

ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

Two Dollars a Year

ROSSLAND, B. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1901

Seventh Year, Number 8

MAY BE PROFITABLE

MR. STEVENSON'S DISCOVERY OF A COPPER LEDGE IN CALIFORNIA.

THE PROBLEM OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES TO BE SOLVED.

H. Van Ness Stevenson, general manager of the Tariff mine at Ainsworth, and a pioneer mining man of the Kootenay and several states of the Pacific Northwest, as well as California, was in Rossland for a short time yesterday on his way to Spokane after a trip to Bodie, where he examined a mining property in the interests of some Spokane people.

When the Tariff mine suspended operations last spring owing to the flatness of the market for its lead ores, Mr. Stevenson went south on a most interesting mission. Many years previously, when he was mining in California some Mexicans had brought him fine looking specimens of copper ore, with the information that in a certain locality which they described much of the same rock was to be found. At that stage of the mining game the demand for gold properties outlasted everything else in the mineral line, and the prospect of copper in a section then remote from the known districts of the state was unattractive. Mr. Stevenson stored up the information for future use, however, and during the summer he made use of it.

General Warren, a well known mining man also was interested in the venture, and soon after leaving the Kootenays in May, Mr. Stevenson set out in the search for the lost Mexican copper mines.

Many weeks were spent in fruitless effort to locate the copper ledges, but success was finally attained. In one important respect the find was not so bonanza. The ledge is strong and there was an abundance of ore in sight, but as the rock carried only 12 per cent to 15 per cent copper, some \$4 in gold and a few ounces in silver, the values were not high enough to place the proposition in the bonanza class, particularly as the nearest railroad point is no less than 280 miles distant. Under existing circumstances it would be practically impossible to work the mine at a profit save by spending an enormous sum in the construction of a railroad.

Mr. Stevenson returned north not too well pleased with the result of his efforts, but received intelligence at Seattle that sent him south again post haste. He learned that a syndicate of Los Angeles capitalists had determined to utilize a couple of lakes in the section where his copper prospects were located for the purpose of generating electrical power to be distributed at points many miles distant. The point where the company proposed to erect its dam and power house was 40 miles from the mines, and the backing up of the lakes consequent upon the construction of the dam would form a water link to a point within twelve miles of the properties. He believes that the roads which the power company will require to transport its supplies to the lakes will possibly be permanent enough to afford ore transportation facilities, and that there is nothing to prevent the country some day. Accordingly 22 claims were staked on the lost vein, and if matters mature as he hopes, Mr. Stevenson and his colleagues may yet realize profits from the find.

The copper prospects are located in Southern California, within a comparatively short distance of the Mexican line.

NEEPAWA MINE.

The Slocan Property Bonded to an English Syndicate.

SLOCAN, Dec. 13.—The Neepawa group on Ten Mile creek, located to the west of the Enterprise, together with a couple of fractions lying between the two properties, has been bonded to an English syndicate through W. H. Sandiford, manager of the Bosun mine, New Denver, A. McGillivray and E. Shannon, New Denver, and J. Currie, Trout Lake, are the owners of the Neepawa, and S. Avison and C. Helzsu, New Denver, are the owners of the fractions. The deal is a working bond, running 18 months. The first payment falls due in six months. Work has already commenced on the property with a force of 10 men.

LOST IN THE WOODS.

Hardships Suffered by Timber Cruisers at the Coast.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 13.—A story of three men lost in the woods on the northern coast of British Columbia was brought here by a lumberman named George Logan, who was brought down in a small tug. With two companions Logan left here three weeks ago in a small boat to cruise out timber. Their boat was capsized while they were beating up a river near Shoal bay. They tried to beat their way back to the coast, but became separated and lost.

After undergoing great hardships Logan reached the coast, and a second member of the party was found, almost dead from cold and hunger. The third man has not been found, and Logan left here again last night with a searching party to discover him if possible.

