

years this route has been abandoned, and such supplies as are needed for the few remaining miners are brought in by pack-train.

Trail to Manson Creek.

A trip was made on foot from the Landing to Manson Creek. The trail, once trodden deep by gold-seekers, is now scarcely distinguishable in places, and in others is badly blocked by fallen timber. It leads across a burnt plateau for a couple of miles, and then descends into the deep valley of Germansen Creek. Extensive mining operations were once carried on at this point, but have long since ceased. A few deserted houses and some decaying flumes remain to tell the story of a brief activity and a sudden death. A mile farther up, the trail crosses Germansen Creek, at a place where the stream is closely confined between two rocky walls, by a dilapidated-looking bridge consisting of a single half rotten stringer bent downward under the weight of a number of dependant fragments. From the bridge we followed a rough trail along the east side of the stream to a mining camp which still preserves some signs of life. Three white men and one Chinaman were found here. Gold on Germansen Creek has been obtained

Gold on Germansen Creek.

both from river-flats and bars, and from gravels underlying the boulder-clay and referred to the early part of the glacial period. The flats have been worked out, but extensive areas of the auriferous glacial gravels are still untouched. Some work was being done on the latter at the time of our visit, but on too limited a scale to afford satisfactory results. Above the mining camp, the trail leaves Germansen Creek, crosses a ridge about 1300 feet high and then descends into the valley of Slate Creek, a tributary of Manson Creek. Two miles farther on we reached the town of Manson, situated on Manson Creek, formerly the richest creek in the district.

Gold on Manson Creek.

Gold was first found on Manson Creek in 1891, and for two or three years the bars proved exceedingly productive, but since then the yield has been gradually diminishing, and at the present time the little work that is being done barely pays expenses. Gold was found in paying quantity along the bed of the creek for a couple of miles, and also in two of the tributary valleys. The glacial gravels here, as in Germansen Creek, are auriferous and have been worked to some extent, and it is highly probable that a large proportion of the gold found in the bed of the stream is concentrated from these deposits.

Trails.

Manson Creek is connected by trail with Quesnel by way of Stuart Lake, and with Hazelton on the Skeena by way of Tom's Creek and Tula Lake, but the former trail, and the latter for part of the way, are in a bad state of repair, and mining operations are greatly hampered by the high freight charges on supplies. The rate from Hazelton, the cheapest route, amounts at present to 17 cents per pound.