

SMILKAMEEN.

MONARCHY GROUP.—The owners inform us that they are continuing work on this property, so as to place it on a shipping basis. The superintendent is highly pleased with the development so far and informs us that it will prove more than equal to expectations.

KAMLOOPS.

We are informed that development is steadily proceeding in this camp and one or two good deals are on the tapis.

THE COAST.

On the coast properties to a great extent have closed down, we presume for want of capital. The prospects are good enough, but development funds are generally needed.

The Van Anda smelter is producing metal right along and has shipped quite a quantity to the States.

LARDEAU.

We are informed that 5 ft. of solid ore has been struck in the old workings of the Nettie L. next the "I & L." The owners are to be congratulated, a large staff of men are employed on this property and we hear they have been shipping ore worth \$1.25 per lb. The Great Northern Railway are laying out their station at Fergusson, so that this camp will shortly possess every facility for shipping. The C. P. R. are also proceeding with their line round Trout Lake. We predict a prosperous future for the Lardeau. "Everything comes to those who wait."

CANADIAN MINING COMPANIES REGISTERED IN LONDON.

Anglo-Canadian Lead Syndicate, Limited, registered Aug. 2nd. Capital £51,500 in £1 shares. Objects: To adopt arrangements with the London and Dublin Finance Corporation Limited, to search for, prospect, examine and explore lead and other mines, etc.

The Cariboo Hydraulic Consolidated, the largest company, which got from its earliest gravel working this season some \$50,000 of gold, is expected to get nearly \$250,000 before the end of the year, and is largely developing.

An English company, the Cariboo Consolidated Gold Mining Co., has been refused registration by the B. C. authorities on account of similarity of name with the Cariboo Hydraulic Consolidated.

On the Golden River Quesnelle Co.'s property about sixty men are employed, and Mr. Hunter, the manager, looks for good good results.

The Vancouver correspondent of the The Mining Journal (London, Eng.), thinks the Atlin district, north border of B. C., while presenting some fair opportunities for moderately capitalized hydraulicing concerns, is only moderately rich placer ground, while the gold-bearing quartz discoveries do not yet amount to anything considerable. The output of Atlin gold this season will be a minimum of £200,000, with a maximum of twice as much. Some 6,000 or 7,000 people were in the Atlin at the beginning of the season, but for the close he thinks it will retain between

2,000 and 3,000. The best output to date of writing, Aug. 4, he puts at between \$2,000 and \$3,000. But the district is young; this is practically its first season.

Mr. Bertram Tennyson, a nephew of the late Lord Tennyson, and a mining expert, has returned to Victoria from Dease Lake. Amongst interesting things he mentions that there is a man, about seventy miles from Dease post, who has been working a hill claim all alone for years, and living like a hermit, and has tunnelled into his hill 2,500 feet.

AUSTRALIAN GOLD PRODUCTION.

The gold yields for the four out of the five principal Australasian colonies for the first half of 1899 show a very satisfactory increase over the corresponding period of 1898, as follows:

	1st half '98.	1st half '99.	Increase.
	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.
West Australia	470,691	709,794	239,103
Queensland	427,217	450,967	23,750
Victoria	391,058	430,092	39,034
New South Wales	153,724	187,364	33,640
	1,442,790	1,778,216	355,627

New Zealand, Tasmania, and South Australia are also increasing their outputs, and the last named is coming into notice amongst gold fields, especially the north-eastern part, where several hundreds of reef claims have been staked out. The output from the colonies enumerated for the first half-year is estimated at £7,000,000, while the exports for the same period reached just over £6,000,000. It is thought that the output for 1899 will be between £16,000,000 and £17,000,000, or about three millions more than 1898. The cash dividends of the mining companies for June amounted to £336,659.

PROSPECTING AS A PROFESSION.

A school exclusively for the training of mining prospectors is one of the needs of the times. Prospecting as a profession seems to have been quite overlooked in the present day. That this should be so is remarkable, not only because the nineteenth century wants a new profession to absorb energies which other professions are hardly able to employ, but also because the immediate destiny of a new mining country is determined by the success or failure of its prospectors. If they are not thoroughly trained and capable of taking the fullest advantage of the mineral resources of a district, then the development of that district may possibly be very seriously retarded. We had an illustration of this fact last year on the Stickeen. Ten thousand men made their way into Northern Cassiar and camped on Telegraph Creek until their provisions gave out, when they returned to civilization full of discrediting reports of a country that they had seen nothing of. The lack of trained prospectors is felt in every part of Canada, so much so that the need is described as the most pressing the Dominion has, after the want of capital. Surely, then, here is an opening for young men who have had a thorough course of study in geology, mineralogy, chemistry, assaying and the like, for the field is by no means adequately or satisfactorily filled by the present-day prospector. By and by we may hope that the Dominion Government will provide facilities for instruction in scientific prospecting in every part of the Dominion.