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British Columbia Mining Critic.

"I Am Nothing, if Not Critical."—Shakespeare.

V. I. No. 13.

VANCOUVER, B. C., THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1897.

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picking up—now is the time to
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ally good bargains and intend-
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THE PILOT BAY SMELTER.

It is stated that the Bank of Montreal will shortly foreclose on the Pilot Bay smelter property. In respect of which moreover three judgments of \$25,000 each have been filed at Kaslo. It is expected that the Bank will ultimately close a deal with Broden Bros., for the sale of the smelter, after which its works will begin again under new auspices.

ROSSLAND'S OUTPUT.

Rossland's 1897 output, up to the end of last week, amounted to 36,561 tons. The week's addition was again good, though rather less than the record one last previously recorded. It amounted to 2,085 tons, of which the Le Roi mine's output came to 1440 tons. The War Eagle slightly increased its yield, making it 265 tons for the week and the Columbia and Kootenay also advanced, shipping 180 tons, as did the Iron Mask with 90 tons and the Cliff with 60. The Centre Star, however, made a reduced shipment of 50 tons, though it will soon become one of the big shippers of the camp. The shipping mines of last week were, therefore, the usual half-dozen.

THE GOLDEN EARS MINE.

The development work on the Rocket belonging to the Golden Ears Mining Company, Limited, is progressing satisfactorily. A tunnel crosscutting the lead is being run; the cut, which is about 40 feet below the top of Hog's Back Mountain, is in 23 feet, and has cut into a very rich paystreak 4 feet 6 inches on the floor of the tunnel, showing a very fine body of ore, widening as it goes down from 2 feet at top of the cut to 4 feet 6 inches, with every indication of a larger and richer body of ore ahead of the cut. There is sufficient ore on the dump to pay for all expenses so far incurred. The management confidently predict that this property will pay from the grass roots. The Provincial Government is building a road from the shore of the lake to the mine, which will be completed in about four weeks time, which will enable the Company to commence shipping ore to the smelter. Offers have been made for the property, which the Company have refused. This is another Coast undertaking largely in the hands of New West.

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LILLOOET, B. C.

Reports on Mining Claims a Specialty

Henry Benjamin = =
Geologist and = =

BE BRAVE, GO ON.

Of silent solitude the king
And lord, the savage grizzly bear;
He hears the northwind shriek and stung,
And trembles in his lonely lair
And yet you miners onward go;
With packs and sleds, lo! one by one.
They struggle through the blinding snow.
God bless you, boys, be brave; go on!

It is not true that out of eyes
Is out of mind—it is not true!
We think of you, our prayers rise,
Forevermore, dear boys, for you.
With you we are, for you we cope.
Until your victory is won;
Let through the blizzard guide your hope;
God bless you, boys, go on; go on.

Take heart, let falter not your feet;
And if it be with tottering knees,
Go on and on through hail and sleet;
At last this snowstorm, too, must cease.
Let over matter be your mind
The matter, and my word upon
You will, you shall, your destiny find,
Be brave; go on; go on; go on!

Heed not the hill or rugged pass;
We want you to return once more,
Oh, joy! when every lad his lass
Finds waiting at her cottage door.
Come what there may, dear boys, be bold;
You'll find yet, every mother's son,
The longing of your life, the gold,
Go on; go on; go on; go on!

MINING NOTES.

In doing the assessment on the Royal George, which lies east and south of the Copper Jack, of the Columbia and Kootenay group, a ledge showing copper pyrites has been found. It looks so well that a shaft will be sunk on it at once.

Two men have been ground-sluting on the Florence, which adjoins the R. E. Lee on the north. The ledge has been exposed in places for a distance of 400 feet, and the iron capping seems to be about 150 feet wide, the ledge apparently being 15 to 18 feet wide.

The Ida May Company is doing some work on its property, the Ida May, adjoining the Cliff on the north. After some surface prospecting the ledge was found on June 20, and now a crosscut has been run showing five feet of very fair looking mineral. It is the intention now to sink a shaft on this showing.—Rossland Miner.

A GOOD MONTH'S BUSINESS.