Be sure you get the kind you always had. Owing to the great popularity of "The D. & L." Menthol Plaster, unscrupulous makers are putting up one like it. For rheumatism, neuralgia, etc., nothing is better. Made only by Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

THE USUAL LIES.

Schalk Burger Deceiving the Boers as to Foreign Intervention.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The correspondent of the London Times and New York Times at Pretoria says that the recent British successes occur opportunely, at a moment when the Boers are showing signs of discontent with the life of the commando; but the British, instead of congratulating themselves, ought to put forth further efforts on a bigger scale.

Another despatch from the same correspondent says that of the 800 Boers collected north of Bethel under General Piet Villjoen only two commandos of 100 men each remain in the neighborhood. The rest, including Villjoen, have gone to the northeast, toward the Delagoa railway line. There seems, says our correspondent, no reason to doubt that Acting President Schalk Burger and the Boer government officials have crossed the line north, after addressing a large meeting near Carolina, at which he told the burghers that they must be steadfast, as foreign intervention was certain before long. Schalk Burger seems to have decided that the country north of the Delagoa railway line was more attractive than the high veldt, where the British columns are hustling the Boers incessantly. He is probably now in the neighborhood of Pilgrim's Rest, where some 400 Boers have settled for the summer.

TO PUT DOWN BRIGANDS.

The Austrian Government Pressing Turkey and Bulgaria.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Advice which have been received here in an official quarter from Vienna indicate that the Austro-Hungarian government is making strong representations to both Turkey and Bulgaria with the object of inducing those countries to take suitable and effective steps to put down the state of outlawry and brigandage on their borders, says the Tribune's London correspondent. It is believed that the action of the Austro-Hungarian government is the result of frequent conferences which the American minister in Vienna has recently had with Count Goltuchowski in reference to Miss Stone.

THE RICH LARDEAU

WHO EHL NI SEDIVA QTOB HOHI

FOUND ON MANY PROPERTIES.

OLD GOLD AND PRIMROSE MINES DEVELOPING FAVORABLY.

J. W. Westfall of Trout Lake, superintendent of the Old Gold Quartz & Placer Mining company, limited liability, and the Primrose Gold Mining company, limited liability, is in the city spending a well-earned vacation. He is returning to the coast cities and San Francisco before returning to the Lardeau country.

Mr. Westfall is greatly enthused over the prospects in the Lardeau-Duncan district. He is of the opinion that in the coming country. During the past year he has looked the country over, and has been surprised at the values obtained from almost every proposition in the camp. He predicts that the development of the camp will eventually prove a large gold producer. The Old Gold and Primrose properties of which Mr. Westfall is superintendent, are now in splendid shape. Work on the Old Gold is being pushed, driving a tunnel to intercept the big ore chute, and the last report from the contractors was that ore was beginning to appear in the tunnel and they expected to be in the ore body at any time. This is the third and lowest tunnel that is driven on the large ore chute, the other two having already intercepted the ore and a considerable amount blocked out. This property is now in a position to make continuous shipments. The railroad is now being built, and until such time as it is completed development work will be proceeded with and ore blocked out. A crew of men are also at work on the Primrose property blocking out ore, and where necessary taking it out and sacking ready for shipment. The values obtained from this property are very satisfactory. Recent assays from ore already sacked give values from \$95 to \$125 in gold, and 5 per cent in copper, 30 per cent lead and as high as 950 ounces in silver.

Mr. Westfall is also interested in the Pedro, Lucky Boy, Ethel, Bonanza and Yam Hill groups. Work is being pushed on the Yam Hill group, and he is making arrangements with eastern capitalists for the development of his other interests. Mr. Westfall brought some fine samples of ore from the different properties, which are on exhibit in the window of the office of the Old Gold company, Cosmos block.

THE IRISH DELEGATES.

