leading mining engineers on the American continent, accompanied by an English expert, is shortly expected in the camp.

Their mission is to make a thorough examination of the Stemwinder mine and other assets of the new Fairview Corporation, Limited. A deal is now on the tapis with an English syndicate for the sale of the property for $960,000. After deducting commissions, etc., should the deal go through, the shareholders will receive about 23 cents per share.

At the present time only 14 of the 46 stamps are in operation, and until the new 200-ton cyaniding plant is finished, sometime about the end of the year, no attempt will be made to run the big mill to its full capacity.

Meanwhile the policy of the management is to fully develop the resources of the Stemwinder mine. The stopes on the second and third levels are being pushed forward and a winze is being sunk on the vein from the 300-foot level. At present there is over 6000 tons of ore broken down in the mine, so by the time the cyanide plant is in operation and the 46 stamps dropping there will be an abundance of quartz on hand to supply the daily requirements of some 175 tons.

During the past few months several improvements have been effected with a view to reducing the cost of treatment and mining. A Pelton water wheel, with a flume from Reed creek, has been installed, and a saving over the cost of steam power will shortly be had. An electric light plant has been added. The number of stamps has been increased from 26 to 46 and an experimental cyanide plant put in. This last has demonstrated that the low grade concentrates and tailings can be treated and a handsome profit thereby derived. Altogether President Richard Russell has been bending his energies to place the Stemwinder mine on a profit-paying basis, should the English parties fail to purchase the property. Without a doubt the mine is one of the biggest low grade free milling properties in the province, and with careful management should pay large profits on the comparatively speaking small amount of invested capital.

It is also satisfactory to note that the values, as depth is attained, show a decided improvement. From the crushing of 2358 tons taken from the dump the average value was $2.82 per ton, with an extraction of 73 per cent. From 1400 tons taken from the mine, of which 1100 tons came from the 200-foot level, the average was $4.44 per ton, with an extraction of 82 per cent. A two weeks' test of ore taken from the 300-foot level, the lowest workings, returned $8.50 per ton. The loss in slimes amounted to about 10 per cent in the values. This, however, will be saved when the new cyaniding plant is in operation. For the present the tailings are being stored and Superintendent Charles Ostenburg estimates that the values in same will more than repay the cost of the 200-ton cyanide plant.

Boat Has Drifted Ashore Near Carmanah

VICTORIA, B. C., Oct. 15.—The light keeper at Carmanah, in a letter received here, states that a boat has drifted ashore near Carmanah at the entrance of the straits badly broken, together with several pieces of wreckage. None of the wreckage bears any mark that would lead to identification.

Messrs. Cresham and Murdoch, two prospectors who have returned from Quatsino Sound, reports that on September 25 they found a ledge of cinnabar, the ore from which mercury is obtained, about forty feet wide and are shipping some specimens to Victoria for mill tests.

The blow-in of the smelter just established at Crofton took place this morning. Everything passing off very successfully. The converter will probably be in operation tomorrow and will be working, and then the first copper will be produced on Vancouver island.

On board the steamer Glenogle, which arrived this morning from the Orient, there were no less than 18 stowaways, all Chinese. They were all arrested here and will be returned on board the steamer when she sails for China.

In an interview given to the North China Daily News, copies of which were received by the Glenogle, Hon. John Barrett, St. Louis exhibition commissioner, formerly minister to Siam, said that the visit of the crown prince to the United States was the forerunner of a visit of King Chulalongkorn I. of Siam, who will visit the United States, via Japan, if the prince reports favorably on his visit.

As a result of the mysterious explosion of a sixty-pound Armstrong shell dug from a field thirty years before, and which had been kept at the vestibule of Viscount Yoshikawas' residence at Tokio, a servant was killed and one of the household wounded. As a result of the accident the shells in the Japanese museums are all being examined.

IN THE VALE OF WYOMING

(Special Correspondence of The Globe.)

