The Prospector.

Vol,1. FORT STEELE, SATURDAY DECEMBER 21st 1895. No 7

During the latter part of the month of August, the owners of the Dibble property concluded to have a mill test of the ore from the Last Chance A shipment was made of five tons. There has been many vexatious delays connected with this shipment, first the ore was packed from the mine on the hurricane deck of cayuse's, then the steamer grounded on a bar, and could only take a small portion of the ore, the balance was shipped down the river in canoes, And at this late day the returns have

been received , and are as follows. 136 ozs in silver, $1.75 in gold, 3,1/2 % copper. this is a good indication of what may be expected from these mines, though the ore sent out was not the best, and the returns did not meet the expectations of the owners. Since the time that this shipment was made, the property has been bonded to Montana parties, who are engaged in running a tunnel to tap the vein at a depth that is thought will bring all the several viens together. It is expected that in the spring there will be considerable ore ready for shipment, as work will be pushed during the winter.

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We have been informed that the Invicta Gold Mining Co, who are engaged in Placer mining on Wild Horse creek , have subscribed a working capital of $50.000 to enlarge the future operations of the property during the coming season.

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X,mas will soon be here, and the best present you can give a Gentleman is a box of Morin's good cigars.

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A CONTRACT LET.

A contract has been made by D.D.Mann one of the owners of the North Star mine, for the shipment of 5.000 tons of ore during the coming Summer, The Upper Kootenay, and the Upper Columbia Navigation Companies have the contracts,It is reported that Capt,Jones will build a new boat this winter

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Please remember thatDivine Service, in the little School House around the corner, on Sunday next at 7 1/2 O'clock, the discourse will be on The Race of Life. specially suited to the season of Advent. All Invited.

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At St, Eugene Mission, the usual X,mas Services will be held, The Rev'd N. Cocola O.M.I. will preach, and special reference will be made to the great Festival of the Christian Church.

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The Ladies of Fort Steele, will decorate the little School House around the corner, with festoons, Mottoes, and Evergreens, for the special Christmas Service on the 29th. a kind Friend of the Church will prepare the usual refreshments after the Ladies are thro' with their labors.

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Wm.French paid the Fort a visit during the week, He went as far as the St,Eugene Mission.

The Entertainment Last Night.

The X,mas festival was a complete success,every body in Town was there, The opening address by Mr, R.L.T.Galbraith was well received. the Instrumental Duet by Miss,Bailey and Mr, Farquhason was fine, Recitations by Miss,Bell. Miss,Jennings and Miss,Wade was rendered in a pleasing manner, Master Clark proved himself a good reader by reading a peice entitled the sleigh ride, The Instrumental Solo by Miss,Wallinger was excellent. Mrs,Barnes and Mr,McVittie, in the farce "the Train for Mauro", was good and created lots of fun, Mrs,Jarley's wax figures were wound up for the occasion and performed like real live people But what was the matter with Bill,Highwarden. O he was all right with his knock about song and dance. The School Children rendered several nice songs during the evening, The finale was the X,mas Tree, with Santa Claus just in on the train from Mauro, several days ahead of time,the little ones got lots of presents, and enjoyed themselves, and had lots of fun. The universal opinion is that it was the best entertainment ever presented i[illegible]ort Steele. After the entertainment, the room was cleared , and dancing was the order of the night. and the Lads and Lassies triped the light fantastic until early morn.

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Good news for all, 2.000 tons more of ore will be taken out and shiped from the North Star Mine, the company has contracted for the transportation of 5.000 tons of ore.

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Bill,Highwarden was heard to say, that they had programes just like a real show.

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Bob,Dempsey proved himself a good ==== well the babies were all right, and did not cry a little bit.

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During Christmas , a pleasant time will be spent at the Grange, Wolf Creek, where our friend Mr, Humphreys has invited a number of Friends to spend the festive season with him.

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The jingle of sleigh bells is now heard in town.

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Mr,Wm.Fernie has left for Victoria. but will return early in the Spring, He says there is no place like East Kootenay.

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Thomas McVittie will spend the Holidays at the Grange.

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Teams from Tobacco Plains are expected in the first of the coming week.

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The tunnel on the International Placer Co's ground is in 207 feet,

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The Banks Brothers are pushing work on the Dardenelles,

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A Merrie Christmas to all .

THE PROSPECTOR SATURDAY DECEMBER 21 st.95.

The PROSPECTOR, is Published weekly by the Prospector Co. A.B.Grace Manager.