Arrived at Queenstown on Their Return From the States.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 17.—The White Star liner Oceanic, from New York, December 11th, having on board Messrs. Redmond, McHugh and O'Donnell, the Irish members of parliament, who have been visiting the United States, arrived here this afternoon. A delegation from the United Irish League went out on the company's tender to meet Mr. Redmond and his companions.

The entire collection of coins and medals in the British Museum consists of nearly 250,000 specimens.

A CLAIM PURCHASED WORK IN THE MINES

THE DUBROVNIK BOUGHT ON BEHALF OF AN ENGLISH COMPANY.

ANOTHER SHIPPER IN PROSPECT FOR ST. THOMAS MOUNTAIN.

A mining deal was closed here yesterday by which Messrs. Ernest Kennedy & Co., acting for an English syndicate, acquired the Dubrovnik claim from the owners, Stephen J. Brailo, Edward Terzick and E. H. Pokorny. The property is crown granted and adjoins the Cascade mine on the north. The Dubrovnik has an excellent showing; the Cascade ledge has been demonstrated by three open cuts to extend the full length of the claim, and the face of the workings in the Cascade is some 750 feet from the Dubrovnik claim and headed toward it. Assays from the open cuts gave returns of \$8, \$11 and \$14 in gold.

The St. Thomas mountain wagon road, recently completed at a cost of some \$5,000, will serve the Dubrovnik claim in common with the other St. Thomas mountain properties in the immediate vicinity, and a siding is now well under way which will enable the Cascade and Bonanza mines to ship the several hundred tons of high grade ore already on the dumps.

The Dubrovnik will be developed, it is understood, on a comprehensive scale, the owners believing that the outlook for their developing a property equal in richness to the mines of the district is bright.

AMATEURS' SUCCESS

THE PRODUCTION OF THE COMEDY "CONFUSION" LAST EVENING.

AN EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE WITNESSED BY A LARGE AUDIENCE.

The production of "Confusion" by Rossland amateurs last evening was eminently successful. Artistically the performance was perhaps the best of the kind ever given in the Golden City; financially the affair could scarcely have been improved upon, for even standing room was at a premium when the curtain rose. The performance went off with scarcely a hitch, and the junctures were few and far between when the work of the company could be said to fall below the standard of professional artists. This is rather a large order, but the Miner is content to leave the final decision on the point to the splendid audience. At the close there was only one opinion expressed as to the production, and that was golden. Rossland amateurs have certainly won laurels in their country.

"Confusion" is a farce comedy that attained remarkable success in London and New York. The theme and the cast have already appeared in the Miner, but it may be mentioned again that the participants were Messdames J. M. Fitzpatrick, T. B. Linton and R. H. Hughes, Miss Renwick, and Messrs. Jackson Rigby, R. H. Hughes, H. M. Ellis, W. J. Nelson, Thomas Lewis and P. Renwick. The executive committee included Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Thorburn, Mrs. Renwick, J. Fred Ritchie and M. E. Purcell.

The members of the company are individually and collectively entitled to warm praise for their work. To discriminate between individuals would be invidious where there was such conscientious effort and uniform excellence among all. The members of the executive committee are also deserving of thanks for the manner in which their part of the task was performed. The music furnished by Graham's orchestra was admirable.

A pleasing feature of the performance was the appearance between acts of His Lordship Bishop Dornerville of New Westminster, who briefly expressed his appreciation of the affair. The manner in which beautiful flowers were showered on the ladies participating is also notable.

It will be of interest to Trail readers of the Miner to learn that by request of many residents of that city "Confusion" will likely be presented in Trail at an early date. The performance, richly merited a bumper house. It might be worth the notice of the executive committee that a second presentation of "Confusion" in Rossland would undoubtedly attract another crowded house, and thereby substantially assist the worthy cause for which the entertainment was given—the funds of the Church of the Sacred Heart.

COMMISSIONER IN CRETE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The Rome correspondent of the London Times and New York Times quotes the Giornale d'Italia, which says that the Italian minister of foreign affairs and the ambassador at Rome of Great Britain, France and Russia have decided to appoint Prince George of Greece high commissioner in Crete for a further term of three years.

