

tor with the Star itself in the race for chief honours in the district, has recently passed into the hands of an English syndicate on a \$250,000 cash basis. Six feet of shipping ore is exposed in more than one place in the mine, and, everything considered, the price was by no means exorbitant. The Wonderful, most properly and appropriately named, has surprised everybody by the remarkable persistency which the company operating it have displayed in its development, and the regularity of its output. An anomaly in the district, it has so far obtained its entire production from fragments and boulders of galena found in the glacial or alluvial deposit which completely covers the formation to a depth of some thirty feet. Surrounded as it is by mines exhibiting all the characteristics of true fissures in the solid rock, it is the more remarkable as it disproves once more the old rule of thumb methods of mining and goes to prove that sluicing and hydraulicing, if necessary, are not by any means confined to the Cariboo district or the recovery of gold dust.

That there was an immensely productive lead somewhere in the vicinity from which all this float, as it is called, had come, was very evident from the first, and as the result of a diligent and painstaking search the management now report having discovered it in place. We may expect to hear further encouraging particulars of this property in the near future. Space will not permit of a more extended reference to the mines of this region, so just noting in passing the wonderful strides in production made by the Whitewater during the last few months, we will take a glance at Cody, a town which has sprung into existence with remarkable rapidity. Close at hand lie those recently stocked mines, the Reco and Noble Five. When so many doubtful and too often absolutely valueless properties are being foisted upon an unsuspecting public, bringing the whole system into disrepute, it is a real pleasure to find that investors are being invited to share in the working benefits of such as these. In marked contrast to the grabbing tendencies of too many company promoters, the owners of the Reco actually guarantee to distribute the sum of \$100,000 in dividends to the shareholders within three months; after this, comment is unnecessary. The owners claim to possess the richest ore in the Slocan, and a recent shipment would certainly bear out that statement. During the late election in the United States so much was heard about the necessity for closing the silver mines of the Slocan, especially if McKinley were elected, that it might not be out of place to state that earlier in the year, with silver at 59 cents, the Goodenough, a claim adjoining the Reco, was enabled to make a profit of \$524 per ton on one of their shipments. This is pretty conclusive evidence to all right thinking people that the Slocan can easily survive a number of presidential elections, whatever the result. The Noble Five and Reco will each soon possess efficient concentrators and tramways, and then we may reasonably look forward to largely increased outputs from them both. The extension of the railway system to Sandon and Cody, has left Three Forks in a somewhat secondary position, but the importance of the mines surrounding it is but vaguely understood by the outside world, and almost always under-

estimated. Among the many rich mines in the neighbourhood, the Idaho and Alamo, worked conjointly, are conspicuous by the certainty with which they periodically declare dividends. One of \$18,000 was recently divided among the shareholders, bringing the total so far paid up to \$50,000. The concentrator owned by the Slocan Milling Company, and worked in connection with these mines, was the pioneer in the Slocan in that direction, and the success attending its operation is made abundantly evident by the number of mine owners who now intend to benefit by the experience gained in its adoption. At New Denver, somewhat facetiously called the metropolis of the Slocan, we find greater activity displayed than ever before. On account of its situation as the most central point in the district, the Government records are kept there, and it necessarily commands a large share of the business which is transacted in connection with the surrounding mines. The Mountain Chief has again taken its place in the list of shippers, and very little is required to place the California in the same enviable position. But the greatest advance has been made in the opening up of new regions down the lake, which threaten to rival, and may even some day eclipse the older established camps from which so much wealth is now being obtained. On Four Mile, the Alpha, which has shipped over a thousand tons of ore, still remains idle, apparently for private reasons, but numbers of other properties have been acquired or bonded by companies who intend to operate and prove them during the winter. The Thompson group, now so well known, is producing ore from a small streak which assays over 400 ounces, and the others are all doing proportionately, though it is too early yet to make definite statements as to their permanence. It is worthy of notice, however, that with respect to the Thompson, a few weeks' work on the part of the company has proved an ore value estimated at over half the bonding price, or more than \$20,000. Among the fine looking properties on this creek now in course of development, mention might be made of the Silver-ton Boy, Vancouver, Fisher Maiden, Thompson and Mount Mabel groups. What has already been done on the Galena Farm is known to all and need not be here repeated. A year ago the Currie was in the hands of the original owners, who, having every confidence in its being a valuable property, did all in their power to develop it to the best advantage. That the requisite capital will make a great mine of it is believed universally, and further backed up by the periodical reports from the scene of operations.

On Eight Mile, further down the lake, we apparently leave the silver belt and turn our attention for a while to its more valuable neighbour, gold. Work is being conducted on the Willa by Rossland parties, with very satisfactory results. The ore body is immense and consists of a mixture of quartz with massive iron and copper pyrites, carrying a few dollars in gold. The ore is improving with depth and behaves very much like that from Rossland, although the characteristic pyrrhotite of the latter is here wanting. It is more than possible that development will disclose valuable bodies of ore, and as there are known to be similar indications elsewhere in the neighbourhood, profitable gold mining