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British Columbia Mining Critic.

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No. 12. Vor., L

VANCOUVER, B. C., THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1897.

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A WESTERN EDITORIAL APPEAL.

The New Denver Ledge has appeared in new and much enlarged form and possessed as of yore of all the wonted sprightliness of observation at the command of its well-known editor and proprietor, Mr. R. T. Lowery. His appeal to subscribers and possible subscribers is, as usual, amusing and worth quoting. if only for the amusement of readers of the MINING CLITIC beyond the bounds of B. C., whose acquaintance with Western mine camp humor of the press is naturally limited. This is what Brother Lowery has to say:

"Kind and much-admired paid-up subscriber, you will notice that this paper. which has never been spowslided by cheap silver or raided by the sheriff, is much larger today and has a different face than it had last week.

"It order to bring about this change we have installed machinery and machinery in our office that is the finest in the world for a town no larger than New Denver. It is entirely out of keeping with the local support, but as the Ledge draws its revenue from the world at large we have been enable I to do all things with a view to publishing a journal that will not act as a sedative upon its reader. We will make more improvements this month, and the limit to our progress will only be marked by the pay chute. If the public, especially those most interested, wish to see this paper continue its upward career they will have to dig up more collateral from their icans than some have done in the past. We do not want any praise. Just roll the dollars toward us, and we will print a paper whose pace will be so hot that its trail cannot be stepped upon by any of the numerous jackleg papers that are springing up all over Kootenay

The worthy editor of the Ledge has experienced not a few professional vicissitudes, and camped journalistically in many fields. Now, having gradually made his way "to stay" at New Denver, after a wait around Kaslo, he is able to smile at the thought of free silver snowslides and sheriffs' raids and have a little crow over certain younger issues that he calleth "jacklegs."

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The Oriental Hotel,

ANOTHER GOLD SAVING PROCESS

[Communicated.]

The article, "A Doubtful Venture," in last week's Critic, based upon present methods of trying to save fine gold, is correct.

Many rivers of British Columbia, the Frazer especially, contain gold in so fine a state that it is impossible to save it by mechanical means.

The ocean beaches, notably those about Capes Commercil and Mudge, have also gold in this condition. Flour gold, in paying quantities, is also found in the North Saskatchewan, Brazean, McLeod, Arthabaska, Peace and other northern rivers. For years miners have made wages on the North Saskatchewan by using blankets and matting, but only saved a small portion of the gold.

The problem of recovering flour and float gold has long engaged the attention of investors. As the specific gravity of the particles is the same, or less than the surrounding material, it follows that other means than mechanical must be used to accomplish the object. Quicksilver, from its affinity for gold, is the only medium to effect the saving cheaply, Many machines have been invented to utilize it, but apparently with small success, as none is in general use. This reproach can no longer be made. There has lately been invented by Mr. Louis C. Park a machine which promises to solve the problem. Several tests have been made with sand containing gold so finely divided as to be almost invisible, five assays of the tailings giving the merest traces. It is constructed on principles so simple that it seems a wonder no one thought of the contrivance before. It consists of facilities for forcing pulp, or sand, through quicksilver by the gravity of water, with bafile plates to insure thorough immersion. It is operated with little trouble and cost, compared with copper plates. The machine is moreover made in sizes adapted to the individual miner, stampmills, and dredges. It has attachments for heating the quicksilver, and for the electrical forming of sodium amalgam, features considered very desirable, with a view to amalgamate particles more or less refractory. Possessing these qualities, its makers claim that it should prove the ideal amalgamator, in which case it should increase enormously the field for placer mining, making available a source of great wealth.

[The Minife. Critic has pleasure in printing the above note, and hot a that the invention may prove as successful as its owners confidently expect, for it would in such case add vastly to the realizable wealth of our Province.—Ed.]

The Payne mine is now reported to be

THE IBEX COMPANY.

