Valdez, Alaska,
January 30th, 1915.

Mr. Edwin Eckern,
Valdez, Alaska.

Dear Sir:

On your request I have examined a group of claims owned by Charles H. Wetzler of Valdez, Alaska, and beg to submit the following report.

LOCATION.

The Wetzler Group consisting of six lode mineral claims, is situated on Mineral Creek, about five miles North of Valdez Bay.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The section of country traversed by Mineral Creek is very mountainous, rising abruptly from the valley to an elevation of approximately five thousand feet. The valley of Mineral Creek extending from Valdez Bay to the property averages about one-half mile in width with a very low gradient. The elevation of Mineral Creek at the property does not exceed two hundred feet above sea level. Mineral Creek furnished sufficient water for milling requirements at the mine, and if sufficient head can be obtained farther up, this water could be used for power purposes. The Gdvernment report states that a few hundred horse-power could be obtained from the East fork of Mineral Creek.

ACCESSABILITY.

A wagon road extends from the beach to within a half-mile of the mine. The actual condition of this road

in the summer could not be judged at the time of examination as the ground was covered with snow. During the winter months transportation would be ideal.

There is a good shore-front for shipping at the mouth of Mineral Creek. A wharf which was built there is partially destroyed and would need repairing if any heavy freighting should be done.

GEOLOGY.

The geology of the Mineral Creek section is similar to that generally found in the Prince William Sound District. The rocks consist largely of slates and graywackes. These sedimentary series strike roughly East West and dip at varying angles to the North. These rocks in many places have been highly altered, forming schists and other altered phases of the normal sedimentaries. This alteration is shown on the Wetzler property by the presence of a wide zone of crushed material, having an average dip of about forty five degrees North.

ORE SHOWING.

The occurance of gold is very general in the Mineral Creek section which contains many properties of considerable promise. The gold occurs free, and associated with pyrite, in quartz veins. Thesevveins are generally small and are in some cases reported to be very rich.

On the property in question the values are not confined to a narrow quartz vein but occur in a zone of crushed slate. This zone is traversed by a net-work of narrow quartz stringers making up from ten to twenty per cent of the entire lode. The width of this zone on the surface could not be ascertained on account of snow, but it is said by the owner that it averages forty feet and that it

is traceable for several thousand feet. The underground work tends to bear out the statement of the owner regarding the size of the lode, which statement is probably true, but the value of this property will not depend alone upon the size of the mineral zone, but upon the amount of commercial ore contained in the zone.

WORK DONE.

The chief work done on the property consists of two tunnels driven on the lode from near the botton of Mineral Creek on either side, where the creek cuts across the mineral zone. The tunnel on the East side is about seventy-five feet long and that on the West about one hundred and ten feet long. The owner claims that some surface work has been done to trace the continuation of the zone, but this could not be seen.

The rock in both tunnels consists of crushed slate with many quartz stringers traversing it in various directions. No walls of a definite or limiting character were found in this work, and it is probable that no definite walls exist.

VALUES.

Ten samples were taken from the tunnels, five from each. These samples were taken across the full width of the tunnel at intervals of fifteen feet in Tunnel Number 1, and at intervals of twenty feet in Tunnel Number 2, with the exception of sample Number 6, which was taken along the tunnel from the entrance to the turn, as this part crosscuts the zone of mineralization. The exact position of each of the following samples may be seen by referring to the accompanying sketch.

| Sample | Gold, Ozs. | Value per ton. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0.80 | $16.00 |
| 2 | 0.36. | 7.20 |
| 3 | 0.40 | 8.00 |
| 4 | 0.10 | 2.00 |
| 5 | Trace | Trace |
| 6 | 0.06 | 1.20 |
| 7 | 0.08 | 1.60 |
| 8 | 0.84 | 16.80 |
| 9 | 0.62 | 12.40 |
| 10 | Trace | Trace |

Average value per ton of all samples - - - - - - - - - - $6.52

CONCLUSION.

The limited amount of investigation possible at the present time points to the fact that this property has promise of becoming a mine. If the average values of the mineralized zone prove to be equal to the average value of the samples taken, I.E., $6.52 per ton, and if no refractory elements interfere with the gold recovery in milling, the property will make a paying mine.

It is evident that the small amount of work done cannot in fairness be taken to represent the average of the lode, so before any definite statements can be made regarding either values, tonnage or amenability to treatment of the ore present, a great deal more work should be done and other investigations made.

There are no engineering difficulties to overcome in providing for transportation or in preparing for the mining and milling operations. Before going to the expense of elaborate equipment ten thousand dollars, or fifteen thousand dollars, should be intelligently spent in the further exploration of the property, and if this work proves tonnage and values equal to those indicated in the present work, the property will be one that can be freely recommended as a profitable investment.

Respectfully submitted,

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