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Mining Gazette.

*A Monthly Journal devoted to the Mining Interests
of the District of North Yale,
British Columbia.*

PUBLISHED BY W. W. CLARKE & F. E. YOUNG.

February - 1900.

No. 14. - - Issued Monthly.

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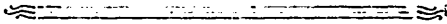
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Kamloops Mining Gazette.

VOL. 2. FEBRUARY. 1900. No. 2

Mining Notes.

It is very encouraging to note the progress being made around Kamloops with regard to mining. Several deals have been put through, and owing to the exceptionally mild winter work has been carried on right along. The exhibit of gold and copper ores in the Strand, London, England, will surely prove of considerable benefit to Kamloops, and was a move in the right direction. In our next issue we intend giving some idea of the amount of inquiries this little exhibit elicited.

For the last few weeks there has been considerable enquiry for Kamloops mining property. Several bonds have been arranged on some of the best groups of claims. The Kimberly group is bonded to the representatives of a Detroit syndicate, the terms being \$8,000, and 20 per cent of the company's stock. The Gordon group, the Polestar and the Homestake are all bonded to outside parties. No camp in British Columbia has better prospects than Kamloops at the present time.

There is no longer any truth in the assertion that Kamloops mining properties are held at impossibly high figures. The greater number of properties are now in the hands of people who are developing them and will consider any reasonable offer.

The Python hoist has been repaired and a full staff is employed. Some good ore is being met with.

The Hecla shaft is down sixty feet, with a good showing. The vein will be cross-cut both ways.

The Tenderfoot is being developed by a local company. Six men are employed. A tunnel has been driven which has met the vein, and some good ore is being got, assaying 6 per cent to 10 per cent in copper, with small gold and silver values. The company is to be re-organized with larger capital.

Mines & Mining

Gold-Bearing Conglomerates in Northern British Columbia.

Nearly two years ago an immense body of gold-bearing conglomerate was discovered by a prospector near Bear Lake in the Omeneca district. Claims were staked out on the showing, but were subsequently abandoned, until last spring, when three separate parties having secured information with regard to the existence of these deposits from Mt. Valleau, the Gold Commissioner for the Omeneca district, set out from Vancouver and Victoria, and succeeded in finding the locality and re-staking the ground. A large number of samples of the rock were brought down for assay purposes, and while the returns from a Victoria office were not satisfactory, giving values of less than a dollar in gold, assays made in Vancouver and San Francisco gave results of from six to twelve times greater, showing the rock to average in value from six to eight dollars, the fine grit, in contradistinction to the pebbly conglomerate, being found to contain rather higher values. These

Omenica deposits are to be thoroughly prospected this coming season, and if the expectations of the discoverers are realized, the operation of the properties will add materially to the future gold production of the Omenica district. The nature of the rock is such that crushing could be performed without difficulty at the rate of five tons per stamp per diem, and the total cost of mining and mulling should certainly not exceed three dollars per ton.

Meanwhile, a Mr. K. Ladloff, a Russian geologist, has recently laid claim to having discovered auriferous conglomerate reefs in the Cariboo district, and he expresses the opinion that these are, in point of fact, the principal source of gold of the Fraser river placers. The locality of his discovery is that part of the Fraser river between Quesnelle and Fort George, about seventy miles south of the last-mentioned place, above a group of islands called the Woodpecker or Red Rock Islands, the Indian name for which is Tselkenmuh.

The formation consists of Crystalline slats of the Archaean, which form the country rock and the bed of the river. These slates are overlaid in certain limited areas by the uppermost strata of the Tertiary, but the whole surface almost everywhere in this part of the Province is covered by immense masses of glacial drift consisting of boulder gravel and sand. In the formation where the gold has been found in places, true veins between regular walls and irregular silicious dykes, both of greatly varying width, intersect and interlamine, like a network, extensive masses of conglomerate

of different structure but similar composition. They are accompanied by chloritic and hydro-mica schists, the whole irregularly imbedded in the clay slates by the Archaean, forming a belt about one and a half miles in width.