WILKESBARRE, Sept. 30.—A distinguished English scientist was being shown over the Ottawa Valley some years ago, a noted forest ranger being his guide. In the course of one of their numerous conversations he asked the ranger what was the prevailing religion of the people of the valley. "Faith, sor," was the answer, "I think it is whoite pine." To the same question the answer in this Wyoming Valley would be in the same dialect, "anthracoite." Wyoming Valley! Could there be a sweeter combination of vowels and consonants? Euphonious syllables have more than once excited poetic execution. I remember when the mere sight of the words "Lake Wabigoon" on a map impelled the Khan to one of his most mellifluous ecorts—that beginning:

"There were three Indians old and grey,
Wrapped in their robes of bear and 'coon,
Who silent mused the livelong day
Beside thy waters, Wabigoon."

The genesis of that poem was that last word, and we may believe that Campbell's "Gertrude of Wyoming" had a similar origin. Seated on a spot where one's eyes ranges up and down a large portion of the historic valley, a reperusal of Campbell's really fine lines suggests incongruous thoughts:

"On Susquehanna's side, fair Wyoming,
Although the wild flower on they ruined wall
And roofless homes a sad remembrance brings
Of what thy gentle people did befall;
Yet though wert once the loveliest land of all
That see the Atlantic wave their morn restore.
Sweet land, may I thy lost delights recall,
And paint thy Gertrude in her bowers of yore,
Whose beauty was the love of Pennsylvania's shore."

The poet thought that "fair Wyoming" would never recover from the havoc wrought by the merciless Indian allies of Captain John Butler in the notorious Wyoming massacre. But such events had no power to stay the resistless march of the white man across the continent, and today the "ruined wall" and "roofless homes" are but a memory.

Fair Wyoming is, or at least normally is, the busiest spot on this American continent. "It was beneath thy skies," continues the poet,

"That but to prune
His autumn fruits, or skim the light canoe,
Perchance along thy river calm at noon
The happy shepherd swain had nought to do
From morn till evening's sweeter pastime grew,
Their timbrel in the dance of forests brown,
When lovely maidens pranked in flowret new;
And aye, those sunny mountains half-way down
Would echo flageolet from some romantic town."

A VANISHED ARCADIA.

It must be confessed that this Arcadia, if it ever existed, is as completely vanished as Ontalissa, the grey-haired Sagamore himself. The Susquehanna is still a beautiful river; it has not been wholly robbed of its charm even as it passes this, the largest community in the valley. The eastern bank of the river within a considerable part of the city limits is park, and on the western bank fields of corn, pumpkin patches and tomato vines are in sharp contrast to the fine buildings that look upon them from the city side a quarter of a mile away. The happy shepherd swain is as busy as a hatter from morn till dewey eve, and the lovely maidens would not know what a timbrel is, although they might suspect it to be a new-fangled machine for picking slate out of coal, and thereby depriving their scooty brothers of employment. Could the poet in actuality view these present day scenes he would have difficulty in recognizing in the begrimed features of the miner emerging from the cage his happy shepherd swain. "Snapshots from Tartarus" and other quotations would more likely rise to his lips.

Yet this Valley of Wyoming is still full of charm, which even the smudge of coal has failed to wholly spoil. The Susquehanna, which at Wilkesbarre runs in summer at the rate of two miles an hour, and is about a quarter of a mile wide, at other points of its passage is hemmed in amongst hills, and storms through rocky defiles in a way that is quite contradictory of its calm demeanor in this valley. Some imaginative person has called it the Rhine of Pennsylvania, but the only objects that I have seen that would support such an idea are the coal breakers, in which a vivacious fancy might find resemblance to the eyrie castles of the robber barons of mediaevial Germany. The idea might be strengthened by hearing the owners of these breakers freely designated the robber barons by those who do not like them throughout the valley.

THE COAL BREAKERS.

