

working and the importation of machinery, and that this figure would be greatly increased were it not for the number of inexperienced men who are working properties there, and that were these owned by companies, with sufficient capital to put in thawing plants and hoisting engines, the output might easily be doubled.

Amongst the creeks which have been proving the most valuable this year are Eldorado, Hunker, Bonanza, both Skookums, Quartz, Last Chance and Sulphur, the latter much better than was expected, this being due to a great extent to the large amount of machinery being used there. Eldorado and Hunker are continuing as rich as ever, also Bonanza, more particularly near the Forks. On Little Skookum and Last Chance the main values have been found on the benches in old channels and at their mouths at the present creek beds. Dominion did not show up quite so well this spring, as was at first expected, and a number quit work after having sunk one hole, others remained on and in drifting found the pay, and wherever this has been the case the values have proved exceedingly good. These have been mostly found to exist in the benches and are very much richer than the creek, in fact it is only where the outer rim of the old and higher creek beds have broken out that values have been got. Silver Creek is also doing well.

Both are of opinion that hydraulicing is thoroughly practicable where water can be obtained, and mention Last Chance as good ground if water can be procured with sufficient head, and that Alex. McDonald's company is putting in an extensive plant on the Anderson Concession. Mr. Gilveray is applying for a concession for water and fluming rights to supply Hunker, Dominion and Bonanza Creeks and tributaries with water for hydraulicing. This, they say, will cost a large sum of money, but it is perfectly practicable. They expect that their charges will be high but that it will be a great boon. The water will be taken from Klondike River at a point about 200 miles from Dawson. They report the latter place to be vastly improved this year, the sanitary arrangements being good and an excellent water supply having been obtained. The death rate is greatly decreased, being now somewhat below the average. They believe Klondike will be as good a field in twenty years time if not better than it is now. General opinion is that the Government has been very remiss in doing nothing heretofore in opening up the country by making roads. They have lately commenced on one that will run along the top of the ridge between Hunker and Bonanza. Timber will become scarce in about five years but there is abundance of coal to take its place, the best being on the Klondike River about twenty miles from the mouth. There is also coal at Five Finger Rapids, and again on Seventy Mile Creek. Messrs Granger and McIntire have in their estimation the best location (3 claims) on the White Horse Copper Ledge, and also some valuable concessions in the same district. They report the copper find to be something wonderful and that there are enormous bodies of rich ore which can be worked out from the surface at very small cost.

Ranching has been tried by several, and although the season is short, good results are got. Mr. Attle has quite a considerable farm where they say he raises all sorts of crops and makes all sorts of money, but this will to a great extent be done away with when the railway gets through to Dawson.

Mrs. Hunker has been in with her husband and says she enjoys life up there and certainly looks the

picture of health. She owns several claims which are being worked with good results. They are returning there in the spring.

## COPPER-MINING

Twenty years ago, Chili furnished nearly one-third of all the copper mined in the world, Spain and Portugal one-fifth, and the United States less than one-sixth. In 1883 this country led the production, and by 1890 our proportion had been raised to one-half. Some copper is produced by Japan, Germany, and Australia, but the ores are low grade and the output not large. Practically all the copper mined in this country now comes from three districts—one in the northern peninsula of Michigan, another in Montana, and a third in Arizona. The Michigan mines are much the oldest, and date back to 1845. For three decades Michigan monopolized the industry and furnished severally eight to nine-tenths of the whole American copper output. The most famous mines there are the Calumet and Hecla, owned almost exclusively in Boston. Other companies have been able to come in upon the Calumet and Hecla vein; under the mining laws of Michigan which grant ownership straight down from the surface boundaries, and do not allow owners to follow their vein slantwise under the ground, as do the Federal mining laws. The Tamarac is a new company which is sharing the treasures of the Calumet and Hecla, and the Franklin and Kearsarge are among the other principal producers in Michigan.

Copper discoveries were made in Arizona about twenty years ago, and the territory now produces one-third as much of the metal as Michigan. The most noted Arizona mines are the Copper Queen, the United Verde, and the Old Dominion.

The Montana copper-mines are situated at Butte in the midst of a very large group of silver mines, and their ores carry considerable silver and a little gold; so that it is commonly believed that they yield enough of these two precious metals to pay for the cost of mining them, leaving the copper in them as net profit. All the Montana copper comes from a rectangle two and one-half miles long and one mile wide. The largest producing mine is the Anaconda, now controlled by Eastern capitalists, but recently owned by Messrs. Haggitt, Tevis, Hearst, and Daly, of California, and managed by Marcus Daly, who developed the property and built the great smelting-works at Anaconda.

## HANDS ACROSS THE SEA.

The intervention which would have prevented the expansion of this Republic may or may not be attempted to check the designs of England. That will depend a good deal on the apparent hazard of the enterprise, and the possibility of securing entire agreement among those who may insist on being parties to it. In any case, it is not the kind of intervention which this country can afford to applaud. For all time the future of the race with which we are most closely allied is ours, and one-half of the English-speaking family cannot be compelled to bend to the dictates of its natural enemies without impairing the strength and influence of the other. The success of an anti-English league would greatly simplify the success of an anti-American league, which was a favorite topic in the European press less than two years ago. Whatever amount of sympathy may be felt for the cause of the Boers, the fact should be frankly recognized that England is doing