

SLOCAN NOTES.

An important strike is reported on the Ben Mitchell mineral claim, on Twelve-Mile. A three-foot ledge, the surface quartz assaying something over \$125 a ton in gold and silver, has been encountered.

The recent strike on the Stranger claim, in Jackson Basin, is proving even better than was expected. At last accounts the drift showed 12 inches of ore in the face. Three men took out 20 sacks of ore in one shift last week. Lumber for buildings is being taken up the Jackson road. The force will be enlarged shortly, and the property extensively developed.

Mr. J. Warne has returned from Idaho to commence work on some South Fork properties in which he is interested, the Montana group. Some heavy eastern capitalists, represented by Mr. George A. Eastman, are interested, and an active season's work is expected.

Three men have been at work all summer on the Silver Hill, Martin Bros.' claim. Some rich ore has been taken out, and shipping will be commenced in the near future. Assays on this property run as high as 600 ounces. Eighty tons shipped last fall ran 239 ounces.

Work on the Montezuma concentrator is being pushed with all possible haste. The building has been erected and enclosed, and the large force of mechanics is now engaged framing jigs, round tables, etc. Two cars of machinery are now at Nashville, to be transferred to the mill as rapidly as possible. The mill and tramway will probably be in operation in six weeks.

Fourteen men are now working on the Fidelity group, under Foreman McKay. Two tunnels are being driven under the cone of the hill from either side, and when they meet stoping to the surface will commence. It is thought the small apex will yield 300 tons of ore. In the breast of the main tunnel, 18 inches of solid steel galena is shown, of very high grade. Forty tons of this ore has been sacked, and will be shipped at once, being packed from the mine to the lake shore, where the C. P. R. will handle it. This ore is expected to net \$150 per ton over all expenses. Shipments will be kept up all winter.

Hugh McNaughton has three men at work on his claims, the Simcoe group, on Long Creek, a branch of the South Fork. They are opening up the ledge and preparing buildings, etc., for the winter's work.

Fourteen men are at work on the Liberty Hill on South Fork. About 150 tons of concentrating ore has been taken out from the No. 1 tunnel, which will be shipped as soon as rawhiding can be commenced.

Preparations for an active winter's work are under way at the Red Fox claim. Lumber is being packed up for bunk houses, ore bins, etc., and a large

force is to be put on as soon as possible. The Red Fox promises to be a steady shipper this winter.

A rich find of free gold has been made on a claim on Lemon Creek, opposite the new townsite, by Mr. William Brasch. The samples contain large nuggets of free gold, and the ledge is said to be from 18 inches to three feet in width, and can be traced 3,000 feet. The British Canadian Gold Fields Company has the property under bond.

GOLD IN ENGLAND.

There is gold of course in plenty in England, or at least at England's command in the form of coin and bullion. But it is not generally known that there is quite a possibility of the discovery of a workable gold reef in south western England, within the limits of one of the most richly mineralised counties in England, namely Cornwall. Mr. E. W. Newton, F. G. S., of Camborne, however, recently submitted a paper to a meeting of Cornish scientific societies, in which he touched on the subject of gold in Cornwall.

"Gold," he then said, "has never been found in any marketable quantities but traces have been obtained in many localities. Many authorities also state that the geological formation in many parts of the country, especially near the Lizard, is very similar to gold-producing localities abroad. At Manaccan, near Lizard, titaniferous iron exists largely as river sand, and if this sand be carefully vanned traces of gold are easily obtainable. But the finest specimens have been got from the Carnon Valley Steam Works, most of which was bought by the late Mr. John Michael Williams from the miners. The largest nuggets weigh about 2 oz., and vary in size down to small specks.

"It is quite probable it may yet be discovered in paying quantities in the county, as it is generally found in such a finely-divided state that it may easily be overlooked unless specially sought after. Cornwall also is such a highly mineralized county that there is no reason whatever why a profitable reef should not be discovered. As gold has been found in alluvial deposits, the natural inference must be that it still exists in situ at some place not far distant."

THE BLUE BELLS.

Mr. Banfield, superintendent of the London company that has banded the Blue Bells on Frederick Arm, came down from the north coast on Sunday by the steamer Comox. An additional building has been erected, and a larger force of men will be put on shortly, with a view to developing the property as fast as possible. The tunnel was in seventy-three feet when Mr. Banfield left, and the last 20 feet were in ore, with no signs of the hanging wall.

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