

Mining at Mount Sicker

Rich Properties That Are Turning Out a Stream Of Ore.

The Work Being Done and the Prospect of More Development.

The almost unparalleled success of the Lenora mine, the exposure of the big bodies of ore on the Tyhee claim directly above the Lenora and the extensive development work on both these claims here in Victoria, has converted an apparently barren mountain into an active mining camp, and has attracted widespread attention on the Pacific Coast.

With the development of the claims recently purchased for \$335,000 by W. A. Dier, Superintendent of the mine, and by F. J. Pearson, who practically joined the Lenora, and contain the same ledge; and with the opening up of the properties owned by B. C. and the Vancouver and Mt. Sicker Syndicate, it is not unreasonable to believe the prospect made by many mining men, that Mt. Sicker will be the prize camp of British Columbia in less than 12 months' time. There are indeed many who claim that the Lenora will be a second Comstock, and that Mt. Sicker holds now as important a place in the mining world as Roseland, and will soon be far in the lead of Kootenay's copper camp.

News of the recent strike on the Lenora and Tyhee have attracted many visitors to the camp, and the great number of people who would like to go through the workings of the mine would seriously interfere with the mining operations if their wishes were acceded to, so that it has been found necessary to exclude all visitors from the workings unless they are in possession of properly signed passes.

Last week a party consisting of Almore Dier, son of A. W. Dier, Victoria; E. Smith, a capitalist of Victoria; New York; A. Allayne Jones, of Vancouver; and a Colonist correspondent were fortunate enough to secure the necessary permission to inspect the Tyhee and Lenora mines. The trip was taken in fine

Bay. It is claimed that at present there is at least one million dollars worth of ore in sight on the Lenora which will last the company a long time at the present rate of shipping without further development. The visiting party was convinced of the truthfulness of many of these reports after their inspection of the mines. On arriving at the camp the visitors lost no time in presenting their credentials, and after eating a hasty dinner at the Lenora dining cabin, they were taken in charge by Mr. Buxton, who showed them the greatest attention and kindness, even providing them with suitable garments for the dripping, slimy caverns underground. About two in the afternoon, the heads of the party disappeared one after another down a great timbered hole in the side of the mountain and did not appear for several hours from the lower shaft of the mine until one hour later.

The quartette in the meantime had inspected eighteen corridors or stopes of the mine. Superintendent Buxton was very reluctant in expressing his opinion of the richness of the ore inspected, and the future possibility of the mine, but nevertheless more than patient in answering the numerous questions fired at him by the enthusiastic and greatly interested visitors in his charge. While every statement made by Mr. Buxton was demonstrated to be true to the satisfaction of those present. He advanced no theories and would make no comments beyond what was necessary in showing the party through the workings of the mine. In spite of this the visitors were profoundly impressed with what they saw, and although many reports have been published as to the richness of the mines, actually seeing the ore themselves was a revelation to them. It was the vastness of the ore bodies glittering with copper in the candle light which was particularly impressive, which is a fact that is an accepted fact, but no one can realize what a vast quantity of the ore is until they have visited the mine and passed along the corridors with ore rich in copper to the right of them; to the left of them; above their heads; and beneath their feet. It was with ever increasing enthusiasm that the visitors climbed down sixteen flights of ladders and at each stop examined every rich copper ore knocked off with Mr. Buxton's hammer every yard or so of their progress. Ore, ore, everywhere, and the great quantities of specimens, running \$25 to the ton, were made up by the visitors, and advanced towards the lower workings, until the visitors became dissatisfied with ordinary specimens, running \$25 to the ton, and urged the superintendent to take them to the part of the mine where the exceedingly rich strike had been recently made. Mr. Buxton, however, was reticent regarding this strike and it was only after repeated requests that the visit-

