The Mines in Kootenay are Among the Richest in America.

THE MINER

The Ores are Rich-Grade in Gold, Silver, Copper, and Lead.

WHOLE NUMBER 184. Nelson, British Columbia, Saturday, February 24, 1894. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE $2 PER YEAR

Ready Cash is the . . .

Best Introduction . . .

To Present to . . . . . .

R. E. LEMON,

Should you wish to Secure any of the Bargins which his Big Stock of Groceries, Liquors, Hardware, and Miners' supplies afford.

G. A. BIGELOW & CO.

East Baker Street,

Carry Complete Stocks of all lines of General Merchandise, except Hardware.

Liquors and Cigars handled to the Trade only.

Agents for Anheuser-Bush (St. Louis) Beer, the best Made in America.

NELSON.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE TEMPTING DISPLAY OF

Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, and Silverware, Shown in the Warerooms of

JACOB DOVER,

The Jeweller.

Great Bargain can be had for Cash.

BAKER STREET, NELSON. B. C.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

SOME OF THE MODEST APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIAL PRIVILEGES

Glaring Attempt to Corral the Waters of Carpenter Creek.—Domestic Requirements of Three Forks set at 1500 Inches.—What the Hall Mines Company Wants.

The old precept which enjoins men against expecting "something" for "nothing" appears to have lost its potency in British Columbia, especially when the government or its agents are at all concerned.

The piracy on water rights is evidently the most facinating game in West Kootenay. The history of the district seems to indicate that unless those who have the public weal at heart keep constantly on the alert, some combination gets away with the rights and priviledges of the people and dictate their own terms when the necessities of the community requires that it should be freed from their yoke.

The MINER this week presents an assortment of applications in which it would appear that the chief object of the promoters of the various schemes is to get a "cinch" on the respective communities which the granting of the applications would effect.

NOTICE.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Take notice that I. A. D. Kirby shall, one month from the date of this notice, apply to N. Fitzstubbs, Assistant Commissioner of lands and Works for the Slocan division of West Kootenay District, for pre-emption of record of 500 inches of water from the middle fork of Carpenter creek at a point beyond a mile of the forks of said creek, to be used for domestic purposes, said water to be taken for a term of ninety-nine (99) years, or so long as said lands or any portion of them are in possession of said A. D. Kirby, his heirs or assigns.

Dated this 10th day of February, 1894.

A. D. KIRBY.

The above is one of a trio of notices recently posted in the government offices at Nelson. The second is signed by C. J. Loewen, who modestly requests in the same words 500 inches from the South fork of Carpenter, and the third is signed by E. C. Carpenter, who requests 500 inches from the north fork of Carpenter for domestic purposes.

The impudence of the above mentioned applicants is but the more glaring when it is made known that they are applying for this water under the provisions of the Land act as pre-emptors. By the 39th clause of this act, a lawful occupier and bona-fide cultivator "may record so much and no more, of any unrecorded and unappropriated water from the natural channel of any stream, lake or river, adjacent to or passing through such land, for agricultural or other purposes, as may be reasonably necessary for such purpose, upon obtaining the written authority of the commissioner of the district to that effect."

In the first place not one of the above applicants is entitled to the privilege of the Land act in question, not one of them being a "lawful occupier and bona-fide cultivator." E. C. Carpenter has lived on the pre-emption but the land was not among those things which he cultivated. J. C. Loewen and Capt. Kirby have never occupied the land, and the act prohibits occupation by agents, so they clearly are out of court in the matter. Generous as the act is, it cannot be interpreted to countenance such a general "cornering" of the water privileges as these applicants infer. They are all members of the same combine which has secured possession of the Three Forks pre-emption of Carpenter and Hugonin. They are not acting in the interest of public weal, and desire evidently a "corner" on the water priviledges of Three Forks. As near as can be learned there is no need for any such number of inches of water for "domestic" purposes. Thirty inches of water would abundantly suffice the requirements of a town the size of Nelson for "domestic" purposes.

In the summer there are not 1500 inches of water in Carpenter creek below the forks. If the applications of this outfit were granted they would have just as many inches of water as they desire—not some 1500 inches for "domestic" purposes; they would merely "have all the water in Carpenter creek."

NOTICE is hereby given that at the next session of the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, application will be made for the passage of a Private Bill authorizing the applicants to construct, operate and maintain a system of railway, tramway or aerial tramway, to be operated by steam, electricity or gravity, for the purpose of carrying passengers, freight and ores from a point at or near New Denver to the Mountain Chief, Slocan Star, Alpha, Freddie Lee, Blue Bird, Bonanza King, Washington, Dardanelles, Wellington, and any other mine or mines within a radius of fifteen miles of New Denver, or to Three Forks, Silverton, Bear Lake City, Watson, Seaton, or any other town or towns within a radius of fifteen miles of New Denver, in West Kootenay District; also to construct, operate and maintain works for supplying any mine or mines, or town or towns, within a radius of fifteen miles of New Denver, with electricity for lighting, heating or other purposes, or for supplying any mine or mines, or town or towns, within a radius of fifteen miles of New Denver, with water for household uses or other purposes; and also to take and use from Carpenter Creek and its tributaries so much water of the said creek and tributaries as may be necessary to obtain power for generating electricity to be used for the above-mentioned system or purposes, or for other works of the applicants; with power to the applicants to construct and maintain buildings, raceways, or other works in connection therewith for improving or increasing the water privilege; and also to enter in and expropriate lands for a site for power houses, right of way, and for dams, raceways, or such other works as shall be necessary; also to erect, construct and maintain all necessary works, buildings, pipes, poles, wires, appliances or conveniences necessary for the purposes of the applicants.

JOHN ELLIOT,

Solicitor for Applicants.

The above is an excellent specimen of what is known as a "blanket charter." It is "withall a charter as the wind's" but the innate modesty of the applicants has up to date prevented their individuality from becoming known. It would require something more than jaw-bone to construct "a system of railway, tramway, or aerial tramway." The applicants are said to be Nelson "partes" and Victoria "parties" and that is the closest the enquirer can get to their identity. If the applicants mean business they would probably have appended their names, or some of them, to their notice of application. On the face of it, it looks very much like a charter speculation. It is to be hoped that the government will have better evidence of this company's intentions to commence genuine operations than such mouthings as are usually accepted in the committee rooms of the Legislature, as guarantees for construction work. And before all the water privileges in the district have been alienated it might be a profitable thing for the Minister of Mines to investigate somewhat and ascertain how the granting of such privileges will effect the mine-owners who will require water privileges shortly.

There is yet another "charter" which the MINER wishes to notice, and that is one sought for by the "Hall Mines Company, Limited," or rather one clause of it which reads:

And also to enter upon and expropriate lands for a tramway line, and for a site for power houses, milling, concentrating, or smelting works, or such other works as shall be necessary, and for raceways, flumes, or dams, or other works in connection with the said water privilege:

It is customary, in charters providing for the construction of railways, and such other works of public service and convenience, to empower construction companies with power to expropriate lands. In the sense that the Hall Mines company's tramway may be of public use and convenience they should have the right to expropriate lands along the proposed land necessary for its construction. The chances are that the company can secure such land without paying one cent.

