

Mining News

Omineca.

F. W. Valleur, gold commissioner for the Omineca district arrived on Tuesday's stage after a good trip down-by trail to Stuart's lake, by canoe down the Stewart, Nechaco and Fraser rivers (a four days' journey), and by B.C.X. stage to Ashcroft.

From Mr. Valleur we learn that the work has progressed very well in Omineca this season. Two large companies, the Forty-Third Mining and Milling Co. and the St. Anthony Mining Co. have each done a large amount of work and are now in complete shape to take out money with the beginning of next season.

Captain Black has done very good work on Black Jack creek, working a force of thirteen men. He will have taken out this season with a canvas hose, probably between \$4,000 and \$5,000, and has demonstrated absolutely the richness of the ground on which he has been working.

Col. Wright, of the Forty-Third Co., has employed during the season about fifty men, and has, as above stated, the Ottawa companies' properties in good shape for an output next season.

The St. Anthony Co. have employed about sixty men throughout the season, and have done good enough work. They also are now ready to begin with spring to recover some of the large amount of money expended in Omineca. They are reported as having expended this season about \$35,000.

On Tom creek, Jim May has been for the past four years running a bed rock mine, and now has it completed and expects next season to do well. It is generally believed by all miners in Omineca familiar with his ground that he will take out good pay from low on each season.

Exra Evans, an old timer, well known in the north, has taken out this season from his claims near Manson, 100 oz. He has worked only in a small way, and, as his expenses are light, he has done very well. Chas. McKinnon, another old-timer, has also done well.—Ashcroft Journal.

East Kootenay.

Fourteen claims have been recorded on Bugaboo creek.

Work has been resumed on the Phoenix group, Horse Thief creek. Work will at once be commenced on the Carrie Lee group, on Luke creek, and development work pushed as fast as possible.

The Morning Star group of claims, which lie about six miles south of Cranbrook, is being developed. A shaft is being sunk on the property and work will be continued all winter.

The Swanes, Dividend, Silver Thread, Delphine, Sitting Bull, Red Line, White Elephant, White Cat and Pretty Girl mines are all working large forces of men.

The new controlling owners of the Delphine propose to work the property actively this winter under the management of Mr. Bruce.

The B. C. Copper Syndicate have purchased the McEae properties on Jubilee and Spillimcheen mountains, and propose pushing development work.

C. P. Seale and W. H. Welsh of Sandon struck rich on Number Two creek, having located an immense silver lead proposition.

Messrs. Starbird, Collet and Robinson are arranging to do development work on the Red Line this winter, and are busy getting in supplies.

Active work will continue all winter on the Pay Roll group, which will, of course, necessitate a sleigh road being built.

The deal for the Delphine, owned by Messrs. Kilmington, Stark and Harrison, has now been completed, with the result that Messrs. Oler and Hammond have secured for their syndicate a three-fourths interest in the property for \$35,000, the former owners retaining the other fourth interest. Recent work done on this property has much improved its prospect.

John Burman reports an immense showing of high grade gray copper and argentiferous galena ore on the Ground Floor group, Boulder creek. Mr. Burman reports that there is over two feet of solid ore on an average in eight, which has been stripped for over 50 feet. The ore averages over \$150 to the ton. It is not unlikely that this property will be bonded to an eastern syndicate during the next two months.

J. Noble, foreman of the Certainty Company's mine on Fifteen-Mile creek, reports having struck the No. 1 lead in No. 3 tunnel, with a small sized ore body to that proved in No. 1 tunnel. This gives the company pay ore in each of the three tunnels driven on this property. No. 3 tunnel will be driven 200 feet this winter and will be the main working tunnel of the property, with a height of about 700 feet of ore body above it, as shown by the development work so far carried out.

The Bear group, consisting of five claims, namely, Black Bear, Brown Bear, London Copper, Bell and Black Prince, situated on Bugaboo creek, 10 miles from the Columbia river, was located the 23rd ultimo by Robert McKee and Dan Stoddard, both of Windermere, B. C. The ledge averages 20 feet in width, four feet of which is solid copper ore, and the lead can be traced for over 4,500 feet. The ore body is over 500 feet on the surface.

From the Boundary.

R. A. Brown has started development work on his Sumner mineral claim, which was recently incorporated. Two shifts will be employed, with Isaac Longhead foreman. The 43-foot shaft will be continued to the 150-foot level.

A four-drill core was recovered at the Morrison mine last week. This property is now working a large force of men, and development work will continue all winter.