same ledge as the Lenora. He went to elaborate pains to show that the bleached, brown capping was identical with that found on the mountain top running through the Tyhee and the Lenora, and that the different grades of ore uncovered were the same as the Lenora ore. Specimens from all claims were compared in detail and certainly demonstrated the truth of Mr. Pearson's claims. To all intents and purposes the Victoria claim and the Copper Canyon claim below it were mines as well as the Lenora, from the Victoria to the parties did or walked down the Copper Canyon claim 950 feet further to the Chemainus river. Here the river had cut the ore body in two. Tunnels had been driven in on both sides of the stream disclosing a fine body of ore, while the capping and the ore itself was again found to be the Lenora and Tyhee ore and capping. In the words of Mr. Pearson, "The discov-

er if the Lenora had the ledge below there must be a commencement somewhere above. The claim was staked and subsequently sold to the Tyhee Copper Company of London, England. Two shafts were sunk, the first did not hit the vein, the second did. Down this narrow dark hole the visitors were swirled in a bucket and chain operated by an engine; one at a time went down and it was a 200-foot drop, that was one mode of traveling that the visitors did not get used to, they much preferred going down the shaft by ladders, as in the Lenora, however, they trusted themselves to the kind offices of Mr. Musgrave, the superintendent in charge, and he brought them through the ordeal without a hitch. After very considerable explaining that when the chain slipped on the cog and the bucket dropped a little they must not think they were going to the bottom with a bang. The working of the Tyhee

LENORA DUMP.

THE BIG 'SUM-UP.'

Figuring Out Results of Census in Great Britain.

From London Leader.

In a galvanized iron shed at Millbank 200 arithmeticians are preparing for a big addition sum.

Forty thousand assistants in every corner of the country, are writing out the lines to be added up, and the result of the sum will tell us how many people there are in England and Wales.

It is popularly supposed that the registrar-general's staff deals direct with every census paper collected, and make their abstracts from the original schedules. That is not so. It is the business of every enumerator to copy all his schedules into a book. It is the business of the registrar to see that the copies are carefully made, to add up the total of heads for his district. And it is the business of the Millbank staff to add up the totals into one grand total, and to proclaim it to the world.

These figures are given at the earliest possible moment. Ten years ago the preliminary report was out in three months. It will probably be out in two months this year. The figures are not yet final, but the foreground is ready. All the material for comparison are in their pigeon-holes. The big sum will be done with neatness and despatch.

By Whitsuntide, or soon afterwards, every city and hamlet will be plugging its nose with figures, or trying to find reasons for its decrease.

The mathematicians at Millbank are very modest about this stupendous addition sum of theirs. Anybody could do it. Their work comes later, when they make up the abstract tables. There are forty-four sets of these, designed to show what manner of people are, and how many go to each section.

Among interesting lessons to be drawn from these figures are the distribution of population, the migration of people from the country to the cities, the overcrowding in big towns, the nature and variety of the occupations, and the soundness of the nation as shown by the proportion of people who are infirm in mind or in faculties of their bodies. Anybody could do it. Their work comes later, when they make up the abstract tables. There are forty-four sets of these, designed to show what manner of people are, and how many go to each section.

Macdonell Discharged

Magistrates Decide That Cox Charges Were Not Well Founded.

The Defendant Makes a Statement of Interest to Victorians.

Rex v. Macdonell, which has occupied the attention of the public for the past ten days, came to an end last night with the dismissal of the case by Messrs. Pearson and McMicking, J. P.'s, who had listened to the conflicting evidence for many weary hours with a patience and forbearance seldom equalled on the magisterial bench.

Proceedings were resumed at 3 p.m., when Mr. Duff put in an affidavit in support of the Full Court in the Patterson case, dated October 20, 1897, also copy of Cox's evidence in the Lang case. In his examination in chief, Mr. Duff argued that the prosecution had utterly failed to substantiate the charge of fraudulently converting money as alleged in the indictment. The defence acknowledged having received a receipt for \$240 from Cox, but submitted that that document was just what it appeared to be on its face, a receipt for money previously paid by the accused to the private prosecutor. It was necessary to Macdonell to produce a voucher to enable him to tax his costs in the Lang case. Mr. Duff then gave him a lengthy explanation of the bill of costs in the Lang case, claiming that the \$240 receipt was to be used as a voucher on the taxation, whereas the prosecution pretended the receipt was to enable Macdonell to receive money for which he was liable to Cox.

