

be learned respecting it, but it is known to be rich in furs, well supplied with timber, and it is traversed by a great length of navigable rivers. It is already yielding a considerable yearly product in gold, and presents every indication of a country rich as well in other metals, and including deposits of coal. In its southern portion, situated between the 60th and 65th degree of latitude, is comprised an area of probably not less than 30,000 square miles, suitable for eventual agricultural occupation, and presenting none of the characters of a sub-Arctic region, which have, in advance of its exploration, been attributed to it by some writers. In each of these particulars and in climate it is greatly superior to the corresponding inland portion of the territory of Alaska. It may, in fact, be affirmed with little room for doubt, that the region here spoken of as the Yukon District surpasses in material resources the whole remaining northern interior portion of the continent between the same parallels of latitude.

We would also add a report given by R. G. McConnell, B.A., in 1891, on the exploration of the Yukon and Mackenzie Basins, containing an economic synopsis of this northern region :—

GOLD.—As a full account of the discovery of gold and the progress and present condition of gold mining in the Upper Liard, Cassiar and Yukon Districts is given by Dr. Dawson in the annual report of the survey, 1887-88, part B, pp. 78-86 and 178-83, it will be unnecessary to go into the subject in detail here. "Colours" of gold occur in the bars of the Liard all the way to its mouth, but no deposits of economic value have been found below the Devil's Portage. A number of bars were worked between the Devil's Portage and the mouth of Dease River, for several years after the discovery of gold on the Liard by Messrs. McCulloch and Thibert in the year 1872, but these are now all abandoned and the records of them lost. At the present time no miners are employed on the Liard below the mouth of Dease River.

Gold in paying quantities has not been found on either the Mackenzie or the Porcupine, and the rock formations bordering these rivers do not appear to be gold bearing.

On the Pelly-Yukon above the boundary, and as far as the mouth of the Pelly, the limit of my examination, gold in varying quantities is of almost universal occurrence, but