A big strike on the Rambler is reported. It consists of a lead seven feet wide with a three-foot pay streak carrying values running \$28 in lead, 12 ounces silver and 20 per cent. gold. This claim is about 1,500 feet from the big snowing on the Washington, and belongs to the group of claims recently bonded for \$100,000. Development work is progressing rapidly in a 5x7-foot shaft, all in solid ore.

Henry White, the locator of the Knob

Hill and Old Ironsides, has bonded the Banner claim, at Franklin camp, on the east fork of the Kettle river, from Frank Macfarlane for \$50,000, paying 10 per cent down.

A large force of men under W. Hanna on the Monarch. Open cuts running parallel demonstrated that the ore body is fully 800 feet wide. The walls of this enormous ore body have not yet been uncovered. Two shafts, one 60 and the other 75 feet are in the ore. The values are high, \$40 in copper and gold being an average assay. A plant will be installed on the Monarch in a short time.

A big strike is reported in the Buckhorn at a depth of 65 feet. The ore is a rich chalcopryite, assaying 30 per cent. copper and \$0 in gold. Development work is showing up a magnificent body of ore on the Arlington-Burns, an adjoining property.

A new ledge on the Sunset, at least 25 feet wide, has been uncovered where excavation is being made for the big compressor plant. The ore has not been assayed, but from appearances it is sure to carry good copper values. The lead vein is about 10 feet wide, and is a good one, and has not been exposed at any point heretofore. It adds a new and large body of ore to the known mineral wealth of the Sunset.

Last week the ledge was encountered at the dividing line between the Golden Crown and Winnipeg mines. The ledge runs through both properties. The ledge is fully 30 feet wide. The ore is solid, and carries higher copper values than any considerable quantity has been taken out of since. A force of men is at work stripping the ledge.

In the Slokan.

The Ajax Fraction will be shipping ore very shortly.

Four men are doing development at the Best.

The Queen Bess now has 35 men working.

About 20 are on surface working.

The Sunshine is working 16 men. The trail to the mine is nearly completed.

The force at the Last Chance has been laid off and operations suspended.

An electric light plant is to be put in at the Best concentrator, and the mine will be lighted by electricity.

The Noonday, one of the promising mines near New Denver, has shipped 420 tons this year. The force at present numbers about 15 men. It will be increased after the mine buildings are completed.

At present the Minnesota Silver Company has about 20 men at work in the long crosscut and on the finishing of the trail. There will be some development work done throughout the winter, but no shipping till the concentrator is built in the spring.

The following properties are working a few men: Slokan Star, Ivanhoe, Sunshine, Ajax Fraction, Sovereign, Vulture, Docks, and others. The Ivanhoe will naturally increase its force, so about 100 men may be working all winter in the surrounding mines.

The Dockstead brothers made a good strike west of the concentrator, on the Cody creek, about two miles above the Cody townsite. They have uncovered a good, strong ledge, which carries from six to eight inches of high grade galena.

A rich showing of ore was recently uncovered on the Home Run ground by the owners of the Anglo-Saxon group. It was traced 100 feet or more, and the width of the ore croppings is from three to six feet. The ore is a fine chert dip into the Anglo-Saxon ground.

On the Ruby the crosscut tunnel has been driven 30 feet. It is expected the ledge will be encountered in another 15 feet. The rock from the surface has been unusually hard, and the driving of the tunnel will cost from \$20 to \$25 per foot, but the results are expected to richly repay the outlay. It will tap the ledge 50 feet below the point where the ore outcroppings assayed \$22 in gold and 1,346 ounces in silver.

The Noonday mine at Silverton shipped a carload of ore last week which brought the total shipments up to 600 tons, or within 80 tons of the shipments made by the Wakefield, Silverton's best mine. Fifteen men are employed on the Noonday doing development work.

George B. Dean of Three Forks has located the Standard group of two claims, Standard and Monarch, on the Dockstead Bros. of Cody. The properties are situated two miles up Cody creek, in the vicinity of the Noonday and other valuable claims. Recent development has proven a good lead on the property, carrying high grade galena with good gold values. In open cuts made during the last few weeks the ore body has been exposed in several places, showing in places six inches of beautiful ore. The concentration is given as \$12,000 of which five per cent. will be paid within 30 days and the balance on the 1st of December, 1900.

The development that was carried on at the Payne this summer has opened the mine up so that 200 men could be conveniently put to work taking out 2,000 feet of ore a month that will net \$64 a ton. In July last year the shipments from the mine were 1,850 tons, and the profits from this are \$87,000, from which a \$50,000 dividend was paid and the balance placed in the treasury. There are now 15 men on the payroll, 12 of whom were hired last week to do outside work.