Counsel proceeded to discredit Cox's evidence, pointing out contradictory statements in several instances, both in his examination in chief, and under cross-examination, especially with regard to the signing of the receipt of which at one place he denied all remembrance and which described minutely the circumstances under which it was signed.

He claimed the defence was consistent with the facts and with the documents filed. On the other hand, Cox had shown at every turn that he was not telling the truth. Cox has sworn that he instructed Mr. Mills to take present proceedings for the purpose of collecting money due him from Macdonell; and again that the action was brought to punish Macdonell for wrongdoing.

His client had received nothing on account of the receipt and therefore there could be no fraudulent conversion. Macdonell settled with his client for \$5,000, a bill of costs amounting to \$13,500, so even if the \$240, covered by the receipt, could be held as included in his bill of costs, he only received 5.13 of it. He has acted as set off against the amount now pending before the courts and if defendant was compelled to pay his bill of costs this very item of \$13,500 might be disallowed. What would become of the present action in that case?

Mr. Duff closed his argument by complimenting their honours on the patient and courteous attention which they had given to the case.

Mr. Mills decried all personal motive in bringing and prosecuting the action, declaring it was an effort to secure justice for his client. He submitted that in addition to the charges under investigation the evidence showed that the accused was guilty of another serious offence in concealing the amount of interest due in the Patterson case. Further, that the evidence disclosed another criminal offence in Macdonell's procuring an assignment of interest in the Lang case by false pretences.

He dwelt at some length on the contradictory nature of Macdonell's evidence with reference to the Patterson case. He then went into an exhaustive criticism of Macdonell's conduct of the Point Ellice bridge cases, charging that they were unworthy of an honorable lawyer.

Mr. Mills admitted that Cox had shown some interest in the continuing preservation. Hundreds of applicants were made after the last census for permission to inspect part of the papers on some parish or other. They were all refused. A new method of publication will be adopted. The report will be issued in county parts, and each part will be complete and final so far as that county is concerned. London will come out first.

It took three years to complete the reports after the last census. It is all probability that record will be well beaten.

"Did you say that young man in the parish tried to kiss you, dear?" said the young stewardess.

"And did you tell him you would call on him?"

"No! I didn't; do you think no one in the house wants to be kissed by you?"—Yorkshire Times.

"The evidence now given by Cox shows that he committed perjury on the trial of the Lang case, and the people of Victoria will have the dissatisfaction of knowing that I had in no way anything to do with his giving his evidence in the bridge case other than asking him to tell the truth."

"In reference to these proceedings, I can sincerely sympathize with Your Honour for the patient hearing you have given this trial. Had I submitted to be blackmailed by Mills these proceedings would not have taken place, but no one now is more pleased than myself that such proceedings were taken."

Mr. Macdonell was warmly congratulated on the result by his many friends in court.

TO SUPPRESS BOXERS.

Germans Offer to Put Down Rising With Allies Co-operation.

London, May 10.—Dr. Morrison, writing to the Times from Pekin, May 13, says: "The German staff have notified the allies of their intention to send another expedition to suppress the Boxers in the southern part of the province of Chihli, beyond Chung Ching, and have invited the co-operation of the allies. The departure of French troops has been countermanded."

I Passed

Res a Sensation in the City.

Ammunition In Was Almost Used.

summing up the trial in the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour, government leader, was as usual hostile to the dock, secretary for the home department, and that it would be unanimously among the members of the proposed scheme and groundless. The scheme was inconsistent with the public interest and would be a crime against the law.

speech, Mr. Balfour made a statement that at the end of 1899 Britain only \$3,000,000 in ammunition, with the guns in reference to the war, Mr. Balfour at period, and so I never mean to add, nor to throw risk of such a war.

upon Mr. Balfour, referring to his discretion. It is his duty to be consulted, and subsequent discussion was adopted by the House.