The Ibex Mining & Development Co., of Slocan. Ltd., incorporated under a capital stock of \$300,000 in \$1 shores, is working the Ibex. Lidderdale, Triangle and Gilt Edge claims in the Kaslo district and selling stock for development purposes at 30 cents a share. In respect of this the directorate reports as follows:

"Work on shafts, tunnel and drifts is being vigorously pushed, and the production of ore is exceedingly encouraging. On June 30th the first shipment of ore this season was made, and run through the sampler of the Kootenay Ore Company, showing a gross value of \$87.02 per ton, the assay being 74 ounces silver, 73 per cent lead. Sufficient work has been done to demonstrat; that the Ibex can produce a large amount of ore of a good grade for an indefinite period. A quantity of ore is now sacked at the mine ready for shipment, and this quantity is being daily added to. Owing to the fact that the mine is 414 miles from its shipping point, 3% of which is over a mountain trail, the cost of packing the ore down is a considerable item of expense. By operating a cable tramway the distance could be shortened 25 per cent, and a saving of at least 50 per cent. effected in cost of transportation. In order to carry out this necessary work the company propose to sell sufficient treasury stock."

Of this company Mayor S. B. Steele of Macleod, Alberta, is president, and W. J. Tretheway, M. E., consulting engineer.

EAST KOOTENAR'S RETURNS.

The mineral output of West Kootenay is regularly chronicled week by week and widely noted by the press. Meanwhile the most meager notes of East Kootenay's output appear only at distant intervals. The present yield of the district is relatively modest but steadily growing, and the customs officials and press of East Kootenay might well cooperate to give further publicity to the ore shipments of East Kootenay. Not a few provincial papers chronicle West Kootenay's output as "Kootenay's ore shipments," thus wholly ignoring East Kootenay's additional contribution.

THE MONTE CRISTO.

This Rossland mine, on which, under new management, work recommenced a short time since, is being worked in conjunction with the Colonna, two drills being at work in rick-looking ore. But it will be some time ere the mine becomes a shipper, as the cost of ore treatment must be reduced ere this can be done with profit.

A PROMISING AID TO MINING.

The Victoria Metallurgical Works has just begun work in Victoria, and has every expectation of doing a large amount of assaying, sampling and other work, and being well equipped with chlorinator and other appliances, and possessing a stamp mill of 20 tons daily capacity. The works will, under the management of its proprietor, Mr. W. J. R. Covele, F. G. S., prove of great service in aiding the testing and preliminary development of-amongst many others doubtless-coast and Island precious metal claims. Goodly consignments of ore from the Victoria-Texada and Alberni-Consolidated mines are being passed through the works, which should incidentally bring to Victoria not a little general mining business, in addition to making a good business record for its enterprising proprietor. The MINING CRITIC wishes the endeavor all possible success.

THE RECO MINE.

This good dividend paying silver-lead mine of the Slocans is busy packing ore. though not sending out very large shipments at present, pending the provisions of further tramway and concentrating facilities. One good feature of the mine organization is the care taken for the comfort of the employees, which naturally tends to good service by capable men. The working force at the mine will shortly be greatly increased, probably from 38, the present number, to 250, and when the aerial tramway and its connections, 9000 feet long in all, and the new concentrator are constructed and in working order, the Reco's shipments will be large and continuous, and even the present ones, though not numerous, run to goodly total figures, since the ore runs in silver from 400 to 600 ounces to the ton.

AT AINSWORTH.

Here the mine owners hope to see the too-long-closed Pilot Bay smelter again running ere long. They are very opposed to the placing of an export duty on their low grade silver-lead ores, at this will in their opinion close the American market against them and cause the mines of the camp to cease working in most cases.

THE SLOCAN OUTPUT.

The Slocan output for 1897 to date in ores and concentrates exceeds 19,000 tons, and steady and satisfactory progression is almost everywhere the order of the day in this rich silver-less

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HIGHLY SUPPOSITIOUS.