There are now 22 men doing development work on contract at the Slokan Star. The No. 4 and No. 5 levels are being driven both ways, and No. 3 is being driven to the west. An important strike was made in the No. 5 level, east drift, this week. The contractors are now in 450 feet from the crosscut, and are going toward a showing which crops up along the drift, further east than the ledge has yet been worked. The drift now shows three feet of concentrating ore in the face. The ore here encountered is several hundred feet to the west of the surface croppings, and should prove to be the same chert the Slokan will have here continuous ore for 800 feet.

Resources of Southern Yale.

A trip through the southern portion of a wonderful land will give one an idea of that section of the province. The writer has just returned from a tour of over 400 miles, taking in all the towns and mining camps of any importance in the territory lying between Midway, in the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

Around Midway are a number of good mining properties, many of which have the makings of mines, if surface showings are to be counted upon; but as yet they are not thoroughly prospected.

At Camp McKinley one first finds the great mining activity evident all through the country from there westward.

At the head of the head of Twenty-mile creek, at the head of Twenty-mile creek, is the Nickel Plate, just at present the biggest gold proposition in that section, the ore of which is so rich that the owners will not allow visitors in the workings, and will not ever let anyone approach the dumps.

There are also some great bodies of copper sulphide ore in this vicinity, but just now the free gold deposits are attracting the principal attention.

At Princeton, found large areas of coal, which the limited development has demonstrated to be of a superior coking character, the seams ranging from a few inches up to eight feet in thickness.

Up the Tulumna river, which empties into the Stiklameen just at the town, are large placer fields which are now operated only by Chinamen, although it is expected that an English company will shortly put a dredge at work on some good gravel beds.

Only 12 miles from Princeton are the Granite Creek placer fields, which attracted much attention in the days of the old Cariboo excitement. Further up the Tulumna, the Tulumna placer fields, which are being opened up by bodies of galena which, beside having good silver and lead values, in many cases run away up into the hundreds in gold.

Stuck on Penitence, up the Stiklameen, are the Copper and Kennedy mountain camps, where there has been discovered some of the greatest copper showings of the province, if not in the entire west.

Here are found leads of borate ore, almost solid, and giving assays of from two and one-half to thirty-five per cent. copper right from the surface. No very extensive development has yet been made of any of these claims, but the showings made for the work done can hardly be equaled in the West. The B. A. C. and other big companies are becoming interested in the area, and the work on the mountains will be veritable hives of industry.

Off to the northeast from Princeton is a stretch of territory which is only just being prospected, and in which some wonderful strikes of copper are being made, one of these, the Big Sue, located not long since, having already taken rank with the best in that section—Grand Forks mine.

Strike Near Silverton.

Among the many strikes made during this season's work, none is of more importance than that made lately on the Hewett group, near town. The Hewett group extends from the top of Hewett mountain down to the Galena Farm flats. The main ledge on this property varies from five to ten feet in width, and has a length of about 30 miles from the foot of the mountain to the top of Hewett.

The group is comprised of four claims, known as the Hewett, Hewett Fraction, Rincon and Rincon Fraction. Most of the work done on the Hewett claim, and consists of two tunnels, which are being driven as fast as possible. The upper tunnel is now in 200 feet, and has followed the vein the entire length of the property. The lower tunnel is over five feet wide, and the footwall there is a paystreak of rich silver ore about eight inches wide, the balance of the ledge being filled with disjunctive and concentrating ore. At a distance of 100 feet from the foot of the tunnel a winze is being sunk, that is now down 20 feet. In this winze a body of the richest ore ever discovered in the Slokan has been encountered. The vein at this point is four feet wide, and carries a paystreak eight inches in width of nugget quartz that is literally filled with native silver, and assays from 400 to 750 ounces silver to the ton. The balance of the ledge at this point is filled with a good quality of ore.

The lower tunnel being driven has now reached a depth of 70 feet. This tunnel is being driven on the vein 120 feet deeper than the upper one, and when it reaches a point underneath the winze being sunk, an upraise will be driven and a connection made with the tunnel above.

The formation of the mountain is Sandon slate with dykes of granite. The ledge itself is what is known as a quartzite, the hanging wall being slate and the footwall granite. The strike or trend of the vein is easterly and westerly with a pitch into the mountain northeast of 60 degrees—Silvertonian.

Around Windermere.

