

will have so little comparative value as to make it more profitable to save the precious metals direct and concentrate the copper and lead afterwards. Less than \$2 would pay for this. Mining in any of the veins should cost about \$4 per ton when the preliminary work is done.

There is a sufficiency of timber for mining purposes.

The value of the mine rests largely, in my opinion, on the numerous veins which are known, but have not been worked upon yet.

If five hundred of drifting, or two hundred of drifting, and one hundred of sinking were done on the property, I think that it would open up a sufficiently large quantity of ore to supply a mill for some time. The amount of money required for this would not exceed \$2,500. If work was carried on here a road would have to be made at a cost of about \$1,200, of which the government would probably provide part.

The creek is in a deep, narrow gorge, and as the outcrops are in it, and much of the claim 400 to 800 feet above it, this is a first-class tunneling proposition.

Placer Mining on the North Thompson River.

EDITOR JOURNAL—Sir: In laying before you my views on the North Thompson river as a gold producing stream, and its advantages for dredging, it will be necessary for me to dwell at some length on the surface formations of the surrounding country, and in entering upon this subject I beg leave to be allowed to deal with a somewhat large area of alluvial gravels tributary to this stream.

Much has been said about gold bearing placers in different parts of

the world by some eminent men, but we are still left in the dark as to where the gold originates from. The "mother lode" has not yet been found, and what I might have to say on this line would, I fear, not throw much more light upon the subject. Accordingly, I will not try to carry your thoughts back further than to the old conglomerate gravels, from which, I believe, a great deal of the present gold found in the different streams has originated.

If you take a point at the east end of Kamloops lake and follow an imaginary line north to the foot of the Cariboo range of mountains, north-east of Barkerville, in traversing this line you would meet at different intervals, large bodies of those ancient conglomerates towering up, in places, from two hundred to three hundred feet above the present water levels in the same localities.

Much of the ancient formation is still in its original place, as left there by water action, but it has become conglomerated owing to the cement qualities found in its make-up. At the time of this deposit, water must have flowed at a much higher level than now, and in its constant receding to the present levels of our rivers, has brought down immense quantities of decomposed conglomerates from these higher levels.

At the head waters of Jamieson creek, which flows into the Thompson river, there is a large quantity of these old conglomerates to be found. This I tested for gold and in almost every instance I found colors.

In comparing the gravels found at this point with those found along