The gold occurs in the form of a fine dust almost everywhere in these rocks, but predominantly in the bright yellow, red, orange or brown-colored parts of the rocks, superficially decomposed and in their cleavages. The decomposition extends down many feet under the surface; boulders readily crumble to pieces under the blow of a prospecting hammer. Hundreds of thousands of tons of this decomposed ore lies on the surface. In this locality these rocks appear on the surface at many places, forming cliffs, steep walls, round knobs, or hogsback on the river banks and attract the eye of the traveler by their color and grotesque shape; they extend on both sides of the river into the unknown wilderness, how far is unknown as yet.

The deeper strata of this formation are rich in fine-grained iron pyrites and traces of gold. There are only faint indications of the presence of other metallic compositions.

The gold is easily detected by using a powerful lens at bright daylight. It can not be seen by the naked eye or with a poor magnifying glass. The surface of certain parts of these rocks, also their interior, is speckled with gold grains. Their shape is mostly globular, only exceptionally flat or flaky pieces are seen. Their distribution is irregular.

It is well known that the gravel

beds of the Fraser River are rich in placer gold, renewing themselves every year by inundations, and gold washing is carried on annually along the river by numerous Chinese, using the rocker.

Placer mining will undoubtedly pay at many localities here by hydraulicking out the irregularities of the surface of the bed-rock underlying the gravel beds. The broken strata of the slates standing out from the surface, slanting or perpendicular, from holes and caves in which the gold is caught. Some of the creeks emptying into the Fraser River will furnish a limited amount and sufficient pressure of water by their natural fall to be used for the above-mentioned purpose.

Fine gold occurs abundantly, but coarse gold is rarely found. Rocker washing pays at the average about \$3 a day. The working season is about five months of the year, the balance of the time being taken by overflows of the rivers, snow and frost. The gravel bar below the above-described discovery, and covering about sixty acres, contains much fine gold, seemingly originating principally from the conglomerates and brought there by a creek, crossing them in a deep gulch.

About twelve miles distant from the conglomerates, directly in the river bank, Mr. Ludloff has discovered a huge outcrop of red hematite and micaceous iron.

A number of claims have been taken up on the conglomerates and recorded, and many more will be probably taken up next spring.

Report on the Mersey Mine, Criss Creek.

This property is situated twenty-four miles from Savonas on the C.

P. R., and four miles from the Deadman River wagon road. Criss Creek, which flows through the property, will afford an immense water power, and can be very easily dammed. The ore is in telcose schist. This schist is mineralized for a width of several hundred feet, but contains defined veins which are of value. On this claim of about sixty feet long has been made showing as follows, starting from the east: A, three feet wide, averaging \$6; B, two feet, \$8; C, two feet, \$11; D, two feet \$10. Between A and B are thirty feet of schist which has not as yet been tested, but which is known to carry some promising veins. There is two feet of barren rock between B and C, and in twenty feet between C and D occur some veins not yet tested. Ore is known to occur both east and west of the area proved. Two-thirds of the value is gold, the rest silver, no account being taken as yet of the values of lead and copper in the ore, although in decomposed ore from D contains ten per cent lead, and there is about four per cent copper in C. These cannot be fairly valued yet, as the work has not proceeded far enough for these minerals to be unaffected by the atmosphere and water. The mineralized schist has been traced for a long distance, but is covered on the higher ground by conglomerates, and is chiefly exposed to the creek.

A tunnel twelve feet long has been driven on D.

It is too early to figure on this yet, as it is not certain whether the ore when opened up will contain sufficient lead and copper to make it a smelting and concentrating proposition, or whether these metals

will have so little comparative value as to make it more profitable to save the precious metals direct and concentrate the copper and lead afterwards. Less than \$2 would pay for this. Mining in any of the veins should cost about \$4 per ton when the preliminary work is done.

There is a sufficiency of timber for mining purposes.

The value of the mine rests largely, in my opinion, on the numerous veins which are known, but have not been worked upon yet.

