

British Columbia Mining Critic.

"I Am Nothing, if Not Critical."—Shakespeare.

Vol. I. No. 12.

VANCOUVER, B. C., THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1897.

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A WESTERN EDITORIAL APPEAL.

The New Denver *Ledge* has appeared in new and much enlarged form and possessed as of yore of all the wonted sprightliness of observation at the command of its well-known editor and proprietor, Mr. R. T. Lowery. His appeal to subscribers and possible subscribers is, as usual, amusing and worth quoting. If only for the amusement of readers of the *Mining Critic* beyond the bounds of B. C., whose acquaintance with Western mine camp humor of the press is naturally limited. This is what Brother Lowery has to say:

"Kind and much-admired paid-up-subscriber, you will notice that this paper, which has never been snowslided by cheap silver or raided by the sheriff, is much larger today and has a different face than it had last week.

"In order to bring about this change we have installed machinery and machinery in our office that is the finest in the world for a town no larger than New Denver. It is entirely out of keeping with the local support, but as the *Ledge* draws its revenue from the world at large we have been enabled to do all things with a view to publishing a journal that will not act as a sedative upon its reader. We will make more improvements this month, and the limit to our progress will only be marked by the pay chute. If the public, especially those most interested, wish to see this paper continue its upward career they will have to dig up more collateral from their jeans than some have done in the past. We do not want any praise. Just roll the dollars toward us, and we will print a paper whose pace will be so hot that its trail cannot be stepped upon by any of the numerous jackleg papers that are springing up all over Kootenay."

The worthy editor of the *Ledge* has experienced not a few professional vicissitudes, and camped journalistically in many fields. Now, having gradually made his way "to stay" at New Denver, after a wait around Kaslo, he is able to smile at the thought of free silver snow-slides and sheriffs' raids and have a little crow over certain younger issues that he calleth "jacklegs."

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