be made by those who have acquired possession of these mines to commence operations for their actual development."

Report of the Minister of Mines (B.C.) 1877.

Extract from the report of the Government Agent at Yale, Mr. William Teague: "The silver mines in these localities, I deeply re-

"The silver mines in these localities, I deeply regret to inform you, are lying dormant and intact, for the want of capital or enterprise to work them, therefore I am unable to submit any further important changes respecting the development of these promising resources."

And finally this extract from the last Government teport in which Silver Peak is mentioned and which has a decidedly epitaphic tone:

Report of the Minister of Mines (B.C.) 1884.

Extract from the report of the Government Agent (Yale and Lytton), Mr. Frederick Hussey:

"* * * * In the Hope division the silver mines which attracted so much attention some time back seem to have gone out of thought simply from the want of energy and capital to work ground which has been shown to contain an almost inexhaustible supply of the precious metal."

From various personal sources both on the Fraser and in Victoria the writer has received miscellaneous information regarding the doings at the mines. Mr. William Teague, the late agent at Yale, and who is still a resident there, states that the results from samples of ore which he sent to London, San Francisco and had assayed locally were 112 ozs. silver and 21 dwt. gold. Throughout the two or three years of activity at the mines there appear occasionally items of news thereon in the Victoria papers. So on the 23rd of January, 1872, the "British Colonist" states that eight tons of ore are to be shipped next day to San Francisco for a "practical test." On the 5th May, 1872 mention is made of assays of \$395, and on the 26th September, 1872, the same paper states that: "Mr. S. P. Moody, who returned from San Francisco yesterday, brings a very encouraging report from the three or four tons of silver ore which he took down. The ore was sold at \$230 per ton, while from 240 fbs, two silver bricks worth \$71.32 in silver and 6.42 in gold were extracted," etc.

On October 29, 1872, the "Colonist" has a leading article on the Victoria Silver mine, in which it is stated that assays from the Van Bremer ledge go as high as \$2,400 in silver and \$40 in gold, and that the ore will probably average about \$500; also that a shipment of ten tons is at New Westminster for transportation to Swansea, and another of thirteen tons for San Francisco.

So much for the written data which have been rescued from the flotsam and jetsam of bygone years.

Apparently repeated attempts to re-organize were futile, as some of the original shareholders or their heirs refused to part with their holdings except at exorbitant figures, or accept assessable stock in lieu thereof.

From the above-mentioned cabin at 4,850 feet the mountain towers up in sheer overhanging cliffs to a height of 6,000 feet or more. The extreme summit has never been scaled and in fact affords the really expert Alpinist an unrivalled opportunity for breaking his neck. To the Eureka tunnel from the cabin is a distance of a few hundred yards, but the writer found on his visit that the mouth of the tunnel had caved in although he is informed that it was still open two or three years ago, and that it was only timbered at the entrance, so that it would probably be no great task to re-open it. The ledge there runs up a crevice, at an angle of about 65 degrees, which is ten feet broad at the entrance and apparently four or five at the summit 450 feet up. By making a lengthy detour to the end of the spur of the mountain formed by this crevice this same ledge may be seen as it descends for several hundred feet the face of the precipice and continues apparently below the accumulated debris of ages.

Farther on the Van Bremer ledge is come to. In common with all the other ledges on the mountain this lode can be distinctly traced by the reddish brown appearance of the outcrop as it runs back and up into still higher ground. The tunnel which is said to be eighty feet in length, could not be examined, as the series of ladders by which it was reached have long since decayed. It is about 150 feet above the trail on which there is a heap of ore of several tons. The cabin belonging to this claim—built in a sheltering angle of the rock,—is in ruins.

Still farther along are two more ledges, one of which is seen running up a perpendicular rock exposure for a distance of 150-200 feet. Both these ledges were about five feet broad. There seem to be three, if not more, main systems of veins on the mountain, all of which bear a strong resemblance to each other. These veins throw off leaders or shoots at acute angles. All have the same banded formation* and are composed chiefly of iron with some quartz, showing gouge or selvage on the walls.

Apparently from the wearing away of the outcrops they occupy gorges or crevices of considerable proportions. On the several rockslides tons of float are scattered far and wide, the result of the disintegration of the ledges in times past. The impossibility of entering any of the old workings combined with the presence of gossan on the outcrops formed by oxidisation of the ferruginous gangue preclude any cursory opinion as to the origin and nature of the ore deposits.

In conclusion, it is safe to say that conditions have changed so materially in the twenty-five years which have elapsed since the last blast was fired on the moutain as regards the advancement in mining generally, the cheapening of mine supplies, living and labour, the radical changes in transportation and the improvement in metallurgical methods that given a reasonable amount of working capital, combined with skilled management, the mines of Silver Peak might again hold that prominent position in the public ken which they occupied nigh a generation ago.

CENTRE STAR MINE.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT.

THE Centre Star-Le Roi vein is a very strong wellmineralized vein, which, in general, is 20 to 40 ft. in thickness, and has a dip of 70 degrees from the horizontal. The two neighboring properties adjoin each other, and their underground workings are connected. On the west, the Le Roi mine, which is the older of the two enterprises, has now developed the vein for 1,500 feet along its length, and 900 feet in

^{*}They are in some cases an exact reproduction of illustrations by Le Neve Foster of ideal sections of the veins of the Wheal Mary Ann mine-Cornwall.