

up to the present time active operations have been confined almost entirely to two of the tributaries. Of these, Forty-Mile Creek enters the Pelly-Yukon from the west, about forty miles above the boundary, and has its course mostly in Alaska, while Stuart River comes in from the east and flows through Canadian territory all the way. Gold was discovered on the Stuart in 1885, and in that and the following year the estimated yield of the various bars amounted to over \$100,000; but in 1887 it was almost deserted, owing to the discovery of coarse gold on Forty-Mile Creek and the consequent "stampede" of the miners to that stream. The gold on the Stuart is reported to be "fine," and the bars are often exhausted under present conditions in a single season's work; but as they are abandoned when the yield falls much below \$10 a day per man, it is highly probable that work on them will be resumed when improved methods of mining are introduced and the present exorbitant prices for labour and provisions are reduced. Extensive gravel benches of a more or less auriferous character border the Stuart in many places, and promise remunerative returns if worked on a large scale.

Forty-Mile Creek proved a veritable bonanza to most of the miners who reached it early in 1887, but in 1888 the returns, owing to the continued high water, were disappointing. In the former year the yield has been estimated all the way from \$75,000 to \$150,000, and was probably in the neighbourhood of \$100,000. In 1888 the yield in consequence of the enforced idleness of the miners declined to less than \$20,000, most of which was obtained from the upper or Alaskan part of the stream. The number of miners employed on the stream during the two seasons varied from about 100 to 350. The gold on Forty-Mile Creek is coarser than that obtained from the Stewart, but the auriferous bars are usually of little depth, and are soon skimmed over. Some attention was paid during the season of 1888 to prospecting the gulches and gravel terraces bordering the stream, but these have not been worked as yet to any notable extent.

The country rock bordering the Pelly-Yukon, all the way from the boundary to White River and beyond, consists of schists broken through by eruptive granites and diorites, geological conditions peculiarly favorable to the existence of metalliferous deposits. (See p. 140.) They are traversed in many places along the river by promising quartz veins and ledges, but these have been very little prospected as yet, the miners contenting themselves up to