June was not in any sense a dull month in the Trail Creek district in so far as locating and development of claims was concerned. According to the Miner of that place, certificates of work to the number of 390 were recorded, representing as a minimum \$38,000 worth of work done on these particular claims. The list of locations show 299 were made during the month. The payment of licenses under the new Companies act was the feature of the month's business, however, at the recorder's office. One hundred and seventy-five companies have paid up. Of this number all but

THE ATHABASKA,

The recently issued report of this well known mine of the Nelson district gives the following statement of the Company's operations:

"On the 13th day of May last the British-Canadian Gold Field Company commenced active work, when it was found necessary that a great deal of preliminary work should be done, such as building cabins, erecting platforms, making roads and trails, etc. Since that time we have built two large sized cabins (one used as a boarding house and the other as a bunk house), a four foot skid road, one and a half miles long, from the mine to the Hall mines tramway, where we have built an elevated platform or loading station from which the sacked ore is loaded on to the tramway and sent to the Hall mines smelter at Nelson, and at the mine at a point one hundred feet from the mouth of the main tunnel we have put up a large incline upraise to the surface, a distance of thirty feet, on about the same angle as the ledge, for the purpose of ventilation and blocking out ore. From the upraise, back towards the mouth of the tunnel about 50 feet, we have stoped six and ten feet of the ore in height. At a point fifty feet from the mouth of the main tunnel a winze has been sunk to a distance of seven feet, on which we stopped work temporarily on account of surface water and the inconvenience to the stopers above. There are, however, now four miners at work in this winze sinking day and night.

At the old shaft near the top of the little ridge, the ledge dips at a low angle and is somewhat broken. This ledge is being stripped and some very rich ore is being extracted.

One hundred and eighty feet from the old shaft, south, crossing a little draw, there is a stripping of forty feet, exposing the same character of rich ore, trending nearly the same as the main tunnel, where we intend to at once sink a shaft following the vein.

The first shipment of ore from the mine was sampled and settled for on the 28th day of June. From this shipment of 33,268 pounds, after the usual reductions for freight and treatment amounting to \$12.00 were made, netted the Company \$1,003.12. There are 300 sacks of ore ready for shipment, which has been taken from two stopes—one hundred and fifty sacks from the tunnel and one hundred and fifty sacks from the upper or shaft workings. This will be shipped in two lots of twenty tons each. The first lot from the shaft workings will be completed within two weeks. It is very high grade and, I think, will give returns of over \$100 per ton. The other shipment from the lot from the lower tunnel will follow at once, as that is being completed at the same time.

ore on the dump and carrying on a progressive system of development work.

There are eighteen men at work at present and this force will be increased to at least twenty-five.

THE ORPHAN BOY INVESTIGATION.

It is to be hoped that this investigation will, whatever else it affects, throw a clean searchlight on the whole circumstances of the Orphan Boy fiasco. This is none the less likely, because the magisterial proceedings happen to be less than usually marked by technical formalities, though legal men accustomed to very strict adherence to rules of evidence and procedure, chafe a little over the present method of investigation by magistrates who do not happen to be trained men of the law. In this exceptional case no harm will be done to public interests, even though the inquiry has resulted in interim questionings of a "fishing" nature. Civic proceedings are easily compromised and in this case the permanent welfare of our mining industry is more or less involved in a policy of "no compromise." Interesting facts are already in evidence that should be very useful in the civil proceedings pending.

CONCENTRATES.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe, speaking of the Yukon, says: "It takes a year to get a man into the country and back again." How long, Lord! how long, will such sublime ignorance prevail in high places. A year to get in and out again. Oh what monstrous stuff.

The Nelson Tribune sneers at the construction of the railway from Penticton to Boundary Creek as simply a scheme for the "out-door" relief of Victorian laboring men. The petty spirit would ruin the country if the men who exhibit it had any influence.

With Victoria-Texada yielding \$300 the ton, not including concentrates, the Alberni Consolidated \$100 to the ton, what's the matter with having a little excitement nearer home than the Klondike?

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British Columbia Mining Critic.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

Devoted to the Interests of Mining and the Protection of Investors.

THURSDAY,.....JULY 23, 1897.

