

age of the creek this year is kept secure. Every man is interested in, and therefore should contribute to it if necessary; for drainage; in all mining regions, especially Cariboo, is the secret of permanent success, whatever may be the character of the dirt, whether very rich or only moderately rich.

It is necessary here, while treating upon this branch of the subject, to draw your attention to a stream running into William at this point from the left-hand side, called Stout's Gulch. It also has been a feature, like the great stream itself, in the history of mining in Cariboo, but never hitherto properly understood or appreciated; its glory has yet to come. It is especially an illustration of what perfect drainage will do, and as it presents itself to-day, is the best worked stream I saw in the country. The mouth of the Gulch joining William Creek was commenced in 1863, and worked chiefly the next year, when the water from the latter breaking into it, it has never, I understand, been opened since. The first claim on it from the mouth was the High, Low, Jack, located in 1864, with 5 interests, and in June, 1867, paid a dividend of \$12,000 to the share. The Pioneer Co., located at the same time, paid about the same amount, and was then sold to the Floyd Co., who now own the whole ground from the mouth to the Alturas, above them. This company lost most of last season by their underground drain being filled up, but this is a magnificent claim and will be for a long time, having good pay dirt from 20 to 40 feet wide. The Alturas Co. is next, located in 1864, with 8 interests; from thorough drainage they work their claim to great advantage, making much of it, otherwise valueless, yield well thereby. In five weeks, last summer, they paid off an indebtedness of \$23,000, and have a large amount of ground left. Taft Vale, located 1864, 8 interests, only commenced working thoroughly last summer, by extending the drainage from the claims below, and averaged from 100 to 240 oz. a week. It cost \$30,000 to open this claim in the first instance, having lost five shafts for want of their present drainage. This is also a splendid claim. The Jenkins Co., located 1864, 8 interests, have pay dirt from 30 to 40 feet wide, but from its great width it has never yielded over \$12 a-day to the hand. The Much Oro, located in 1865, 6 interests, realized \$20,000, at a cost of \$15,000. The lead is narrower and richer here than in the Jenkins, and now they have carried on the drain, they will henceforth realize much more. Above are two claims, the Durham and Emery, prospecting for the lead on the upper end, on the left hand side of the flat. I consider this a very important locality, and examined it thoroughly. My observations led me to conclude, that although these two companies occasionally find gold enough to encourage them, it is only a small overshoot from the original lead, the continuation of which eventually will be found above the Much Oro, on the right hand side of the flat; then curving to the left, but con-