

FINE PROPERTIES

Report on the Monarch and Empress Groups.

MADE BY FRANK ROBBINS

The Lode Running Through the Properties Forms a Most Alluring Proposition for Exploration, and the Possibilities Are Great.

Frank Robbins, M. E., recently examined the Monarch and Empress of India groups for Messrs. Kennedy Brothers & Purdell, and, according to the report made, they are most promising properties. Appended is the report:

Rossland, British Columbia, October 1, 1898. Messrs. Kennedy Brothers & Purdell, Rossland, B. C. Gentlemen:—I beg to submit the following report of my examination of the two groups of mining claims near Hall Siding in this province.

Location and locality.—These claims consist of the Barnes, Monarch, Beatrice, Echo and Moyee, of the Monarch group; and the Helena, Empress of India and Macdonough, of the Empress of India group.

These claims are all adjoining each other—five of them being, in my opinion, upon the same lode—they are each 1,500 feet square.

The center line of the Monarch claim, which I will assume as a point of departure, is situated in a direct line about two-and-a-half miles west of Hall Siding, upon the Nelson and Fort Sheppard railway. This point is upon a lateral ridge of a steep mountain, the level of which is about 700 feet above the level of the sea.

The ridge from this point slopes abruptly to the north to Keno creek, and by a still steep but more gradual inclination to the north fork of Barrett's creek (both creeks being tributaries of the Salmon river).

Standing at this point (the elevation of which by aneroid is 6,250 feet), the locations of the Fern mine—about one mile—and those of the Silver King mine—about five miles distant—are plainly discernible to the north, and those of the Forto Rico mine, four miles distant to the south. These locations are seemingly in the same general line of direction, thus apparently pointing to the fact that a mineral belt or zone of ore-bearing rock extends for a distance of not less than 7,000 feet from this point to the south.

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Following the trail from Hall Siding (elevation 3,175 feet) in its meanderings for about four and a half miles this initial point is reached.

Formations of geological changes are noted—belts of metamorphic rocks, slates, schists, etc., are crossed. These are standing almost upon edge, evidence of a recent uplift of the original plane of deposition by intrusions of diorite, porphyry and other intrusive and eruptive rocks.

The first of the claims reached is the Barnes, which lies mainly in a porphyry rillio rock and is a partial realization of any moment beyond some small seams of quartz, so far as developed, of no value. Crossing the Barnes the east side of the Monarch claim is reached, and the porphyry still lies further west, until nearly midway in the claim a change is noted. Here is encountered a belt of diorite, which extends westward the remainder of the distance across the Monarch, and further across the full width of the Echo claim, and thence to contact where it reposes upon the granite, which forms the axis of the main range.

The Great Monarch Lode.—At the point to the east where the diorite is first encountered it is in contact with the porphyries, for a distance of 50 to 75 feet, to another point where there seems to be a line of faulting or a crevice in the diorite itself, this rock is impregnated with metallic copper—in other words—here it presents the appearance of a lode of mineralized rock, varying in width, as I have said, from 50 to 75 feet. From the center of the Monarch this lode is plainly visible for 750 feet to the north, where it is lost in the covering of soil and mountain talus. To the south it can be followed 750 feet through the Monarch, 1,500 feet through the Beatrice, and a further 250 feet further through the Helena, descending the south slope of the ridge. Here it again becomes covered by the soil until it is again disclosed by the channel of the North Fork of Barrett's creek, at a point where the south and east ends of the Helena and the north end of the Empress of India join, thence it passes south into the Empress of India and probably into the Macdonough claim.

When it is considered that over this great length an average of at least one point, pieces of rock may be broken off showing impregnations of copper sulphides, it is at once seen that this lode is an enormous one. However, the percentage of these sulphides in the whole mass is too low to make it available as an ore.

Naturally, the original lode has been concentrated into profitable ore chutes. Naturally, the original lode has been concentrated into profitable ore chutes. Naturally, the original lode has been concentrated into profitable ore chutes.