Letters from practical men on topics connected with mining, mining machinery, mining laws, and matters relating to the mineralogical development of Canada, are always welcome

Manufacturers and Dealers in appliances used in and about mines are invited to send illustrations and descriptions of new articles.

Views and descriptions of mines and mining locations solicited

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British Columbia Mining Critic Co., Publishers.

FRANK S. TAGGART, Business and Editorial Offices :
Managing Editor. 319 Cambie St., Vancouver, B.C., P. O. Box 125.

GOOD FOR FRANCE AND OURSELVES.

They sometimes "do things better in France," despite such untoward occurrences as the Panama scandal, and the present French government is about to do a very sensible thing, that should enure alike to the benefit of our Province and that of the wisely advised French capitalist, assuming that the Special Mining Commissioners who will shortly visit this Province at the instance of the French Government investigate carefully and report cautiously and well. The Government of the French Republic has, as the foregoing remarks note, lately decided to obtain a specialist report on British Columbia's mineral resources and opportunities, and with this view two very competent experts will very shortly reach Vancouver in the persons of Messrs. D. Dassert and P. Jordan, of the noted Paris School of Mines, the latter a brother of the French Consul in Vancouver. These gentlemen will make first for Vancouver, as the consular and commercial centre of the Province, and after being duly advised by their nation's local representative, visit the chief centres of British Columbia, and thus and otherwise obtain the best information they can as to the rich mineral opportunities of our land. If

satisfied, as we are well persuaded they will be, that the field is large and open and abounding in good possibilities, there is no doubt that there will follow in the wake of their reports an influx of French capital, and France is a rich nation, that will greatly stimulate our progress as a precious metal and copper mining community. Some French immigration—not large, but of a good sort, representing skill and energy—will doubtless also follow the capital and make hither; but this will probably be rather select than extensive, as the ordinary Frenchman is a home-staying mortal, but little prone to emigrate save under the partial compulsion of military or official service. The opportune visit to France of our Dominion Premier, Sir Wilfred Laurier, will doubtless further stimulate this French investigation and serve to enhance its results, as Sir Wilfred is sure to be asked and to answer many questions as to the natural wealth of British Columbia during his stay in a land the tongue of which is his own, although he is a loyal British Premier and the great public man of the Empire's most important self-governing and English speaking Dominion. It is worth noting that the French "take very kindly" to copper propositions and are sure to note these in our case with almost equal interest to those attracted to undertakings dependent on gold alone. Indeed the French capitalists were once only too well to the fore in the copper market of the world, when they "cornered" for a time, with consequences ultimately disastrous to themselves, the copper market of the world. The visit of those French Government Commissioners will, therefore, be specially interesting and in all probability productive of good results. Paternalism in Government may be carried too far, but in the case of a young government like ours the French official method of investigation is commendable, and might, perhaps, not without advantage, be followed by the British home government. A commission of British mineral scientists of a practical type could, after a visit of close investigation, afford very much useful information to the British investor.

THE GALENA MINES, LTD.

The *Province*, in its last issue, whilst by inferential comparison commenting not altogether unfavorably on the very doubtful venture of the Harris-Fraser Gold Recovery, Ltd., otherwise did British Columbia mining the service of exposing the rapacious methods recently adopted by certain vendors and promoters of Provincial precious metal mining undertakings floated in the great London money market by the aid usually lavishly bestowed under writing fees. Thus our contemporary pointed out that the famous Gold Fields of British Columbia, Ltd., retained of its total authorized capital of £500,000 no less than £400,000 for the benefit of vendors and promoters; the Golden River Quesnelle Co., Ltd., out of £350,000 retaining £270,000; the British Queen Gold Mines, Ltd., out of £300,000 reserving £200,000; the Quesnelle River Gold Dredging Co., Ltd., of £55,000 retaining £40,000, and the Galena Mines Co., Ltd., out of £550,000 authorized capital reserving no less than £500,000 to vendors and promoters, £457,000 being offered to be taken in shares and £25,000 in cash. These exorbitant promotion demands, by enormously handicapping the ordinary investors' chances of success in respect of money placed in the companies concerned, must do great detriment, as the *Province* correctly asserts, to the legitimate development, on lines fairly profitable all round to vendors, promoters and investors, of British Columbia in precious metal mining. They will assuredly tend to induce amongst the British investing public, which is, after all, ordinarily intelligent, a somewhat general belief that a British Columbia "promotion" means too usually a game of "chuck-sovereign," in which a vendor or promoter may say to himself with a chuckle: "I'm all right anyway, if only the venture 'floats. 'Tis then a case of 'heads' I win, 'tails' the investor loses, if anything goes 'wrong with either mine or company," since, whilst to the investor there accrues all but the veriest minimum of risk, to the vendors and promoters there accrues all but a maximum of possible profit earning in respect of the undertaking.

