

gress for the past two months) can to-day be placed among the leading and most promising claims on the hill. The shaft is down forty-five feet and the owners, who are practical miners, intend to cross-cut the vein in fifty feet. A fine lot of ore is now on the dump, and this mine will no doubt be among the first shippers.

W. Thos. Newman is now opening the Jesse James. Geo. B. Guthrie has commenced work on the Crail. The Isabel, owned by J. L. Brown, is showing up splendidly. The Kimberley Company's tunnel on the Charlotte is now in about sixty feet. This is calculated to tap the vein at a hundred foot level. The Despatcher, situated a little east of the Kimberley group, assays from samples taken four feet below the surface 114 ounces in silver and traces of gold. The Norma is showing strong indications of becoming a mine.

A. G. Thynne, of Rankin & Thynne, Vancouver mining brokers, has secured a bond on the Browne for \$3,000; \$300 cash, \$100 to be expended in work, the remaining \$2,600 in ninety days. Two shafts are being sunk simultaneously on the Preliminary (one of the Joko Lake Mining Company group) with such satisfactory results as to justify preparations for operations on an extensive scale. Work has also been resumed on the Python, the pioneer of the camp.

No doubt the most important mining transactions of the month were those in connection with the transfer of the Iron Cap and the Desmond to Patsy Clark, (president of the War Eagle Mining Company, of Rossland, B.C.) the consideration being \$20,000. It will be remembered that the Iron Cap was only purchased a few weeks previous to this deal from the original locators for \$5,000 by a local combination composed of F. P. Carey one half, J. H. Morrison one quarter, M. D. Mahoney one eighth, Alex. Grant one sixteenth, and Dr. Lambert one sixteenth. The deal, which was consummated through W. H. Taylor, on behalf of Patsy Clark, practically amounts to a bond for one year in the sum of \$20,000, payments being regulated making \$5,000 payable on the 15th of July next, \$2,500 on the 18th of October, \$2,500 in January, 1898, and the balance, \$10,000, on or before the 27th of May, 1898. After the first payment of \$5,000, however, Mr. Clark has the privilege of shipping ore. In addition Mr. Taylor has secured for his chief bonds on the two fractions surrounding the Iron Cap and Desmond, the latter itself a fraction, viz., the Fragment, of Dr. M. S. Wade; the McLeod, of J. H. Russell and J. L. Brown, for \$2,500 each. These salient facts tell a striking story which cannot but inspire confidence, because men like Patsy Clark, W. H. Taylor, L. W. Nestelle, H. Stevenson and Parks, A. H. Craver and J. Marrash, are not apt to make mining investments unless thoroughly convinced that they are safe. They are men of wide experience who have visited the camp and from what they see they have been induced to give it a trial. The appearance of these men is important, because they are either in possession of capital themselves or are backed by those who have it, hence it is fair to say that the Coal Hill Camp is now about to be placed on a solid basis.

We were visited during the month by a number of men high in mining circles. Among them were Julius H. Saussman, the official mining expert of the Canadian Pacific Railway; J. Marrash, representing the New Gold Field Company, London, England;

Patsy Clark, president of the War Eagle Mining Company, Rossland, B.C.; Napoleon Wells, mining expert, New York, U. S. A.; the Hon. Thomas Mayne Daly and W. Pellew Harvey, mining engineer and assayer, Vancouver, B.C., all men of wide mining experience, who have without exception expressed themselves in highly favourable terms of the showing at this stage of the camp's development. Now all that remains is the application of capital to enable us to see what lies beneath the surface.

JOHN F. SMITH.

New Denver Notes.

THINGS generally are beginning to resume their normal aspect after the temporary inflation at Slocan City, the summer, with its fine weather, is full upon us and the towns present a quiet appearance after the animated spring, owing to the annual exodus of all sorts and conditions of men to the mountains. While Slocan City is for the moment in the descendent, the busy little burg situated at the mouth of Four Mile Creek is decidedly the reverse. Lots have gone up to an unprecedented figure and new buildings are being erected as fast as lumber can be obtained. The cause of this is not far to seek, beginning with the Two Friends failure, those who pinned their faith to the Springer Creek country are again woefully chagrined at the turn affairs have taken in respect to the Skylark, Ranger and Chap-leau, claims originally under bond to the Hall Mines Co., of Nelson, but now unfortunately relinquished. This is rendered the more aggravating by the certain knowledge that they are all looking exceedingly well, and on the surface it appears to be merely another instance exemplifying conspicuously the iniquity of demanding initial payments. At Silverton, on the other hand, a reported immense strike of ore on the Galena Farm, in conjunction with the fact that the Thompson, Fisher Maiden, Vancouver and Wakefield are all doing well, has given an additional stimulus to investors in that section. It is worthy of notice that no satisfactory explanation has yet been given as to why the Alpha, a property that has shipped over a thousand tons of high grade ore in the past, should remain inactive for so long a period; it is all the more remarkable when we take into consideration the fact that rich ore has only recently been found in large quantities just below it.

The course which will be ultimately pursued by the directors of the Bondholder Mining Co. has not yet been determined upon, another payment is now due, but in the meantime the property remains idle.

Hugh Sutherland is again in the Slocan, presumably with the intention of either restarting or terminating definitely work on the Silver Nugget, a property which he has on Eight Mile under bond.

The heavy rains of last week are responsible for considerable damage to the Ten Mile waggon road, which will have to be repaired before active shipping operations can again take place.

The B.C. Association of Mining Engineers held their summer meeting here last week, and everything considered it was a decided success. With proper management this is destined to become a very important society, in fact the leading technical society in B.C., and everything possible should be done to encourage it.

HOWARD WEST.