Developments.—On top of the ridge about 100 feet north of the No. 1 post of the Monarch claim, a fine shaft has been sunk to a depth of 41 feet, a mere pit in the lode, with neither drifts nor crosscuts, so neither wall of the ledge has been struck. For 17 feet this shaft passed through the mineralized diorite, showing in spots high values in copper; then for five feet it crossed an absolutely barren bar of diorite; then through 14 feet of mineralized diorite (from this I took a sample giving 2.2-10 per cent copper and 80 cents in gold)

below this another barren bar of five feet was crossed, and at the bottom the mineralized rock is again coming in. This shaft should be continued at least 100 feet deeper and crosscuts run from wall to wall.

The only other development work done upon this lode in the Monarch is an open cut driven along the porphyry wall at about 400 feet from the north end line. This cut is about 12 feet long and exposes a breast of 12 to 14 feet long. This breast shows a face of rock highly impregnated with oxide of copper. This gave 13-10 per cent copper. This, in my opinion, is a most favorable place for development. First, because it is the best place from which to operate, as it forms an admirable tunnel site from which to drive upon the lode in the most economical manner and the best place for a terminal for a tramway, which, in the event of discovery of profitable mineral, will be required to carry it to the railway. Second, because it will give the greatest depth at the least expense. Third, because I regard the condition of oxidation found here as most favorable in this. That it is an evidence that here at one time a more solid deposition of copper existed, which has been decomposed, leached and carried down by surface waters, while it is quite probable that when a tunnel has been driven in beyond the influence of the atmospheric agencies the ore will be found in its original and unaltered condition; this condition, by the way, is the rule in nearly all the great copper mines of the world.

One hundred and fifty feet south of the Monarch side line and upon the Beatrice claim an open cut crosses the lode for about 20 feet, and at its deepest point it is about 12 feet deep. This shows the same character of mineralized diorite which is seen in the Monarch shaft, and carries about the same values.

Descending the south slope to the north branch of Barrett's creek the next work encountered is a small pit upon the Helena claim. The elevation of the pit is about 5,500 feet. This is some 25 feet above the creek and about 80 feet therefrom. Here is shown a vein of ore 18 to 20 inches thick lying against the smooth diorite wall. Eight inches of this assayed 25 per cent copper and consisted of solid chalcocite. The remainder of this vein is of low grade quartz.

Fifty feet south of this opening another excavation has been made, which shows a small seam of erubescite containing 24.2-10 per cent copper. This is five feet north of the vein discovered in the Helena claim. From this point it can be traced across the creek and upon the other side, a total distance of 150 feet. Here it pinches to a knife edge.

Summary.—The above small vein of rich copper ore may seem unimportant, but taken with the foregoing it will be seen that it plays no mean part in the summing up of the situation. We have at one seat of exploration an enormous lode in which we are looking for concentrated values. At another, apparently in the same lode, we have this evidence of concentrated value, though small. This small seam should be driven upon to prove if it is not a feeder to a substantial body of ore in the big lode. I should drive north upon this while carrying on the tunnel should sink veins upon it at any points where it showed an indication of increasing width, never losing sight of the seam, however devious its course might seem to be.

In connection with the point of view, together with some experience I have had with copper lodes in many places, I believe that this lode forms a most alluring proposition for exploration, with conditions favorable to really great possibilities. It may be well to note that the general resemblance to the Rossland occurrences, in diorite, is readily discernible, though, of course, the mineralization in your claims is copper and not silver. The lode, as I have called it, is much larger.

SOPHIE MOUNTAIN

This Peak Given Its Name From Its Peculiar Shape.

IS FORMED LIKE A SOFA

Ore From the Douglas Runs Well in Gold—The Velvet Has Made an Excellent Record For Itself—Ruth Esther and Other Properties.

Various legends have been circulated about the origin of the name of Sophie or Sophia mountain, but from old records it appears that the first designation was Sofia, so called from the shape of the summit, or ridge, as seen from certain points of the compass. The Indians on the reservation so named it and some of the oldest mineral claims located there are described as being on "Sofa" mountain.

The story that the mountain took its name from the first claim located there may be the origin of the term Sophie, but it is certain that the original name of the mountain was Sofia.