The flotation of the Galena Mines, Ltd., is a special instance in point of the smallness of the chance that is too often now afforded the British investor in a B. C. mine promotion in London, and it is not at all surprising to note that

up to the present the concern has done little deed to justify the golden gleams of hope he out in its prospectus issued last February, and is now seeking, by the magic of some change of management, to make things look just a little better. A first glance at the prospectus question might well, however, serve to warn the prudent investor, since the only name of the directorate not representing vendors grabbing the lion's share of all possible results was a Colonel Robert Baring, and, as all the world knows, Baring has not of recent years been a name wherewith to conjure up either mining or other profits, under uncommonly difficult circumstances, as in the present case. However, under the auspices of Colonel Baring plus a quartette of vendor-promoters, the British public has been asked—not, as we believe, up to date with anything like complete success, happily for itself—to pay \$2,500,000 in fully paid shares of \$2,400,000 in the company's stock and \$100,000 in cash, the latter comparatively small sum representing not very much below the actual market value of the six shares transferred to the company, after the doing thereof of a little development work, chiefly consisting of a 60-foot shaft and two side drifts, each of about 100 feet in length.

On the strength of this development work reports quoted in the prospectus boldly asserted that there were last February 6000 tons of ore in sight, and in respect of this ore it was also stated that assays would prove it to run to values of from between \$63 and \$150 per ton. Ore on the dump—and this low grade ore—was furthermore valued at \$62,500, and ore in sight was thus altogether reckoned at the monstrous sum of \$437,000, in order to sustain the price asked in stock and cash by the grasping vendors and promoters of the concern. Needless to say, these big estimates show no signs of realization, or the Galena Farm would by now be famous among the mines of the Slocan. So change of management is being made in the Micawber-like hope that something may somehow accrue to prove that the six silver-lead mines near Silverton, in the Slocan, grouped together in the Galena Farm undertaking are more than what they now appear to be—at best only an ordinary silver-lead property as found in the Slocan, capable of yielding a fair return on a moderate rather than a monstrous capitalization. The Galena Farm mines, to pay even a moderate return, require a

ization, and 10 per cent is a modest dividend for precious metal mine company owning a property that has necessarily a limited productive life, and that a life subject to large risks of premature extinction will have to yield a net annual profit of nearly \$250,000, and thus prove itself more valuable than even the noted Slocan Star. This was from the first in the highest degree unlikely and now seems less likely than ever. But in any case the vendors and promoters stand to lose nothing, since the risk is, under the conditions of the issue, all that of the British investor. He finds, or is expected to find, virtually all the working capital of the undertaking—£25,000—in addition to a cash reward of £25,000 to the enterprising vendors and promoters, but the latter are to receive, in respect of their £475,000 of capital, nearly nineteen-twentieths of the profits. Undoubtedly a case this, as we have already said, of a flotation, in which "tis heads I win" for the vendor and promoter, "tails you lose" for the ordinary stockholder, if sufficiently foolish: to invest.

No wonder is it, when B. C. ventures like this are put on the London market that British financial papers look in general widely askance at promotions of mines in our Province, and speaking accordingly, prevent British capital from aiding to any large present extent the development of our precious metal mining in legitimate and profitable lines.

THE YUKON GOLD FEVER.