The MINING CRITIC has already noted, as a very doubtful venture, the Harris-Fraser River Gold Recovery Co., Ltd., the promoters of which seek to induce the British investor to take stock in a concern capitalized in £100,000 to work a twenty years' dredging lease on the Fraser near Harrison, subject to a rental of \$300 or £60 per annum and the usual provincial royalty on gold gotten. The delusive nature of the suppositions on which are founded hopes of the success of this company in a direction in which all previous attempts have failed, is well shown by the following quotation from the promoters' prospectus: "If," says that document, "the actual find by Chinamen, with their crude appliances, averages five shillings per cubic yard, the profits derivable by the use of machinery in deep and rocky places of the river will be fabulous indeed." There is "much virtue"-so too often much vice-in an "if," and in this instance the little word implies a non-existent circumstance. If Chinamen could get \$1 25 cents for every cubic yard of Fras. gravel worked by them, then truly the profits of such a company as this Fraser-Harris concern might be fabulous in their largeness.

thus make several dollars a day easily, and their successful example would tempt many hundreds of poor white folk as well as Mongols to richly productive gravels. But neither of these things happens, and the Fraser river placer-working Mongol certainly, as a rule, only earns a very moderate wage, probably not exceeding 75 cents to \$1 a day. Hence the London Statist rightly avers that "fabulous" is the very adjective to apply to the crafty hypothesis of the Harris-Fraser River Gold Recovery Co., Ltd. And, as we have previously observed, there is all the difference in the world between placer gravel working for gold and deep river dredging in a rapid boulder-encumbered stream like the Fraser. Placer gravel working often pays; hitherto all attempts to dredge the Fraser's depths and thus get out whatever gold there may be there have proved conspicuous failures. The British public are therefore asked in anything but a straightforward way to take a very doubtful chance indeed in backing the Harris-Fraser concern, and they will probably do well to let it severely alone as men here certainly would, if asked to invest to any considerable extent in the venture. We are glad, therefore, to note that the leading English financial papers "coldshoulder" the undertaking.

ENVIOUS MONTANA.

Montana men are very envious of the growing precious metal mining attractiveness of Alaska and B. C., more especially the latter. They accordingly laud to the skies Montana's opportunities, and some of them blame their local press for failure to advertise these duly to Mr. Floyd-Jones delivered himself the world. in this strain at great length in a paper, recently read at Helena, Mont., to the members of the Press Association of that State. Said Mr. Floyd-Jones: "There is no necessity for me to dilate to men as well posted as you on the gold camps of Montana, you all know them and their possibilities with sufficient capital; and you know that the streets of our towns and cabin mining \$1,500 to sink on their claims, while the trains to Cripple Creek and British Columbia are loaded with men and money for this very purpose, a result of the course suggested to this convention."

The "course suggested" is, as before stated, better newspaper notices of Montana's mines, the alleged absence of which supplies also, according to Mr. Floyd-Jones, the answer to the following query of his: "Why then are the trains boarded with people for British Columbia and Alaska, passing by better opportunities in Montana, where every facility, smelters, machine shops, railways and cheap supplies exist, going where everything of this sort is lacking?"

The reply to this plaintive query affords, however, but a partial explanation of the Montana men's large measure of migration to B. C. They are hither attracted, not merely by newspaper reports, but also by the natural fascination of "fresh woods and pastures new," so too by the better conditions of law and order which prevail under British rule. And their judgment is not mistaken. Montana's brightest day will within a very short period be easily surpassed in brilliancy by that of far more highly favored B. C., though at this present the Mountain State's mineral output still nearly trebles ours, being as highly developed as ours is yet infantile.

WEST KOOTENAY'S OUTPUT.

West Kootenay's mineral output for the fiscal year ending June 30th last, approached \$5,500,ooo, the shipments via Nelson alone amounting to \$4,841,459, made up as follows: Gold. \$2,306,880; silver, \$1,767,643; copper, \$518,-515; and lead, \$248,421. To these figures must be added the shipments via Revelstoke of the northern and central districts of West Kootenay, which though not yet completely tabulated. would certainly bring the aggregate shipments of West Kootenay to a sum in the neighborhood of \$5,500,000. Meanwhile Nelson and subports make a contribution to the Dominion in customs dues of no less than \$350,078, from which it is abundantly clear that when the contributions of Revelstoke are also taken to account, the Dominion will in revenue from West Kootenay receive at least twice the amount that it there spends in public work, including the whole of the interest and sinking fund on the

particular and other part to the Dominion allarge. If all the Provinces were of as great profit to the Dominion treasury as B. C. there would be a series of yearly surpluses, not deficits, a fact which Eastern Canadian representatives persistently refuse to acknowledge.