It is when the Hall Mines company seeks to secure the right to expropriate lands for the construction of "power-houses, milling, concentrating, or smelting works, or such other works as shall be necessary" that they overstep the bounds. Such works cannot be considered as of public utility any more than is the business of every man in Nelson. If any private individual in Nelson desired to build a house or workshop he would be obliged to pay the price asked by the owner for the land on which the structure was to be placed. The Hall Mines company is large enough to take care of itself. If they require certain lands let them purchase them the same as any one else would be obliged to. The legislature will be in a pretty tangle if they establish the precedent that every mining company shall have the right to expropriate whatever land it desires for the construction of works, ore sheds, etc. In this province it would seem that even when the holders of land receive crown grants, they must "keep cases" on the government or their land will be legislated away.

Three Forks Bill.

A copy of the bill introduced by Mr. Vernon, to authorize the issue of a crown grant to the owners of the Three Forks pre-emption has reached the MINER office.

The clause designed to protect Hamilton's rights reads as follows: "All rights and claims of other parties in, to or against the said land are hereby saved and excepted, and this Act shall be construed as having been passed for the bare purpose of avoiding the prohibition contained in the amendment made to section 25 of the "Land Act by section 12 of the Land Act Amendment Act, 1891."

The MINER is in receipt of a letter from E. C. Carpenter, of Three Forks, suggesting that meetings be held throughout the district for the purpose of moving votes of thanks to Col. Baker for his speech in favor of bi-metallism, and the signing of memorials in favor of bi-metallism.

KASLO REPUDIATES AGAIN

THEY WON'T WALK INTO SUCH A SPIDER'S PARLOR.

A Discussion Over the Merits of the Houstonion Convention Causes Some bad Blood in Kaslo, and Gives Birth to a Nasty Nationalistic Feeling.

The Houstonian clique met its Waterloo at Kaslo on Monday evening. Failing in its efforts to smuggle its convention resolution through the Kaslo meeting last week, it was decided to rally all the forces and saddle the convention on Kaslo whether the electors wanted it or not. King John undertook the work of marshalling the henchmen, but some how or other the whole scheme miscarried and the electors of Kaslo sat long and heavily upon John's ambitions.

The post mortem proceedings took place in Mahoney's hall in the presence of about 125 electors, with Mayor Kane in the chair.

Ex-mayor Green opened the ball by moving a resolution to the effect that the electors of Kaslo go into convention in Nelson with Boss Houston, the clique having raised Kaslo representation two pegs, giving it seven votes in convention instead of five.

King John headed the forlorn hope speaking in a nice plausable way of the benefits of the convention, receiving a fairly good hearing meanwhile.

G. O. Buchanan followed Houston and condemned the passing of the resolution. He confined his remarks to the question before the meeting and created a very favorable impression.

It was when Augustus Carney took the floor that the fun commenced. He commenced King John's agony of spirit. He likened the convention to a foundling. A child presumably of the same origin as Topsy, without any father. There was in his opinion much secrecy about the convention. It must have had a father but whoever he was he was either ashamed of his progeny or had ulterior motives for keeping his connection with it dark. There was a cutting vein of sarcasm throughout Carney's remarks which was keenly enjoyed by all save King John.

When he rose to reply it could fairly be said "Oh, but his face was a sight for to see." He was so overcome with vindictiveness that he became altogether personal in his remarks and lost what little cast he had with the meeting, which by the way illustrates the difference between "rubbing it in" and "having it rubbed in."

Oh, yes, William Baillie was there and he also took John in hand. Had been waiting for him some said. For the mental comfort of King John he expressed the conviction that the convention was a pet hobby of John's. The desire was that Houston might control the district, and Bailie was so unkind as to say that Houston was as yet undecided whether to appoint his nominee or secure his own nomination.

When the question was voted upon the proposed convention was snowed under by a vote of two to one, leaving the clique in a minority of about 40.

The defeated held a caucus later in which Baillie and Houston, and Retallack and ex-mayor Green, had a rather severe set-to. The impression prevails that the clique will endeavor to split the Kaslo vote by raising racial cries with a view to securing the success of the cliques' nominee.

MASONIC LODGE CONSTITUTED.

A local Masonic lodge has been constituted in Nelson, under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of British Columbia A. F. and A. M. The following officers have been elected:—John Hamilton, W. M.; W. A. Jowett, S. W.; F. Fletcher, J. W.; Dr. Arthur, S. D.; G. R. Robson, J. D.; J. A. Turner, treasurer; G. W. Richardson, secretary; W. P. Robinson, I. G.

The first regular meeting for business will be held on March 8.

CHANGED HANDS.

The Kaslo Examiner changed hands this week. Coy, the owner of the sheet made an agreement some weeks ago to sell to Capt. McMorris, giving him possession on March 1. He subsequently went back on this agreement and gave Geo. A. Bigelow a bill of sale on the Examiner's plant and fixtures.

The general impression is that when the Kaslo electors showed such a determined opposition to Houston's campaign convention, the purchase of the paper by the clique was deemed necessary.

Bigelow announces that he secured the paper as a speculation and says he has a purchaser in view.

DISTRICT APPROPRIATION

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSE DOING NEXT YEAR.

List of the Appropriations for the Province New-Denver, Nakusp, and Waneta are Listed for Expenditures Under the Head of Public Works.

The estimates, as introduced to the House by the Minister of Finance, will prove interesting to those who care to figure out how the ship of state is likely to fare during the next fiscal year.

When the new government buildings were mooted there was a general outcry from the independents and oppositionists who did not reside in Victoria, against putting the country to additional expense. They were hushed by the government's assurance that the matter of expense would be attended to. The expense is being spread over a number of years and the government, as the estimates show, has decided to "cinch" the outside districts to pay for the embellishment of the capital. The order was sent forth to government agents to economise as much as possible in making up their estimates. West Kootenay economizes to the tune of $10.000. The "right" little constituencies on the Island evidently cannot economise as they receive in most cases the same amounts this year, as last. The exceptions to this rule show increases instead of decreases.

That little fairy story which said that the government buildings expenditures would be directly chargeable against the Island seems to have lost its savor.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS.

	1894 95.	1893 94.
Dominion of Canada, annual—		
Interest at 5 per cent	$ 29,151	$ 29,151
Subsidy to Govt	35,000	35,000
Grant per capita	80,938	78,080
For railway lands	100,000	100,000
Land sales (including arrears)	150,000	175,000
Land revenue	10,000	9,000
Timber dues (inc. arrears)	40,000	20,000
Survey fees	200	300
Rents (exclusive of land)	100	150
Timber leases (inc arrears)	50,000	25,000
Free miners' certificates	30,000	25,000
Mining receipts, general	25,000	17,000
Licenses	35,000	35,000
Marriage licenses	4,000	4,000
Real property tax	90,000	90,000
Personal property tax	105,000	93,000
Wild land tax	50,000	63,000
Income tax	8,500	8.000
Revenue tax	47,500	60,000
Registered taxes (all denominations)	300	300
Revenue service refunds	150	100
Fines and forfeitures	8,000	12,000
Law stamps	12,000	10,000
Probate fees	5,000	3,000
Registry fees	50,000	45,000
Assay office fees	150	600
Asylum for the insane	2,500	1,500
Printing office receipts	6,000	6,000
Sale of government property	1.500	300
Reimbursement in aid	6,000	6,500
Interest	8,000	45,000
Interest on sinking funds	12,000	15,500
"Chinese restriction act 1894"	30,000	35,000
Sale of Consolidated Statutes	150	100
Succession duty	6,000	.....
Withdrawal from sinking fund of loans 1877 and 1887	130,000	.....
Miscellaneous receipts	10,000	11,100
Total revenue	$1,178,149	1,058,691
Approximate available from 1894	90,000	(93) 500,000
Total	$1,268,149	1,558,691

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE.