Large numbers of would-be gold winners seem determined, despite every warning, to make for the Yukon gold country at this late period of the season for entering a region in which a brief, hot summer ends with mid-September, and a winter of extreme vigor then immediately begins. Yet it is distinctly dangerous for the ordinary man to make thither at this time unless doubly well equipped; first, with a strong constitution that can endure climatic rigor; secondly, with a sum well approaching \$1000, it being calculated by experienced Yukon men that at least \$750 are needed to provide passage money, travelling expenses and the large, necessary outfit of clothes and food in a land which produces no crops save gold, and of food only game, in no large abundance, and fish, the latter being, of course, impossible of procurement during a winter which freezes solid even the mighty Yukon. It must be remembered that to reach the Clondyke gold fields there must be traversed one or other of alternative routes, varying in length and difficulty, but none of the more practicable being less than 2000 miles hence, and that which is probably the easiest, the one traversing via St. Michael's, 1800 miles of the Yukon River, being at least 2600 miles in total length from Vancouver or Victoria. It is true that there is much gold in

with extreme slowness, and it is safe to say that not 3 per cent. of those who go in make more than what are for such a land bare wages, plus the heavy cost of entering and leaving a country in which to live requires at present a minimum expenditure of \$5 a day or over \$1800 a year, and to get in or out at least \$300 additional. Thus the average miner must—to make expenses—obtain \$2100 in gold, and if he does not exceed that will leave the Yukon probably wiser but certainly sadder, having endured much and got little. It is clear from all reports that the best locations on the Clondyke are taken and only obtainable by new comers for very considerable sums in cash, running all the way from \$5,000 to as much as \$75,000. Hence the new arrival with a small sum in his pockets must seek a new place, and prospecting therefor on the verge of and probably for part of a winter during which the thermometer falls to 60 or 70 degrees below zero, must be a task to test the endurance of the toughest physique. Then, when a man has found his location, he must spend some seven months of winter in shaft digging and slowly getting out by pick and fire gold gravel, which has necessarily to lie above his ground for month after month, until the blazing heat of a short summer of some 120 days melts the snow and thaws the watercourses, thus enabling sluicing and gold extraction from the gravels by the usual process of the placer worker. Thus at least twelve months, more probably twenty to twenty-four, are usually needed to get out any gold, as several months may easily pass ere even a fortunate locator hits the right spot.

Inspector Strickland, whose estimates are probably fairly correct, considers that in 1896-7 \$1,500,000 of gold were got out in Clondyke. There were at that point then at work at least 1200 men. Their average take was, accordingly, about \$1250, or less than Clondyke living wages for the year. Some must have done even worse than this, as 30 to 40 lucky men took out from \$5000 to \$50,000 apiece, thus reducing the gold stock divided amongst the remainder. Clearly, therefore, many a Clondyke man in that season must—allowing for the large sum spent in getting and in starting—have actually spent all that earned without recouping his first outlay. There are now at least 3000 men on the spot, and though the season's output may be—so it is said—\$5,000,000 in gold, it is still clear that the fortunate few will realize moderate fortunes, the majority of certainly 95 per cent. make at best the necessarily high wages of a land whose bare living now costs \$5 a day and may well cost more in the coming winter. Supplies are exceedingly difficult to get in and almost every winter there has been a dearth of necessities, whisky excepted, of which there is sometimes a superabundance, and there are some, of course, of our tosto-

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| " 9.39 " | Sproule's | " 2.15 " |
| " 9.51 " | Whitewater | " 2.00 " |
| " 10.03 " | Bear Lake | " 1.48 " |
| " 10.18 " | McGulgan | " 1.33 " |
| " 10.30 " | Balley's | " 1.21 " |
| " 10.33 " | Junction | " 1.12 " |
| Ar 10.50 | Sandon | Lv 1.00 |

SANDON AND CODY.

| | | |
|---------------|--------|---------------|
| Lv 11.00 a.m. | Sandon | Ar 11.45 p.m. |
| Ar 11.30 | Cody | Lv 11.25 a.m. |

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Time Table No. 6, to take effect July 3, 1897.

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No. 2 passenger (daily except Sunday)
Leaves Rosslund 3.00 p.m.
Arrives at Trail 3.50 p.m.

No. 4 passenger (daily)
Leaves Rosslund 11.00 a.m.
Arrives at Trail 12.00 a.m.

