

Wild Horse, the next is the Dardenelles group of mines which are situate about 2000 feet above the creek and about three miles from the old placer camp. A good trail of about two miles in length connects the property with the wagon road which follows up the northwest bank of Wild Horse: The ledge is four feet in width and can be traced for over 2000 feet, the country rock being porphyritic slate. A lot of work has been done, showing it up to advantage, one tunnel 140 feet in length, in which the lead shows 18 in. quartz with 15 in. of talc on top and from 4 to 6 in. of solid galena on the bottom, assay returns giving 50 to 100 in gold. These claims were discovered in the summer of 1893 by Banks and Young.

About 1,000 feet higher up the mountain is the Lentz Group, comprising the Lillie May, Lentz, and the McKinley Lode. On the Lillie May there is a tunnel 40 feet in length with a two foot lead of ore in the face; an open rock cut about 50 feet from the tunnel, in ten feet with a six foot face, good surface showing. Above this cut, the lead is exposed to view, being two and a half feet in width at this point. Another rock cut about 200 feet from the tunnel is in nine feet on the face, of which the lead measures 6 feet from wall to wall, with a fine shewing of ore assaying well in gold. The vein can be traced across the Lillie-May onto the quartz lode. This property has been sold to a Spokane company who in all probability will proceed with development work during the coming season.

A mile up stream from the Dardenelles, on the same side, is Wallinger Creek, on which are the Hoodo and Rocky Mountain claims, with a ledge of gold bearing quartz. On the Rocky Mountain there is a shaft 20 feet in depth, the ledge being five feet wide, the ore carrying galena and iron sulphurets assaying \$11 in gold with eleven ounces in silver. At the junction of the east fork and main stream, about a mile from the last mentioned properties, there is what is called the Golden Five Group, located by Charles Elwood and partners in 1894. There are four ledges about 300 feet apart, cutting the formation which is porphyritic slate; they crop out for some distance on the surface, covered at each end with slides; on one, the Big Bend Boy, a tunnel has been run in 30 feet. An open cut has also been run along the ledge, showing an ore body of about two and a half feet in width. Up on the east fork, those claims which are the greatest distance away from its junction with the main stream are the Hidden Hand and Iron Mask, having an iron cap some fifty feet in width and eight or ten feet in thickness. The ore is chloanthite, assaying 23 ounces in silver and \$5 in gold, with eight per cent. nickel. Following down this branch we come to the Nancy Hanks, Sweepstakes and Maud S. The lead on these claims is about 400 feet wide, the ore iron sulphurets carrying gold and silver; the country rock being slate on one side with lime on the other. Four hundred feet of the lead has been exposed to view by washing the face of the ledge from a ditch run in from the creek; one tunnel has been run in for fifteen feet, and six cuts at a distance of about sixty feet apart, from three to six feet in length, on all of which there is ore in sight. The lead crosses the creek from the Sweepstakes to the Nancy Hanks, in fact the lead is in some places the bed of the creek. Not far away, in the same vicinity, are the Neosha and the Hiyue; the lead is an iron cap about 24 feet in width, the ore, galena, assaying 81 ounces in silver, and \$5 in gold. Last, but not least, are the claims up Victoria Gulch, on the northwest side of the creek, about opposite the Dardenelles Group. Up at the head of the gulch, near the top of the mountain, and right back of the old placer camp, is situated a claim belonging to Wm. Voss, which was dis-

covered and located in 1887, and has the honor of being the first quartz location on the creek; the ledge is about 60 feet in width and will concentrate from two and a half to 115 into one. A tunnel has been run in, cutting the ledge and showing a fine body of ore which averages 20 ounces in silver, 35 per cent. lead and \$3 in gold. Between this point and the mouth of the gulch there are six claims, all of which have well defined ledges of gold bearing quartz. All these properties mentioned have the advantage of being within easy reach of the main stream, down the banks of which a wagon road has been made, connecting this region with the Kootenay at Fort Steele, there is also unrivalled water power, and an unlimited supply of timber, so there is no reason to doubt that in a very short time mining will be carried on in earnest, which will necessitate the building of a stamp mill or smelter in the vicinity.

Donald.

[COMMUNICATED.]

THE TOWN OF DONALD, delightfully situated at the foot of the Selkirk range of mountains about one mile from the first crossing of the Columbia River by the C. P. R., is the end of the Western and commencement of the Pacific Division, and is distant 2,445 miles from Montreal and 458 miles from Vancouver. Eleven years ago construction of the railway reached Donald and from that time the town rose, as it were, from out of the silent forest, roamed by Indians and wild animals, and at the present time contains between 300 and 400 inhabitants and about 100 residences. The majority of the inhabitants are employees of the railway, Donald being the headquarters of the mountain section, where repair shops, etc., are built. Large stores belonging to the company supply what is required in the repairs of engines, cars, etc., and a supply store is also here where the employees obtain their supplies. The manager, or superintendent, of the Pacific Division is Mr. R. Marpole, whose energetic movements are proverbial, as he is continually visiting every section of his division and thoroughly inspecting the same, hence an accident is hardly ever heard of. The C. P. R. hospital for the use of the employees is at Donald and a professional gentleman and a nurse are in attendance. I would remark that a more healthy country, however, cannot be found, and I speak for all East Kootenay, that out of from 2,000 to 3,000 people an average of fifteen deaths a year would cover all. Very little work is carried on here outside of the C. P. R., but mills and logging camps are operated in the neighborhood. The court house for the county and the gaol is here located, in which the sheriff of Kootenay has his headquarters. There are thousands of acres of good land at and near to Donald outside of what is owned by the railway company. Many applications have been made for the same, but the circumlocution office is so run at Ottawa that one gets tired of waiting their pleasure; hence those who would settle around in farming go elsewhere. These lands are within the railway belt which I suppose accounts for the state of affairs. If they still belonged to the Province pre-emptions would have been obtained, and, I venture to say, many happy homes would be carved out of what is now isolation, and the produce and resources from the same would give abundance to the inhabitants. On the contrary, nearly everything