Thomas W. Lines, manager of the Bryckman & Ker Milling company's business at Edmonton, Alta., is in the city today on his wedding trip. Mr. and Mrs. Lines are at the Allan House.

THE SHIPMENTS FOR THE PAST WEEK ON THE SAME LEVEL AS BEFORE.

MINES ARE PRODUCING STEADILY AND THE FORCE INCREASING.

The ore shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending last night were exactly of the same magnitude as those of the previous week. In each instance the tonnage was 5,750 tons.

For the week the Le Roi shipped 4,200 tons, an increase over the previous week of 300 tons. The Le Roi No. 2 shipped 1,250 tons, a slight decrease, and the Rossland Great Western's output was 300 tons, a decrease of 50 tons. The Le Roi may safely be expected to produce not less than last week's aggregate in the future, and the other mines are now in such shape that steady increases in the output may be looked for.

The producing mines are running out about as much ore as they did last spring, and when the War Eagle and Centre Star mines commence shipments, as will be the case on the expiration of the few weeks necessary to make the alterations now under way at the Trail splitter, the camp's output will be substantially greater than it was during the early part of the present year.

It is hardly likely now that the year's tonnage will reach the 300,000 ton mark, though it will easily pass the 290,000 ton mark.

THE OUTPUT.

The output for the week ending December 14th and for the year to date as follows:

Mine	Week	Year
Le Roi	4,200	153,888
Le Roi No. 2	1,250	36,640
Centre Star	.....	54,648
War Eagle	.....	20,100
Rossland G. W.	300	10,381
Iron Mask	.....	3,733
Homestake	.....	20
I. X. L.	.....	200
Spitzee	.....	563
Velvet	.....	300
Monte Cristo	.....	20
Evening Star	.....	74
Giant	.....	52
Portland	.....	24
.....	3,750	20,453

The Rossland men who failed by a narrow margin to secure places on the last South African contingent will have another chance to go, with a bright outlook of being able to satisfy their martial ardor. The Imperial government has accepted the offer of the Dominion government to raise an additional 300 men for the Canadian Mounted Infantry. This offer was submitted when it was learned by the militia department that at scores of points throughout the Dominion eligible volunteers had been refused because of lack of vacancies in the ranks. It is agreed that no difficulty will be met in securing the extra quota from volunteers as well qualified for the service as those chosen in the original levy.

Ten men will be recruited in Rossland for the extra quota, and a recruiting officer will be here on Monday next to receive applications. It will be remembered that when the first 10 men were accepted there were 35 volunteers. Of these seven were deemed to be fully as good as the 10 taken, and fully 40 more were well qualified. In view of this no trouble may be expected in raising the additional 10. It is presumed that the same recruiting officer who comes to Rossland will be recruited in Nelson, as 10 men are to be selected there on Tuesday. On Wednesday to raise another quota. At all these points the volunteers exceeded by three to one the vacancies.

The seven men who were passed as thoroughly eligible for the corps in Rossland, but who were not taken on account of the limited number of vacancies, were: Idey, McNary, Miller, Pinder, Burnside, Butler and Stewart. Of these Miller has already been taken on, having followed the squad to Fort Steele and afterwards being sworn in at Pincher creek. Idey and Pinder are at Trail men. Pinder was with the Strathcona Horse and Paget's Horse, leaving with good conduct records in both corps. McNary and Burnside are well known Rossland men. It is presumed that these men will have the first call for the vacancies in the additional quota if they are still of the same mind as to volunteering.

While no announcement has been made locally it is taken for granted that recruiting will be carried on at the old record office, corner First avenue and Monte Cristo street, as before, and that the examination, in addition to the physical test, will be similar in every respect.

Some information should be forthcoming shortly relative to the proposed packers' section. The militia department has gone so far in the matter as to instruct the local militia officers to take the names of likely men, and it is presumed that if the idea is finally adopted the packers engaged will be granted some extra remuneration by reason of the special skill demanded of them.