No. 6 passenger (daily except Sunday)
Leaves Rosslund 7.00 a.m.
Arrives at Trail 7.50 a.m.

WESTBOUND.

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Arrives in Rosslund 9.30 a.m.

No. 1 passenger (daily)
Leaves Trail 12.30 p.m.
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Rivers Inlet and Haas River—SS. Coquitlam sails on 8th and 22nd of each month and will proceed to any part of the Coast should inducements offer.

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H. DARLING,

A NEW EAST KOOTENAY FIND.

The Fort Steele Prospector states that good gold bearing quartz has been found at the head of St. Mary's Lake. The quartz carries gold, copper and silver and already many prospectors are on the spot.

A GOOD SIGN.

That undue, but to a large extent, paper capitalization is being reduced and properties also consolidated in and about Rossland, is, as the *Record* notes, of good omen. A case in point is the consolidation of the well-known Homestake, R. E. Lee and Gopher companies, which as separate organizations were capitalized nominally in \$4,000,000. As a combined undertaking, organized by Mr. D. M. Lonnald, the capitalization will be \$800,000, an amount sufficiently large but not apparently excessive.

ANOTHER NELSON PAPER.

The *MINING CRITIC* is in receipt of an excellently printed and interesting new Nelson weekly newspaper, the *Economist* it promises to deal succinctly with happenings in that flourishing mine centre and would seem to have the right men behind it. Nelson should be well provided with three papers, but whether their proprietors will be equally well provided is quite another thing. They have, however, enterprise that deserves, even if it should not command success. Mr. D. M. Carley, a well-known printer once on the *Victoria Colonist* staff, is the proprietor and publisher of the *Economist*, and being a man of large and varied experience may perhaps be trusted to make good use of the local opportunity.

GOOD NEWS FROM TEXADA ISLAND.

The Victorian Metallurgical Works under the management of Mr. W. J. Cowell, F.G.S., has just pressed a gold brick out of the results of treating rather over 14½ tons of gold bearing ore from the Francis claim of the Victoria-Texada Gold Mining Co. on Texada Island. The result showing over \$60 to the ton is naturally regarded with satisfaction by the shareholders. The ore treated weighed 29,132 pounds and the weight of the gold brick runs to 45 ounces, 17 grains and 19 dwt., having a total value of \$900.30. It seems that our Coast district is about to become a good gold producer after a considerable period of waiting. The Victoria-Texada Co. is, as the name implies, largely owned by Victoria men. The Victorian Metallurgical Works are now treating samples ores from the Alberni Consoli-

A NEW CENTRE.

Each, doubtless, to the satisfaction of the Hon. Col. Baker, our Minister of Mines, who there owns large property interests, the C.P.R. has selected Cranbrook in East Kootenay as the divisional point of the Crow's Nest railroad. This means mechanic's shops, a considerable working population, a townsite and town lot values—perhaps, also, ere Vancouver gets one, a smelter, since coal lands are adjacent. Fortunate Colonel, to realize after many years of weary waiting the truth of the French adage, "*Tout vient a point a qui sait attendre.*"

Golden and Fort Steele will now have a rival East Kootenay town, and no doubt in due course the third paper will arrive in East Kootenay and settle at Cranbrook to "meet a long felt want." But all jocularity apart, this setting aside of Cranbrook for settlement and work is but another proof of the dawning greatness of East Kootenay, which having fine farm lands as well as rich mines, has one great advantage over Western Kootenay, enabling an all-round development.

THAT SMELTER.

The *Province* doesn't overmuch believe in the big promises made by the Evans-Prescott-Rothschild-Symons smelter syndicate, as regards the early setting up of a very big plant on Burrard Inlet, sans a civic bonus. In fact, our contemporary brusquely remarks about it as follows:

"Mr. Harry Symons, Q.C., says he intends to go ahead with his Seymour Creek Smelter, and if 'Symons says up,' well then, up will go the price of Burrard Inlet spare town lots (and by Jove! there are lots to spare) and up will go the plant, (perhaps the whole concern, too) but 'Symons' has also been known to say 'down,' and when he does, the money of investors will go down to the bottom of the deep blue sea, and never come up again."