The new British Columbia Syndicate, of London, Eng., are putting a new camp on the Barbados group of claims, recently bonded from Messrs. Tom Jones, John Watson and James Jeffrey, for \$100,000. Situated on Spring creek, a tributary of Toby creek.

R. B. Bruce, C. E., representing Oler & Hammond, of Toronto, Ont., has purchased a three-quarter interest in the Delphine mine situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

The Delphine mine, owned by the Delphine Syndicate, is situated on the north fork of the Kettle river valley, and Princeton, in the Stiklameen.

returned from the Kootenay valley country after locating a group of four claims, the Black Jack, Red Eye, Silver King, Shiloh, Jewel. The group is situated on what is known as Ice Creek. The boys brought in some magnificent gold-epier and galena ore from the property. It is understood that there is an immense body of ore. There has been quite a rush into this section during the past season, especially on Ice Creek.

The B. C. Syndicate, of London, Eng., intend working the Paradise group throughout the winter. It is situated on Spring creek. This property was recently bonded for \$1,000,000 from the original locators.

Steve Young, of Port Steele, has located a very promising proposition on Spring creek. It is an extension of the Paradise group now under bond to the new British Columbia Syndicate, of London, Eng.

It is understood that the Bear group recently located by Messrs. McKee and Stoddard, situated on Bugaboo creek, is considered one of the greatest propositions in the province.

The Delphine will be worked throughout the winter, under the foremanship of W. Hanna. It is situated on Spring creek. The Delphine will commence shipping in the near future.

It is understood that Isaac Nolan, Swede, has one of the most promising propositions in the district. It is called the Jupiter and is situated on the Black Prince, now under bond to the Hah Mines. Nolan is the original locator of the Black Prince.

The Red Line mines are working a large force of men, regular shipments will commence within the next few months.

The Placito Syndicate, French, are putting in a winter camp at the Silver Tip group of mines, situated on Toby creek, recently bonded from Messrs. Miller and Heek, of Kaseo.

Two thousand dollars worth of supplies are now being packed to the property.

A good strike has been made in the Windermere camp by Robert S. McKinnon. The find is situated between the head of Spring and Boulder creeks, the claim is called the Muck-Muck-a-Chuck. It is a contact ledge between slate and time. The ledge averages about 20 feet in width. Where the ore comes to the surface, it assays about 15 per cent. silver, probably carrying gold and copper.

SOUTH AFRICAN TOWNS.

Just now interest attaches to the South African towns and places briefly mentioned below:

Ladysmith.

Ladysmith, which will probably be the scene of exciting episodes during the campaign, was until recently the terminus of the Natal railway leading to the Transvaal border. It is a town of some 2,000 inhabitants, laid out on a slope near the Klip river, at a distance of about 30 miles from the foot of the Drakenberg range, at an altitude of 3,284 feet above the sea. It is 189 miles from Durban, and it claims as a town to be third in importance in Natal. It has several churches, and among its public buildings are a town hall, a substantial building, erected at a cost of £5,000, court house, gaol and police barracks, and the appearance of the streets and general aspect of the place are not very imposing.

Newcastle.

Newcastle is another border town which will probably play a part in the war. It is situated on the coast, and is the terminus of the Natal railway leading to the Transvaal border. It is a town of some 2,000 inhabitants, laid out on a slope near the Klip river, at a distance of about 30 miles from the foot of the Drakenberg range, at an altitude of 3,284 feet above the sea. It is 189 miles from Durban, and it claims as a town to be third in importance in Natal. It has several churches, and among its public buildings are a town hall, a substantial building, erected at a cost of £5,000, court house, gaol and police barracks, and the appearance of the streets and general aspect of the place are not very imposing.

Harrismith.

Harrismith, which has already been mentioned in the dispatches as a scene of Orange Free State activity, is 240 miles from Durban, and 210 from Bloemfontein. It stands on an elevation of 5,250 feet above sea level, and is built of beautiful white stone, found in the neighboring Table mountains. Although its population is only about 1,600, it is one of the most important trading centres of the Free State, and is the present terminus of the railway. As a health resort, it is largely patronized by residents of Natal. It is likely to receive a considerable importance, as it appears to be the best place for a large part of the well-watered country, lying west of the Drakenberg range.

Ingo Heights.