ROSSLAND'S OUTPUT.

The output of the Ressiand mines is now increasing steadily and satisfactorily, that of last week totalling ^432 tons, a gain of 542 tons on that of the previous week, which was then a "record" one for Rossland's production.

The Le Roi mine was, as usual, the great yielder, and it is now rapidly approaching the predicted daily output of 400 tons, for last week it shipped 1905 tons in all.

Mext longo intervallo came the War Eagk with shipments of 250 tons, showing that the directorate has slightly increased its recent output. The Centre Star, which at the present rate of progress should soon pass the yield of the War Eagle, shipped 128 tons, the Columbia and Kootenay 76 tons, the Iron Mask 48 tons, and the Cliff 25 tons.

Things have by all accounts now got down to a solid basis at Rossland, where as a result there exists amongst the settled community a general feeling that there will now be steady advancement on business lines in lieu of the feverish speculation of a few months back. By the end of the present week Rossland's 1897 shipments will easily have passed the goodly aggregate of 36,000 tons.

BETTER HERE.

Despite the inroads of the Mongol, ore mine workers remain nearly 1000 per cent better off as regards wages than the black serfs—for the are little better—of the South African mines. There a white man, usually a superintendent, or at least a foreman, averages an equivalent of about \$120 a month. But the black workers get sometimes a minimum of \$7, a maximum of \$16 a month.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer says in regard to precious metal mining in B. C. and in Washington: There are excellent mines, but that fact does not add any value to hundreds of properties incorporated with a huge capital on paper. The buyer must discriminate. It would be an excellent precaution if incorporation of any mining property were prohibited until the claims owned by it were patented. Now many

BOUNDARY CREEK'S RAILROAD PROSPECTS.

There seems to be little doubt that President Corbin, of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard and com ected railroads, is on the alert with a view to connect Boundary creek with the American railroad system to the south by means of his lines. Preparations for the necessary preliminary surveys are already, it is said, being made, Mr. Corbin being ready to take full advantage of the internecine squabble between the Heinze group of capitalists and those behind the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railroad

Meanwhile Premier Turner "hopes against hope," that he may yet induce the Dominion Government, by pledge of aid next session, to give sufficent encouragement to induce an early commencement of railroad construction between Penticton, Boundary and the Columbia River districts. His efforts are not very likely to prove successful, as the Dominion Government will in all probability act on the principle, "let sleeping dogs lie," since when they awake they are likely to arouse considerable discord in the House of Commons and elsewhere. Even the B. C. Liberal members are divided sharply on this railroad issue, which Dr. Milne and his friends have further complicated. These circumstances unfortunately give the East Canadian members of the House of Commons full opportunity of deferring recognition of the claims of a Province whose interests have for years been sailly little recognized at Ottawa. It will be a pity if for the benefit largely of Spokane, the American railroad system connects directly with Boundary creek, ere the Canadian lines make thither, but this seems highly probable, and none can blame the Boundary creek people, suffering keenly from the arrested development of their district, if they prefer an almost immediate American railroad connection to a further deferred Canadian one.

A VERY NECESSARY EXPLANA-TION.

Mayor Manly, of Grand Forks, thus explains himself in regard to the allegation that he aided and abetted claim jumping in connection with the Volcanie mine of the Olive Gold Mining Co., of which he is vice-president, The mayor, in reply, says-we quote from the Grand Forks Miner:

"I had good reason to believe that pertain parties were calculating to locate these claims, and we had stakes set before anyone else for our own protection.

The fact is, the company has no deed to the property yet; it is all in my name, country about the plans, there was somewhat of a stir made about it.