The noon train on the Spokane Falls & Northern road yesterday carried the following among others: S. Winterton to Portage La Prairie, Man.; S. G. Knight to Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; Arthur Pummell to Schreiber, Ont.; family to Toronto. Mr. Angus proposes spending a month in the Queen City.

Abel Lincoln.—The expert machinist, Mr. Rothschild, sent from the Gardner Electric Drill and Machine Works at Denver, Col., has been at the mines for several days and has the electric drill set up and in position for the final test

A SIMILKAMEEN MINE

EASTERN CAPITAL INTERESTED IN THE KINGSTON, AT CAMP HEDLEY.

DEVELOPMENT SHOWS A GOOD PROSPECT FOR THE PROPERTY.

THE VESSEL POOL.

Lake Carriers Trying to Revive Their Organization.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 17.—Vesselmen of Cleveland are preparing to revive the vessel pool which was started last spring. The principal function of the vesselmen this winter will be to establish the permanency of coal and grain rates, and if necessary to do so the vessel pool will take contracts for the movement of all the coal and all the grain of next year at a fixed rate, which they claim will be about the average for a number of seasons. They will attempt to make the carrying of coal and grain as seductive to vessel owners as the carrying of ore, which during the present season has employed the greatest number of boats.

TO EXCLUDE ANARCHISTS.

A New Immigration Bill Introduced in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—A new immigration bill which is the joint proposition of Senator Penrose and Commissioner-General Powderley, was today introduced in the senate by Mr. Frye. The bill provides an educational test, and in addition to the present system of domestic inspection of immigrants authorizes the appointment of inspectors at the principal foreign ports from which immigrants sail, with instructions to exercise special scrutiny of the police records of immigrants with the view of excluding anarchists.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—A new immigration bill which is the joint proposition of Senator Penrose and Commissioner-General Powderley, was today introduced in the senate by Mr. Frye. The bill provides an educational test, and in addition to the present system of domestic inspection of immigrants authorizes the appointment of inspectors at the principal foreign ports from which immigrants sail, with instructions to exercise special scrutiny of the police records of immigrants with the view of excluding anarchists.

FOR SOUTH AFRICA

TWO MORE SQUADRONS OF MOUNTED INFANTRY TO BE RAISED.

RECRUITING TO TAKE PLACE IN ROSSLAND ON MONDAY NEXT.

The Rossland men who failed by a narrow margin to secure places on the last South African contingent will have another chance to go, with a bright outlook of being able to satisfy their martial ardor. The Imperial government has accepted the offer of the Dominion government to raise an additional 300 men for the Canadian Mounted Infantry. This offer was submitted when it was learned by the militia department that at scores of points throughout the Dominion eligible volunteers had been refused because of lack of vacancies in the ranks. It is agreed that no difficulty will be met in securing the extra quota from volunteers as well qualified for the service as those chosen in the original levy.

Ten men will be recruited in Rossland for the extra quota, and a recruiting officer will be here on Monday next to receive applications. It will be remembered that when the first 10 men were accepted there were 35 volunteers. Of these seven were deemed to be fully as good as the 10 taken, and fully 40 more were well qualified. In view of this no trouble may be expected in raising the additional 10. It is presumed that the same recruiting officer who comes to Rossland will be recruited in Nelson, as 10 men are to be selected there on Tuesday. On Wednesday to raise another quota. At all these points the volunteers exceeded by three to one the vacancies.

The seven men who were passed as thoroughly eligible for the corps in Rossland, but who were not taken on account of the limited number of vacancies, were: Idey, McNary, Miller, Pinder, Burnside, Butler and Stewart. Of these Miller has already been taken on, having followed the squad to Fort Steele and afterwards being sworn in at Pincher creek. Idey and Pinder are at Trail men. Pinder was with the Strathcona Horse and Paget's Horse, leaving with good conduct records in both corps. McNary and Burnside are well known Rossland men. It is presumed that these men will have the first call for the vacancies in the additional quota if they are still of the same mind as to volunteering.

