



STAMP MILL, GOLDEN CACHE MINING CO., LILLOOET, B.C.

the west shore of Harrison Lake, about twenty-eight miles above Hot Springs, situated at the foot of the Lake, and which have since become a very popular resort for sufferers from rheumatism, dyspepsia and general debility.

The recording of this location was followed by a stampede in March and April of 1897, up Harrison Lake, notwithstanding that the snow at the time was from five to ten feet deep. The origin of this stampede is rather amusing, as it appears that a prospector had found some quartz on the shore of the lake which he considered sufficiently promising to carry to Westminster for assay. It is reported that at Agassiz he fell in with a party who filled him up with whisky to the delight of his heart, and surreptitiously exchanged the rock he had brought for assay for some high-grade ore that had been found at the Providence mine. Of course the analysis resulted in showing extraordinarily high values. Excited by his good fortune, he interviewed some friends in Chilliwack, one evening, and in consequence, during that night and the next morning, a small procession of canoes and row-boats departed up the lake, the occupants staking every foot of both shores to the head, a distance of about forty miles.

PROSPECTING EXTRAORDINARY.

The Indians, in their hunting expeditions, had found float on Fire Mountain, northwesterly from the head of the lake, which showed native gold, visible to the naked eye. This fact becoming known to the army of prospectors, they extended their expeditions across the mountain to Fire Lake, and to the summit of Fire Mountain, regardless of the fact that the surface was covered by snow, in some places over eight feet deep. Stakes were set up by squaring off the tops of trees, and the locations recorded according to these stakes. Because of this reckless locating of claims, many amusing incidents followed, later in the summer, when some of the prospectors returned to

find out whether or not their claims were worth developing. One man discovered that two recently arrived prospectors had run several feet of tunnel on a claim he had staked in the snow, and when he called their attention to his prior right, was met by the inquiry, "why in the world hadn't he left a step-ladder, so that they could have inspected his discovery notice, which was twelve feet above the surface?" The same man had a great deal of difficulty in finding one of his claims in the thick timber, and had to make a temporary step-ladder to enable him to climb high enough to read his own notice on the No. 1 stake, which was squared off at about fifteen feet above the ground.

COMPANY ENTERPRISE AT TIPELLA.

Meanwhile several local companies were organized to work claims on Fire Mountain, the outcrop on which yielded high values in free gold. A trail fifteen miles in length was cut by the Fire Mountain Gold Mining Company, at a cost of nearly \$5,000.00, to facilitate the transportation of machinery from the head of Harrison Lake to the Company's mine, and the same Company also laid out the town-site of Tipella, about four miles southwesterly from old Port Douglas, and placed a small steam-boat on the lake to make regular trips to and from the Hot Springs. Through lack of metallurgical knowledge on the part of the management, a Huntington mill was erected to treat a very hard quartz which was only partially free-milling. The results of this lack of foresight were two-fold: First, the hard quartz wore out the mill, and secondly, only a small percentage of the value carried by the ore, was saved by the amalgamation.

The mine is claimed by many to have value, provided it is properly worked, and it is reported that the Company now propose to erect a stamp mill with concentrating tables to receive the pulp after it has passed over the mercurialized apron plates.

SOME RICH ORE.

Quite early during the present spring, an Indian at Skookum Chuck, an Indian village about twenty miles north of Port Douglas, found some very rich

