

Macdonald's management the mine is being thoroughly prospected, and a supply of power has been made the subject of an arrangement with the owners of the California mine.

A diamond drill has of late been successfully operated on the White Bear and the Green Mountain properties and development work is in progress following the ore bodies encountered by the drill. No discoveries of importance, however, have yet been made on either property.

Although well equipped, the California has not been operated since the early part of the year. The property is said to be waiting for stock market developments, and when these are arranged work will be resumed.

and the Trail smelter for lowering the rates of freight and treatment. At Northport the plant has been greatly enlarged and improved, the Great Northern railway having also lowered the freight rate for the transportation of ore from 75c. to 40c. per ton.

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NELSON DISTRICT IN 1901.

By HORACE G. NICHOLS, A. R. S. M.

SO many have been the obstacles to be overcome and the difficulties in the path of real progress, during the past year, that at this latter end, it behooves one, in reviewing the present state of development, to



FALLS NEAR NELSON.

Operations at the Velvet mine on Sophie mountain have been conducted under the direction of a new manager during the year. The cost of production was originally disproportionately heavy and the mine is being further developed. A waggon road has also been recently built. When more adequate transportation arrangements are effected the mine can undoubtedly be profitably operated, and the same may be said concerning other properties in the immediate neighbourhood which have been developed with some success during the past year.

The Spitzee has been very successfully developed during 1901. Returns from trial shipments consigned to the smelter have been exceedingly satisfactory.

The smelter situation has changed but little during the year and apparently no agreement has been come to between Mr. Gooderham's syndicate, the C. P. R.

give due weight to the moral significance of failures avoided, as well as to the actual success achieved.

A greater hesitation would without doubt, be felt in basing the claims to progress in any district on such negative grounds, were the causes which have so militated against general advancement less widely spread, and their influence of more limited range.

Chief among the causes have been the scarcity of money due in a great measure to the prolongation of the South African war, the continued depression in the silver-lead market and the unsatisfactory relations at present existing in many places between capital and labour.

A discussion on these subjects lies happily outside the scope of this article, let it suffice to say that we dream of an era ensuing, when the possibility of satisfying the Boer appetite for lead, shall have been sufficiently real-