While no announcement has been made locally it is taken for granted that recruiting will be carried on at the old record office, corner First avenue and Monte Cristo street, as before, and that the examination, in addition to the physical test, will be similar in every respect.

Some information should be forthcoming shortly relative to the proposed packers' section. The militia department has gone so far in the matter as to instruct the local militia officers to take the names of likely men, and it is presumed that if the idea is finally adopted the packers engaged will be granted some extra remuneration by reason of the special skill demanded of them.

The noon train on the Spokane Falls & Northern road yesterday carried the following among others: S. Winterton to Portage La Prairie, Man.; S. G. Knight to Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; Arthur Pummell to Schreiber, Ont.; family to Toronto. Mr. Angus proposes spending a month in the Queen City.

Abel Lincoln.—The expert machinist, Mr. Rothschild, sent from the Gardner Electric Drill and Machine Works at Denver, Col., has been at the mines for several days and has the electric drill set up and in position for the final test

A SIMILKAMEEN MINE

EASTERN CAPITAL INTERESTED IN THE KINGSTON, AT CAMP HEDLEY.

DEVELOPMENT SHOWS A GOOD PROSPECT FOR THE PROPERTY.

THE VESSEL POOL.

Lake Carriers Trying to Revive Their Organization.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 17.—Vesselmen of Cleveland are preparing to revive the vessel pool which was started last spring. The principal function of the vesselmen this winter will be to establish the permanency of coal and grain rates, and if necessary to do so the vessel pool will take contracts for the movement of all the coal and all the grain of next year at a fixed rate, which they claim will be about the average for a number of seasons. They will attempt to make the carrying of coal and grain as seductive to vessel owners as the carrying of ore, which during the present season has employed the greatest number of boats.

TO EXCLUDE ANARCHISTS.

A New Immigration Bill Introduced in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—A new immigration bill which is the joint proposition of Senator Penrose and Commissioner-General Powderley, was today introduced in the senate by Mr. Frye. The bill provides an educational test, and in addition to the present system of domestic inspection of immigrants authorizes the appointment of inspectors at the principal foreign ports from which immigrants sail, with instructions to exercise special scrutiny of the police records of immigrants with the view of excluding anarchists.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—A new immigration bill which is the joint proposition of Senator Penrose and Commissioner-General Powderley, was today introduced in the senate by Mr. Frye. The bill provides an educational test, and in addition to the present system of domestic inspection of immigrants authorizes the appointment of inspectors at the principal foreign ports from which immigrants sail, with instructions to exercise special scrutiny of the police records of immigrants with the view of excluding anarchists.

FOR SOUTH AFRICA

TWO MORE SQUADRONS OF MOUNTED INFANTRY TO BE RAISED.

RECRUITING TO TAKE PLACE IN ROSSLAND ON MONDAY NEXT.

The Rossland men who failed by a narrow margin to secure places on the last South African contingent will have another chance to go, with a bright outlook of being able to satisfy their martial ardor. The Imperial government has accepted the offer of the Dominion government to raise an additional 300 men for the Canadian Mounted Infantry. This offer was submitted when it was learned by the militia department that at scores of points throughout the Dominion eligible volunteers had been refused because of lack of vacancies in the ranks. It is agreed that no difficulty will be met in securing the extra quota from volunteers as well qualified for the service as those chosen in the original levy.

Ten men will be recruited in Rossland for the extra quota, and a recruiting officer will be here on Monday next to receive applications. It will be remembered that when the first 10 men were accepted there were 35 volunteers. Of these seven were deemed to be fully as good as the 10 taken, and fully 40 more were well qualified. In view of this no trouble may be expected in raising the additional 10. It is presumed that the same recruiting officer who comes to Rossland will be recruited in Nelson, as 10 men are to be selected there on Tuesday. On Wednesday to raise another quota. At all these points the volunteers exceeded by three to one the vacancies.

