

THE BRITISH AMERICA CORPORATION.

It is stated that the British America Corporation will work the Great Western steadily. The shaft has reached the 100-foot level, and the ledge continues to show a good body of ore, with satisfactory values. The shaft is of double compartment, and Superintendent Moynahan is now at work steadily sinking and timbering. Since the British America Corporation took charge, the shaft, besides being thoroughly repaired, has been sunk practically thirty feet. The drawback at present is the lack of power for drills. At present the drills are being operated by steam, but the boiler capacity is hardly more than enough to work the pump and the hoist, so that the drills are hampered for motive power. Now that the British America Corporation has secured the Columbia and Kootenay mine, more properties are to be worked in the vicinity. Arrangements are being made to commence operations at once on the Royal George, on the east side of the Columbia and Kootenay mountain, about half way between the milk ranch and the Columbia and Kootenay. For the present work will be confined to stripping the claim by surface sluicing, a method but little used heretofore in this camp. Milk creek will be dammed and its waters diverted so as to flow over the claim, and by washing away the surface soil, expose the mineral formation. There is a promising lead of copper ore on the Royal George, and as soon as the property has been prospected in this manner a shaft will be started to open the ledge.

ELECTRIC POWER FOR ROSSLAND MINES.

On the 12th instant a meeting of the West Kootenay Electric Power & Light Company was held at Rossland, when Mr. Oliver Durant was elected President; Mr. W. M. Donell, vice-president; Mr. J. B. McArthur, secretary; Mr. J. M. Smith, treasurer. The directors include Sir Charles Ross, Bart., and Mr. C. R. Hosmer, the latter the well-known man of the C. P. R. The plant of the company at Bonnington Falls is now complete and in shape to generate electricity. All that remains before the company delivers power to the mines of the Rossland camp, is the completion of the local sub-station and the finishing of the line. Unless extraordinarily severe weather sets in this will be done inside of thirty days, and the company is confident that it will be operating by May 15th. Contracts for supplying power have already been closed with the War Eagle Company and the British Columbia Bullion Extracting Company, while negotiations are pending for furnishing motive force for four other properties.

THE CHANNE MINING COMPANY.

This company is now busily developing its copper properties on Hansen island. On these there is a well-defined lead. A few weeks' work has already been done, and sinking on the ore chute is proceeding. Some five tons of ore are being shipped at once to the Vivians' smelter at Swansea, South Wales, whither it is expected shortly to make regular fortnightly shipments averaging over twenty tons. The lead is stated to be five feet wide, cutting through a good slate formation. The Channe Company is, as a result of past mine claim sale transactions, the possessor of £25,000 of stock in the Gold Fields of B. C., Limited. These will in due course be realized, and if, as expected either, at par, or possibly at moderate premiums, the amount thus secured will be utilized in part to pay a substantial first dividend to the Channe Company stockholders. The authorized capital of the company now stands at \$250,000.

THE SCOTTISH CORPORATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

This new British company has asked the investing public for £50,000, out of a total capital of £100,000. The directors include no well-known prominent men, the local board of British Columbia being composed of Major J. M. Armstrong, Mr. W. J. C. Wakefield and Mr. J. L. M. Fraser, all of Rossland. The two first-named are connected with the Le Roi. Mr. Fraser is also consulting engineer of the company.

The prospectus says that the properties acquired by the company have similar indications to the ledge in the Le Roi and War Eagle mines, which enables the proprietors modestly to declare that the properties secured are "of the very choicest of mineral land." These boomed properties are the Queen Victoria group, about ten miles from Rossland; the Pisa and Lorenza, about a mile east of Rossland; the Rabbits' Nest, four and a half miles north of Rossland; and the Ram's Horn in the same vicinity. The vendor is Mr. Charles Bachman, and he has fixed the price at the very big sum of £40,000, payable in shares or cash, at the option of the directors. It is stated that 50,000 shares are to be held in reserve and issued as required. Clearly a better concern for promoters than stockholders.

THE CARIBOO HYDRAULIC.

Work at this mine will be resumed in about a fortnight. Many of the employees of previous seasons are already at the mine, and the manager, Mr. J. B. Hobson, will be there also a few days before the end of the month. Much of the early work of the present season will consist of further ditch making, involving many miles of additional water-course construction with a view to increase greatly the hydraulic working of the mine and probably double the number of gold-gravel working days in ordinary seasons. Ere the season of 1898 closes this, the most important hydraulic gold mine of British Columbia, should be provided with an ample supply of water for all possible requirements. It is to be hoped, too, that as a result of the coming season's work a first dividend of fair amount may reward the patience and good work of those interested in a very solid undertaking, backed by some of the strongest financiers and shrewdest business men of Canada.

THE ATHABASCA.

This Nelson gold mining property is in course of transfer to a strong English syndicate, the purchase money being in part payable in shares of the new company. It is expected, as a result, that the stockholders of the Athabasca will realize a profit on their stock in addition to the shares in the new company transferred to their credit. It is also stated that the new organization will provide further development capital to the extent of \$100,000. A ten-stamp mill will be erected at the mines without delay, to treat such part of the ore as is capable of free milling.

THE DONALD.

Operations have been going on all winter on the Donald claim, on Flat creek, seven and a half miles from Illecillewaet. The property is in under bond from the original owners, D. Wolsley and W. H. Caldwell, to a Vancouver company. Seven men are now at work, who are running a tunnel to strike the shaft, which has been sunk eighty feet on the vein. The proposition is low grade, but a very large ore body has been exposed during development, and there is every indication that this property will turn out a very valuable one.—Revelstoke Herald.