If our hundred of drifting, or two hundred of drifting, and one hundred of sinking were done on the property, I think that it would open up a sufficiently large quantity of ore to supply a mill for some time. The amount of money required for this would not exceed \$2,500. If work was carried on here a road would have to be made at a cost of about \$1,200, of which the government would probably provide part.

The creek is in a deep, narrow gorge, and as the outcrops are in it, and much of the claim 400 to 800 feet above it, this is a first-class tunneling proposition.

Placer Mining on the North Thompson River.

EDITOR JOURNAL—Sir: In laying before you my views on the North Thompson river as a gold producing stream, and its advantages for dredging, it will be necessary for me to dwell at some length on the surface formations of the surrounding country, and in entering upon this subject I beg leave to be allowed to deal with a somewhat large area of alluvial gravels tributary to this stream.

Much has been said about gold bearing placers in different parts of

the world by some eminent men, but we are still left in the dark as to where the gold originates from. The "mother lode" has not yet been found, and what I might have to say on this line would, I fear, not throw much more light upon the subject. Accordingly, I will not try to carry your thoughts back further than to the old conglomerate gravels, from which, I believe, a great deal of the present gold found in the different streams has originated.

If you take a point at the east end of Kamloops lake and follow an imaginary line north to the foot of the Cariboo range of mountains, north-east of Barkerville, in traversing this line you would meet at different intervals, large bodies of those ancient conglomerates towering up, in places, from two hundred to three hundred feet above the present water levels in the same localities.

Much of the ancient formation is still in its original place, as left there by water action, but it has become conglomerated owing to the cement qualities found in its make-up. At the time of this deposit, water must have flowed at a much higher level than now, and in its constant receding to the present levels of our rivers, has brought down immense quantities of decomposed conglomerates from these higher levels.

At the head waters of Jamieson creek, which flows into the Thompson river, there is a large quantity of these old conglomerates to be found. This I tested for gold and in almost every instance I found colors.

In comparing the gravels found at this point with those found along

the Quesnelle river, in the Cariboo district, there is no perceptible difference found. The same old cements are found adhering to the rocks, showing that at one period that country contained much of those old conglomerates.

In taking your attention back to the imaginary line running north, you will find, by referring to the map, that it runs nearly on the highest peaks of the mountains lying between the Thompson and Bonaparte rivers.

In calling your attention so fully to the surface of the country tributary to the Thompson river, especially to that lying to the west, my object has been to establish the reasons why I believe that large quantities of gold exist in the bed of the Thompson.

I believe all the streams from the west flowing into this river have brought down more or less gold; especially the Clearwater river, which connects with the Thompson some ninety miles from Kamloops, and which heads in the Cariboo district only some ten miles from Quesnelle lake.

This stream, no doubt, has brought down vast quantities of gold and deposited it along the Thompson. The current in the Clearwater river is quite swift until it connects with the Thompson, which passes through a comparatively level valley to its outlet at Kamloops. Hence the current of the Thompson is slow, except in places where the river has become very shallow owing to the discharge of boulders from the various creeks feeding into it, which causes small rapids, such as the Fish Trap rapids.

I estimate the current in the

Thompson at not more than two miles per hour at its ordinary stage of water; and as the gravels are not of a coarse grade, it will be readily seen that dredges can work to good advantage where sufficient values are met with.

During my test work last summer and fall, I did not find any of the alluvials which I tested that would not pay handsome profits, when the proper, improved dredges are at work.

The gold is of a fine nature, but will not be difficult to save, owing to its cleanness.

I have estimated the black sand to be one per cent. of the whole fill, and it carries in gold values ranging from twenty-three to thirty-two dollars per ton, after amalgamation.

There are also several other streams flowing into the Thompson river from the east, which are said to carry gold; but as I have not had the opportunity to test them, I am not able to verify the reports.

The wagon roads up the North Thompson valley are in good condition, affording excellent facilities for moving machinery.