The following is a summary of the estimated expenditure, compared with the estimates for the current year:

	1894-95.	1893-94.
Public debt	$ 187,400	$ 155,450
Civil government salaries	145,880	154,130
Administration of Justice, salaries	116,654	121,524
Legislation	38,800	31,900
Public institutions, maintenance	27,650	26,600
Hospitals and charities	43,750	44,750
Administration of Justice other than salaries	52,700	57,500
Education	188,745	184,655
Transport	7,550	5,500
Rent	48	48
Revenue services	10,000	11,000
Public works:—		
Works and buildings	76,150	105,800
Government house	2,400	3,750
Roads, Bridges & Wharves	245,400	201,800
Surveys	20,000	50.000
Miscellaneous	74,520	79,830
Total	$1,237,648	$1,233,667

Following are the estimates:—

The amounts appropriated to West Kootenay are:—

Repairs jail buildings	$200.
Lock-up at Three Forks	1,000.
Recorders office, New Denver	1,500.
School House, Nakusp	1,000.
School House, Waneta	800.
District appropriation	20,000.
Road and wharf Fire Valley	1,500.

SUNK THREE WARSHIPS.

A Wild Story From De Gama About a Naval Engagement.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—The World's Special from Rio de Janerio says: De Gama has issued a circular saying the Republica and Marcello Diaz engaged the government warships Tiradentes, Bahia and Itapu off Santa Catherina and the Bahia and Diaz were sunk and and the Itapu captured. The Tiradentes alone escaped. The Republica was only slightly disabled. Nobody here believes the story.

A contract has been awarded the Revelstoke Lumber Co. to get out 30,000 ties for the Revelstoke & Arrow Lake Railway south of the Green Slide.

NELSON LOTS

A new Railway under Construction.

Buy before the Market rises in the Railway Centre and Seat of Government of West Kootenay.

Choice Building and Residence Property.

REBATE ALLOWED FOR THE ERECTION OF GOOD BUILDINGS

Also Lots for Sale in NAKUSP DAWSON and ROBSON.

Apply for Prices, Maps, etc., to FRANK FLETCHER, Land Commissioner C. & K. Ry. Co., NELSON, B.C.

TAX NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, in accordance with the Statutes, that Provincial Revenue Tax, and all taxes levied under the "Assessment Act," are now due for the year 1894. All of the above named taxes collectable within the Nelson Division of the West Kootenay District are payable at my office, Kaslo, B. C.

Assessed Taxes are collectable at the following rates, viz:

If paid on or before June 30th, 1894:—Provincial Revenue, $3.00 per capita; one-half of one per cent on real property.
Two per cent on wild land.
One-third of one per cent on personal property.
One-half of one per cent on income.

If paid after June 30th, 1994:—Two-thirds of one per cent on real property.
Two and one-half per cent on wild land.
One half of one per cent on personal property.
Three-fourths of one per cent on income.

O. G. DENNIS,
Assessor and Collector.

Jan, 2nd 1894.

BANK OF

BRITISH COLUMBIA

(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1862.)

CAPITAL (paid up), £600,000 . $2,920,000
(With power to increase.)
RESERVE FUND, £250,000 . . 1,265,333

NELSON BRANCH.
Corner of Baker and Stanley streets.

BRANCHES:
CANADA—Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster, Nanaimo and Kamloops.
UNITED STATES—San Francisco, Portland, Tacoma, and Seattle.
HEAD OFFICE: 60 Lombard street, LONDON, England.

AGENTS AND CORRESPONDENTS:
CANADA—Canadian Bank of Commerce and branches; Merchants' Bank of Canada and branches; Imperial Bank of Canada and branches; Molson's Bank and branches; Bank of Nova Scotia.
UNITED STATES—Agents Canadian Bank of Commerce, New York;
Bank of Nova Scotia, Chicago.
Traders' National Bank, Spokane,

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT—
DEPOSITS received at $1 and upwards, and interest allowed (present rate) at 3½ per cent. per annum.

GRANGE V. HOLT,
Agent.

Nelson, July 17, 1893.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is herely given that W. F. McCulloch, as agent for Edward Mahon, has filed the necessary papers, and made application for a Crown Grant in favor of the "Jim Crow," and "Last Chance," mineral claims, situated on Toad Mountain.

Adverse claimants will forward their objections within sixty days from the date of this publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold Commissioner.

Nelson, B. C., Nov. 14, 1893. Nov. 25

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the B. C. Southern Railway Company will apply to the Legislature of the Provence of British Columbia at its next session, for an Act to consolidate and amend the several Acts relating to the Company; also for power to construct a branch line, commencing at a point on the main line at or near the forks of Michel Creek; thence by way of Miche Creek to Martin Creek.

BODWELL & IRVING,
Solicitors fo the Applicants.

Dated this 7th December, 1893.

Have You Seen, The New

UNCONDITIONAL NONFORFEITABLE ACCUMULATIVE POLICY.

ISSUED BY—→

CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION.

TORONTO, ONTARIA.

It is a simple promise to pay the sum insured, in the event of death.
It is absolutely free from all restrictions as to residence, travel and occupation.
It is entirely void of all conditions save the payment of the premiums.
It provides for the payment of the claim immediately upon proof of death.
It offers six modes of settlement at the end of the Dividend Period.
It is absolutely and automatically non-forfeitable after two years. The insured being entitled to:
(a) Extended insurance without application for the full amount of the policy, for the further period of time definitely set forth in the policy, or on surrender to a
(b) Paid up Policy, the amount of which is written in the policy, or after five years to a
(c) Cash Value, as guaranteed in the policy.
Full information furnished upon application to the Head Office, or to any of the company's Agents. See this policy before insuring.

W. A. JOWETT, Agent for Nelson.
J. D. BREEZE General Agent for B. C. 411 Cordova Street, Vancouver.

BRITISH COLUMBIA IRON WORKS

General Founders, Engineers, Boiler Makers, and Manufacturers of All Classes of Machinery. Sawmill and Marine Work a Specialty.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF THE

Kendall Band Mill, B. C. Shingle Machines, Steam Log Hauling Machines.

We keep in stock a full supply of Engineer and Mill Supplies, such as Pipe and Fittings, Brass Goods, Sheet and other Packing Rubber Valves, Rubber and Leather Belting, Oils, and Lubricants, etc.

