THE ATLIN CLAIM.

VOL. 4. ATLIN, B. C., SATURDAY, MARCH, 30, 1901. NO. 89.

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THE PLACER ACT.

Some Much Needed Amendments.

Extracts from the Placer Act And Amending Acts Now Before the Legistature.

The following are some of the the most important clauses extract-from Bill, No. 14, 1901, entitled "An Act to Amend the 'Placer Mining Act' and 'Amending Acts'" now before the B. C. Government. The Bill is introduced be the Hon. Richard McBride, Minister of Mines. It is now before the Mining Committee, consisting of the following members: Messrs. A. W. Smith, Green, Clifford, Taylor, Dickie, Houston, Rogers, Ellison, Martin, Curtis, McInnes, Stables, Hawthornthwaite and E. C. Smith.

The Bill as a whole has been favourably received by the House, and it is expected that it will pass in due course with very little alteration. A careful perusal of the undernoted clauses should prove of interest to every placer miner as the amendments are such as to commend themselves to all engaged in mining, and especially so to those interested in the future prosperity of the Atlin district:

PART I.

Section 3. In case any person should allow his Free Miner's certificate to expire, he may, within six months from the date of such expiration, obtain from the proper officer, upon payment of a fee of fifteen dollars, a Special Free Miner's certificate. Such Special certificate shall have the effect of reviving the title of the person to whom it is issued to all placer claims which such person owned at the time of the lapse of his former certificate, except such as under the provisions of the "Placer Mining Act" had become the property of some other person at the time of the issue of such Special certificate, and shall operate as a Free Miner's certificate until midnight of the 31st day of May next after its issue. In the case of a joint stock company the fee for such Special certificate shall be three hundred dollars.

Section 6. Provided that a Free Miner acting as agent for another Free Miner shall not be entitled to locate or record any placer claim as such agent unless and until there has been recorded in the office of the Mining Recorder for the mining division in which such claim is situate a power of attorney appointing such agent to locate and record such claim for his principal.

PART II.

Section 7. The size of placer claims shall be as follows:—

In creek diggings a claim shall be 250 feet long, measured in the general direction of the course of the stream, and shall extend from high water mark on one bank to high water mark on the other, but when such high water marks are less than 250 feet apart the claim shall be 250 square:

In bar diggings a claim shall be:

(a.) A piece of land not exceeding 250 feet square on any bar which is covered at high water, or

(b.) A strip of land 250 feet long at high water and in width extending from high water mark to extreme low water mark:

In dry diggings a claim shall be 250 feet square.

Section 8. If any Free Miner, or party of Free Miners, discover a new locality for the prosecution of placer mining and such discovery be established to the satisfaction of the Gold Commissioner, placer claims of the following sizes shall be allowed to such discoverers, viz.:

To one discoverer, one claim, 600 feet in length.

To a party of two discoverers, two claims, amounting together to 1000 feet in length.

And to each member of a party beyond two in number, a claim of the ordinary size only:

Provided that where a discovery claim has been established in any locality no further discovery shall be allowed within five miles therefrom, measured along the water-courses. The width of such claims shall be the same as ordinary placer claims of the same class.

Section 12. Where a judgment affecting any placer claim is rendered by a Court having jurisdiction in mining disputes, or by any Commission or Board of Inquiry held for such purpose, or any decision is given by a Gold Commissioner under any powers in this Act contained, the Clerk of such Court, Commission or Board, or such Gold Commissioner, shall forthwith transmit a minute of such judgment or decision to the Mining Recorder for the mining division in which such placer claim is situate, and the said Mining Recorder shall enter such minute in the Record Book and file the said minute in his office. If by any such judgment or decision the boundaries of any placer claim shall be changed, a plat showing such changed boundaries and signed by the Judge, Commissioner, Board of Inquiry or a member thereof, or Gold Commissioner by whom such judgment or decision has been given, shall accompany such minute and be filed in the office of the Mining recorder.