"And I want to say here that I am ; emphatically opposed to craim jumping. When a party wilfully lets his license run out, the ground reverts to the government, and anyone can claim it. That is not claim jumping, however. When I have large interests I intend to protect them, as it would be any man's duty to do. The position of no member of the Olive Gold Mining Co. is changed. Mr. Henry Benjamin = = Larsen, I understand, is discussing ins case on the street corners and making some wild statements, but he is as well off as he ever was, and there was no intention, in relocating the claims, that any member of the company should lese a cent."

It therefore appears that the Mayor's action was well intended. Meanwhile the license of the company was, it seems, duly taken out in hot haste by a leading stockholder of the company. Its status seems therefore to be fully secured.

NOTHING TO WITHDRAW.

The Colonist falls foul of the MINING CKITIC and the Rosslander, more especially the latter, in respect of criticisms (upon the high-priced transfer to an English company of the Waverly mine in the Illeciliwaet country. The Rosslander, against which the most virulent of the Colonist's strictures are directed, is well able to take care of itself, and, as for ourselves, we have nothing to withdraw or retract. We simply stated what we now repeat, that in respect of this venture the British investor has been asked to pay a big price, secured as usual by the costly intermediary methods of the underwriter. We also asserted that the valuations were high for a claim comparatively little developed, and pointed to the fact that the promoting company, the "Gold Fields of British Columbia, Limited," was an undertaking overladen with altogether undue promotion profits and backed by big advance calculations of the yield of properties possessed by the company. The British Columbia Mining Record previously noted these facts about the parent company, so too the Province: also a Victoria issue, not altogether obscure, whist the manner of flotation of the Gold Fields and British Columbia, Limited, has been unfavorably criticised, freely and wherever mining men of the province weet who are not interested in the formation of that company. We repeat that the excessive promotion profits asked of the British investor in respect of more than one such company lately organized in respect of British Columbia mining properties, are only too likely to "warn off" much British capital from our province, 28 similar tactics have

Samuel Gibbs

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CUNCENTRATES.

Near Lytton many prospectors are out in the mountains and some good rock is being brought in. The work in connection with opening up the Keefer hydraulic mine is nearly done and it is expected water will be turned on about the end of July.

The Indians of Lillovet are out after gold, no less than 75 being now prospectors, and most of them in possession of free miners' licenses. They are stated to have located some promising claims in a section of Lillovet where few white men are at present prospecting.

The Ottawa company made a partial wash-up the other day and are said to have taken out about 85 ounces or nearly \$1.500, the ground sluice way not taken up. This was for about 30 days' work and was, we learn, very satisfactory to the manager, Captain Jamieson. The company have a valuable mine without doubt.

An important strike has been made on Quartz Creek near Beaver, judging by the specimen brought into Golden on Monday by W. G. Neilson. The ore is heavily mineralized with copper, and from its appearance it should carry a fair proportion of gold. Three locations have been made on the lead, the Daisy, Iron Horse, and Alice, by Messrs. Neilson, Lappan and Denman, respectively. Mr. Denman has also located a claim called the Donald on another le i at Quartz Creek.

Promising finds continue to be reported from East Kootenay, where at Quartz Creek, near Beaver, rich copper ore, apparently also bearing gold, has been located and a number of claims staked. Meanwhile there are stated to be good placer gold grounds on the Bluewater creek, the sands and gravel of which are believed to be of similar gold bearing characteristics to those of the Saskatchewan on the other and far side of the Rockies. Several placer leases will, it is expected, be obtained and worked this season.

