

BANKERS TOO STRONG FOR SILVER.

The great London bankers and financiers, who are with a very few exceptions gold men, have coerced the Imperial Government, many of whose members are bimetalists, into a practical refusal to aid, by international conference or otherwise, the cause of a double standard. The banks increase their dividends by the gradual accretion of gold values. Here too in Canada the big field of paper issue which the State allows them is so exceptionally profitable, that they seem to desire no metallic expansion of the currency. Fortunately, the best among our B. C. silver properties are good enough to pay fairly, even with so very legislatively and artificially depreciated, and we have ample treasure in copper-gold ore to boot.

TALL TALK.

The London, Eng., Daily Mail, which has lately taken to booming Clondyke, states that a Mr. John Mackie, late of Canada's Frontier Police—by which it doubtless means the North West Mounted Police—will next spring pilot a party to the northern gold fields. Mr. Mackie has had, it would seem, an Australian as well as Canadian experience and written a novel of Antipodean bush life. He has, according to the Mail, a wonderful bump of locality, and what is more, "knows every inch of British Columbia." A remarkably man truly, the last statement proving Mackie almost a greater discoverer than Livingstone himself, considering that as about a third of B. C. is practically unexplored he must have obtained the wondrous knowledge of our vast province wherewith the Mail credits him, by intuition. Mackie is to make the Clondyke, it seems, from inland Canada, probably via Edmonton, whence, by the bye, those who lately tried the route describe access to the Clondyke as practically impossible. Who in B. C. has met this wonderful provincial explorer, Mackie. The MINING CRITIC would like to know more about so remarkable a man, whose achievements in discovering unknown B. C. have proved so remarkably successful.

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