

your facilities for economical mining are not equalled in the district, and if your mill is erected on modern principles, and upon the site now graded, your ore can be mined and milled including chlorination at a cost not to exceed \$5 per ton. You must remember that in order to get your expenses so low you must drive a tunnel in on the vein on a level with your mill, which will not only drain the mine but reduce your actual mining machinery to a few cars and a mule to draw them. Your tunnel will cost some money, but it must be remembered that it will be driven on the vein from which ore will be taken as work progresses. Before commencing your bottom adit, I shall recommend that you push the work in the present tunnel, where you have such an abundance of ore, and also that you sink a winze (inside shaft) on or near the vein, so that at any desirable point you can cut the vein, and if you choose drift on it; also so as to determine its value, as compared with the ore in your present tunnel. Thus you are not only proving the value of your property, but you are doing actual necessary work as the winze not only determines the true course of the vein, enabling you to determine the point at which to start your bottom adit, but you will also continue to sink to the level of the adit, and when communication is made your mine is well ventilated, not alone giving you good air but clearing the mine from smoke after blasting, thus saving a great loss of time from miners waiting for the smoke to clear away before resuming work.

I have made many assays from the ores now on the dump as well as from the face of the tunnel, and as you will see in my report to the Government I have explained the great difficulty of sampling a gold-bearing sulphuret mine. Some of the assays were very high, while others selected on purpose were quite low. Yet judging from the average samples I selected it is not hazardous to say that the mining venture on Island Mountain will be a perfect success if intelligently handled.