Section 17. No Free Miner shall suffer from any act of omission or commission or delays on the part of any Government official, if such can be proven.

PART VIII.

Section 27. All books of record and documents filed, shall, during office hours, be open to inspection by any person on payment of a fee of twenty-five cents.

PART IX.

Section 30. No Free Miner shall be entitled to any interest in any placer claim which has been located and recorded by any other Free Miner, unless such interest is specified and set forth in some writing, signed by the locator or his successor in title, and such writing is recorded in the office of the Mining Recorder.

Section 35. This Act shall come into force on the first day of July, A. D., 1901.

APPLICATION FOR RECORD OF A PLACER CLAIM.

I, of , hereby apply, under the provisions of the "Placer Mining Act," for a record of a claim for placer mining as defined in the said Act [here describe locality, etc. fully], and I make oath and say:—

1. That I am the holder of free miner's certificate No. , issued at on the day of

2. That from indications I have observed on the claim applied for I have reason to believe that there is therein a deposit of placer gold.

3. That I am, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the first to observe such indications and stake such claim (or, that said claim was perviously located by as claim known as but has remained unworked by said locator for not less than 72 hours).

4. That the said land is at present unoccupied for placer mining purposes.

5. That I did, on the day of , mark out the ground and make the proper inscriptions required by the "Placer Mining Act" and amendments, on the claim for which I make this application, and in doing so I did not, so far as I know, encroach on any other valid claim previously laid out by any other person.

6. That the said claim, as nearly as I could measure, is feet long, running in and direction, and feet wide, and that the above description sets forth in detail its position, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

7. That I have not heretofore located any placer claim on the said creek (or, That heretofore I located claim [name or number] on said creek, but I have recorded an abandonment of same on day of , and have posted notice of such abandonment on each of the stakes of such claim).

8. That I make this application in good faith to acquire the claim for the sole purpose of mining.

Sworn before me, this day of , at

W. P. & Y. Ry. EXTENSION.

A Bill has been introduced in the Dominion House, asking for a charter for the British Yukon Railway—to extend the W. P. & Y. from Whitehorse to Dawson.

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ATLIN, B. C.

The Atlin Claim.

Published every Saturday morning by THE ATLIN CLAIM PUBLISHING CO. A. C. HIRSCHFELD, EDITOR and PROPRIETOR. Office of publication Pearl St.

Advertising rates made known on application.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 30th, 1901.

A CORRESPONDENT has called our attention to what he considers the disgraceful condition of some of the water holes adorning the lake front. We fear he has entirely looked at the matter from the standpoint of public safety—a relic of the past century. The long existing and as yet unremedied nuisance in connection with these holes should, we think, be viewed from that of the teamster, whose complaints are now engaging the attention of the authorities. When horses are being watered at an ice-trough, set apart for their use, the proximity of the Fire and General Utility hole is such as to be a positive menace to equine safety. These domestic "wells" should at once be closed up and our citizens taught to use melted snow. Our horses are too valuable to be thus continually exposed to danger, and the size of the lake will not permit a greater separation by distance than at present exists. The teamsters threaten to refer the matter to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals if the authorities do not at once take the matter in hand.

THE proposed amendments to the Placer Act, the particulars of which are now at hand, show a desire on the part of the Government to give full effect to the views of this and other camps in this important matter, so far as the same have been made known to it, and the Hon. the Minister of Mines is to be congratulated on the radical nature of the changes proposed. After a most careful review of the Bill as a whole we fail to find any one of its many provisions at variance with the general mining sentiment as voiced in this particular district. There may be sins of omission—there are none of commission — and the changes are sweeping ones. We note that no alteration has been made to the law so far as it affects the hydraulic miner, but we understand that the Mining Committee of the House has had under consideration the advisibility of issuing Crown Grants, under certain restrictions, for large tracts of placer ground in place of leases as at present, and that its decision has been unanimously in favour of such issuance. It is to be hoped the Legislature will incorporate such a provision in the amending Act, as it appears to have met with the hearty support of hydraulic miners generally—those of Cariboo having for the past three or four years been especially agitating in this direction.