HOISTING ENGINES and SINKING PUMPS FOR MINES

Corner Alexander Street and Westminster Ave., VANCOUVER, B. C.

D. CARTMEL, Agent West Kootenay. J. W. CAMPION, Secretary-Treasurer. J. E. W. MACFARLANE Manager

HOTELS.

Watson Hotel,

WATSON, B. C.

The TOWN OF WATSON is situated between Bear and Fish Lakes, on the Kaslo-Slocan wagon road, 20 miles from Kaslo and 10 milesfrom New Denver, is the most central point in Slocan district

The WATSON HOTEL is one of the best kept houses in the entire Slocan country. The dining room and kitchen are in charge of female help of experience. The bar is stocked with the best brands of Liquors and Cigars.

BREMNER & WATSON,
PROPRIETORS.

NELSON LIVERY and FEED STABLES

WILSON & WILLIAMSON,
PROPRIETORS.

HAY AND GRAIN FOR SALE.

Omnibus and carriages to and from all trains and steamboat wharves. Saddle and pack animals for hire. Freight hauled and all kinds of job teaming attended to.

Stab Street. ffice with Wilson & Perdu

THE SUBSCRIBER HAS IN STOCK or en route from the Coast:

1 Carload Glass, Paints and Oils.
2 Carload Sash and Doors.
2 Carload Dry Clear Fir Flooring, 4-inch.
1 Carload Dry Clear Fir Ceiling, 4 inch
1 Carload Factory Cedar,
An Immense Stock of Common Lumber, Shingles, Laths Mouldings, Etc., as usual.

G. O. Buchanan,
Kootenay Lake Sawmill,
NELSON AND KASLO.

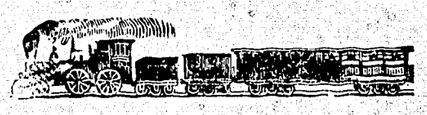
NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Partnership between the undersigned as Hotel-keepers, at the Cœur d'Alene hotel in Kaslo, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Ward, who continues the business, will settle all claims against the partnership, and receive all debts due to it.

JOHN FRANCIS WARD
JOHN KING

Dated December 11th 1893.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY



The Cheapest and Most Direct Route,
From NELSON, KASLO and all Kootenay Points
To the PACIFIC COAST and to the EAST.

TRAINS TO AND FROM NELSON DAILY.

Direct Connection at Robson every
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Evening,
With Steamer for REVELSTOKE, where connection is made with Canadian Pacific Eastbound and Westbound through trains.
THROUGH TICKETS ISSUED,
BAGGAGE CHECKED TO DESTINATION,
NO CUSTOMS DIFFICULTIES.

Equipment Unsurpassed, combining Palatial Dining and Sleeping Cars, Luxurious Day Coaches, Tourist Sleeping Cars and Free Colonist Sleeping Cars.

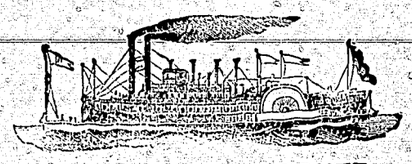
For information as to rates, time, etc., apply to nearest agent.

J. HAMILTON, Agent, NELSON,
Or to GEO. McL. BROWN,
District Passenger, Agent, VANCOUVER.

COLUMBIA & KOOTENAY STEAM NAV. CO.

(LIMITED)

TIME CARD NO. 9.



NELSON AND KASLO ROUTE

STEAMER NELSON

Going North.
Leaves Nelson, Mondays 9 a. m.
" " Wednesdays 5.40 p.m.
" " Thursdays 5 p. m.
" " Saturdays, 5.40 p.m.

Going South.
Leaves Kaslo, Tuesdays at 3 a. m.
" " Thursdays, at 8 a. m.
" " Fridays, at 3 a. m.
" " Sundays, at 8 a. m.

Passengers from Kaslo for Spokane and all points south should take the "Nelson" leaving Kaslo at 3 a. m., on Wednesdays and Saturdays, making close connections with the N. & F. S. rains. Arriving in Spokane, 5.30 same day.

A saving will be made by purchasing tickets from the purser for Spokane, and points on the N. & F. S. and S, F. & N. Railways.

The Company reserves the right to change this schedule at any time without notice.

Great Bargains are Offering at the

Nelson Drug Store

now in Selected Toilet Soaps.

The Miner.

THE MINER is printed on Saturdays, provided the staff is sober, and will be mailed to any address in Canada or the United States, for one year on receipt of two dollars. Those desiring sample copies will secure same on receipt of ten cents.

CONTRACT ADVERTISEMENTS inserted at the rate of $3 per inch, (down the column) per month and as much more as patrons will stand.

TRANSIENT ADVERTISEMENTS inserted at the rate of 15 cents per line first insertion, and 10 cents per line for each subsequent insertion. Advertisements running for shorter periods than three months is classed transient.

QUACK, Cure-All, Private Remedy, and Next-to-Pure-Reading-Matter advertisements are not wanted.

THAT REDISTRIBUTION.

"Wherefore, the rather brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if you do those things ye shall never fail."—Peter.

The long promised redistribution bill was introduced in the Legislature on Friday last by Premier Davie. It is evident that the Premier has heeded the admonition of Peter "giving diligence to make his calling and election sure." As a framer of redistribution bills Davie has distanced all competitors. It can never be expected that any redistribution bill will be received with contentment by the opposition members. The strong point in the present bill as drafted by Davie is that it will take the average legislator in Victoria an entire session to master the contents of the bill and ascertain "what's what."

The bill does not alter the number of members in the house. Of this number the Island will return 14 members, instead of 16, the representation of the mainland being increased from 17 to 19 members. To effect this change the old constituencies of Alberni and "The Islands" are wiped out.

Alberni district has been absorbed into Cowichan and the new district will elect two members collectively instead of two and one as formerly.

"The Islands" are thrown into the old Victoria district which is divided north and south returning two members, one for each riding.

Nanaimo district, which formerly returned two members collectively, has been divided north and south returning one member each.

Comox districts' territory has a considerable increase receiving a portion of the mainland and a number of the Islands adjacent.

Esquimalt, Nanaimo city and Victoria city remain unchanged, Esquimalt and Victoria returning their members collectively.

New Westminster district is "quite cut up." Portions of it being put into Cassiar, Comox, Cariboo and Lillooet. The remaining portion is divided into ridings named respectively Delta, Chilliwack, Dewdney and Richmond, with one member each. The city of Westminster remains unchanged.

Vancouver city has an additional member, making three in all.

Yale district receives a piece of Lillooet and loses two smaller pieces to Lillooet and Westminster. The district is then divided into three ridings with one member each, named respectively, west, east and north ridings.

Lillooet is divided east and west, into two ridings, with one member each.

Cariboo receives an addition in territory and loses one of its members.

Cassiar loses some territory to Cariboo and retains its old representation.

East Kootenay remains unchanged and west Kootenay is divided north and south with one member each.

It is worth noting that some districts are divided into ridings and some are not. Those which have the credit of returning government supporters with the exception of Victoria district, have not been divided, while those which split their support have been cut into ridings for "convenience."