Subscriptions, $1.50 per Annum.

PROFESSIONAL.

Chas, Maclean. Physician and Surgeon.

Thomas, McVittie. P. L. S. & C. E.
H.L.Cummins. P. L. S. & C. E.

FORT STEELE MINING ASSOCIATION.

R.L.T.Galbraeth. President.
G.S.Frizzel. Vice " "
R.D.Mathers. " " "
H.W.Barnes. " " "
Wm.Carlin. Treasurer.
Thomas, McVittie. Secretary.

All possible information will be furnished by the Association upon application to,
Thomas, McVittie Sec Fort Steele B.C

THE CRANBROOK ESTATE.

This property, of 18.000 acres, situated 8 miles S.W. of Fort Steele was purchased by Col. Baker in the year 1885. and consists of a home farm of 4.000 acres. one hundred acres of which are under cultivation, and 6.000 acres of river bottom land, the remainder being bench and grazing land. Up to the present time , the supply of all agricultural products has always met the local demand, and as the facilities for transportation have been nil, there has been nothing to justify further cultivation. but it is the intention of the present management to greatly increase the area under cultivation as the local demand for Oats has this year greatly exceeded the anticipation of the farmers. There are in one block on the home farm 300 acres of the finest black loam, capable as was shown this year of growing 50 bushels of oats to the acre. The River bottom land which fronts the navigable Kootenay River for three miles is all capable of cultivation at a comparatively small cost per acre, as much of it is clear, and what brush there is, is small and easily cleared off. The Railroad survey of the C.P.R.Co. traverse through about five miles of the property, passing directly through the home farm, which is admirably situated for a town site, having an abundance of wood and water, the latter supplied by the creek which runs through the farm. Apart from the value of the property as an agricultural estate, and from its speculative value, it would be hard to find a more picturesque and pleasant country home; good shooting hunting and fishing being within easy reach. It is essentially what may be termed a British Columbia stock ranch, capable of carrying 4.000 head of cattle, grown at a minimun of cost, and we may fully expect to see, when the country has the advantage of Railroad communication and the present mineral prospects developed into mines, this property then carrying its full compliment of stock, and its land bringing handsome returns to its owner.

NOTICE.

The next regular meeting of the Fort Steele Mining Association will be held on Saturday Evening the 28 th of Dec.

WHY KICK?

Said Minister Bowell, one day, in a rage,
On reading some papers just brought by a page,
"Those cursed Siwashes of Mara's in Yale
Should know that their wishes can never prevail".

He looked at Foster,who beamed at his side,
Correcting his" clerical errors" with pride,
Explaining in terms that brought tears to his eye,
Our modest request for a vote in supply.

"Our policy always has been soand so
The people in Kootenay East ought to know".
When Foster remarked,"I have noted with pain,
What I have refuted here time and again.

Fallacious belief! what State can succeed
That does not surpass all its rivals in greed?
Abandon all hope of material aid,
And trust me, good people, I'll Foster your trade".

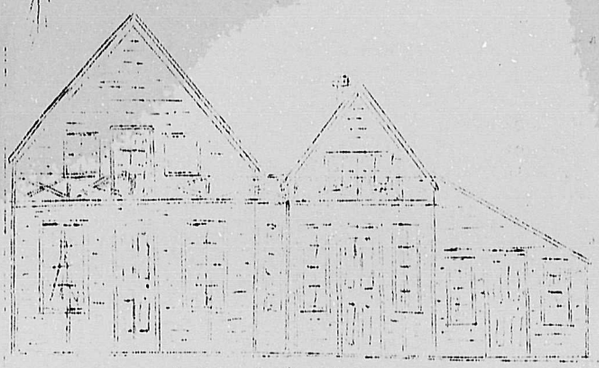
To the Editor,
The Prospector Fort Steele B.C.

Sir. I have taken the opinion of a number of the inhabitants,and ofthose who live within the vicinity of Fort Steele, and one and all are agreed that the time has now come, for some def inite steps to be taken for establishing a Public Hospital at Fort Steele. The subject was mooted some three years ago , but was then, I think rightly considered premature, but the last twelve months have, I consider, conclusively proved that it would not be so now. And I think the next twelve months will show it to be an absolute necessity, At the present time what is the position of a man who is injured or ill? whether he has money or not the only place for him is at one of the hotels, where he has always received the greatest kindness and attention, but it is no place for a sick man, either from the proprietors or patients point of view. At present the generous are more heartily taxed, then they would be by a Hospital Subscription, while the ungenerous will have to either pay their hospital fees, or take their chances , and thus abolish the subscription list, or'hat' which leaves the recipient under an obligation to his subscriber.
My idea is that the matter should be discussed at a Public meeting, a general outline formed and committee appointed to draw up plans, rules and regulations to be submitted to a second general meeting. If the idea should meet with the approval of the readers of the Prospector, and all those interested, I think that the best plan would be for you to advertise a certain date about a fortnight hence for a Public meeting. Yours faithfully,
F.P.Norbury.
Fish Lakes, Dec 15th 1895.

