

THE B. C. MINING EXCHANGE AND INVESTOR'S GUIDE

And Mining Tit-Bits.

VOL. II.—VANCOUVER, B. C., APRIL, 1900—No. 4.

THE B. C. MINING EXCHANGE AND INVESTORS' GUIDE circulates throughout the Empire and the U.S. We shall always be happy to give the fullest information in our power to those correspondents who are subscribers. Lately, however, we have had so many enquiries from non-subscribers on matters British Columbian, that to reply to all takes both time and money, and, while always ready to oblige correspondents as far as possible, we shall in future expect non-subscribers to remit sufficient to cover postage.

The subscription is \$2.00 yearly, postage free.

Further, we would say that our office is at the disposal of subscribers, for the use of books, maps, and general reference in connection with British Columbia industries, mining or otherwise.

We extend a cordial welcome to all strangers who may seek to investigate our possibilities. We extend to all Mining men the freedom of our office when visiting Vancouver, and request them to make it their headquarters. 612 Cordova Street West.

GIVE BRITISH COLUMBIA A CHANCE.

The Province possesses a mineral belt equal to any on this sublunary sphere, but for want of capital to develop we are still mainly in embryo.

Our people have the wealth in the ground, not being in a position to get it out. To those willing to assist them in the operation large fortunes will result. Given a tithe of the chance which has been shown South Africa and Australia we will astonish the world. To do this, however, money is necessary, and money makes money when the proposition is a good business one, and that should be well ascertained.

The Dominion Pacific Coast output of *Gold* alone, even under existing want of development funds and such a small comparative area of mineral lands worked—for 1899 is: Yukon, \$16,000,000 (to this may be added at least another third, which undoubtedly the ten per cent. royalty has caused to be smuggled out), so that a moderate estimate gives us \$21,000,000; estimating the B. C. gold production at, say, \$3,000,000, or a total of \$24,000,000. To which we add the U. S. Pacific Coast gold output, \$72,000,000, giving a total Pacific Coast Gold production, for 1899, of \$96,000,000, or nearly one-third of the balance produced in other parts of the American Continent and the Old World combined.

These facts should surely prove that gold mining is a business and not a gamble, and when taken hold of as a business proposition there is no legitimate business that can compare with it in results.

M. T. A. Rickards, M.Inst.M.M., in a paper read before the institute, says in a most practical and forceful way: "Mining is not a scientific pursuit, although at times it may to the observer have seemed to be either that or one big insanity. But mining is an

industry. The good sense which financial men have of late years contributed to the operations has done much to bring it from a windy mistiness to the solid footing of sound business. The main purpose is not to develop the waste places of the earth, but simply to win a profit by extracting ore out of the ground. The result will be reliable in proportion to the care taken. Any shirking of difficult places in the mine, any avoidance of hard portions of the vein, any assistance from untrustworthy hands, will vitiate the result. Careful sampling is worth a bushel of suppositions, and the painstaking determination of the working costs is better than any amount of geological generalities. In the estimate of costs are many items—breaking of the ore, development work, equipment, milling, management, etc. Then the question of available ore, or likely to be available on exploration. This is the *pous assinorum* of mining. Often that which is described as ore in sight is out of sight. When values of ore and tonnage available have been arrived at and working costs determined, the engineer has the greater part of the evidence needed to submit to the client he is advising. The padding of a report with a large amount of geological disquisition where it is not necessary to a comprehension of the facts of the case, is very nearly an impertinence, seeing that it is not expected that it will be understood by those for whose guidance it is written."

Had the Government of British Columbia the good fortune to possess men of the same character and quality as those composing the Governments of the Australias or South Africa, our position as a mineral producer would have been equal to any long ere this.

THE ROCKS.

(Continued from No. 3, Vol. II.)

Gradually, through many æons, the deposits have become of greater thickness in those parts where erosion has taken place continuously, in many cases obtaining a depth of over 50,000 feet. The immense pressure in these parts has caused a depression of the earth's crust, which, pressing in turn on the liquids or gases imprisoned in the interior of the globe, have caused an upheaval and folding in others, forming the primary mountain ranges, at the same time causing a weakness of the raised portions: first, by the wearing away of the primary rocks and, secondly, by the tension on the outer rim of the elastic earth crust. So as one dynamic period has been formed others followed in succession, and are still and always will be forming in more or less degree whilst our globe has motion or until it has become a solid sphere.

Essentially consequent on the eruptive periods are the minerals of value to the mining world, and to them do we owe our mining camps.

When the crushing and folding took place and the primary and sedimentary rocks were broken and folded, whole areas of volcanic matter were upheaved into and through the natural fissures formed. This volcanic matter carrying with it, partly in solution, the