A mining man who recently visited this section gives the following account of his trip:

"I spent a few days with the owner, rather part owner, of the Abe Lincoln and had ample opportunity of inspecting several of the properties which have made the Sophie mountain camp famous. The Abe Lincoln is in Stevens county, Washington, and its northern limit is the International boundary line. The ore is in large cabin smith's shop and down 50 feet and a tunnel in 160 feet. This tunnel will reach the shaft at a depth of about 160 feet, from whence an upraise will be made. There are crosscuts in the shaft, with a ledge 42 inches in the middle of mineral almost from the surface. The ledge is composed of the same kind of rock as that so well known on the Victory, two claims to the north—a conglomerate of porphyry and quartz.

The ore is in white quartz, the iron coarse and deep yellow, and there seems to be a quantity of mispickel. It assays from \$10 to \$12 in gold, but it is extremely likely this value is now double by the time the shaft is down to work and the tunnel will be driven 30 feet further towards the shaft, which it is estimated will be the point to commence the upraise.

"This is a full-sized claim on the British side, and its southern limit is the International boundary line. The man who is part owner of the Abe Lincoln is also interested in the best in that camp. He says the reservation is not half as good a mineral country as on this side of the line. Giving his views in his own words, he said: "The ore bodies so plentiful in the British Columbia side seem to stop suddenly at the boundary line or a few hundred feet beyond. The surface showings on the reservation are very poor. There are two tunnels on the Douglas, each 40 feet, and this claim's assessment is to be done forthwith. The shaft runs south east to north west and is the same that cuts the Abe Lincoln. The ore is also very similar in appearance, but of a much higher grade. It assays \$38 in gold and copper, the latter being found as high as 18 per cent."

The Ruth Esther. "Going north next comes the Ruth Esther, owned by Robert Neill. This is the claim that was first located as the Sophie by Colonel E. S. Topping and Mr. Mulholland. A white quartz ledge runs up the mountain side, which is bare of timber or brush, and the ledge is of the valley. A story published some months ago was to the effect that Messrs. Topping and Mulholland saw this ledge from the mountains in the new or east shaft. It is said that the ground was covered with the celebrated Velvet, staked by Jeff Lewis and Olaus Jeldness. This certainly is not correct, because the Velvet is not located on the face of a cliff, or even a bluff, and is a mile timbered. Besides, the ore bodies at work on the Ruth Esther, and the development work consists of a shaft 40 feet and a tunnel in quartz down 40 feet and copper. It is said that the ore is high as \$88 per ton have been obtained. This claim and the Victory, which adjoins further down the hill, were located and worked as long ago as 1890 by Topping and Mulholland.

"On the same lead as the Ruth Esther a tunnel has been driven over 500 feet, and men are now at work in two shafts, but work is now being carried on in the new or east shaft. At the old shaft there appears to have been a sort of cave in, and the entrance to a crosscut about 20 feet down nearly blocked up. The roof of the shaft houses has also fallen in and appears as if it had been abandoned for a long time. At the east shaft two men were hoisting with a windlass and bucket, and there are night and day shafts at work. The east shaft is where the rich strike was recently reported.

The Triumph. "Considerable work has been done on this claim in the way of stripping the ledges for long distances. There are two shafts, but work is now being carried on in the new or east shaft. At the old shaft there appears to have been a sort of cave in, and the entrance to a crosscut about 20 feet down nearly blocked up. The roof of the shaft houses has also fallen in and appears as if it had been abandoned for a long time. At the east shaft two men were hoisting with a windlass and bucket, and there are night and day shafts at work. The east shaft is where the rich strike was recently reported.

St. George's Ladies' Aid. "The weather was nearly as bad as it could be, a number of ladies met at St. George's church Thursday afternoon, to talk steps towards the formation of a Ladies' Aid society, with the definite object of raising sufficient funds to build a new church in the spring. Having discussed the subject fully it was decided to hold a bazaar in the near future, and the meeting adjourned till Monday next, at 2:30 p. m., in the church, when the necessary arrangements will be completed.

Mr. Martin is doing all he can in the matter of securing aid for the Rossland School of Mines. He has brought the attention of the government to the matter and it now has to undergo consideration. The difficulty is that there is no fund for such a purpose until the legislative meets. This difficulty may be got around for so shortly a matter, however. Mr. Martin is also interesting himself in the matter of a grant for the Sluiceway. The government has the question under consideration and he hopes that something may be accomplished before long.

