

the interest which would naturally be taken in so promising a prospect as this was, even before development, has now deepened into the substantial form of an interest in a great industrial enterprise.

Gold was first discovered in this district in 1865 as free gold in quartz and mispickel, and sporadic attempts have since been made at two or three points to treat the ores, chiefly by raw amalgamation. As might have been anticipated from the nature of the ore, but a very small proportion of the gold was saved in this way, while the expense of treatment in the small and primitive mills adopted was great and the loss of quicksilver heavy. There was neither experience nor technical knowledge available at the time, and no sufficient capital to put up suitable works or to develop the mines; hence they have lain idle all these years without a single serious effort to work them on an economical basis. Nevertheless, many tests of the ores were made, some on quite an extensive scale, in reduction works in the United States and England, and the results were invariably highly satisfactory.

By far the most extensive and the only systematic tests of these veins and their ores have been made upon the properties shown in the accompanying maps, and which form a portion of the properties combined under the ownership of the Canada Consolidated Gold Mining Company.

From these tests some four or five parallel veins have been proven to exist in a belt of 500 or 600 feet in width, running through the property of this company for a length of over three-quarters of a mile, while the main vein has been opened on adjoining properties, making a total proven length of this great fissure of about three miles on the vein, a fact which, next to actual sinking, may be considered the best proof of the continuance in depth of the veins. Three of these veins have been proven on this property by costean pits and shafts sunk at short intervals along their outcrops, to depths varying from 15 to 150 feet. In this manner, the east or main vein has been thoroughly explored over a length of about 800 feet by shafts of from 40 to 150 feet in depth; these have, in every case, been in pay-ore all the way; their lowest points are now in as good ore as has been found on the property; and they have shown this vein to have a thickness exceeding 20 feet in many places, and averaging probably 8 or 10 feet; while the middle and west veins, though smaller, have still apparently a thickness of three feet and upward. As each foot of thickness for a length of 700 feet and a depth of 150 feet will yield about 10,000 tons of ore, the estimates which count as technically in sight,