A breaker is what its name implies—a building in which the large masses of anthracite as they come up from the mine are broken into sizes we know—stove, furnace, chestnut, pea, etc. It is an extraordinary looking structure of wood—a sort of cross between a Rhine castle and a gigantic toboggan slide, and here, amid the deafening roar of the iron teeth that grind the coal, and in an atmosphere of ebon dust, the miner's little boy begins his apprenticeship to his father's calling. All about the breaker is a great heap of refuse called culm—slate, clay and coal dust, with occasional lumps of good coal. A still smaller youngster than the boy in the breaker, together with numbers of the women, pick out these occasional lumps and keep their cellars supplied with plentiful fuel. This is one of the miner's perquisites, and even now, when the operator and worker are facing each other in deadly conflict, the "picking" of coal goes on, and it is said that there is no danger of the strikers suffering for want of fuel, at least, even if the strike keeps up all winter.

THE DISCOVERY OF ANTHRACITE.

In view of the present fierce demand for anthracite the history of the mineral reads like a comedy. It was discovered in Pennsylvania in the year 1862. A hunter who lit a fire against a rocky spur running for some distance through the woods woke up in the middle of the night almost choked on one side. The rocky spur was on fire and glowed with an intense and almost smokeless heat. He recognized it as coal, and other discoveries of outcrop were made from time to time. While it was acknowledged to be coal, it was so different from bituminous that it was felt that a new name was required, and accordingly the settlers called it stone coal. It made its way very slowly. Blacksmiths who could employ a strong draught to the combustion employed it in their work, but attempts to burn it in the close wood stoves of the period of course failed. Experimenters tried it in open grates, and there is a Bible among the Historical Society here in which a Mr. Jesse Fell recorded on the the flyleaf that on February 11, 1808, he had succeeded in burning stone coal in a grate made by himself. When a Quaker gentleman employed the flyleaf of his Bible to record an event he must have considered it one of great importance. Still the use of stone coal progressed very slowly. A Colonel Shoemaker, who was convinced of its value, mined a considerable quantity some time after Mr. Fell's experiment, and induced several of his neighbors to buy it.

THE REWARD OF ENTERPRISE.

The result was that one of them, after vainly endeavoring to burn it, was so angry that he issued a warrant for Colonel Shoemaker's arrest for obtaining money under false pretences—namely, selling stones to his neighbors as fuel. Colonel Shoemaker had to ride home through the woods thirty miles out of his way in order to dodge the warrant. Some time after this, enterprising men began mining at the Big Summit mine, and sent a consignment to Philadelphia. They started six arkloads of it down the Lehigh river to the Delaware, and thence to Philadelphia. Only two of the six vessels arrived, and not a pound of the coals could they induce anybody to buy, until the corporation of the city purchased the stuff, and after vainly endeavoring to burn it as city fuel, finally used it as macadam on the roads.

In spite of these failures there were people who knew it could be burned, and that under proper conditions it yielded a steady, intense heat, greatly superior to wood, and cleaner than bituminous coal. The great trouble was that those who tried it would not leave it alone. They were used to poking and turning over wood, and when the stone coal did not burn as rapidly as it was thought it should, the poker was used freely, with the result that the more the fire was stoked the worse it got. Knowledge grew, however. In 1820 365 tons were shipped from these regions; in 1831 it had increased to 40,966, and for the past twenty years the annual shipment has averaged 40,000,000 tons. Today the despised stone coal is so warmly desired that the withholding of its usual flow to market shakes half the continent, and almost threatens a revolution.

Redd—Have you an ordinance against fast driving in your town?

Greene—Yes, but not on the golf links.—Yonkers Statesman.

WILL REPORT ON V. V. & E. ROUTE

(Special to The Miner.)

PRINCETON, B. C., Oct. 14.—Colonel Robert Stevenson, one of the pioneers of the Similkameen district, as also the largest claim holder, brought into town today a sample of copper-gold ore weighing 106 pounds. The ore was from the Duke of York claim, one of six claims known as the Victoria group, situated on the east slope of Copper mountain, on the bank of the Similkameen river and adjoining the famous Red Buck claim, opposite on Kennedy mountain. The Colonel has been in possession of the group for the past five years, and has done a large amount of prospecting on the different claims. This season he devoted his energies to the opening up of the Duke of York claim, resulting in exposing on the surface over 45 feet of ore, which shows considerable yellow copper and hemitite iron. The ore, from numerous assays, shows from five to seven per cent copper, with from $1 to $4 in gold. Portland and New York people have had the property examined and reported on with a view of bonding. All those who have recently been on Copper mountain and visited the claim speak in unstinted praise of the magnificent showing.

