

are always reworked at a considerable profit on the removal of a mill. Mines are hardly ever tested unless they show a good deal of visible gold. Yet it is recorded that a lode at Oldham, showing no gold, yielded six ounces to the ton in a mill. J. A. Phillips said that the Nova Scotian lodes were richer in visible gold than those which he had seen in any part of the world. Cases have been known of mines in the Western United States having been "salted" with Nova Scotia specimens. Of bonanzas, that at Carribou, where a slope 40 feet long, 120 feet deep, on a small lode, gave 12,000 ounces, and one recently struck at Oldham 30½ tons from which yielded 875 ounces, may be cited. There can be no doubt that gold mining in this province has, on the whole, been very profitable, as since there is a tax in proportion to the amount of gold produced, the output recorded is not likely to be overrated, but on the other hand, the returns of work done by which many of the claims are held, and which therefore are not likely to be too low, show a cost of £1,300,000. All titles are registered in the Crown Office, mining leases and licenses being held direct from the Government, and are perfectly secure as long as the lessee complies with certain very simple conditions.

What the mining industry requires is enterprising capitalists; the workmen themselves have no superiors. Mines cannot be made in hard rock without the expenditure of some capital first. One of the great advantages of the mining districts is the number of lodes lying parallel and generally within two or three feet of one another, so that a company with plenty of capital has several strings to its bow. Large lodes or "belts" of lodes exist holding 10 to 40 feet of ore. Shafts cost on the average 30s. to 50s. per foot; tunnels 10s. to 35s. per foot. Milling by waterpower costs 3s. and by steam 5s. The actual cost per ton altogether is 80s. in a 3-inch lode, 18s. in a foot lode, and 10s. in a 4-foot lode.—*Mining Journal*.

**SOUTH UNIAKKE.**—There are now two properties being worked in this district each having its own crusher viz., the Withrow and the Eastville, the latter owned by Messrs. Thompson and Quirk.

The Withrow, which lies west of the Eastville mine, has become quite a noted gold producer, and is, we are given to understand, about changing hands at a high figure.

But the mine that is now attracting the most attention is the Thompson & Quirk property, the yield of gold being unusually large—the average per ton of quartz crushed being not less than 20 oz. There are nine areas in this property, the main gold bearing lead being from 8 to 12 inches thick and growing richer and wider as it is worked east. This property has a great future as it contains other leads, notably the slate a 14 inch lead to the south of the lead now being worked and good for 3 oz. per ton. Directly east of it J. H. Austin and others have a block of six areas, and still further east a block of 50 areas partly cut into by a number of areas owned by B. Gladwin. The six area block is a most promising property, as the principal leads on the Thompson-Quirk property pass through it and have been cut at the surface. A little judicious work here will almost certainly result in developing a valuable mine, as the main lead on the Thompson & Quirk property grows wider and richer as it approaches the eastern boundary, and although to strike this pay streak on the Austin areas about 160 feet will have to be sunk on the lead, still there is every justification for the outlay, as the pay streak once reached a fortune will result. Then other pay streaks may be met with so that there is every encouragement to the owners to open up their property in good miner-like shape. In fact we know of no better prospect. The slate lead is also on this property, and has also been tapped by Mr. Neilly on his areas away east, proving the continuity of the leads of the district.

**SHERBROOKE.**—The Blaikie Gold Mining Company are working steadily on the old Rockville property. The whin lead mentioned in my last report is looking well, and the west shaft has been pushed down about ten feet. The July crushing from this shaft only yielded two or three penny weights per ton. A trial crushing of six tons last week showed an increase to six penny weights per ton. Since my last report a belt of leads has been cut about fifty feet to the north-west of the whin lead shaft. The leads are five in number, and about two-thirds of the six foot belt is crushing stuff. The shaft is only a few feet in the rock, and so far the belt looks very well. One lead in particular carries very coarse heavy gold.

The Coburg Company have unwatered their shaft, but I have not yet heard how the ore looks.

According to all accounts Country Harbor is the coming district in the Eastern part of the province. The latest reports are that the ore looks richer than ever. The lead is maintaining its size, and I hear that other parties who are prospecting on the same belt, are meeting with most favorable indications.

**NICKEL MINING NOTES FROM THE SUDBURY DISTRICT.**—Mr. James Stobie, of Sudbury, some time ago made terms for the sale of his three nickel locations in Levesque to an English syndicate for \$119,000 and a royalty of twenty-five cents per ton on the ore, of which it is understood 200 tons per day was to be raised as a minimum. The sale fell through after the syndicate had paid \$7,500 cash and expended another \$7,000 in development and tests, objection being taken, it is understood, to the high rate of royalty. Mr. Stobie now holds the three properties at \$250,000 without royalty.

Mr. John Ferguson, manager of the Dominion Mineral Company, gives the following explanation regarding the closing down temporarily of the Blezard mine (which I mentioned in my last letter), viz.: that pending changes in the organization, caused by some European capitalists having bought a large amount of stock, required a temporary cessation of work on

the property until the new management is appointed and other necessary arrangements made. The present owners of the D. M. Co. will be a part of the new proprietary which will run the works on a large scale. It is quite possible that under the new arrangement the ore may not only be smelted but refined on the premises. It is probable that operations will be renewed in the mine early next spring. A correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* says that the mine has been sold to a British syndicate for \$2,000,000. The plant will be increased and the most modern machinery and appliances introduced so that operations will be carried on on a much more extensive scale next spring. Less than five years ago, according to this authority, the property was offered to a Toronto syndicate for \$23,000, but before the sale to the British syndicate, enough metal was sold from the property to recoup the owners their entire expenditure for property, machinery and development.

The price of nickel has advanced from forty-eight to sixty-eight cents per pound on account of the recent successful experiments with nickel steel by the American Government.

The Sault Ste Marie Nickel Mining and Agency Company appointed a provisional directorate last week and until the annual meeting which will be held in January next. The company claim to own several promising nickel locations in the Sudbury and Sault districts.

The Drury Nickel Mining Company have about a hundred men at work erecting a smelter and buildings on their location in Drury.

The Pipe Lake Nickel Mining Company have put a diamond drill at work on their property about four miles from Walford, on the Sault branch of the C. P. R. Mr. Robert Forbes, an experienced miner, is president of the company.

The Straight Lake Mining Company, Ltd., has been organized with a capital stock of \$300,000, the promoters being Dr. D. G. Gordon, Dr. A. R. Gordon, R. T. Howard, O. M. Arnold, H. Vigeeon, S. H. Baker, and James Madill, all of Toronto. The purposes of the incorporation are to acquire lands and carry on mining works.—*The Financial and Mining Record*.

**POSITIVE, COMPARATIVE, SUPERLATIVE LIARS.**—There used to be a saying current in Lincoln's Inn years ago of a judge who recognized three degrees in liars: the liar simple, the d—d liar, and the expert witness. The point lies in the fact that expert witnesses are allowed to give evidence as to what is their opinion, and hence are out of the reach of an indictment for perjury, which always hangs over the head of an ordinary witness, who can testify to the fact only. There is another version which is of interest, namely the three degrees of liars, which are said to be the liar, the d—d liar and the mining engineer.—*Notes and Queries*.

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