

A PROTEST.

When the Crow's Nest Pass railway is built it will open a market for thousands of acres of coal lands, and the public would like to know how it is that prospectors cannot get in and take up some of these rich deposits. The reason is as follows: For years our various land improvement, railway and canal charters have been issued to companies, principally composed of Victoria men, for this section of the country. Land grants were attached to the schemes for holding valuable lands that should be open to the people. These companies are practically dead and nothing has been done to entitle a few men to such valuable monopoly. It is true that a canal with a big land grant attachment was dug, but it is not filled with water. We protest against giving such a bonanza as the coal fields of the Crow's Nest Pass to men who hold some kind of a charter upon which nothing has ever been done to earn these valuable lands. They belong to the people, and if land grabbers are allowed to shut everybody out it will be an outrage that should not be permitted by the free and untrammelled citizens of this great and glorious country. Wake up, people, and see that you get your rights in this matter.—*New Denver Ledger*.

TRAIL CREEK AND SLOCAN, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

There is a growing rivalry between the Slocan and Trail Creek as to which shall be the favorite field for investment. Both have many valuable points; though Rossland with Spokane at its back has temporarily pulled Trail Creek into great prominence, it is not to be doubted that the solid advantages of the Slocan will pull that district up into, at any rate, an equal place with her more showy sister. Rossland ore contains gold. The Slocan has only silver. Yet a ton of the latter is worth in solid coin quite two tons of the former, and it is more easily mined. Without alluding to the Le Roi, War Eagle and other established properties whose names will at once occur to the reader, the mining engineer shakes his head over the continuity of Trail Creek leads, but he has no doubt at all about the true fissure veins of the Slocan. The public, however, is capricious and at present its fashion is gold; it will have nothing to do with silver. This public, however, is not that of the professional mining man, or the shrewd investor who follows his advice, but the yelling frantic public that squanders its money right and left just as the fashion of the moment takes it, anywhere, in Europe, Asia, Africa or America. This ought to be, and undoubtedly is, the opportunity for the knowing man learned in mining. It is a fact that valuable silver properties that will pay from the start can be purchased in the Slocan to-day at the price of a mere prospect at Trail Creek, into which thousands would have to be chucked before they would return a cent. It must not be understood that it is the writer's intention to belittle Rossland. It would be absurd to do so. There are many properties there of the highest value, but if investors would pay as much attention to the Slocan as they do to Rossland, their investments would be more profitable.—*B.C. Mining Record*, October No.

ASSESSED BOTH WAYS.

In connection with the recent Court of Revision meetings, the St. Thomas city solicitor, Mr. MacTavish, spins a good story at the expense of the assessors. The solicitor says that he put a fence around his residence some years ago and the assessors ran up his property \$200 for the improvement. After a time the fence needed painting, but he pondered on the situation something in this wise:

"When I built that fence they raised me \$200 for an improvement. If I paint it again, they'll likely raise me again—better take it down altogether."

"Down came the fence," said Mr. MacTavish, "and the appearance of the property was improved so much that the assessors put it up another \$300."—*St. Thomas Journal*.

"Gossamer iron," the wonderful product of the Swansea, Wales, iron mills, is so thin that it takes 4,800 sheets piled one on the other to make an inch in thickness.

MINING SHARES.

Quotation of Standard Mining Stocks of Trail Creek, Rossland, B.C., furnished by Wyatt & Co., Stock Brokers, Can. Life Bldg., Toronto, November 26th, 1896:—

Company.	Par.	Asked.	Remarks.
Big Three		\$0 10	
Caledonia Consoli-			
dated	\$1 00	0 14	
California	1 00	0 15	
Cariboo	1 00	0 45	
Centre Star	1 00		
Crown Point	1 00	0 50	
Colonna	1 00	0 15	
Commander	1 00	0 00	
Deer Park	1 00	0 18	
Enterprise	1 00	0 20	
Eureka Con.....	1 00	0 10	
Evening Star	1 00	0 26	
Gertrude	1 00	0 15	
Good Hope	1 00	0 10	
Great Western ..	1 00	0 22	
Helen			
High Ore	1 00	0 10	
Iron Mask	1 00	0 65	
Iron Queen	1 00	0 04	
Idaho	1 00		
Josie	1 00	0 65	
Josie Mac.....	1 00	0 10	Development
Jumbo	1 00	0 75	
Little Bess	1 00	0 08	
Le Roi	5 00	8 00	
Lily May	1 00	0 20	do.
May Flower.....	1 00	0 17½	do.
Monarch	1 00	0 10	do.
Monte Cristo	1 00	0 20	do.
Morning Star	1 00	0 12½	
Novelty	1 00	0 15	
O.K.	1 00	0 36	
Old Ironsides	1 00	0 15	
Phoenix	1 00	0 15	
Poorman	1 00	0 11	
Rossland — Red			
Mountain, 1,-			
000,000.....	1 00	0 27	
Silverine	1 00	0 12½	do.
St. Elmo	1 00	0 15	
Virginia	1 00	0 25	
War Eagle	1 00	1 70	
West Le Roi and			
Josie	1 00	0 40	
White Bear.....		0 10	

THE INDUSTRIAL REVIVAL.