A. E. Baldwin of Marcus, an engineer of the Great Northern railway, was here yesterday to make a report over the proposed route of the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern railway. He was met here by Luke Gibson and J. V. Lee, who will act as guides. Mr. Gibson was the guide who took Chief Engineer James H. Kennedy of the V., V. & E. railway and Alexander M. Lupfer, locating engineer of the Great Northern, over the Hope range in September. While in camp Mr. Baldwin spent considerable time investigating the resources of the district—its coal, mineral, farming and ranching possibilities—and expressed himself as highly pleased with the prospective diversified tonnage.

5600 POUNDS PIG LEAD.

Product of Trail Smelter—Cost 5 2-5 Cents Per Pound.

GRAND FORKS, B. C., Oct. 15.—A shipment of about 5600 pounds of pig lead, the product of the silver-lead refinery recently installed in connection with the Trail smelter, has just been laid down here at a total cost of 5 2-5 cents per pound. This is the infant industry which the papers of the interior believed would assume vast proportions in the event of adequate protection by the Dominion parliament.

CROFTON SMELTER BLOWN IN.

(Special to The Miner.)

VICTORIA, B. C., Oct. 15.—The Crofton smelter was formally blown in at seven o'clock this morning.

A WOMAN IS BRANDED.

WINNIPEG, Man., Oct. 15.—Chief Justice Killam today delivered judgment on the application of Mr. Wilson, petitioner's counsel in the Lisgar election trial, refusing a further adjournment on acount of the absence of Mrs. Emma P. Everett. The court branded the woman as an adventuress.

PREACHER PRAISES ROOSEVELT.

NEW YORK, Oct. 17.—The Rev. Dr. A. J. Lyman of the South Congregational church at President and Court streets, Brooklyn, preached last night on "The Present Appeal to the Higher Patriotism" in the coal strike. He said that the situation was touching the heart of the nation and that there was everywhere a sense of alarm, indignation and tumult. On the question of confiscating the mines he said:

"The plank of the Democratic platform which seems to look in this direction is repudiated by thoughtful men of both parties."

FAST PACIFIC TRIP.

The Steamer Coptic Breaks the Record From Honolulu to 'Frisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 17.—Two and a half days were gained by the steamer Coptic on her trip across the Pacific, the vessel arriving here this morning, though not due until tomorrow afternoon. The Coptic broght 44 cabin, 3 European steerage, 87 Chinese and 50 Japanese passengers. In the cabin was Sir James McKay, commissioner to represent Great Britain in the revision of the tariff of China.

In her cargo the Coptic has 60 boxes of opium, 1033 bales of silk and 12,000 chests of tea. Throughout the trip the Coptic experienced good weather, and from Honolulu to this port she broke the record for fast passage by all the Occidental and Oriental liners. The time was 5 days and 13 hours.

SHEATHES HIS SWORD.

Tolstoi Destroys His Play, "The Corpse," at Request of Czar.

MOSCOW, Oct. 18.—Tolstoi has burned the two first acts of his drama from life entitled "The Corpse," and will not take up the work again. He shelved it for good, and there is neither a copy nor notes of the acts written, and now destroyed.

The drama dealt with an actual occurrence. A St. Petersburg society girl committed suicide, leaving a letter wherein she named the wicked educationary methods of the higher classes as responsible for her downfall. It is claimed that the czar personally prevailed upon Tolstoi to shelve this thoroughly realistic play.

CLAMOR FOR COCOANUT SHELLS.

They're Good for Fuel—Price Jumps From 5 Cents a Bag to 15.

NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—On the East Side where candy factories and bake shops abound, cocoanut shells have long been a popular article of fuel among the poor. Bags of fifty or sixty pounds have sold for five cents, and as the shells give good heat because of the oil they contain, the demand for them has been great. Since coal went up the demand for cocoanut shells has been abnormal. Crowds hang around the candy factories where wagonloads of cocoanuts are used every week clamoring for the shells. The result has been an advance in the price. Yesterday they were selling at 15 cents a bag, and there were rumors that the price might go up today.

CLUBBED JEWS FOR FUN.

Three Men Hurt by a Gang of East Side Heyups.

NEW YORK, Oct. 17.—"The Heyups" got busy last night. The "Heyups" are a gang of East Side waterfront toughs who delight in making the life of their Jewish neighbors miserable. A dozen of them caught Henry Jacobs of 61 Montgomery street, Abraham Goodman of 170 Monroe street and Joseph Stitka of 234 Cherry street at Clinto and Water streets and commenced to pound their heads with lead pipe. By the time part of the Madison street reserves arrived the three Jews were so badly mauled that they had to be taken to the Gouverneur hospital.

Two of the Heyups were arrested.

GOVERNMENT PAYS INTEREST.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 18.—The treasury department has decided to anticipate the interest on government bonds due November 1st, and on Monday checks for the payment of this interest, amounting to $2,223,000, will be mailed to bondholders.

HEAVY ENGAGEMENT.

ADEN, Arabia, Oct. 18.—The British punitive expedition under Colonel Swayne sent to Somaliland has fought a heavy engagement with the forces of the Mad Mullah. Major Phillips and Captain Angus were killed and Colonel Cobb was wounded.

EASTERN CANADA NEWS.

Assistant Commissioner for Yukon Will Be Recommended.

(Special to the Miner.)

VICTORIA, B. C., Oct. 15.—A Times Ottawa special says: The funeral of Sir John Bourinot took place this afternoon. Lady Bourinot received a cable of condolence of sympathy from Parke.

James A. Smart, deputy minister of the interior, who has returned from the Yukon, says he will recommend that an assistant commissioner be appointed.

Scott, Fitzpatrick and Sutherland left today for Quebec to meet Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

NELSON TRIBUNE PLANT.

(Special to The Miner.)

VICTORIA, B. C., Oct. 15.—J. Jodwin of London, England, is here to take charge of the Pacific terminus at Bamfield Creek. G. W. Scott, his assistant, is also here. Assistant Superintendent Bain is expected in a few days from New York.

In chambers this morning before Justice Martin an order was made directing the sale of the Tribune plant at Nelson by tender, the valuation to be taken if required at Houston's expense. The application for an order that the lease of the Tribune plant by Deane be set aside was then dismissed.

CURRENT COMMENT

TRADE WITH THE TERRITORIES.

The most gratifying feature in connection with the great demand for farming land in the Northwest is that little, if indeed any of it, is acquired for the purpose of speculation. It is being taken up by genuine settlers who are bringing their families and making homes for themselves on those great fertile stretches. There is nothing in the nature of a boom, always so disastrous when it collapses as ultimately it always does collapse, in this rush to the wheat country of Western Canada. It is safe to predict that in the next five years, if this rapid immigration continues, and that it will continue there is not the least reason to doubt, the population of the prairie country will be treble or quadruple what it is today, and the volume of trade will consequently be immensely greater than it is now.

This means much to British Columbia, more perhaps than to any other province in the federation. In the first place it guarantees a large and continually increasing market for our timber, both rough and manufactured, as the British Columbia article cannot only be sold there cheaper than that of any other part of the Dominion, but it is of better quality than can be obtained elsewhere. Then, too, the supply can always be relied on, a circumstance of no little importance in a country where population is growing so rapidly.

So far no systematic effort has been made to secure and maintain a market in Manitoba and the Northwest for the result of our fish industry, but an immense change will be seen in this respect in a few years. There must grow up a great demand for all kinds of dried and cured fish from this coast, which cannot fail to stimulate to an immense extent the industry in this province. Already the beginnings of such a trade have been started, and it will be interesting and gratifying to watch its growth.