Yours truly,

H. R. BELLAMY.

Mining Engineer.

Nelson, Feb. 12th, 1900.

COPPER CREEK MINES.

Report On the El Progreso, Newark, Sunlight and Stirling Claims, Copper Creek.

This group is situated on the north shore of Kamloops Lake and is therefore in an exceedingly favorable position to ship ore, as it can be delivered on the C. P. R. for \$1 a ton or less in large quantities exceeding a carload. Freight and treatment are, Trail \$11, Tacoma

about \$10. The group consists of the Newark, El Progresso, Sunlight and Stirling claims, estimated to contain 150 acres. In the direction of 3,000 feet. The area is mostly 200 to 800 feet above the lake, but a small portion is on a low flat adjoining it. The work done consists of a number of prospect holes and open cuts on the Newark and Sunlight, and on the El Progresso a tunnel 53 feet long which is approached by an open cut 30 feet long which is mostly in a vein, and at the mouth of the drift is 21 feet deep, from the bottom of which a cross-cut is driven west eight feet.

The deposit disclosed by these works is a contact of basalt and porphyry carrying copper. The total width is unknown, as the east wall has not been found. The west side of the ore body is largely quartz, which follows the basalt, the eastern side being composed of narrow streaks of high grade ramifying through the porphyry. Between these the porphyry carries copper disseminated through it, and there is some decomposed material which is gradually turning into ore as it becomes solid.

In the shaft there is a quartz vein a foot wide, which yields copper 5% and gold \$8. At present prices this means \$19 a ton. In the end of the tunnel the western portion which carries copper is nearly three feet wide and averages 1% copper, with \$9 gold and 5 ounces of silver, value \$3, total gold and silver \$12.

The ore as it is in the shaft would cost the mine \$7 per ton, (A) as it is in the drift \$2 (B). This would leave in the former case \$12 net per ton, in the latter \$7 to pay for treat-

ment and shipping. In the second case there would be nearly three times as much ore available, although the profit per ton would be less.

With a twenty five-ton mill concentration should not cost more than \$1 per ton, so that if the ore were concentrated 10 to 1, there would be about \$2.25 to deduct for freight, concentration and treatment in addition to cost of mining \$7, leaving \$9.75 net. The ore in the tunnel would not cost more to deal with, which would leave \$7.75, besides the value of any copper recovered.

At least eight other veins are known on the property. They have not been tested, but an assay from one yields gold \$4.50, silver .70 and about 8% copper worth \$16 net. These run parallel to those worked and should be tapped by a cross-cut from the main drift. There are doubtless many others, and the Tenderfoot veins must be found in the Stirling. Drifting costs \$6 and sinking (9x5) \$18 per foot. I believe that \$1,500 expended will show this group to be a most valuable property. I consider the property now worth for cash \$10,000, and much more on a bond. This is a low estimate.

Local Claims.

The Python Mine.

To the Python mine belongs the credit of being the first mineral claim on what is known as Coal Hill; for it was located July 27, 1896, and recorded two days later. It is, therefore, so to speak, the

father of the Kamloops copper-gold mining camp, and as such is being watched with interest by mining men. It is owned and being developed by the Python Mining Company, Ltd., who also own the Python Fraction, the Noonday, Calumet and Copper Head claims, all adjoining. This discovery, the first known copper occurrence in the district, was made by Louis Victor Guilame, a local stockman, while hunting horses on the range. His horse kicked up a piece of very heavily copper-stained rock, which, when broken, was bright with copper pyrites. This was shown to local people, and such interest did it arouse that cash offers were quickly made for the disclosure of the location, but were refused. The discoverer, who had staked the claim himself, failed to record it, and shortly afterwards it was discovered by other prospectors, who had been attracted to the district by the excitement. It is prettily situated on the north slope of the ridge known as Coal Hill, at an elevation of some 2,000 feet above Kamloops, and from its shaft house a remarkable and beautiful view of the Thompson Valley can be obtained. It is one of the nearest mines to Kamloops located up to the present. As the crow flies it is situated three and a half miles southwest and some four and a half miles of road from the town.