The statutory meeting of the Hastings. B. C. Exploration Syndicate was held in London, England, on the 21st ult., Mr. James Head, President, in the chair. The company owns eight claims in the Fort Steele district between the Sullivan and North Star groups, and claims Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney as its right-hand man. The Chairman had few details to give, but supplied the meeting with the following interesting information of a somewhat general nature: "There may be some difficulty in locating the veins, owing to the large quantity of float on the property; but, as every mining man knows, the only way to discover the lodes is to sink a shaft and

STOCK QUOTATIONS

Corrected Weekly by Percy W. Charleson, Mining Broker, Hastings St., Vancouver,

Mining Broker, Has	stings St ,	Vancor	iver,
Companies.	No of Shares.	PAR VALUE	PRICE
TRAIL CREEK.		1	١
Alberta. B. C. Gold King	1,000,000 1,000,000	\$ 1 00 1 00	\$ 0 10 10
B. C. Gold King B. C. Gold Fields Benyer.	2,500,000	2 00.	, 11
Reaver Big Chief Big Three	1,000,000	1 (8)	10
Bluebira	ERROLEGES, S., DEROLEGES	1 00	10 10
Bruce Butte	1,000,000	1 00	10
Caledonian Con California	1,000,000 500 000 2,500 000		0534
C. & C	2,500,090 500,000 750,000	1 00	
Celtic Queen Centre Star	, JUNIORA	100)
Colorus Commander	1,000,000 500,000	1 00	18
Crown Point Deer Park	1,000,000	1 00	13
Della Colla Delawaro	1,000,000	1 00 1 00	13
Eastern Stur Enterprise	500,000 1,000,000	1 00	20 20
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Homestake	1,000,000	1 00	1) 7
Imperial	1,000,000	1 00	05
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Iron Musk	1,000,000	1 1 (X)	
Josie Iumbo Knigat-Templar	700,000 500,000	1.0	
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Waite Bear	2,000,00	01 10	0 16 0 06
Young British Am.	1,000,00	0 10	00 00
AINSWORTH.	700,00	0 10	00 13
Ellen	1,000,00	ŏ i č	
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Cariboo		~ · ·	7
CAMP FAIR VIEW Occidental	600.00	00 10	00 5
NELSON.	1	1	1
Exchequer	1,000,0	100	00 10 00 6 50
Hall Mines	2.00	00 £1	~{ ``
NORTHPORT.	1,000,0	00 51	00 10
Red Top	2,000,0	1	1
SLOOAN. Athabasca	1,000.0	00 1	(A) 25
Alamo	500.0	00 1	00 100
Bondholder Buffalo	1,000,0	00 1	00 06 25 25
Cumberland	1,000,0	100 10	00 18
Dardenelles Grey Eagle Idler	750,0	00 1	00
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Dividends paid to date are as follows: Le Roi. \$475,000; War Eagle, \$217,500; Rumbler-Cariboo, \$40,000; Reco. \$150,000; Slocan Star, \$350,000; Cariboo, \$150,000.

It is estimated that the profits of the mines subjoined have returned the sums placed opposite their respective names:

Payno\$250,000	Goodenough\$5,000
Idaho 152.00	Noble Five 50,650
Poorman 50,000	Northern Belle 20 000 Antoine 10,000
Ruth 50,000 Whitewater 40,000	
	Monitor 15,000
Slocan Boy 25.00	Lust Chance 50,000

COLUMBIA & WESTERN RY. CO.

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

EASTROUM	.บ.
No. 2 passenger (daily exce)	pt Sunday)
Leaves Rossland	2.00 p.m.
Arrives at Trail	9:90 frm
No. 4 passenger (daily)	14.00
Laves Rossland	11.00 a.m
Arrives at Trail	12.00 a.m.
No 6 passenger (daily exce Leaves Rossland	pt Sunday)
Leaves Rossland	7.00 a.m
Arrives at Trail	7.50 a.m.
WESTBOUN	
No. 3 passenger (daily exce Leaves Trail	pt Sunday)
Leaves Trail	8.15 a.m.
Arrives in Rossiand	9.30 a.m.
No. I passenger (daily)	
Leaves Trail	12.30 p.m.
Arrives in Rossland	1.30 p.m
No. 5 passenger (daily exce	
Leaves Trail	5.45 n.m.
Arrives in Rossland	7 00 is m
Arrives in Rossianu	the transfer applications
Connections made with a	III DORIS ELLIVINA
and departing from Trail.	
GENERAL OFFICES:	E. P. GUTELIUS.
Gilliani Garagni	
TRAIL B.C.	Gen. Supt.