In reply to the above, we would say that it would fill a long felt want, And we have referred the Gentleman to a committee appointed by the Fort Steele Mining Association to ascertain what is most needful for this district. Ed.

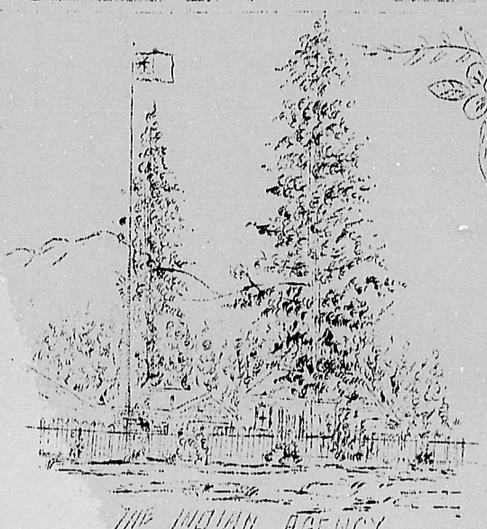
The regular issue of the PROSPECTOR is 250 copies, this week we issue the same amount,with a Supplement of four pages.

Subscribe for the Prospector, $ 1.50 per Annum. Devoted to the mining interests of EAST. KOOTENAY.



STEELE HOUSE

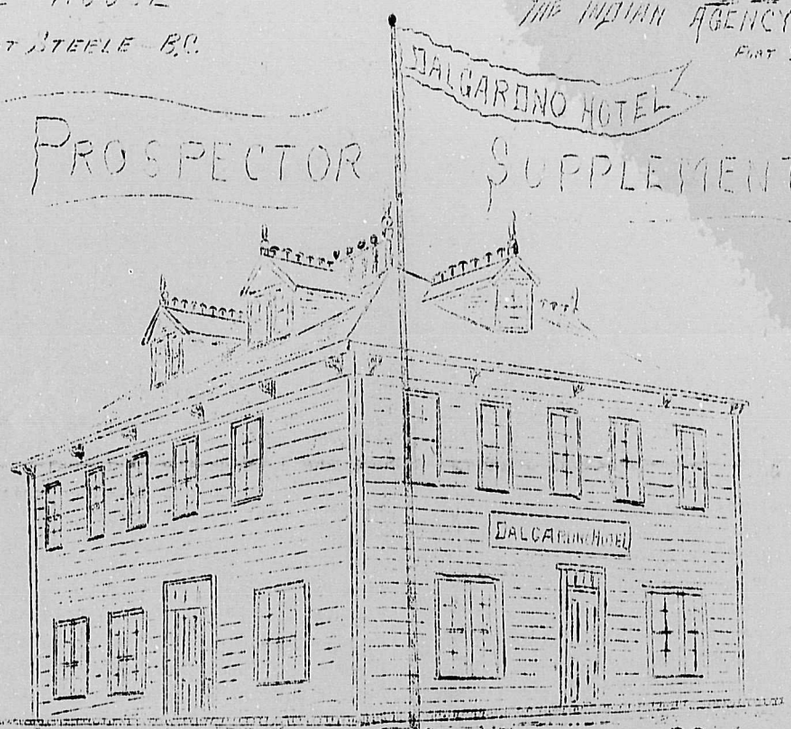
FORT STEELE B.C.



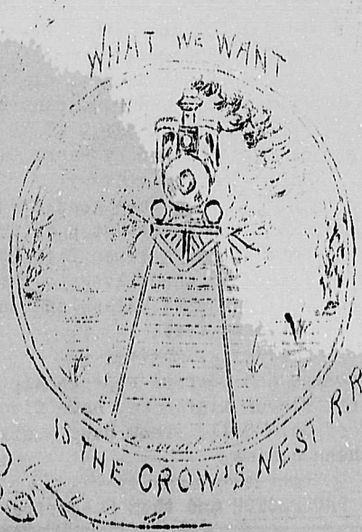
THE INDIAN AGENCY.