It is difficult to pronounce upon the merits of the redistribution bill punching as it does into every district, but it is significant that the division of West Kootenay is glaringly unfair with respect to population, voting strength, revenue or commercial importance.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

The budget speech delivered in the House last week by the Minister of Finance contains some interesting subject matter. It demonstrates clearly the important figure which West Kootenay cuts in provincial affairs.

The Minister of Finance was out just $36,258 in his estimate of the revenue for the fiscal year. There was a fall off of revenue from the estimate under the heads of wild land tax $37,000, provincial revenue tax $10,000, real property tax $19,000, timber royalties $35,000, timber leases, etc, $12,000, land sales $20,000. These declinations are accounted for by the Finance Minister in this wise:—The formation of new townships reduced the land tax accruing to the government, and the fall under the revenue tax by that tax going to the cities for school purposes, and the other declines by a general dullness.

Corresponding advances marked other departments. Amongst these appear mining receipts in excess by $16,000, registry fees, $18,000; probate fees, $3,000; licenses, $8,000, and increase of subsidy from the Dominion, $8,000, and several other increases of minor importance.

"Those increases arising under the heads of mining are very satisfactory. They are caused by very important developments being made in our mining districts, particularly in Kootenay," is the way in which the Finance Minister acknowledges the Kootenays importance. It crops out again in his reference to the expenditure for roads, streets and bridges.

"It will be observed that this expenditure is very large in the Kootenay district which is now so rapidly going ahead. For several years past we have been driving trails and roads through this section of the province. Owing to the character of the country these works are very costly, but it is already evidenced by the increase in revenue from that district that it was wise to execute them. We may refer in passing to the actual increase of revenue in that district. In 1886 it amounted to $45,052, whilst last year the amount received from Kootenay was $91,050."

CURRENT COMMENTS.

The New York Sun is again on the war-path demanding the abolition of the present bonding system as applied to Canadian railrays. It declares that they divert at least $20,000,000 a year from American railways and asserts that neither the Grand Trunk nor the Canadian Pacific system could earn expences without the American business they obtain. The general railway act of Canada, it declares, was expressively amended to permit the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to make discriminating charges against Canadian shippers, whenever this might be necessary in order to divert American traffic to its lines.

Proverbs.

Two proverbs in an ancient book I find,
And on their inconsistency I ponder.
The first says—"Out of sight is out mind."
The second—"Absence makes the heart grow fonder."

I made suggestion to the girl I love—
"We'll try it. Its the only thing to do;
Our double evidence will clearly prove
Which of the two is false and which is true?

"This summer while you wander by the sea,
In the city have my life, Elysian,
I'll neither write to you, nor you to me,
Till in a month we render our decision."

The weeks crawled by, I grew quite thin and pale,
My eyes reduced to mere consumptive hollows;
At length the month was up, and through the mail
There flew two letter which were writ as follows;

Mine read: "Dear love, the test was too severe;
Though long the time, not once my mind did wander,
I think we proved conclusively, my dear,
That absence makes the heart just ten times fonder."

She wrote: "Dear Tom, I think by now you'll find
Which proverb was the right one after all;
Of course, when out of sight one's out of mind,
I'm to be married in the early fall."—Life.

No one need go without Perry's Mining Map now as the price has been greatly reduced. Unmounted copies, one dollar. Mounted styles also reduced. Apply or write to C. & K. S. N. Co., Nelson, or Walbey & Co., Kaslo, or T. Abriel, Nakusp.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments:—

15th January, 1894.

To be Collectors under the "Revenue Tax Act" in the several Mining Divisions placed opposite their names:—A. C. MCARTHUR, Illecillewaet; D. F. DOUGLASS, Lardeau; A. CRAIG, Trout Lake; W. J. GOEPEL, Nelson.

T. P. O'FARRELL,

SOLICITOR FOR PATENTS.

NELSON, B. C.

Drawings and Specifications made in the Office. All matter strictly confidential.

ELECTION CARD.

Nelson, B. C. 11 Jan 1894.

The undersigned announces himself as a Candidate for member of the Legislative assembly for West Kootenay District, subject to the action of the convention to be held at Nelson on the 12th of April. 1894.

J. FRED HUME.

JOB PRINTING of high merit turned out in short order. Prices to match.

ADDRESS

THE MINER PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO.

NELSON, B.C.

NELSON HYDRAULIC MINING COMPANY LIMITED.

PROSPECTUS.

TO THE PUBLIC:

On September 20th, 1893, the following gentlemen formed themselves into a syndicate for the purpose of acquiring and developing the Boulder Placer Claim, *situate on Forty-Nine Creek*, about eight miles westerly from Nelson, West Kootenay District, British Columbia:

J. A. KIRK, Civil Engineer;
J. F. RITCHIE, Provincial Land Surveyor;
R. B. DOUGAN, Miner;
F. M. McLEOD, Barrister;
JOHN ELLIOT, Barrister;
J. F. HUME, Merchant;
R. J. BEALEY, Real Estate Agent;
G. W. RICHARDSON, Real Estate Agent.

They believed that the claim held large deposits of coarse gold, and that it would yield a handsome profit if developed. It is well known that Forty-Nine Creek gold is worth $18 an ounce (See copy of assay appended). The claim is half a mile in length and 700 feet in breadth—350 feet on each side of the creek. At different times the claim has been worked. G. M. DAWSON, D. S., F. G. S., in the Annual Report (1887) of the Geological Survey of Canada, states: "In 1867, Forty Nine Creek was reported to yield coarse gold to to the value of $6 to $18, to the man. Bed rock not worked." Since that date attempts at developing the the claim have been made, but from lack of capital and proper appliances, only the high ground, which contains the least quantity of gold, was operated on, while the "pay streak," was not touched.

In August, 1892, MR. R. B. DOUGAN acquired the claim. With the aid of two men, and using water with a head of about fifty-feet, he placed a sluice-box about sixty-feet in length within about two feet of bed-rock, and made excavations through the gravel. This work has aided the syndicate in obtaining reliable information as to the nature of the claim. As a head of fifty-feet is not powerful enough to carry boulders of even medium size they had to be removed by hand. A considerable quantity of gold was saved—sufficient to prove that a handsome profit could be obtained with the assistance of proper appliances. (See MR. RICE'S report) MR. DOUGAN made an offer of the property to the syndicate, a condition being that it should be developed. The syndicate accepted his proposition, and secured in addition a claim, called the St. George, one-half mile in length, above; and another, the St. John, a quarter of a mile in length, below the Boulder claim. They have thus secured a continuous claim of one and one-quarter miles in length. These properties are held by lease, for a period of five years, from the government. The lease can be renewed by law, from thime to time, as required.