The Python vein has been traced by a series of surface cross-cuts aggregating over 400 feet in length, with a depth of from 3 to 10 feet, showing the vein of grossan to be from 50 to 60 feet wide in places, all carrying more or less gold and copper carbonates for a distance of six

thousand feet on the Python and adjoining properties. On the Python claims ten full claims and a fraction are located on the vein, the other claims being situated lower down the hill, and yield excellent tunnel and mill sites.

The Hilltop Mine.

The Hilltop mineral claim is situated near Tranquille. This is a gold-quartz proposition. The quartz is massive and assays run from \$1 to \$14 per ton. A tunnel is being driven which is all the way in quartz. Two shifts are being worked, and as soon as the tunnel is in a sufficient distance, a series of assays will be taken, on the results of which will depend the further development of the property. This work is being done by Boillot Bros., representatives of the French Exploration Syndicate, a company who are actively engaged in investigating several Kamloops properties at the present time. The company have already made several purchases, and if their operations bring good results, they purpose investing more heavily. It is interesting to note that this company, formed in the first place for operations in the Klondike, were inducted by Mr. O. S. Batchelor, who met the Boillot Bros. in Dawson City, to stay a few days in the Kamloops camp and look around. They were so impressed with what they saw that they returned to Kamloops soon afterwards and secured their present holdings. —Province.

Mr. H. R. Bellamy states that he expects to place a dredge on the North Thompson in the early spring, although there is a possibility of delay owing to unsettled conditions

in England, brought about by the South African war. In this issue is an interesting article written by Mr. Bellamy regarding the North Thompson as a gold bearing stream.—Ashcroft Journal.

THE MINING RECORDS.

Tommy Atkins (fractional)—W. H. Fowler, south of Kamloops; January 27.

Driard J. Clarke—five miles from Lower Nicola; January 8.

Glencoe—P. A. McLeod and J. D. McGuire, on Mount Ida, Salmon Arm; January 20.

Good Prospect—A. B. Currie as above; January 22.

Victoria—W. G. Sceviour, six miles south of Kamloops; February 6.

Quartus -- E. B. Drummond, Jamieson Creek; January 27.

Tertius — H. Winterbottom, as above; January 26.

Protector—A. E. Bjorkman and K. Laitmer, Salmon Arm; February 9.

Provider—As above.

Avalanche—S. M. McGuire and G. W. McLeod, Salmon Arm; January 25.

Homeward Bound — T. Guest, Sugar Loaf; February 5.

Lahore—J. W. Brownhead, Mills Mountain; February 12.

Victor—J. A. Flett, Coal Hill; February 15.

Earncliffe—J. A. Flett, Coal Hill; February 15.

Big Ledge—J. D. Cameron, A. B. Currie, Salmon Arm; February 17.

Ledge—J. D. Cameron, A. B. Currie, Salmon Arm; February 17.

Woodcock—As above, G. Bain and E. Emond; February 8.

ASSESSMENT WORK.

Hope—J. Blair; February 10.

Forest Queen—F. C. Jones & Co.; February 13.

Key—F. C. Jones & Co.; February 13.

Alice Hay—F. C. Jones & Co.; February 13.

Henrietta—F. C. Jones & Co.; February 13.

Rothchild — Grainger & MacMorine; February 15.

Hecla—Hecla Mining Company; February 15.

Hecla (fraction)—Hecla Mining Company; February 15.

Lucky Strike—B. C. Exploring Syndicate, 1901, February 16.

Prince of India—B. C. Exploring Syndicate, 1901, February 16.

Ben Hur—B. C. Exploring Syndicate, 1902, December 16.

Stirling—G. F. Moncton, February 19.

Calumet (fraction)—Python Mining Company, February 23.

Python (fraction)—Python Mining Company, February 23.

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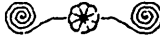
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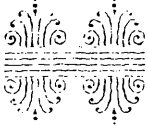
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