

to what extent this disturbance affect the strata below the depth of 175 feet. At this depth the "metals" are thrown to the south about 8 feet, and on the dip the lode assumes its regular course. Some of the small segregated lodes thin out before reaching this depth, being fissure veins of small lateral and vertical extent.

The nest of veins on the Free Claim have proved remarkably rich, and they offer an excellent proof of the transference of gold from the older lodes which are parallel with the stratification, or from the surrounding "metals." Cross veins connect several of these veins as shown on the small plan of the Free Claim.

The deepest shaft at Renfrew is on the well-known Ophir Company's property. It has been sunk a depth of 380 feet. The gold streak on the regular lodes is narrow and dips west at an angle of about forty-five degrees.

The general surface of the country is well suited for mining operations. The slope from the lake at the west end of the district to Meadow Brook at its south-east corner is considerable, and facilities for surface drainage are better than in most districts. The extent of open trenches is not much more than one-third the total length at Oldham, being about 19,000 feet, while the amount of gold produced reached at the close of 1870, 25,246 ounces, against 10,373 ounces from the last named district. The lodes at Renfrew are considerably thicker than at Oldham, and this prevailing feature has led to a better system of mining, although the district is at present in an unusually depressed state, most of the Companies having suspended operations, and the little work that is done outside of the free claim is on the tribute system. Various reasons may be assigned for the present stagnation at Renfrew and other gold-mining districts. A glance at the quarterly returns of the Ophir Company for the last six years shows a very considerable diminution in the yield of gold as the depth increased. The same result has been observed in various other mines in districts far apart, but on the other hand it is one of the results of experience that where a gold streak thins out it is often replaced by another and parallel streak, just as in the thinning out of a bedded lode, it is generally found to be replaced by