The seven men who were passed as thoroughly eligible for the corps in Rossland, but who were not taken on account of the limited number of vacancies, were: Idey, McNary, Miller, Pinder, Burnside, Butler and Stewart. Of these Miller has already been taken on, having followed the squad to Fort Steele and afterwards being sworn in at Pincher creek. Idey and Pinder are at Trail men. Pinder was with the Strathcona Horse and Paget's Horse, leaving with good conduct records in both corps. McNary and Burnside are well known Rossland men. It is presumed that these men will have the first call for the vacancies in the additional quota if they are still of the same mind as to volunteering.

While no announcement has been made locally it is taken for granted that recruiting will be carried on at the old record office, corner First avenue and Monte Cristo street, as before, and that the examination, in addition to the physical test, will be similar in every respect.

Some information should be forthcoming shortly relative to the proposed packers' section. The militia department has gone so far in the matter as to instruct the local militia officers to take the names of likely men, and it is presumed that if the idea is finally adopted the packers engaged will be granted some extra remuneration by reason of the special skill demanded of them.

The noon train on the Spokane Falls & Northern road yesterday carried the following among others: S. Winterton to Portage La Prairie, Man.; S. G. Knight to Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; Arthur Pummell to Schreiber, Ont.; family to Toronto. Mr. Angus proposes spending a month in the Queen City.

Abel Lincoln.—The expert machinist, Mr. Rothschild, sent from the Gardner Electric Drill and Machine Works at Denver, Col., has been at the mines for several days and has the electric drill set up and in position for the final test

THE MISSING VESSEL

NO WORD SECURED OF THE FATE OF THE COLLIER MATTEWAWAN.

MINES ON THE WEST COAST OF VANCOUVER ISLAND SHIP ORE.

VICTORIA, Dec. 17.—The steamer Queen City, which returned this afternoon from the West Coast, brought no news of wreckage, and no word has been heard of the missing collier Matteawan along the Vancouver island coast. The report that wreckage has been found there, sent from Astoria, is untrue.

News was brought by the steamer that the Nahmit Mines at Alberni began shipping ore yesterday and that the haulers on Alberni canal mines to the buxers on Alberni canal were about the coming of the steamer Marnauze, which has been chartered to carry ore to the Sound.

News was also brought that the Indians from all the villages of the coast are being invited to a great potlatch at Ahousat at the end of the month. The messengers have been despatched to the different people.

Miss Thiden, of the Minneapolis university botanical party, who has been at the station at Port Renfrew, reports having found some important data in regard to marine plant life.

W. M. Brewer, M.E., editorial correspondent for British Columbia for the New York Engineering and Mining Journal, will hereafter make his headquarters at Victoria. Early in the year he will make an exhaustive examination of coal beds for the Journal.

DANISH WEST INDIES.

Obstacles to Their Purchase by Uncle Sam Removed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—As a result of the negotiations that have been in progress between Secretary Hay and Mr. Brun, the Danish minister, the last obstacles of substance to the preparation of the treaty of cession, whereby the United States will become possessed of the Danish West Indian islands, have been removed. It is said that the points of difference have been adjusted in a manner to ensure the acceptance of the treaty by the United States senate, and it is even possible that the convention may be laid before that body before the holiday recess. The decision of the supreme court in the Insular cases has made easier the preparation of the treaty on satisfactory lines.

COUNTERFEIT COIN.

Spurious Dollars and Half-Dollars Circulate in Washington.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 17.—Silver counterfeit dollars and half-dollars are circulating in western Washington. All of these counterfeiters are easily detected. Invariably they are cast in molds. Like all cast counterfeiters, their faces are blurred. While the "head" side of each is very clear, the face having the eagle is indistinct in its lines. When placed beside a struck coin the difference is readily apparent.