Reports were received at this office yesterday of the starting of four industrial establishments, and the increase of force or output by three others, thus making the total number of resumpions of such concerns since election noted in these columns, including to-day, 357, and the number of instances in which the force or output has been increased, 272. In addition to these there are, of course, many startings that have escaped notice.

In the following tabulated statement the various industries are classified as far as the details given in special and press dispatches permit:

MILLS RESUMING AFTER SHUTDOWN.

Iron and steel.....	112
Machinery	9
Woodenware and lumber.....	31
Glassware and pottery	13
Woolen goods.....	27
Cotton goods	15
Clothing	23
Carpets	14
Boots and shoes.....	6
Cordage	2
Miscellaneous.....	105
Total.....	357

INCREASE IN FORCE OR INCREASED OUTPUT.

Iron and steel.....	82
Machinery	20
Woodenware and lumber.....	13
Glassware and pottery	13
Woolen goods.....	14
Cotton goods.....	11
Clothing	5
Carpets	3
Boots and shoes.....	4
Miscellaneous.....	107
Total.....	272

—*N.Y. Jour. Com.*, 21st.

THE QUEBEC ESTIMATES.

The Provincial Treasurer of Quebec, Hon. A. W. Atwater, laid the estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, on the table of the House, Nov. 24th.

The Government asks for \$4,904,428.01 this year altogether, as against \$5,344,521.48 for the preceding year, a reduction of nearly half a million dollars. The sums required are as follows:

Legislation, \$195,678, as against \$254,688 for the year preceding.

Agriculture, etc., \$288,800, as against \$360,000.

Public works, ordinary and extraordinary, \$183,521, as against \$297,967.

Railways, \$503,240, as against \$706,321.

For public debt, \$1,524,621. Civil government, \$256,572. Administration of justice, \$575,390. Public instruction, etc., \$380,260. Charities, etc., \$339,375. Miscellaneous, \$367,700. Repayment of railway guarantee deposits, \$287,693. Aylmer court house fund, \$1,574.

Mr. Atwater also brought down the supplementary estimates for the year ending June 30th, 1897. The government will ask, under this head, for \$187,318, of which \$25,000 is for colonization roads, \$27,565 for amount due Messrs. Perrault and Mesnard for professional services, rendered prior to December 16th, 1891; \$60,000 for expenses of elections, etc.

AMERICAN IRON ADVANCING.

There is great activity in the metal markets, according to a Pittsburg paper of 23rd, and prices have almost uniformly advanced. Since the meeting of the Bessemer Association in New York, and the embracing under its control of all products made from billets, an advance has been made in the price of steel beams and channels of \$2 a ton; \$1 a ton on plates, and \$3 a ton on angles and tees. The advances are based on the daily increased demand for bridge materials. Iron and steel manufacturers express great confidence in the prospects for activity next year. They base their judgment on enquiries received asking for prices for forward delivery of large amounts of materials. Andrew Carnegie, H. C. Frick and W. J. Rainey, of Cleveland, met in New York last Wednesday and decided to maintain coke prices until January, after which prices and workingmen's wages will advance.

ADDITIONAL SUMMARY.

MEINKE & MEISNER, cigar manufacturers at Berlin, have called a meeting of their creditors for December 1st.

H. G. TURNBULL, a general dealer for the last three years at Digby, N.S., is seeking a compromise arrangement at 25 cents on the dollar, on liabilities of \$3,800.—The assignment is reported of S. Fleming, a hotel-keeper at Halifax, N.S.

THE First National Bank of Saginaw, Mich., suspended payment on Saturday last, owing to inability to realize on its assets. The capital stock of the bank is \$100,000. The last official statement showed a surplus of \$60,000 and deposits of \$300,000.

HALIFAX harbor is at last to have a new ferry boat. A Glasgow firm is to build, at a cost of \$60,000, for the Dartmouth ferry commission, a fore-and-aft screw, steel-hulled ferry boat, with double compound condensing engines and boilers, and she is to be in Dartmouth by 30th June next.

In June, 1891, H. W. Jessop, a former clerk, purchased the grocery business of Mrs. E. Chamberland, Blyth. He had \$600 or \$700 to start on, and two years later admitted D. McElroy, under the style of Jessop & McElroy. They assigned in June, 1894, with liabilities of about \$6,000. Shortly afterwards Jessop opened in his wife's name as Jessop & Co., under his management, but with no better result. We now hear of their assignment.

A NEW firm formed last week to carry on business in drugs and oils is composed of R. Templeton, druggist, and R. S. Muir, manager of the retail business of the late L. W. Yeomans, who died so suddenly last month. The new firm of R. Templeton & Co. purpose carrying on the retail business long conducted by R. Templeton, and have added a wholesale de-