FORT STEELE, B.C.

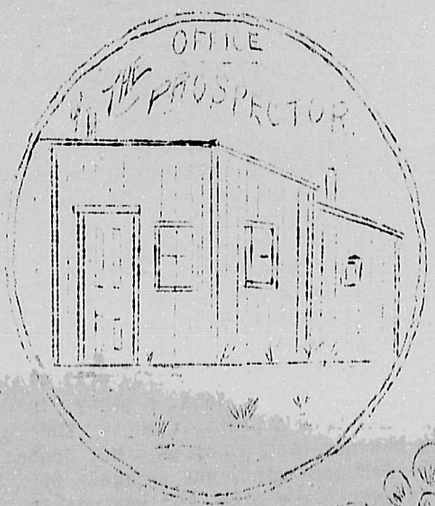
THE PROSPECTOR SUPPLEMENT.



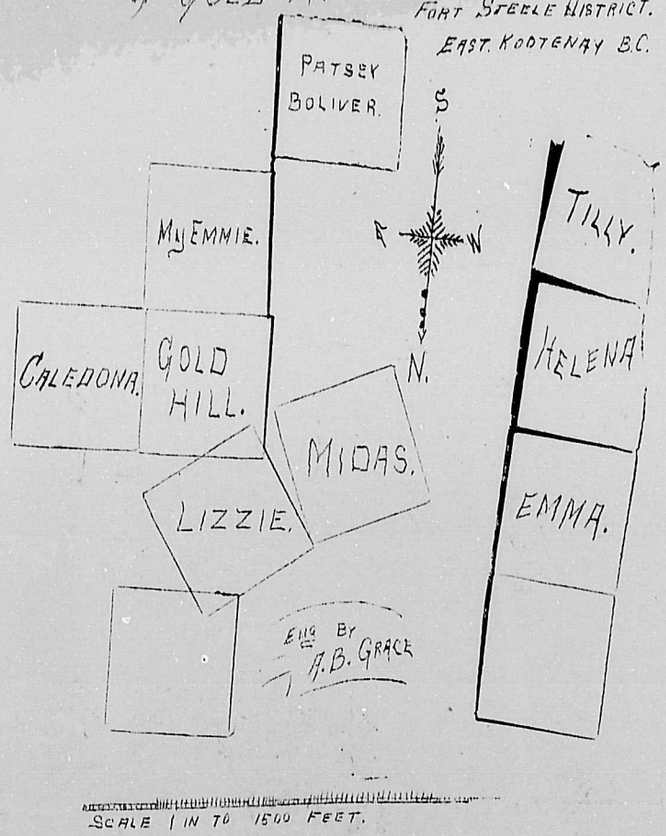
DALGARDNO HOUSE FORT STEELE B.C.



PEN SKETCHES BY A B GRACE



THE GOLD HILL LEDGE.



THE GOLD HILL PROPERTY.

This immense body of mineral, was discovered in July last, by H.L.Amme and Chas.Elwood. the property is located on Boulder creek, a tributary of Wild Horse creek. The ledge is a gold bearing quartz, about 160 feet in width, and is exposed the entire length of the claim.in fact the ledge is exposed on three sides, And rises up the mountain by a series of layers, or steps some 12 to 20 feet in height. The ledge prospects well in gold, and some 3.000 square feet of the ledge has been sampled, and the assays shows that it will average $ 3.90 to the ton. And there is a strip of some 60 feet in the center of the ledge that assays as high as $ 8. to the ton. and it is hard work to find a piece of quartz on this lead that does not contain gold. No work has been done on the claim to speak of, the owners have cut a trail from the creek to the mine. also cut and cleared an old game trail from Wild Horse creek to the East fork of Boulder. This prospect can be easily worked, as there is plenty timber, and water near the mine, and it is only 3.000 feet from the creek to the mine. and there is quartz enough in sight to keep a 100 stamps running day and night for many years. It is quite easy to estimate the amount of quartz in sight, into tons, and You will find that it is over a 1.000.000. tons. A party in Butte, Montana has made a proposition to the owners, which has not been accepted. Mr, Cronan manager of the StEugene mine, was engaged by the parties to sample the mine, but was unable to do so, on account of the lateness of the season, and the snow.