DAVEY & BOSOMWORTH,

Code : Moreing & Neals.

Tetegraphic 4daress: "Bed-rock.

Mining Brokers

GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER CLAIMS BOUGHT AND SOLD.

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CASSIAR AND ITS PROSPECTS.

The yearly report of the British Columbia Board of Trade, which has just been issued for 1897, has the following encouraging remarks in regard to the mining possibilities of Casslar, and to the prospects of the Casslar Central Railread in connection therewith. Speaking first of the possibilities of the district, the report says.

"Immediately north of Carlboo is the district of Cassiar, an immense country, very little prospected. Several of the waterways have afforded rich placer diggings.

"It is hardly within the scope of this report to do more than mention the Yukon gold fields which lie north of Cassiar in the Northwest Territory of Canada. The latest excitement resulted from discoveries on the Klondyke river and tributaries. Some of these are reported by old miners to equal California in early days in richness. It is believed that this mineral belt extends to Cassiar and that the whole of the divide will be found to be rich in gold."

Then as to the railroad and its proposed connections the Board of Trade speaks as follows:

"It is a matter for congratulation to find British capitalists interesting themselves in transportation ente prise in this province, as it affords some assurance that the accounts of the great natural resources of British Columbia are gaining credit in established centers of finance. The charter of the Cassiar Central Railway has been acquired by such persons. Although the railway in this case will be short, probably not more than 75 miles, an immense area will be tributary to it. Fort Wra igel, which is open to deep-sea vessels, will, in the meantime, be the western starting point; from thence passengers and freight will be taken on the company's steamers to Telegraph creek, Stickeen river, where the railway will begin. The first eastern terminus will be at Dease lake.

It is proposed that the company's steamers run on this lake and on the Laird and Frances rivers, tributaries to the Mackenzie river, which flows into the Arctic ocean. A few portages only will be necessary to control navigable waters extending over at least 1,000 miles. It is expected that preliminary surveys will be made immediately, and that the railway will be completed before the close of 1899."

CORRECT ENOUGH.

The Revelstoke Herald in an article that scathingly comments on the Orphan Boy swindle, rightly remarks that regretable though that affair is, it cannot be held responsible for the general lack

"hits the nail on the head' sharply enough in the following summary of the situation in England:

"All mining ventures are at present in the cold in the English market, which however does not prevent capital being forthcoming for what they regard over there as legitimate enterprises, with £1 or £5 shares and everything regular and to suit 'he English taste. The little venture to which we are accustomed do not attract the public eye over there, In point of fact an English investor would regard a proposition to jurchase a block of non-assessable shares of the face value of one dol'ar at 15 cents in about the same light as an invitation to sit into the three-card game vith a couple of suspicious looking strangers in a railway carriage. They are not accustomed to that kind of thing, and they are a bit "sot" in their ways over there.'

THE FERN GOLD MINING AND MILLING CO., Ltd.

On the mines of this Company, which owns the Fern, the Eureka and the Hidden Treasure claims, near Hall Creek in the Nelson District, active development work has been for some time proceeding under the auspices of an influr tial directorate of Vancouver men, including Mr. F. C. Innes, President, Capt. Tatlow, Vice-President, and Messrs. S. O. Richards and C. C. Bennett. Fifty men are now at work on the mine and the whole of the 100,000 shares offered to the public have been sold, to provide for develment work, there being a good demand for blocks of stock at 50 cents. The vein is stated to be widening to six feet and the stamp mill will early in September begin work on the ore which is part free milling and part concentrating. Care will be taken by the use of the vanners to save the concentrates. The mill was originally intended to be a 10stamp one, but its capacity is now to be doubled, the stamps being 1000-pound ones. Ore is already being hauled to the mill site along the Company's tramway, which is some 3.000 feet in length. Stoping and drift work has revealed the greater width of the vein and proved that at least 50 per cent. of the ore is free, the remainder concentrating. The Company's capital is \$200,000, divided into 800,000 shares of 25 cents. The success of this free milling proposition will mean much for the Nelson district, hitherto chiefly noted for the rich silver deposits of the Silver King and other good mines, though gold-bearing ores have at numerous points been located, not hitherto largely worked.

