

ROSSLAND NOTES.

The shaft on the Red Eagle is down 35 feet and the tunnel is in about 40 feet. The former is in rich ore.

The Penobscot Mine on Stony Creek has been sold to a Vancouver syndicate for \$5,000.

A sample from the tunnel on the Columbia-Kootenay at a distance of 400 feet shows \$30 in gold, with a large body of ore.

Assays from No. 2 tunnel on the War Eagle run from \$100 and upwards, one running up to \$190.

Samples from the Victory tunnel assay up to \$4 in gold besides 8 oz. silver and 12½ per cent. copper.

Samples from the drifts in the Deer Park give an average of \$30 per ton.

The Iron Colt and the Colonna have both given orders for machinery to the Ingersoll Rock Drill Co.

The Le Roi has engaged eight cars a day for shipping ore to the smelter and the Josie has ordered two cars daily.

A good strike has been made in the shaft on the Iron slope at a depth of 25 feet, the assay showing \$25.20 in gold,

The vein in the Le Roi continues to improve, assays now bearing \$48 in gold, 2 oz. silver and 10 per cent. of copper.

The St. Paul shows a ledge of splendid white quartz which gave \$16 in gold.

COL. NORTH'S VIEWS.

The Colonies and India, London, Eng., gives the following opinion of Col. F. W. North the renowned mining expert.

"In August of the present year Mr. North was invited to visit British Columbia, and, going by way of Spokane, United States, he made his headquarters at Rossland, West Kootenay, shortly after the railway line had been extended there. After carefully examining Rossland, and its neighborhood, which, he believes, will be a great mining centre in the future he declares the development of the province to be in a specially forward state and ripe for further railway extension. High-grade ore, of course, pays, but additional tramways and smelters will further at an early date provide a profit even on the lower grade ores. Again, the Slovan district, lying between the Slovan and Kootenay lakes, with its centre at Sandon, will before very long yield marvellous returns in silver, a metal which would pay to produce even at the low price of 1s 6d per ounce. Mr. North's advice, in short, is not to see Naples and die but to go to British Columbia and take a full of perfect scenery, climate and access to the real original Tom Tiddler's ground of the universe, many parts of which have remained, up to the present, absolutely untouched.

THE PAYNE'S SHIPMENTS.

George W. Hughes was in Kaslo the other day. He is enthusiastic over the outlook in the Slovan country. He says that the improvement everywhere is most marked. It is not shown in any one property, nor in one locality, but everywhere throughout the Slovan district, where values are being developed by leaps and bounds. The Payne group, which is already a heavy shipper, will send out in the early future fully 50 tons per day.—Nelson Tribune.

SAVING FINE GOLD.

In the very earliest records of metal-hurgy we find evidences that the problem of saving fine gold, both from placers and ore, has received a good deal of attention. The arguments that we hear to-day for and against concentration versus amalgamation and fine crushing and sizing are far from new. Perhaps the discussion will never cease.

When the Plattner or chlorination process was introduced, it was supposed that the problem of saving the fine gold which is lost by ordinary mill methods was solved. With good reason men said these fine particles can be dissolved very readily, and then it is easy to recover all the gold from the liquid by precipitation and filtration. But, while it saved a much larger percentage of value than the stamp mills, it did not always result in profit. Now the chlorination method has a formidable rival in the cyanide process.

When one appreciates the extreme fineness of gold as it exists in ore, the problem of saving it grows in magnitude. For illustration, take the ordinary stamp mill ore carrying \$5 a ton. Every ounce of gold is hidden in over 110,000 ounces of quartz. When it has been run through stamps and 70 per cent. of its value saved, every part of gold that is lost is hidden in 390,000 parts of quartz. An ounce of gold can be beaten into gold leaf and cut into 4,000,000 particles, each making a visible "color." Still there is far more gold in ore which can be seen only with a microscope than can be seen with the unaided eye.

The loss in the stamp mill, even though in most cases it is the only profitable method of treating low grade gold-bearing ore, is simply enormous. If each stamp crushes ore worth \$5 per day, and saves 70 per cent., it wastes \$1.50 per day, or in 300 working days \$450. For every hundred stamps there is run into the tailings \$45,000 each 300 working days, which is about the average working year. This has been going on in the United States for forty years, and in the aggregate it reaches a sum which cannot be comprehended. The loss does not all go into the tailings, which can be impounded and saved. Much of it is in such infinitely fine particles that it floats away in the water from which it can be settled only after standing at rest for hours. How to save this fine gold at a profit is the problem over which the metallurgists and mill men are working by day and dreaming by night.—Denver Mining Industry.

RAILWAY EXTENSION IN B. C.

The Trail Creek and Columbia Railway Company is giving notice of their intention to apply for an act to incorporate the company and to build from its terminus near Trail Creek mines as described in Act 58 59, Victoria, chapter 67, or any point on the Columbia river between the international boundary and the Kootenay river westerly to a point on Kettle river north of the boundary line with power to bond the road to the extent of \$32,000 per mile and to extend the period in which the railway may be commenced and finished.

Other railway legislation sought is by the Columbia & Kootenay Railway Company, which will apply for an act empowering it to extend its railway to Queen's Bay, thence westerly from Robson to a point on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway near Hope.—Rosslander.

A MUCH-WANTED REGULATION.

Mining men will be glad to know that the following order-in-council is now in effect:

Any person or joint stock company, being the holder of any mining property, who may apply for relief against the forfeiture of his or its interests in such property by reason of his or its omission to obtain a new free miner's certificate on or before the day following the expiration of the lapsed certificate shall upon the production of an affidavit setting forth the circumstances of such omission, and full particulars of the property affected, together with the declaration of the gold commissioner or mining recorder for the division or divisions in which such property is situated to the effect that no records adverse to the applicant's interests therein have been made by him during the time in which the said applicant was not in possession of a free miner's certificate in good standing; and, further, upon the payment to the minister of mines of a fee of five dollars, be entitled to receive the relief sought for; and the minister of mines may thereupon give instructions for the alteration of the date of the expiration of the lapsed certificate, and may also give instructions for such amendment to be made to the records affected as may be considered requisite.

AT SANDON, B. C.

The Last Chance Mining Company has been organized with a capital of \$500,000. The Company owns seven claims making 175 acres, of which work has been done on the Last Chance to the extent of 600 feet of tunnels. About three cars weekly are being shipped.

The Cinderella has a bond of \$7,000 for a controlling interest.

A Victoria syndicate has bonded the Tiptop, Maggie, Nellie D, and Cody Star for \$7,000.

The tunnel on the Rabbit Paw will be continued to 200 feet.

AT RAT PORTAGE, ONT.

Leechman of the Regina mine has left for New York. Before leaving he shipped two gold bricks east.

Another location in the Shoal Lake group has been sold to an English Company, the same which owns the Mikado.

A rich strike is reported as having occurred on the third level of the Foley mine.—Port Arthur Journal.

INCREASED PRODUCTION.

The returns of the Government show a very healthful state of business in mining during the last six months of 1896 as compared with the same period in 1895. The exported production of the mines for the last half year of 1896 was \$5,146,000, as against \$3,763,930 for the same period in 1895, an increase of \$1,382,136, or nearly 37 per cent.

FREE INFORMATION.

The Anaconda Commercial Club, in order to prevent the issue of fraudulent prospectuses or the sale of bogus mines, has offered to give information gratis to any intending purchasers and investors. This is a move in the right direction.

Assays from the Young Australia on Philip's Arm, Vancouver, ran \$60 in gold, besides 13 oz. silver.