The extension to gold hill on the south, is the MyEmmie. located by O.S.Frizzel, There is quite a good showing of mineral on this claim. It has four foot ledge exposed, cutting the formation at right angles, and prospects well in gold.

The extension of Gold Hill on the north is the Lizzie, located by A.B.Grace. but little of the ledge is exposed on this claim, but there is sufficient to show that there is a large body of mineral underlaying the surface. A small spring issuing from the mountain at the south end line flows over a solid bed of quartz.

The Midas, is west of the Lizzie, located by Harry Brown, this claim has also a good showing of quartz.

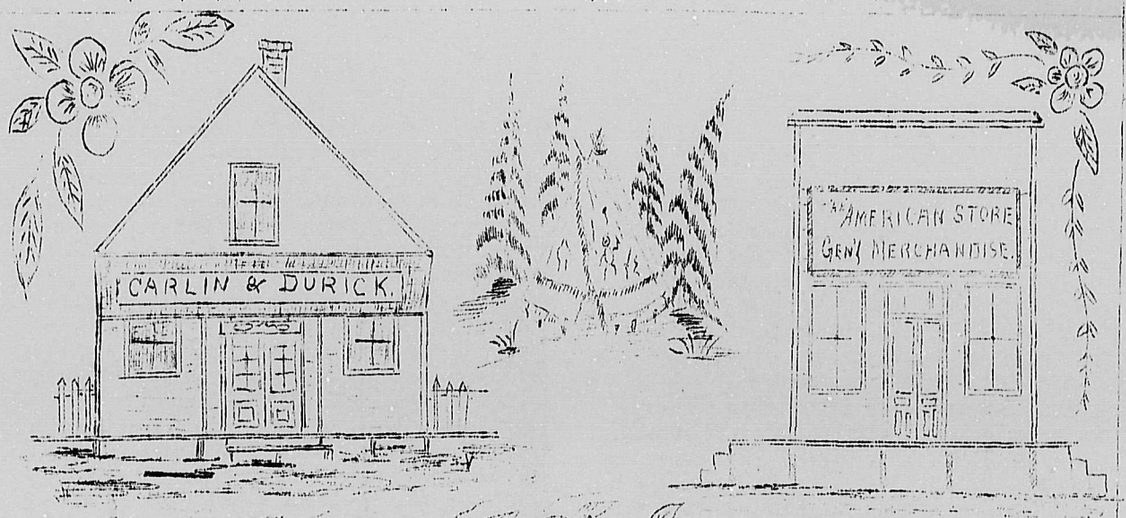
The Patsey Boliver is the highest claim in the group, and is situated on and runs parallel with the ridge, there is a good ledge , of 15 feet on this claim. it was located by Harry O,Donsghee

The Boston Girl, is another good prospect located by H.L.Amme and is situated on the north side of the creek. it has a three foot lead,which carries $ 46.00 in gold and silver to the ton. The ledge has solid granite walls, and can be traced for six hundred feet,

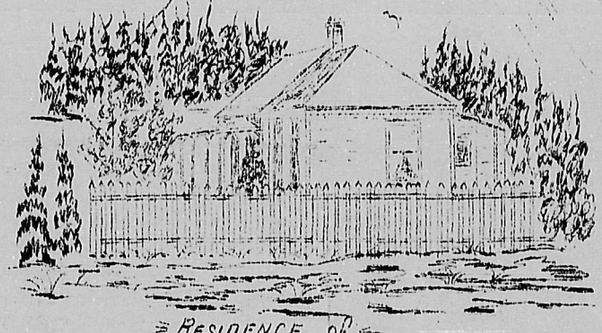
Mr,W.M.Sprague and parties representing the International Placer Mining Co, have five locations west of Gold Hill. They have a six foot lead on these claims.

Read the PROSPECTOR and then Subscribe for it.

THE PROSPECTOR. SUPPLEMENT.