MR. J. F. RICE, superintendent of the Kootenay Hydraulic works on the Pend d'Oreille river in British Columbia, was then engaged to thoroughly prospect the claims and report thereon. (See report annexed) MR. RICE was accompanied by MESSRS. KIRK & RITCHIE, civil engineers, of Nelson, who made a report on the work and plant required to equip the claim with the most efficient appliances for securing the gold. (See the report annexed) At a meeting of the syndicate held on Nov. 8th, 1893, it was resolved to take the necessary proceedings to obtain incorporation under the name of the Nelson Hydraulic Mining Company, Limited Liability, with the head office at Nelson; capital stock, $100,000, divided into 20,000 shares of $5 each; 15,000 being ordinary shares, and 5,000 being preference shares, the latter entitled to dividends of 10 per cent in priority to ordinary shares. The property is to be purchased by the company, and paid for by the allotment to the syndicate of 9,000 fully paid up shares. It has been decided to offer for sale the 5,000 preference shares, with the understanding that applications for stock will not be accepted unless accompanied by 60 per cent of the face value. This will give the company $15,000 with which to proceed with works of construction and meet incidental expenses. It is confidently expected that no further assessment will be made, as the amount to provide a thoroughly efficient plant and cost of management have been carefully estimated.

The syndicate is taking advantage of the low water to construct the dam and sluice boxes. It is the intention to have everything ready to commence working the claim when there is a sufficient volume of water next spring, and to employ a thoroughly experienced man as superintendent. Respecting the probability of the property paying, the syndicate believe that MR. RICE'S report is a very conservative statement of its value. In this connection the following quotations will be of interest:

PROFESSOR DAWSON, in his Annual Report, (1887) to the Geological Survey of Canada, says: "The future of placer mining deserves consideration, particularly from the following points of view: In each proved auriferous district, the poorer or less concentrated gold bearing ground must necessarily surpass in area that of the very rich deposits, which alone pay for work with primitive methods, and with the cost of supplies and labor at high prices. Thus the cheapening of these essentials, produced by improved means of communication and by the settlement of the country, coupled with the attending facilities for bringing heavier machinery and appliances into use, will enable the profitable working of greatly extended acres."

In the same report MR. DAWSON also says: "There are quite a number of valleys in which, though the bed of the present stream has proven rich, the deep ground or old channel has not yet been reached, or if reached has not been satisfactorily tested. In all these cases it requires only more effective machinery and greater engineering skill to be brought to bear, to attain and work the deposits referred to, and it is likely that many of them will pay well when such means can be applied at a reasonable cost."

The following is from Van Wagenen's Manual of Hydraulic Mining: "Hydraulic mining presents fewer risks and more certainties than any other department of mining, other things being equal. It is simply a question of moving gravel or soil from one place to another. Given therefore, in addition to an abundance of water to move and wash the gravel, ample space to deposit it again after it has been washed, and the problem of obtaining a profit has been reduced to a mimimum. As an example, the gold bearing veins of the western United States have an aver-value of about ten dollars per ton of quartz extracted, which ten dollars can be mined, transported to the mill, crushed, amalgamated refined and sold at a gross cost of about eight dollars per ton, or eighty per cent. The same gold vein after passing through the labratory of nature, will consist of a gravel bed or deposit, worth about twenty cents per ton, which twenty cents may be secured and marketed at a cost of not over five cents or twenty-five per cent. Other things being equal therefore, hydraulic mining presents three times the chance for profit that is found in gold-quartz mining, and one-third the risk, with the additional advantage that the extent and richness of the gravel bed may be completely studied and ascertained before working it, and at a slight cost, while vein mining is from the first to last, an experiment and a chance. The records of mining show that over seventy-fiive per cent of all the gold mined within history has been derived from the working of gravel beds."

Probable Output and Returns.

MR. RICE reports that "an open cut in the channel gravel for a distance of seventy feet gave returns of about 60 cents per cubic yard," and that he was unable to test the bed-rock, owing to the amount of water, but adds that "the uneven nature of the bed-rock and the character of gold distributed through the entire deposit point to rich deposits in favored places." Further on he says: "Samples taken from over a large area, including the surface, sides, and foot of the banks, and surface of the channel, give an average of 20 cents per cubic yard."

Taking two-thirds of the capacity of the works, as stated by MR. RICE, as the working average in twenty-four hours, that is, 2,000 cubic yards, and 5 cents as the cost per yard, (the ground holding 20 cents per yard of gold) we have as profit, exclusive of the nature of gold in the channel gravel and bed rock, $300 per day. Assuming that the ground is worked for ninety days, there would be a clear profit of $27,000, or $1.96 per share on shares held by the syndicate, and preference shares, in a season.

Applications for Stock.

Applications for ten per cent preference stock, accompanied with 60 per cent of its face value, may be made to the secretary or any member of the syndicate. Interim receipts will be given therefore by the secretary. Certificates for such stock will be issued as soon as the charter is obtained, which will be in about two months.

Further particulars will be furnished by the secretary, MR. G. W. RICHARDSON, and all papers and documents connected with the proceedings of the syndicate may be inspected at his office in Nelson.

J. FRED HUME,
J. F. RITCHIE,
G. W. RICHARDSON,
Trustees in charge of affairs of Syndicate.

Solicitor: J. ELLIOT.
Engineers: KIRK & RITCHIE.
Secretary: G. W. RICHARDSON.

Mr. J. F. Rice's Report.

THE NELSON HYDRAULIC MINING SYNDICATE:

Gentlemen—In pursuance of your instructions to examine and report on your property on Forty-Nine creek, near Nelson, British Columbia, the working, value, and kind of plant required, I herewith submit the following:

The property consists of one and one-quarter miles in length along the course of the Forty-nine creek channel, and the banks on either side for a width of 700 feet. The present channel varies in width from 50 to 90 feet, with a probable average depth of 15 feet, filled for the most part with a compact gravel, a large proportion of which is heavy boulders. The bed-rock is a coarse-grained granite, in irregular layers, forming a very uneven bottom, making natural riffles favorable for arresting the coarser particles of gold.

Tests made in an open cut in the channel gravel for a distance of 70 feet gave returns of one-half cent per pan, or about 60 cents per cubic yard. Owing to the amount of water I was unable to test the bed rock with the facilities at my command. The uneven nature of the bed-rock and the character of gold distributed through the entire deposit point to rich deposits in favored places on the bottom.

The channel gold is heavy, of a flat, angular shape, comparatively coarse, and of a character to save in the sluices. The rim bars or banks, on either side, are in places extensive deposits that vary in depth and extent, in some places showing a depth of 40 to 60 feet, and extending over several acres, consisting for the most part of a finer gravel than that of the channel, and an occasional strata of sandy clay, which varies in thickness from a few inches to several feet. Gold is disseminated through the entire deposit, from grains at the surface to heavy and coarser particles as depth is obtained and the gravel more compact. Samples taken from over a large area, including the surface, sides and foot of the banks, and the surface of the channel, gave an average of 20 cents per cubic yard.

A large number of places along the creek have been partially worked by the primitive means of the early miner, such as the pan, hand-sluice, and the rocker. The surface, however, is only skimmed in places. The only attempt to exploit the channel has been on the company's ground by MR. DOUGAN, mainly by man power, whose returns, from what data I could gather, averaged about 80 cents per cubic yard.

The conditions of profitable working depend mainly on a large water supply at high pressure, a grade necessary for the sluices, and ample dump for the tailings. The water supply, from all information and data that could be gathered, is confined to the period between March and July, or between three and four months, which in this case would be the length of the working season. The supply for that period seems to be ample.