VERY LOWTONED.

This is what the Spokane Chronicle has to say of claim jumping: The fail-

cations and a great loss of property interest to the holders of shares in different companies. Just why there should be such great indignation against these men who have relocated mines, the owners of which neglected to pay the license. it is difficult to see. If the owner of a claim fails to do his assessment work within, one year from the date of recording it, the claim is open to anyone to relocate it. Those mining companies whose claims have been jumped have nobody but themselves to blame, and a man would be a blooming chump who allowed an opportunity to secure a valuable mining property to go by without taking advantage of it."

Such advice is frankly immoral, but it has one merit, being bare faced and uncloaked by hypocrisy. Happily genuine Western American miners take, as a rule, a very different view of claim jumping from that of this paper of Spokane. We assert that to allow a claim to be jumped by reason only of a slight delay in the payment of a company's license fee were to punish a tardy payer altogether unduly, and at the same time encourage predatory claim jumping, rascality which whenever it exists is a curse to a mining camp.

GOLDEN CACHE DEVELOPMENT.

Important deals are now on foot in connection with the Golden Cache mines and stock, an English syndicate having quietly purchased at \$1.70, 10,000 shares of Treasury stock in the Company, and, it is understood, since absorbed the large Gooderham holding in the undertaking. The object of the Syndicate, which acted on the report of an expert, is evidently to obtain control, if possible, at rates profitable to its members, of the bulk of the Golden Cache stock. The English syndicate is already well on the way to share much of the control of the Company, with the largest single holder, the Dominion Developing Company, Limited. The movement is significant and probably heralds a very considerable future participation of British capital in the development of the Lillooet free milling gold country. Indeed, this probability will become a certainty in the event of the success of the Golden Cache mines, on which the fortunes of that region so largely depend.

WEST KOOTENAY SMELTING.

The C. P. R. will do what it can to encourage further smelting and regning in West Kootenay, but cannot, as it is now stated on good authority, do much in the way of improving transit and reducing freight charges as regards the Trail district for at least eighteen months. It will fully take that time to make the

Kekionga Mining & Development Co.

(LIMITED.)

Incorporated Under the Laws of British Columbia.

CAPITAL, \$1,000,000,00

Divided into One Million Non-Assessable Shares of a .

Par Value of \$1.00.

TREASURY:

Four Hundred Thousand Shares have been placed in the Treasury to be used in the Development of the Properties.

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES:

F. W. COWAN, -	-	Pres	iden	t and	l Gen	eral M	lana	ger	•	-	Trail, B.C.
E. A. K. Hackett,	-	-	Ví	ce-Pi	eside	nt.,	-		•	For	Wayne, Ind.
C. D. WILT,	-		eerc	tary.	-Trea	surer,		-		-	Trail, B. C.
F. M. McLeod, -											
GEO. W. RICHARDSON.											
Geo. Тібне. - -											
H. W. TREAT, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	· Chicago, Ill.

AUDITOR:

FRANK HUNT, - - - - - - Rossland, B, C.

BANKERS :

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, - - - - Trail, B. C.

CONSULTING ENGINEER:

J. W. Hamilton, M. E., of - - - - - Butte, Montana

OFFICES:

COWAN, TIGHE & WILT, - - - - - - Trail, B. B.

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 ent by four feet of intrusive porphyry, then occurs another 15 feet of mineralized quartz. The vein is plainly traceable the full length of the chain 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 1 found considerable free gold, it also showed quite rich in sulphunets 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 thorougly 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 one 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.

FRANK S. TAGGART,

OFFICIAL BROKER,

H. C. Ludorf.

11. De Keyser Verbiest....

De Keyser's Placer Amalgamator Manufacturing Company

OFFICE: 417 Cordova Street,

Vancouver, B. C.

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