A MERRY XMAS

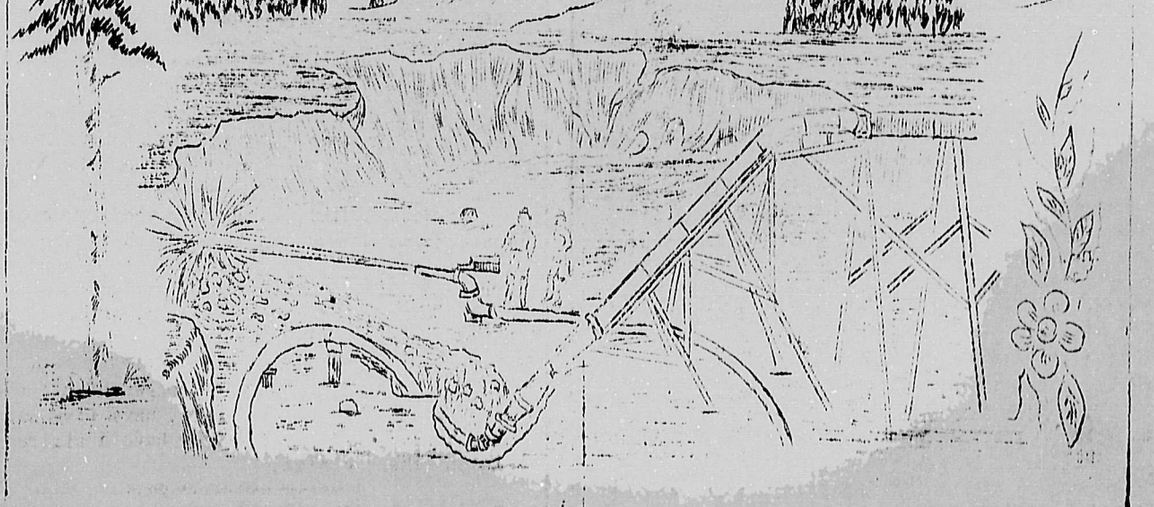


RESIDENCE OF
Mr. N. H. WALLINGER FORT STEELE B.C.

PEN SKETCHES.
BY
A. B. GRACE.

TO ALL

PLACER MINING ON WILD HORSE CREEK EAST KOOTENAY B.C.



FORT STEELE MINING DIVISION,

EAST KOOTENAY DISTRICT.

The Fort Steele mining division, of East Kootenay district, comprises a large tract of country, lying in the extreme South East corner of British Columbia. bounded on the South by the International Boundary. On the East, by Alberta, one of the N.W.Territories. On the West, by the district of West Kootenay. And on the North, by the water-shed, between the waters of the Columbia and Kootenay rivers. The main valley, which is from five to fifteen miles in width, is formed from the Kootenay river, which flows in a south easterly direction for 120 miles through the district, separating the Rockies, from the Purcell range of mountains. The intervening country, consisting of bottom lands, interspersed with hay meadows, which lay along the banks of the river, and its numerous tribuatries. while rolling bunch grass hills, sparly timbered with fir, yellow pine and tamarac, extend back to the foot of the mountains, affording every facility for horse and cattle ranching. also farming on a small scale. But it is well to bear in mind, that the prosperity of this district depends entirely on the development of its mineral wealth. the possession of which has been proved now, beyond a shadow of a doubt. and it is only a matter of time, and we believe a short time at that, when this portion of British Columbia will take its place among the great mineral producing regions of the continent. A great change has taken place within the last year, we have now several Ore producing mines. fresh locations, and new discoveries are being made, development work is being pushed forward with much more zeal and vigor on the different mineral belts. showing up valuable deposits of gold, silver and copper. The most important being what is known as the North Star group, discovered in the summer of 1892. It was purchased by D.D.Mann of Montreal, who formed a company for the purpose of developing it; at present they have about thirty men employed getting out ore, extracting from 25 to 30 tons a day. and expect to have over 3,000 tons ready for shipment in the spring. The property consisting of four 1500 foot claims, situate about 20 miles N.W. of Fort Steele. being an immense body of steel galena. The work extends over 400 feet of the lode, and one drift shows solid galena and carbonates for the remarkable width of 65 feet, Assays run from 47 ozs to 85 ozs in silver, with 67 % lead. Quite lately a small stringer was struck assaying as high as 287 ozs in silver.

In the same neighborhood, about a couple of miles to the north, we come to the Sullivan group. which was discovered about a week after the North Star. a great deal of development work has been done on this property exposing to view 16 feet of solid galena. between these two groups and in the vicinity, about forty claims have been staked off, on many of which ore has been struck. A wagon road has been from the North Star, to the Kootenay river, over which a number of teams will be employed during the winter hauling ore.