By the construction of a flume and ditch of four-fifths of a mile in length a vertical pressure of 300 feet is obtained, ample for all purposes. The ditch and flume should have a carrying capacity of 900 miner's inches. All details of grade, materials, and construction are embodied in the appended plan by MESSRS. KIRK & RITCHIE.

In order to obtain the requisite dump, and to bottom the channel at the points of exploitation, a bed-rock cut of 250 feet in length, in connection with a sluice line of 500 feet, is necessary. Under these conditions the maximum grade attainable is three-quarters of an inch to the foot, or 9 inches per box of 12 feet. This gives a dump of 6 feet, which may be added to and increased by continuing the sluices on the same grade as the dump rises to their level. The mode of construction and class of material are shown in the appended plan.

Working Capacity.

The duty of a miner's inch varies with different conditions, running from 3 to 4 cubic yards to 25 and 30 per day, the latter result being obtained under highly satisfactory conditions. In this case after the clearing of the channel, the maximum capacity should not be less than 3,000 cubic yards per twenty-four hours with a sluice head of 1,000 inches, or 3 yards to the inch. In most hydraulic mines the result exceeds this figure. From a number of California mines taken at random, the work averages 5½ cubic yards per inch, per twenty four hours.

The cost of working varies with the amount and character of material handled, height of banks, etc. In ordinary cases, with plenty of water, dump, and other facilities, ground that will average 5 cents per yard pays a good profit. The North Bloomfield mine, in Nevada county, California, has worked ground for several years at an average value of 3 cents per yard.

Machinery.

The machinery necessary will consist of a pipe line of about 1,050 feet in length and two monitors or giants. All of the details of size, gauge, and construction of pressure-box are furnished in the appended plan.

While the dump and grade of the sluices leave something to be desired, the condition are, in the main, favorable, and with intelligent and skillful management there is no question as to a profitable result.

Much is due MESSRS. KIRK & RITCHIE, whose intelligent and skillful work made accurate estimates possible.

I am, gentlemen, yours respectfully,

J. F. RICE.

Details and Estimate of Cost.

BY MESSRS. KIRK & RITCHIE.

THE NELSON HYDRAULIC MINING SYNDICATE:

In accordance with MR. RICE'S instructions, we present the following statement of details and estimate of cost of construction of hydraulic plant, of most approved design, on Forty-Nine Creek.

Hydraulic mining is carried on by propelling a jet of water, under heavy pressure, on gold-bearing gravel deposits. The gravel being disintergrated by this process and carried with the water through the sluice-boxes. In its passage the gold drops, owing to its great weight, into receptacles provided therefore, and the refuse gravel is deposited in a dump at the end of the sluice-boxes. With proper appliances, it is estimated that 95 per cent of the gold can be secured. In designing a hydraulic system, measures have to be taken to secure the required water pressure, sluice-boxes grade to carry large boulders, and an ample dumping ground.

Details.

The head of water required in this case is 300 feet. To procure this it will be necessary to construct an artificial channel from a point about four-fifths of a mile up stream from the place selected for the sluice-boxes. At the head of the channel a dam, about five feet high, will have to be built across the stream to provide a regular supply of water. Owing to the precipitous nature of the ground about 3,200 feet of the channel will consist of a flume, with a grade of 9.5 feet in 1000; the remainder will be an open ditch. The capacity of flume and ditches, 1,000 miner's inches. From the ditch to the monitors, the water will be carried in a steel pipe about a thousand feet long. The sluice-boxes will be 500 feet long, with a grade of 9 inches in 12 feet.

From the lower end of the sluice-boxes the fall increases rapidly, affording ample dumping ground. Plans and profile showing details of the work described are herewith submitted.

Cost.

Eleven hundred feet of steel piping and 2 monitors, with nozzles of 2⅜, 3¾, 4, 5 and 6-inch orifices, respectively, erected, ready for working	$ 2,000
Dam, flume, ditch, sluice-boxes (inclusive of excavation) and house for workmen	8,000
Superintendence of construction, etc., 10 per cent	1,000
Total cost of plant ready for work	$11,000

The estimate of the cost of monitors and piping was made from a memorandum of cost of those items to the Kootenay Hydraulic Mining Company of Waneta, in this province.

In concluding this report we submit a comparison of difficulties surmounted in providing water for hydraulic mining fn other places,

Kootenay Hydraulic Mining Company: Ditch and flume, 14 miles.

La Grange Ditch & Hydraulic Mining Companp, Tuolumne county, California: Ditches, 100 miles; flumes, 6 miles; grade of ditches, 11 to 32 feet per mile.

Miocene Ditch Company, Butte county, California: In order to obviate the construction of a trestle some 180 feet high, the water is conveyed in a wooden flume around a bluff 350 feet in height. The flume was suspended upon brackets made of T rails built in the form of a reversed L (⅂), soldered into holes previously drilled into a solid vertical escarpment. Men were swung down by ropes to drill these holes. in another place in this line of ditch is a piece of trestle work 1,088 feet long and 80 feet high.

El Dorado Water & Deep Gravel Mining Company, California: Main ditch, 40 miles.

Buckeye Company, California: Ditches, 35 miles; capacity, 2,5000; cost, $120,000.

The details respecting the California companies are taken from the report of the state Mining Bureau for 1889. The same report gives with other statistics, the following resume of work done by the La Grange Company, on all its claims from June 1st, 1891, to September 30th, 1876.

DISBURSEMENTS	
Water, labor, etc	$136,142 80
Per cubic yard	6
Per ounce of metal produced	13 80
Average value of the ounce of metal produced	19 26
Average yield per cubic yard of ground	10 19

The above tremendous outlay for water when compared with the facilities for procuring an ample supply at Forty-nine Creek, show very favorable conditions for hydraulic mining.

Yours respectfully,
KIRK & RITCHIE,
Civil Engineers.

ASSAY CERTIFICATE.

Memorandum of Gold Bullion Deposited with the Selby Smelting & Lead Company for Refining.

San Francisco, Sept. 30, 1893.
Office, 410 Montgomery St.

By THE ANGLO-CALIFORNIA BANK (LTD)

NO. OF DEPOST.	WEIGHT BEFORE MELTING. Ounces.	WEIGHT AFTER MELTING Ounces	GOLD. FINENESS 1000ths.	GOLD. VALUE. Dollars	SILVER. FINENESS 1000ths.	SILVER. VALUE. Dollars.
5829	3.33	3.24	884	59.20	106	.22

Above is the return for gold dust handed to me about 21st September last by John Howard, and him stated to have come from Forty-nine Creek.

A. H. BUCHANAN,
Manager Bank of Montreal.

17th, Nov. 1893.

THERE ARE THOUSANDS IN IT.

Record of the Gold which Forty-Nine Creek Gave up in the Early Days.

The following letter was received this week by J. Fred Hume, one of the trustees of the Nelson Hydraulic Mining Company, from an old timer who worked on the company's property in the early days.

Bonner's Ferry, Idaho, Dec. 2nd, 1893.