THE CLAIM desires to express its sympathy and condolence to its patrons and the public who have lately become victims to La Grippe —the first epidemic that has struck the camp. Even the sacred sanctum of the "devil" was invaded; as a consequence, this week's issue is unavoidably a day late.

ATLIN DISTRICT.

Its Geology and Auriferous Deposits:

The Glacial Gravels of Pine-Spruce Valley.—IV.

GLACIAL ACTION: — The erosion of the ancient valleys of Pine and Spruce creeks by the two streams, whose gravels we have just considered, may safely be ascribed to the later Pliocene age, otherwise distinguished as the First Continental Period, an age in which the northern continents were markedly higher in elevation than at present.

The Pleistocene or Glacial age succeeded—one of the mysteries of Nature, which scientists have not yet solved with any degree of unanimity. Up to within a very recent date it was the vogue to ascribe the phenomena of this era to "polar ice-caps" and "continental ice-sheets," according to the teachings of Agassiz. But of late years facts have accumulated, gathered in great part by our own Canadian geologists, which modern scientists consider fatal to the old hypotheses.

The consensus of opinion now tends to the theory that in the more extreme glacial period the condition of our northern continent was one of local glaciers, principally on the greater mountain regions, with submerged plains and sea drift intervening. That this was succeeded by a time of partial elevation of the plains and diminution of the height of the mountains. And, finally, that this was followed, in turn, by a great and very general submergence with much ice drift preceding the Second Continental or post-glacial period.

Three great systems of glaciers, with ice drift over the lower levels, are recognised by the upholders of this theory as having existed during the Pleistocene era, to which the names Cordilleran, Laurentian and Appalachian have been given by our geologists. The first occupied the mountainous regions of the north Pacific coast, the second and third, the somewhat less elevated ranges of the north-eastern highlands and the Atlantic seaboard.

Investigation has shown that the Cordilleran glacier mass occupied the interior plateau between the Coast ranges and the Rocky mountains, having a length in a south-east and north-west direction of at least 1200 miles. Its main gathering ground is placed between the 55th and 59th parallels of north latitude, and its movement has been traced south-eastward nearly to latitude 48°, and north-westward to latitude 63° or beyond. In consequence of the high bordering ranges, their general trend and that of the intervening valleys, the greater part of this confluent mass appears to have followed its length in the two directions mentioned, instead of discharging laterally into the sea; only a small proportion, during the maximum phase of the period, flowing eastward through passes in the coast ranges. It seems probable, however, that this general move-

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ment affected only the central portion of the ice mass by which the Cordillera was covered; and there is no reason to suppose it was otherwise than sluggish. The directions of motion of the glaciers first produced were doubtless in conformity with those of the valleys of the mountain streams, and this initial tendency would revive as the mass receded under changing climatic or physical conditions.

The Atlin district, whose southern boundary is approximately the 59th parallel, lies on the extreme northern verge of the accepted gathering ground of this great system, and its valleys gave first slope to the northward trending ice. The Llewellan glacier, now occupying the highlands south of the lake, may reasonably be considered a last remnant of this vast Cordilleran system.

The foregoing brief observations may profitably be kept in mind in reviewing the glacial evidences in which the district abounds, and I shall so far trespass on your space as to add a few words on glacial phenomena as a whole, to render our subject the more intelligible.

The conditions deemed necessary to the production of glaciers may be stated as follows: Abundance of moisture in the atmosphere and a low temperature, due either to great elevations in low latitudes or to high latitudes with or without such elevations of land.