Fort Steele, the distributing point for the district, is situate on a bench over looking the Kootenay, at its confluence with the St,Mary's river and Wild Horse Creek. steamers ply on the river between Fort Steele and Jennings Mont. on the Great Northern R.R. and connect with steamers from Golden on the C.P.R.R. it will quite likely become a place of importance in the near future as the mines in the vicinity are developed, Up Wild Horse creek, about five miles from Fort Steele, is the old Kootenay placer camp out of which millions of dollars in gold dust have been taken, two companies are at present engaged in hydraulic mining, besides some Chinamen. It is a picturesque spot, with its ancient buildings, Chinese quarters and old Graveyard. surrounded bypiles of debris, bare bedrock and high cut banks, showing the immense amount of work that has been done in the past, during the palmy days when gold could be got in plenty just for the digging. and without doubt, there is still a large extent of ground to be washed over, which will pay well for the trouble. But the chief interest, from now on will center in the Gold quartz properties in the vicinity, as numerous claims have been staked off on the main stream, and its tributaries. development work, and assay returns show that there are valuable deposits of gold quartz within a radius of four or five miles of the old placer camp, which are only waiting for Capital, and labor to be worked to advantage. Following the mountains north from Wild Horse, a mineral belt extends for a distance of about thirty miles, there are numerous outcrops with good indications over which locations have been made, Among which may be mentioned the Wasa group. where considering the work that has been donethere is a good showing of mineral, proving the existence of a valuable deposit of Gold, Silver and copper. Returning to Wild Horse, and taking a southern course, we are still in the same mineral belt, at intervals of two or three miles, locations have been made. the most important being the Dibble group, situate in a gulch of the Rocky Mountains about ten miles in an easterly direction from Fort Steele. it was discovered by James Dibble and two other men in the fall of 1890. the ore is a gray copper, carrying Gold, and antimonial Silver, numerous assays have been made, showing that the ore which could be shipped assays 300 ozs in silver, $54, in Gold, and 12 % copper. A working bond, has been taken on the property by some Montana mining men, contracts have been let for the extraction of ore, to be ready for shipment in the spring. The outcrop follows along the face of the mountain a distance of about 40 miles from Fort Steele crossing Bull river, and Sand creek, at each of these points numerous locations have been made, which have every appearance of turning out well, assays show that the ore carries Copper and gold in considerable quantities. Returning to Fort Steele and taking a westerly course, we strike into the mineral belt of the Purcell range. following the St,Marys river which joins the Kootenay at Fort Steele, we pass through a partially wooded country, interspersed with open prairies for fifteen miles before reaching the mountains, through this section placer digging was carried on to some extent during the old days. but of late years little attention has been paid to it, although it is thought there are spots which would well repay any labor expended on them. During the summer, quartz ledges carrying gold have been discovered crossing the river in various places and have been traced back into the open prairie country. nothing can be said as to their value, with the exception that there is no doubt that they are well defined ledges, and give promising returns in gold. Away up the St,Marys river, and its branches, not far from the summit is a mineral belt which can be traced for thirty miles, carrying copper, silver, gold and lead, about 75 locations have been made in this section but very little development work has been done in consequence of its inaccessibility at the

present time, Trails have been cut in for some distance ,from both sides of the mountains, leaving a fraction yet to finish., which it is hoped that the Government will carry through next year. On Perry creek which joins the St,Marys about ten miles from Fort Steele, are old placer diggings which have been worked for years, a Company has control of a great deal of the ground, but a few individual miners still get out quite a little gold every season, From here across some low mountains to the Moyea river and its branches are several well defined ledges of gold quartz, on the Moyea river there is a company engaged in hydraulic mining, and have been for years. they meet with fair success, and there is no doubt, there is other ground which could be worked to advantage.on the Moyea and near the source of some of its branches, are quartz ledges carrying gold in paying quantities, it is expected that before long work will be commenced on some of them. Following down the Moyea river to the lake of the same name, on the east bank of the lower lake, is situated what may be considered one of the most valuable mineral properties in the district, distant about thirty miles from FortSteele traversed by the old Walla Walla pack trail, it was discovered in the year 1893 . the ledge can be traced from the lake to the top of the mountain a distance of a mile, the original discovery was made on the precipitous face of a cliff some 2.500 feet above the surface of the lake. it is at this point where the principal amount of development work has been done. Messers Finch & Cronan have ten men employed in getting out ore for shipment, They have at present about 800 tons of ore on the dump, 200 tons assaying 58 ozs in silver& 70 % lead, 600 tons assaying 65 ozs in silver, with the same percentage of lead. A tunnel has been run in following the lead for a distance of 100 feet showing a width of 2 to 6 1/2 feet of solid galena, widening out into chambers of greater width, The ledge has been striped , and can be traced for 800 feet on the surface. They are now running another tunnel and expect in less than a month to tap the ore shute at a depth of 120 feet below the present works. They are six claims in this group,all having ore in sight, and there is no doubt, that in a year or two the B.C.Southern R.R. (which will pass through this property) is completed, this will be a flourishing mining camp.

