

MATHINNA, 7th December, 1904.

THE TURNER PROSPECTING ASSOCIATION.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with your wish I have examined and carefully sampled the ore body exposed on your property, and herewith submit the following report thereon :—

Situation and Area.—The property is situate about three-quarters of a mile south of the New Golden Gate mine and on a continuation of the same spur, the Miner's Dream and South Miner's Dream intervening. The area is 18 acres, 8 acres being leased, and 10 acres held under prospector's license.

Workings.—An adit has been driven easterly into the spur 70ft., passing through a huge ore body 45ft. wide, coursing north and south and underlying east at an angle of 15deg., composed principally of sandstone interspersed with small quartz leaders containing fair prospects of gold. In driving through the ore body 23 tons taken indiscriminately were sent to the battery, returning 6½dwts. per ton. The ore body has been driven on north 18ft., also a winze has been sunk 12ft. below adit level and a drive put in south 45ft., each being through lode matter of similar character and quality to that passed through in adit, and the gold is still continuing each end. The last few feet driven in the adit has been in clean country rock, and a few feet back where the hanging wall was met there is unmistakable evidence regarding both the course and underlay of the ore body. The adit being only some 20ft. vertically above the bed of Black Horse Gully, facilities for driving a lower adit do not exist. I would therefore recommend that a shaft large enough for any future requirements be sunk on the ore body to a depth of 100ft., where I have no doubt the ore will be found to be quite equal to its present value, in which case a battery could with confidence be at once procured and erected, when a good margin of profit could not fail to be the result. There is all kinds of mining timber convenient to the mine, also a good site for both battery and dam close to the tunnel mouth.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE WEBB.

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JOHN TURNER.

SIR,

In compliance with your request I have visited and inspected the sections known as Turner's, and herewith please find my report thereon.

These sections, the area being 18 acres, are situated south of and about three-quarters of a mile from the New Golden Gate, with the Miner's Dream and South Miner's Dream between, and on the same spur of country leading down into Mathinna. The workings consist of a tunnel driven into the hill 70ft. in an easterly direction, crossing the lode at right angles. The lode has a north and south strike with an eastern underlay, and is dipping into the hill at an angle of 45deg. The lode material is made up of numerous quartz boulders in a decomposed sandstone, and is carrying free gold. Within a few feet from the approach of the tunnel a winze has been sunk 12ft. and a drive put in south 45ft., this drive in lode formation the whole way, and fairly good prospects of gold can be obtained from any part of it. A few feet further on in the tunnel a drive has been put in north for 18ft. in lode material; good payable prospects can also be obtained from here, and as the faces of these north and south drives are 60ft. apart the shoot of gold is known to be that number of feet long, and how much longer subsequent prospecting will prove. Twenty-three tons of crush taken from these drives were put through the Volunteer battery under my direction, and yielded 6dwts 18grs. per ton. The face of the tunnel at a distance of 70ft. left off in solid settled country, and the point where the lode matter ceases being very clearly defined, the lode showing a width of 54ft. from wall to wall.

These workings are situated almost at the foot of the hill, and putting in another tunnel would not give sufficient backs to warrant this being done. I would therefore advise that a main shaft be sunk on the underlay of the lode, and in about the centre of the body. This shaft to be 12ft. by 4ft., securely timbered, with three compartments (two working and one travelling), and sunk to a depth of 100ft. Cross-cuts could be put in east and west, and the width of the lode material proved at this depth. The distinct advantage of sinking this shaft in the lode and on its underlay would be that the material drawn out would probably defray the cost of the work, or partly so, and there would be no danger of going off the shoot of gold; the hauling could be done by erecting a whim or small steam winch.

From the almost entire absence of water in the Golden Gate Mine at 1,500ft., I do not think there is anything to fear in that direction. There is an abundant supply of firewood close at hand, and a dam could be constructed very cheaply that would give a supply of water for all purposes all the year round.

I made a close examination of this immense body of crushing material, and I feel sure that if the above recommendations are carried out, and a suitable crushing plant erected to treat it in large quantities, that, although a low grade proposition, it will pay handsomely. The tremendous amount of tonnage that would be available by sinking 100ft. would warrant the erection of a crushing plant as soon as the sink was completed.

In conclusion, I have no hesitation in recommending this property to the attention of the mining speculating public generally, as the immense ore body carrying payable gold is really surprising, and I do not see any reason why it should not be turned to profitable account.

Yours faithfully,

W. G. GOOD,

General Manager Volunteer G.M. Co., N.L.

Mathinna, 14th November, 1904.