These conditions insure such accumulations of snow above the line of perpetual frost as will sooner or later descend below the line of perpetual snow and be changed to ice and water. The water forms glacial rivers, and the ice will move as a plastic mass to a line determined by the amount of snow on the one hand and the climate on the other. Its motion will be that of a slightly viscous mass, partly sliding upon its bed, partly shearing upon itself under the influence of gravity.

The advancing movement of the glacier is accompanied by erosion and scratching of the rocks below and by the formation of different kinds of moraines, as till or blue boulder clay, and yellow unstratified masses—terminal, lateral and superficial moraines. Simultaneous with these phenomena, we have the action of the glacial rivers, consisting in a partial denudation of the moraines and the formation of stratified gravel, sand and clay.

A glacier, it may be added, is an agent of abrasion rather than of erosion, and in the latter its power is much inferior to that of fluviatile action, so that it is no longer thought permissible to ascribe to glaciers the erosion of great gorges or lake basins, all such being now considered due to aqueous erosion when the continents were at a higher level, before the glacial age.

To be continued.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

A PUBLIC GRIEVANCE.

DEAR SIR—Permit me, through the medium of your increasingly popular paper, to call the attention of the public and proper authorities to the danger to the health of the community, in permitting horses to be watered AT or NEAR the holes from which our supply of drinking water is drawn.

On Wednesday afternoon I saw several horses being watered at the foot of Trainor street, one of which was allowed to drink from the hole used by the citizens of the neighborhood for their supply: the owner or man in charge standing by and looking on, entirely ignoring the Government notice at his very elbow.

As most of us have lately been more or less "under the weather" with various forms of colds—influenza or grippe—kindly brought in to us by our fellow citizens, lately rusticating on the Coast, one cannot help reflecting that, with the exception of such slight "imported" epidemics, we citizens of Atlin have reason to be grateful for the immunity from sickness we have enjoyed since the birth of our fair city. Many are the bounteous gifts bestowed by Nature's lavish hand on this charming spot, but perhaps no one of them is so much to be appreciated as our beautiful Lake Atlin, from whose pure and refreshing water we draw our daily supply for domestic use. We have received it pure from Nature's hands, why should we polute it, or allow it to be contaminated to our hurt?

Horses should not be watered anywhere in the immediate neighborhood of the holes from which our drinking water is drawn. A visit to the one in question will, I think, be sufficiently convincing on this point to the proper authorities.

Let us keep our water pure at all costs.—Yours, etc.,

PREVENTION.

CANCELLATION OF RESERVE.

CASSIAR DISTRICT.

NOTICE is hereby given that the reservation placed on Crown lands situated in the Bennett Lake and Atlin Lake Mining Divisions of Cassiar District, notice of which was published in the British Columbia Gazette and dated 15th December, 1898, is hereby cancelled.

W. C. WELLS,
Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works.

Lands & Works Department,
Victoria, B. C., 30th January, 1901.

3 m-fe 23

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St. Martin's Church, cor. Third and Trainor streets. Sunday services, Matins at 11 a. m., Evensong 7:30 p. m. Celebration of Holy Communion, 1st Sunday in each month and on Special occasions. Sunday School, Sunday at 3 p. m. Committee Meetings, 1st Thursday in each month.

Rev. E. L. Stephenson, Rector.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church hold services in the A. B. Hall, Second Street. Morning service at 11 evening service 7:30 Sunday School at the close of the morning service. Rev. J. Pringle, Minister.

One of the best articles for good health is a wholesome loaf of bread at 12 cents, and a first-class meal for 50 cents, at the Pioneer Bakery.

The best people stop at Halferty's.

Follow the crowd, when on the Pantail, stop at Halferty's, at Tepee.

Call at Fraser & Co for nice fresh chickens, 35 cents per lb, one ton just arrived. Fine creamery butter and best cream cheese.

Big shipment of fresh staple groceries just in at Fraser & Co.

La Grippe has played such havoc with the Coloured Minstrell Troup that the promised Show has been cancelled.