The formation in which this outcrop occurs, is similar to the country rock in the vicinity of the North Star, and it seems probable that both groups are situate on the same mineral belt, in fact allowing for the dip of the vein, and the contour of the mountains, the formation can be traced right across the country from one to the other, therefore there is every reason to believe that many more discoveries will be made, not only in this section of the country, but all over the district; as there is large and extensive tracts remaining yet to be explored. prospectors having confined themselves principly to places which were most accessible. But a year or two will make a change, as everything seems now to indicate that we are on the eve of an era of prosperity in mining matters, ore producing mines are being worked, which will necessitate the building of two or three more steamboats for transporting the ore, it will also hurry the construction of the B.C.Southern R.R. which will run through the heart of this section of country, besides opening those immense Coal Fields on Elk river in the Crow's Nest Pass, These coal deposits have been traced for upwards of 40 miles through the S.E portion of the district,

There are numerous seams overlaying each other, cropping out along the face of the mountains, between alternate ledges of sandstone, There are eleven seams, varying in width from 4 to 30 feet in thickness, all making a total of 148 feet of coal exposed, the lower seam being 1500 feet above the level of the valley, the coal has been proved to be of first class quality; and when the property is opened op, will be the most valuable deposit of coal on the Continent.

Then in a few years, when busy mining camps are established all over the district, and we have Railway Communication with the outside world, This valley will be one of the wealthiest portions not only of British Columbia, but of North America. Then with our valuable mineral deposits of Gold, Silver,Copper and Lead. Our immense fields of coal, combined with large tracts of grazing and farming lands, the boundless supply of timber, the water power supplied by the mountain streams. There is no doubt of the future prosperity of FORT STEELE district of EAST KOOTENAY, B.C.

A WEEKLY MAIL.

The time has past and gone when a mail once in two weeks will do for Fort Steele. Our Mining Interests, Mercantile Business and our Population is increasing to a large extent. and all business should be attended to with dispatch, But how to dispatch business with a mail once in two weeks is beyond us. Officials, Mining and other business men, receive important messages relative to their business, Papers to be recorded and returned, other matters of business that cannot be done in a day, or in the short time between the arrival and the closing of the mail. The result is a delay of two weeks, A loss of business to the Merchant, to the Official a reprimand, to the Mining man a sale lost, or a bond bond forfeited and all on account of the mail of once in two weeks. In these days of energy and push, despatch is required in all business if we wish to succeed, but life is too short to do business with a mail once in two weeks.

A communication should be directed to our Dominion Represnetative urging the necessities of Fort Steele as to mail matters, and if placed before him in a just and forcible manner, we have no doubt that we shall have at least a weekly mail.

The following letter tells its own tale.

Kettle Falls Wash.
Dec 1st 95.

A.B.Grace Esq
Fort Steele B.C.

Dear Sir. Your welcome little visitor arrived yesterday, (the Prospector) and I was surprised when I opened it, and well pleased I assure you; I consider it a great credit to you to get up as good a paper under the circumstances, You have started in the right direction and with your maps will do more to advertise that country than anything that has been done heretofore. the steamers are increasing quite fast, I guess it is all right, but they will need about three to pull the fourth one off the bar if the Hon, Board dont do something on the river. I dont want to miss any number and i want to be sure and get the maps as i want to show them to others that i wish to get interested in that country. Kindest regards to all.

J.T.S==

Dont forget the mining association meeting.

CARLIN & DURICK,

Successors to

Carlin & Lake, Fort. Steele B.C.

DEALERS in CLOTHING,

GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

Agents for SLATER & SON's
Celebrated SHOES.

MINING SUPPLIES.

UPPER COLUMBIA Navigation and Tramway Co

EXPRESS through rate 5¢ per pound.

FREIGHT,

Golden to Fort Steele, Class A $3,00.
Class B, $2.50.
Class C. $2.00.
Class D. $1.50.

T.B.H.Cochrane, Pres. F.P.Armstrong Manager.

The STEELE HOUSE.

The OLDEST and BEST HOTEL in FORT STEELE.

Strictly First Class.

Free Sample Room for Commercial Men.

Chas, Levett, Prop.

COWELL & WALLINGER.

ASSAYERS &

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