SUICIDE.

Shot Through the Head.

Advertiser states the corpse of John was found in a ditch near the creek. When discovered, a bullet from the man's head, Winchester rifle, was found in the man's body.

WEDNESDAY.

Admission—War Office with President. It is understood with Ecuador, respondent of the purpose of buying the land, the commission appointed early in the afternoon, to consider war ration that is at the rate of the Queen Victoria.

ROBLEM.

Having Operation night shall be held. The by-law was broken down Saturday morning, and the by-law was broken down Sunday morning, and the by-law was broken down Sunday morning, and the by-law was broken down Sunday morning.

funeral of the late residence, No. 143, p. m., and at 2:45 services were performed by Rev. J. H. S. Sweet. W. D. Barber, at. There was a funeral in the afternoon, the body was interred at St. John's.

who suffer from should use (but which are made by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

CHEMAINUS RIVER AT COPPER CANYON.

ere shown the spot, but no thorough examination was made. The party entered the shaft in the upper workings where the ore was from six to eight feet wide, but as ladder after ladder was descended, the narrow roadway gradually widened out more and more until several of the lower stopes measured only a few feet in width. The ore in the body as far as it had been developed is in the shape of an inverted wedge, which would appear to bear out the theory of the formation of a deposit widens out into a narrow channel, and runs into stringers and again widens out into a big mass of ore. Each corridor varies from 150 to 175 feet long and 6 to 12 inches high, with substantial floorings and ceilings of solid ore. Mr. Buxton would not express an opinion as to the amount of ore in sight, but the above description at least gives some idea of the enormous quantity of ore now being stored. Mr. Buxton being urged to tell something of the rich strike after the visit had been paid to the mine acknowledged that he had hit upon very highly mineralized ore about fifty feet from the surface in the lower tunnel, some time ago.

They had explored the vein but after proving it to be three feet in width had done no further work upon it, except proving it at three different levels. Now, however, that an extremely rich strike had been made on the Tyhee above them also three feet wide, containing grey copper and silvite the same as the Lenora, and two gold pieces showing free gold 1.16 x 1.4 x 5.8 inches of native gold, the rich vein would be thoroughly explored, as it was a continuous vein, running through the Tyhee and the Lenora. Mr. Buxton gave the visitors small specimens of this rich ore on the understanding that they were to be simply kept as pocket specimens and not assayed. On the superintendent being asked as to how rich the ore ran he stated that it would average several hundred dollars per ton, and specimens of course would run up into the thousands.

There are at present sixty miners engaged on the Lenora besides some forty ore sorters, so only the rich ore is shipped. According to Mr. Buxton the ore practically thrown away on the dump by the Lenora company is valued at \$12 to \$14 a ton, and there are 16,000 tons of it. This of course will be all treated by the Lenora company in the future.

TYHEE PLANT.

up the side of Mt. Brenton and on to the other slope. At the river side the party camped for the night and were royally entertained by good substantial refreshments and camp fire anecdotes, and the thrilling personal experiences of miners working on the Dier properties, actual happenings in their perilous callings. Next morning the mountain was climbed again to the very top and the new family of a double by several open cuts and outcroppings that this property, that he himself located six years ago, contained

the Lenora ledge. Mr. Musgrave states that smelter tests have proved that the Tyhee ledge is of the same richness as the Lenora ledge. The Tyhee company have decided to block out ore for the next two years before they commence to treat it extensively by their own smelting plant. Mr. Musgrave was enthusiastic over the rich strike of grey copper ore found in the Tyhee. It took some time in showing the visitors the extremely rich deposits, and explaining how it had been discovered. Mr. Musgrave

half of the quarter had not been told and the conviction that whatever might be written would convey to the public a very incorrect idea of what was really being done in the way of development work of the great richness of the mineral deposits, and the enormous measurable possibilities of the Mount Sicker mining camp.

Three Star Martell can be obtained from all dealers.



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