Our fruit growing industry must find an immense stimulous in the demand by the people of the western plains. British Columbia apples and plums have already found favor in that market, and with the steady increase of the industry here and the experience which will come in sorting and packing our fruit ought to displace all rivals.

In addition to these and other branches of trade there must grow up that general interchange of commodities on which the merchant relies for his business.

The speed with which intimate trade relations will be established must depend to a considerable extent upon our own people, upon their foresight and enterprise, but nothing but absolute refusal to consider their own interest can prevent a general inter-provincial business being built up. We have, too, a splendid outlook in handling the products of that immense grain and stock country, and the sooner we realize what is in store for us the sooner we will seize our opportunities to our own profit.—Vancouver Province.

CANADA AND JAMAICA.

The present agitation in Jamaica for either the federation or the commercial union of that colony with the Dominion of Canada is worthy of serious consideration in this country. The Jamaica planters desire to find a free market in Canada for their sugar, lemons, oranges, bananas, coffee, ginger, spices, logwood, etc., in return for which they would purchase from us oats, split peas, soda and fancy biscuits, tin and enamelled ware, boots and shoes, organs, furniture, agriculture implements, ropes and cordage, paints, lumber and other building material, metallic roofing, canned goods, live stock, butter, cheese, tallow, bacon, hams, flour and other food stuffs and manufactures. According to the report of the committee of the Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce and Merchants' Exchange: "The natural conditions of the respective colonies are all in favor of mutual trade. Each country is the natural complement of the other in natural products, and it is high time that the feeling which has so long existed in favor of improved trade relations should bear good results." The principal drawback to the interchange of commodities is the lack of a rapid, up-to-date, frequent and direct steamboat service. The direct trade between the two countries has largely increased since the advent of the "Canada-Jamaica" line from St. John, N. B., but this new service, although a decided improvement, is but a monthly one, carried on in far from up-to-date steamers, occupying from eight to ten days between St. John and Kingston, Jamaica.

A Jamaican writes that Canadian products find great favor in the island, but that Canadians seem disinclined to bring themselves into line with the Jamaican market conditions as to size-packing, promptitude in filling orders, etc.—Toronto World.

EASTERN FOOTBALL.

Yale Defeated the Pennsylvania State College Team by 11 to 0.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Oct. 18.—Yale defeated the Pennsylvania state college team eleven today by a score of 11 to 0. The game was the hardest that Yale had been called to play this season and afforded them invaluable practice. The ground was muddy and the ball wet and slippery because of rain. Yale's goal was not seriously in danger at any time, although two long runs were made by Smith, full-back for Pennsylvania.

MORE WELSH COAL.

QUEBEC, Oct. 15.—The Gulf report from Fame Point this afternoon reports the steamer Manchester Engineer (British) from Swansea with 7000 tons of Welsh coal as laying to off that point with her double bottom full of water.

COMMITTED SUICIDE.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Oct. 18.—Mrs. George W. Love, wife of the pastor of the First Congregational church of West Springfield, committed suicide today by hanging herself. She had been suffering from melancholia and nervous prostration.

GERMAN CRUISER PANTHER.

PORT OF SPAIN, Oct. 18.—The German cruiser Panther is conveying a vessel having aboard a German cargo from here to Venezuela in spite of the blockade.

REVOLUTION SUPPRESSED.

KINGSTON, Ja., Oct. 18.—Word has been received here confirming previous reports that the provisional government of Hayti has crushed the Firminist revolution, and adding that the election of Seneque Pierre to the presidency is assured. Hundreds of refugees are expected here during the course of the coming week.

FREE FROM CHOLERA.

LONDON, Oct. 18.—Lord Cromer, the British diplomatic agent in Egypt, has telegraphed the foreign office here announcing that Cairo is practically free from Cholera. The total number of cases in Egypt is under 100 daily, and the disease, it is expected, will cease its epidemic from about November 1st.

It is only when we find glasses are a necessity that we notice how many young people wear them.—Buck.

Jasper—Marconi and Tesla are very politely sarcastic to one another.

Jumpuppe—Yes, indeed. They seem to have swearless cussing down to a fine point.—Judge.

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