

Our Camp.

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THE POTHOOK MINE.

The development of the Pothook Mine is being watched with interest by mining men throughout the Province. The property, however, will attract still further attention when its leading features are better known, and as the property possesses characteristics dissimilar to those possessed by any developed or partly developed mineral claim in B.C., a description of these characteristics and of the development of the property will perhaps repay perusal.

The group of claims composing the Pothook property is a large one, and is made up of five full claims—four claims varying from 33 to 45 acres in size and five fractions located during survey. The whole of the ground comprises an area of 425 acres. The property is situated on the plateau at the foot of the west slope of Sugar Loaf Mountain, forming the western extension of the Coal Hill camp. The chief claims were located in September, 1896, during the excitement following the first discovery of heavily copper-stained rock on Coal Hill. Men were engaged for about a year cross-cutting and sinking on these big showings of copper-stained rock, and many big pieces of native copper were discovered, to say nothing of the stringers of copper glance and bornite. The work meanwhile was sufficient to demonstrate that considerable depth was needed to prove

the value of these showings, but that, nevertheless, the chances were most favorable for the investment of capital, in the making of more than one big mine. In November, 1797, the claims now forming the Pothook group were taken up under a working bond by Mr. H. Croft of Victoria, and systematic development work was commenced under the direction of Mr. Ashby. Extensive surface work, in the form of a series of big crosscuts and a few trial shafts, was first done to supplement the work carried on by the original owners. This proved the presence of a very large vein, composed of a rather soft schistone veinstuff, resembling chiefly a very much altered diorite, but containing less silica and some talc, lying between a footwall of a fine granitoid rock and a hanging-wall of diorite. The vein stuff was heavily copper-stained and was interspersed irregularly with native copper and copper glance. This series of crosscuts aggregate in length 560 feet, showing up the vein for a distance of over 5,000 feet with a width of over 350 feet. A double compartment shaft was commenced on the Pothook claim and sinking and cross cutting has progressed continuously since, with the exception of a short closing down this spring for the erection of a new shaft-house and power-hoisting gear. A horse-winch was installed in May, 1898, and in the fall of that year the property passed into the hands of the Scottish Copper Mines Syndicate of B.C., Ltd. Liability, of which Mr. Croft is the local director.

The mine buildings which have been erected as occasion required now consist of the shaft-house, 36x

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