This is straight speaking, certainly but it may be said in excuse that there has been more talk and correspondence than definite action in the case of this syndicate which has had many months in which to mature a scheme yet not got beyond the stage of periodic changing of plans and promises.

At the present rate of progress a smelter will be located in the neighborhood of Burrard Inlet at some period of what the most eminent of British statesmen vaguely calls, "the dim and distant courses of the future."

THE SLOCAN STAR.

This and the town of Rossland, the one a silver-lead, the other a gold copper proposition, are to-day, as they have

concentrating mill, now running to its full daily capacity of 150 tons, is about to be enlarged with more jigs and vanners that will catch much grey copper and antimonial silver that now escapes into Carpenter Creek. The mine working force will also be increased from 110, the present number, to at least 135. The *New Denver Ledger* notes that actual work on the Slocan Star group only began late in 1891, in fact, only just before 1892, since when nearly 200,000 tons of ore and concentrates have been shipped, the greater bulk, of course, during the last eighteen months.

The Slocan Star has in all yielded a million ounces of silver and fifteen million pounds of lead, and paid in all \$350,000 in richly earned dividends, an amount which, to justify its overcapitalization, the Galena Mines concern, noted elsewhere, would have to yield in profit in the course of each period of about sixteen months in order even in part to save the credit of its manner of flotation. Yet it has taken this well-managed mine of the Slocan Star five years—with all its richness of ore to earn dividends in all of \$350,000, though the rate of dividend production has latterly, of course, greatly accelerated.

REMOVAL OF HISTORIC REMAINS.

[Communicated.]

VANCOUVER, B. O., July 20.

We consider it our duty to call the attention of the Government and of the public at large to the fact that the valuable historic remains which mark the previous history of our predecessors in occupation of this country are being excavated and carried out of the Province wholesale.

We are much obliged to scientists who make a study of the past, and we are prepared to allow them the same indulgence in other civilized countries, but demur at the remains of the ancient inhabitants being carted off to adorn the museums of other countries.

Archæology is a very enthralling pursuit, but it must be indulged in without further loss. It is true that the "unspeakable" Turk allowed England to remove from Athens the famous "Elgin marbles," but such a transaction could never be again carried out. The remains of the Indian tribes who inhabited British Columbia may not have the grace and beauty of works by Phidias and Praxiteles, but though poor things they "are all our own" and should remain with us, and not allowed to be carted away as things of no value.

The scientific excavators have already, it would appear, packed away cases of valuable antiquities found near Kamloops and are now despoiling the ancient burial grounds near Lytton. Let them

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(LIMITED.)

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TREASURY:

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EVERGREEN MINE, SALMON RIVER DISTRICT.

In accordance with your request I have inspected the Evergreen Mineral Claim, and herewith I hand my report:

"The country rock is chiefly diorite and granite at different places on the surface. Prospecting holes have been sunk showing a remarkably strong body of mineral bearing quartz within two permanent walls, the quartz body being 20 feet in width where it is cut by four feet of intrusive porphyry, then occurs another 15 feet of mineralized quartz. The vein is plainly traceable the full length of the claim a distance of 1500 feet. The quartz on the surface is a decomposed rose color. In some places native gold is plainly seen. On trying it with a pan I found considerable free gold, it also showed quite rich in sulphurets but as depth is attained the gold is found in a pyritic iron, increasing in value very rapidly, assaying from \$17.00 to \$220. One assay running as high as \$380.00, but this was taken from a place showing a thoroughly decomposed mass and was more or less concentrated. The course of the vein is northeast by southwest and from the work at present done appears nearly vertical. I believe this to be a true fissure vein, cutting as it does, the formation at an angle of 45 degrees and would recommend that a shaft be sunk on the foot wall for a distance of 300 feet and the ledge crosscut at each 100 feet in depth when enormous quantities of good paying ore will be opened up which, with the facilities for shipping, will make this property a good dividend-payer. I find plenty of good timber and water in abundance for mining purposes, with the close proximity of the great water power of the Kootenay falls, making this a desirable place for the erection of large smelting works. In conclusion, I am glad to state that during my experience in mining, I have met with few properties that show such strong indications of a brilliant future."

J. W. HAMILTON, M. E.

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