Ingo Heights, which, according to the reports, have been occupied by the advancing Boers, are traversed by the railway from Natal to the Transvaal. Beyond Ingo Station, which is 28 miles from Durban, and at an elevation of 4,000 feet, the train crosses the Ingo river, and ascends the heights by zigzag, passing the Ingo battle-field, famous in the last Transvaal war. Hereabouts all is historic ground. The line skirts the base of the most renowned of the heights—Majuba Hill—almost crossing the footpath from Nell's house, where the British troops started for the top, and where the preliminary treaty of peace was afterwards signed. Rounding Majuba Hill is the grave of General Colley, the luckless commander who met his end in the battle of the heights. The Boers are now about to be wiped out. Quite near are Laing's Nek and Colonial Deane's grave, and the burial places of the soldiers are scattered about the base of the heights. Descending from the heights towards Charlestown, the railway passes through a tunnel 2,213 feet long. The greater part of the country is open and exposed. During the summer months are frequent, and during the winter it is occasionally very cold. The water is not so good as the heights where the natural drainage is good, the climate is well adapted for agriculture, and the raising of stock. The farmers about their heights carry on their pursuits with more intelligence than in many parts of Cape Colony. Between Charlestown and Majuba Hill was the site of the Boers' camp. It was about Ingo Heights, therefore, that the most humiliating British defeats were experienced. General Sir

George Colley, the governor of Natal and commander-in-chief of the forces, after losing the battle of Majuba, was captured by the Boers, and was taken to the Transvaal, then a British dependency, with a small army of 1,000 men, altogether inadequate for the purpose. His progress was arrested by a Boer commando under General Joubert, and he was taken to the Cape of Good Hope, where he was confined in the passage of Laing's Nek on the 28th of January, 1881, that Colley was driven back on Mount Prospect with heavy loss. Then ten days afterwards came the crushing reverse on the Ingo Heights. There was a fortnight's delay, during which reinforcements arrived, and Colley, with 600 men, executed that amazing night ascent of Majuba Hill. His position was attacked at dawn by a small party of Boers and nearly half the British force, which ran short of ammunition, was killed or wounded. The loss of the Boers in the three engagements barely exceeded a dozen men.

Dundee.

Dundee is 236½ miles from Durban. Near it is a famous gorge at the angle of the Natal territory, close to Vryheid, formerly the capital of the New Republic. The British force at Dundee consists of between 5,000 and 6,000 infantry, several hundred cavalry and mounted infantry, and about twenty guns. This is the centre of the best coalfields in South Africa, with the exception, perhaps, of those at Middleburg in the Transvaal. Coal is now being raised there which not only supplies all the requirements of the railways, but a considerable quantity for shipment. The country is also rich in iron.

Van Reenan's Pass.

Van Reenan's Pass is close to the Orange Free State, and is a railway between Ladysmith and Harrismith. Here the railway pierces the Drakenberg, and there an engagement may be expected with the Free State Boers. The actual strength of the British position at this point is not known, but the force would probably be about 1,500 strong. The line from Ladysmith up to the pass runs through wide spreading pasture land, with occasional Kafir kraals. The last part of the ascent up the pass is accomplished by means of three zig-zags, and Van Reenan is at the summit of the pass, 5,500 feet above sea level. This part of the Drakenberg range exhibits the formation of the isolated tableland, and almost faultless sedimentary strata, so peculiarly a feature of the uplands of South Africa. The scenery is very fine, but it is tamer than might be expected from the importance of the watershed which divides the Indian and Atlantic oceans.

SEEK A MYSTERIOUS ISLAND.

Baron Toll will visit Sannikof Land. In the Arctic Sea.

Baron Toll, one of the scientific explorers who have given Russia pre-eminence for geographical research in the past 20 years, is about to carry out the project he outlined last year for the exploration of Sannikof island. It is barely indicated on the maps as a piece of broken coastline, for no one knows the extent or shape of the island. This explorer has been known for his contributions to our knowledge of the arctic coasts of Siberia and his investigations in the New Siberian Islands. The project he has now in view involves a large expenditure, but he probably would not be starting for Sannikof next summer if the Czar of Russia had not provided the money needed for the expedition. Baron Toll has thus been relieved of anxiety over the financial question, and may give his sole attention to the actual work of exploration.

Jacob Sannikof was a merchant of Yakutsk, on the Lena river, who from 1805 to 1811 made a series of adventurous journeys to the New Siberian Islands. Some of his journeys were made in the service of Mr. Sirovatski of Yakutsk, to whom the government has given a monopoly of the trade in mammoth ivory, skins and furs secured on these islands. On other journeys he was the companion of Matthias Hedenstrom, whose writings are a part of the literature of arctic exploration.