Dear Sir.—Yours of the 18th at hand and contents noted. I, with several others worked on Forty Nine Creek in the years 1867-8-9. We made from $6 to $12 per day. We worked with sluices and rockers, the old fashioned way. Wages were $4 to $5 per day. Most of our mining was done on the creek where your company has located. The gold was coarse and some good crevices were found. I knew two men to make $1900 each in six weeks. I cleaned $2500 the first summer. The Discovery Boys did their own work and cleaned about $800 each. Flour was worth $25 per 100 lbs.; bacon $75 per cwt., and every thing in perportion. The largest nugget we found weighed $20; many others were from $2.50 to $12 and $18. We sold our dust for $18 per oz. I am convinced if said ground is worked in a scientific manner that you have a good thing.

Yours very truly
RICHARD FRY.

THE LOCAL SITUATION.

The evolution of the Houstonian convention is a peculiarly interesting study for those who take an interest in the government of the district. Several weeks ago an ambitious member of the Houstonian clique arrogated to himself the right of calling a political convention of the entire electorate, to be held in Nelson. This same individual presumed also to allot to the respective parts of the district such representation as he considered would best serve his own purposes. This convention as it appeared in the first instance had no political leaning, was to be neither in support of, nor opposed to the present government, and confessedly had no author.

This convention has never received as much as the consideration of the people of Nelson. Its terms were pronounced unfair by the citizens of New Denver, and the insolence of the self-constituted dictator was severely rebuked. A little trickery secured its endorsement a week or so later. A public meeting held in Kaslo to consider this same convention threw it overboard. The clique endeavored to smuggle in an endorsation of it at a subsequent meeting called for a different purpose, but without succces. The consideration of the subject was adjourned for one week. The final meeting overwhelmingly defeated the resolution in support of the convention, on Monday evening.

This last meeting was noteworthy in as much as it threw some curious sidelights on this bastard convention. It demonstrated that Robt. Green of Kaslo had authority to amend the scale of represention for Kaslo, and to offer a bribe to the electors of Kaslo, giving that city two members more than Nelson, in the proposed convention. The meeting also gave the convention a platform. This was promulgated by John Houston, the convention's wet nurse. He attended the convention to look after the infant's interests. It matter not, whether or no, an individual in a public meeting used indiscreet language, as stated, John Houston has seen fit to define the platform of the convention in this wise, at this last meeting.

The convention will be an opposition convention—and the matter may be as well faced now as at any other time—it will be a Canadian convention. In support of this Houston complained that the country was being run by Englishmen. With but one exception the Executive was composed of Englishmen, and he aped the Englishmen. And there was much more to the same effect voiced with a view to setting the Canadians against the Englishmen. So to the district is presented the spectacle of a convention called for the purpose of pitting Canadians against Englishmen.

The convention has now a confessed head in the person of John Houston, a Canadian whose loyalty was so overpowering that it forced him to leave Canada, renounce his allegiance to the Queen, and live the greater portion of his manhood in the United States. A Canadian so intensely zealous for his native land, that though it is many years since his return to it, he had up till within two months ago, neglected to take such steps as would entitle him to have a voice in the government of the country. This loyal convention has a disloyal chief and a disloyal platform. Its agents have also attempted to secure control of the Kaslo press.

One candidate—J. Fred Hume—has announced himself, SUBJECT TO THE ACTION OF THE CONVENTION. This may be taken, presuming that Mr. Hume had no previous knowledge of intentions of the manipulators of the convention, that like the Vicar of Bray, if the convention declared for a government candidate he would accept its nomination. If on the other hand the convention's thumbs went up for an opposition candidate he was still willing to accept its nomination. It remains to be seen whether J. Fred Hume will still accept a nomination from this nondescript convention, and lead the faction in a racial fight against resident Englishmen.

A Miner Injured by a Blast.

Archie Findlay, a miner employed by the Hall Mines company, met with a painful accident Thursday morning. He was blasting in one of the tunnels about 3 o'clock, and had prepared three shots. Two of the shots went off, but the other hung fire. Findlay heedlessly went forward, and was examining the result of the first two shots, when the remaining blast went off. Findlay was struck by the powdered rock. The right arm and left leg, were badly torn.

Dr. La Bau is attending to the wounded man.

NICKS IS IN TROUBLE.

He Cannot Account for the Possession of an Overcoat which he Wore.

A young man from Kaslo, giving the name of George Nix, or Nicks, was run in this week for being in unlawful possession of an overcoat belonging to Mr. Heathcote of the Bank of British Columbia.

Returning from a shooting trip some time ago Mr. Heathcote left his coat with other luggage, on the city wharf to be drayed to town. It was several days before Heathcote saw it again. Nix entered the bank this week, wearing the coat, which lead to his arrest.

The prisoner will likely plead guilty to the charge and receive sentence on Monday. He had a silver watch and some jewellery in his possession when arrested.

THE NEW ENGLAND DINNER.

The New England dinner tendered by the ladies of Nelson to the members of the fire company on Thursday evening was an almost unqualified success.

The fire hall was tastefully decorated, the dinner so long as the bill of fare held out, was good, there was an abundance of sociality, and a good programme of music by the Nelson band. The arrangements of the dinner were much more than any one expected aside from the ladies themselves and they have every reason to feel satisfied with their effort, especially Mrs. Geo. N. Taylor who took the initiative in the preliminary arrangements for the dinner.

There were seven tables set for the visitors, with two ladies in attendance on each. The corps was made up of Mrs. Akehurst and Miss Scott, Mrs. Oakes and Miss Scanlan, Mrs. W. Wilson and Miss Irvine, Mrs. Arthur and Mrs. Gilker, Miss Johnson and Mrs. D. Macdonald. Mrs. Goepel and Mrs. J. A. Turner, Mrs. W. J. Wilson and Mrs. Stanley.

Mrs. McMorris and Mrs. Marshall received and sold the tickets, and Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Dow, and Miss Colwell attended to the cutting of the cakes, receiving the assistance of Ed. Traves in the carving of meats.

The ladies had an auction sale of the provisions remaining which was taken advantage of by the batchelors present, and which netted about $6.

The evening closed with a very enjoyable dance.

The ladies who had the affair in hand desire to express their thanks to the members of the fire company and the Nelson band for their co-operation and to all those who assisted them in securing the successful issue of the dinner.

The ladies are requested to meet Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the residence of Mrs. Geo. N. Taylor, to settle affairs concerning the dinner. All having unsettled bills are requested to present them before that time. Those holding tickets or money will kindly hand in same.

L. MARSHALL.
Sec'y.

To Settle the Silver Question.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Yesterday Representative Hicks of Pennsylvania introduced a bill which he believes to be an excellent plan for the settlement of the silver question. It provides that any person may deposit with the government $50,000 worth of silver bullion, and by depositing with it 25 per cent of the value of the bullion in interest-bearing government bonds as a guarantee against any depreciation of silver, he may receive $50,000 in treasury notes, redeemable in coin.

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Commencing January 8th, 1894, on Tuesday and Fridays trains will run through to Spokane, arriving there at 5,30 p.m. same day. Returning will leave Spokane at 7 a.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays, arriving at Nelson at 5.40 p.m., making close connections with Steamer Nelson for all Kootenay Lake points.

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