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A SMALL MAJORITY

Prohibition Carries by a Majority of Fifteen in Rossland.

VOTE WAS RATHER LIGHT

Out of a Total of 244 Votes Cast, 197 Were for Prohibition, and 112 Against—One Ballot Was Spoiled and Four Were Rejected.

The unexpected happened, as it has a way of doing, and the plebiscite Thursday resulted in a victory for the prohibition forces by a majority of just 15. It was a triumph for organization. The polling was very small. The total vote was just 244 out of a registration of nearly 1,000. The people generally took very little interest in the matter. The prohibition adherents voted their total strength almost to a man, and the saloon men were largely represented among the voters, but outside of the two classes there were not many electors who took the trouble to cast their ballots.

The polls were in the Imperial block, and were open from 9 o'clock in the morning until 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The deputy returning officers were John Boutebbee and Thomas Parker, assisted by S. Dockerrill and Thomas Anderson.

Mr. Parker had charge of the voters' list from A to L, while Mr. Boutebbee received the ballots of the electors whose initials were between L and Z. Apparently the prohibition people are numbered chiefly among the citizens whose initials are included in the section of the alphabet from A to L, for that portion of the voters gave a majority of 16 for prohibition and the remaining half returned a majority of one against the measure. The vote in detail was as follows:

A to L—Total vote cast, 113; for prohibition, 64; against prohibition, 47; rejected, 3; majority for prohibition, 16. L to Z—Total vote cast, 131; for prohibition, 64; against prohibition, 65; spoiled, 1; rejected, 1; majority against prohibition, 1.

Total vote cast throughout the city, 244; for prohibition, 127; against prohibition, 112; spoiled, 1; rejected, 4; majority for prohibition, 15.

The pronunciation of the word plebiscite is causing endless dispute among the purists. The common pronunciation is pleb-is-site, with the accent on the first syllable, and all the vowels short except the final i which is long as in bite. The Latin scholars are giving the word the same pronunciation as it has in Latin under the continental system. They divide it into four syllables, with the accent on the second, and all the vowels long as in bite. They make the word rhyme with publicity and they claim that according to analogy they are right.

Another cult insists upon pleb-is-seet, with the stress upon the initial vowel. There are hybrid pronunciations inbred in the lead so far.

Following are the majorities given for and against prohibition in the principal towns in the interior:

Table with 3 columns: Town, For, Against. Lists majorities for prohibition in various towns like Rossland, Nelson, etc.

O. & W. EXTENSION. It Will Not Be Completed Before the 1st of May, 1899. The work of extending the O. & W. railway into the Boundary country will be pushed through all winter, notwithstanding this it will probably be the last of May before trains will be running into Oasceade City. The work is of the most difficult character.

The bridge on Forcup creek is to be 200 feet high and 700 feet long, requiring 1,200,000 feet of timber in construction. The timber will be largely hewn.

A. C. McLean and brother now have four camps running. The 14-drill air compressor, for boring the 3,100-foot tunnel, is to be on hand at the site at the close of the month to install and get it in operation.

The powder famine is not over yet, and it looks as though the Hamilton Powder company was being severely taxed to meet the enormous demand on the contract. That fact alone is an indication of the large amount of rock that must be displaced.

Table with 4 columns: Time, Location, Arrival, Departure. Shows train schedules for Kaslo and Slocan Railway.

"I have about 250 men on my two and one-half mile contract," said Contractor McMartin a few days since. "Of these only 45 are employed at station work." His work is at an altitude of 3,700 feet, and he is crowding it as fast as possible, in order to get a good start before the snow flies.

Contractor McHugh's camp, known as No. 1, near Robson, has been pulled up, the contract, which was largely easy grading, having been completed. One or two others of the same character will also move shortly.

P. Genelle & Co. now have four logging camps and one camp at work in full blast. The latter is located in the narrows, opposite Burton City. The Phillips Palace Sleeping and Chair Cars in Service. The Dining Cars are operated in the interest of its patrons, the most elegant service ever inaugurated. Meals are served in a Cartier. To obtain first class service your ticket should read via.

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