If you want the best groceries and provisions in camp go to J. A. Fraser & Co.

Full line of stationery at Dockrill's.

Try Hot Baths, Troy Laundry.

There are two places at the Tepee, yet Halferty has no opposition.

The largest circulating library in Atlin. Only 10 cents exchange, at Pillman & Co.'s.

For good coffee go to the Exchange.

Rex ham at the Exchange.

Gold Own cigars at the Exchange.

Lays to let on Pine creek. First benches on good part of creek; have prospected well.—Apply CLAIM Office.

Ask for Picadilly Club Scotch at the Leland Hotel.

For fresh pork sausage call at Fraser & Co.

Mr. Muscot, of the Exchange, has received this week part of his large shipment of goods, and it will repay anyone to give him a call and see his fine selection.

Mrs. Halferty is cook at the Tepee.

If you want the best groceries and provisions in camp go to Fraser & Co.

Smoke La Flor de Marca and you will smoke no other brand; ask for it and see that you get it.—Leland Hotel keeps them.

Owing to the great amount of sickness in town the Presbyterian Church concert has had to be postponed.

For bargains in Spring goods go to the Exchange.

20 doz. caps, 50 and 75 cents; worth double, at the Exchange.

One of the first symptoms of La Grippe is a cold and bad headache; cure in time by using Fortin & Le Cappelain's Anti-Grippe Powders.

Ben Wehrfritz is one of the arrivals this week.

Group of Seven Bench claims for sale. Best part of Pine creek.—Apply CLAIM Office.

For shoes, go the Exchange, if you want to save money.

For overalls go to the Exchange, only $1 a pair.

Store to rent in best part of town—20 x 38.—Apply CLAIM Office.

ALDER CREEK.

H. W. E. Canavan, C. E., returned to town last week. He reports very deep snow on Alder creek, 6 and 7 feet on the level. The work of installing "bucking hydraulics" or "booming" divice is making good progress. The "boomer" is discharging water by this time, and with it the experiment will be tried of sluicing off the snow. William Brown, C. E., is associated with Mr. Canavan in developing this property. So far not a hitch has occurred in getting supplies and tools to this far off camp, probably the most distant from Atlin—35 miles. Archie Browulee has done most of the hauling with dogs. George Smith, Horace McCrimmon and Walter Dockrill, all well known in camp, are working on Alder. A full account of this novel and economical method of "ground sluice" or modern placer mining will appear in an early issue when we have more data.

The Alder creek proposition appears to embody the application of "mental energy" in mining, by bringing the forces of Nature to do work that has heretofore been done by manual labour. It is such operations that will make an important camp of Atlin.

Prescriptions carefully compounded at Fortin & Le Cappellain's.

Dr. Young has returned from White Horse. He reports business there very lively.

Up to date Pants at the Exchange.

The largest assortment of underwear at the Exchange.

Fashionable hats at the Exchange.

Hot Baths, Troy Laundry.

COOK WANTED—for McKee creek camp. Apply to R. D. Featherstonhaugh. None but first class cook need apply.

Good Table Butter at Foley's, 35 and 40 cents per lb; Cooking Butter, 10 to 25 cents per lb, and all other goods cut to make room for large Spring importation.

Baths Hot, Troy Laundry.

Prescriptions carefully compounded at Dockrill's.

For rubber boots go to the Exchange.

General Arthur cigars at the Exchange.

You can buy butter for dog feed at any price, but Nickerson can give you choice new Creamery, either Australian or Canadian at 50 cents; also another lot of that nice Smoked Fish, at 30 cents per pound. Strictly fresh eggs just arrived.

J. C. Duffy and wife returned last week.

All wool sox, 3 pair for $1, at the Exchange.

Just arrived! Fresh potatoes and onions and strictly fresh Eggs. Best Creamery Butter, Oranges, Lemons and Apples at Pillman's.

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