

WHITEBURN.—Very rich ore was taken out this week from the leads on the Whiteburn Mining Co's. property.

The West mine tributors are likely to have a good return this month when they clean up.

Mr. Conant, who is at work east of the Royal mine, is feeling much pleased at the sights the men are taking out of his mine.

The crushing mill of the Whiteburn Co., which has been under repairs for some time, started again on Thursday.

WEST CALEDONIA.—At West Caledonia, Messrs. Willis and Dolliver, with a crew of men, are now energetically prospecting a number of areas on their property. They have erected a house and stable, and made sufficient repairs on the road leading from Bernard McGinty's into the mine to make it passable. So far they have sunk a number of shafts along the property line at different points, and are now cutting across the property. The surface varies from nine to fifteen feet, which, together with the water, makes progress difficult. The prospects look encouraging, and they are in great hopes of striking it rich before very long. The district bears a good name, and some very rich boulders have been found there, and if the company have sand enough to hang it out, no doubt a bonanza awaits them in the near future.

A brick of gold weighing 185 ounces was the result of the cleaning up of the Molega gold mining company for October.

The Boston gold mining company, of Molega, deposited a 200 ounce brick of gold on Nov. 24th with the Halifax Banking Co. at Bridgewater, the result of last month's work.

MOLEGA ITEMS.—We are pleased to state that the famous Malaga Mine, under the able management of Mr. Alfred Wade, gave a fine return this month, and promises to pan out in the coming month equal if not better than in her booming days.

The Boston M'g Co. cleaned up this week, satisfactory to all concerned. This company are erecting an air compressor which they intend having in working order within a few days.

Work on the Fiske Block, under the management of Mr. Chas. K. McLeod, is progressing favorably. This mine has a good showing of the precious metal, and the owners contemplate pushing their developments this winter. We do not hesitate to say that we believe they have a bonanza.

The Parker & Douglas mine has closed down for the winter. President Parker has returned to his home in Philadelphia. Mr. Parker will be much missed by not only his social friends, but also amongst those who have ever been ready to help him build up his native county, Queens. May success attend him in his future undertakings.

Mr. Roderick McLeod, general manager of the P. & D. Co., and who has a large interest in the North Brookfield mine, intends visiting abroad this winter.

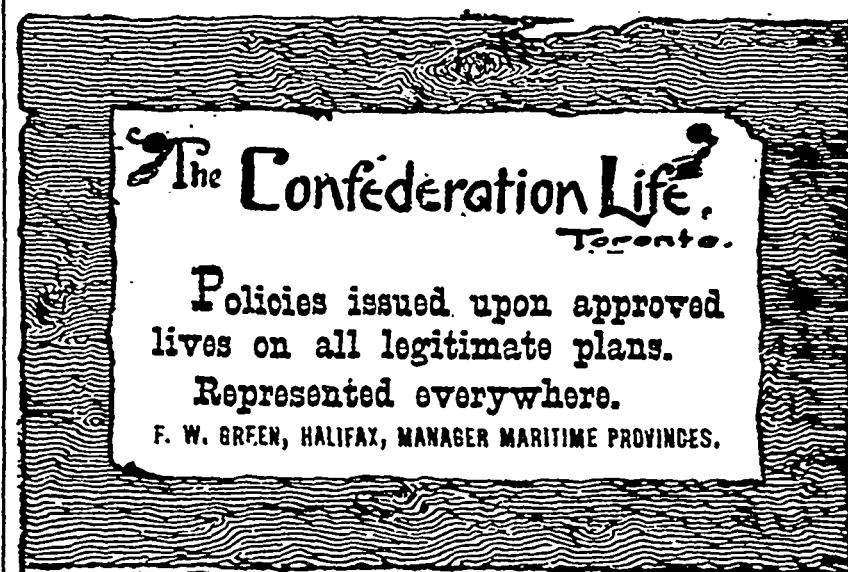
Messrs. John Taull and Chas. McClair have commenced prospecting on the McLeod lead situated on the Western end of the P. & D. They mean business, having erected an engine to do their pumping. They will give it a thorough test. Just here we would suggest the subject of leasing idle ground to the miner who has pluck to develop his mine before placing it on the market for sale.—*Gold Hunter.*

OUR MINES.—Taking the run of Nova Scotia newspapers, there appears to be more written of the gold mines of the Province, by those who in one way or another take an interest in them, than of the coal and iron mines, by those who consider the last to be the back-bone of the country's resources. Reasoning from analogy and bearing in mind that history repeats itself, coal and iron seem to promise the most prosperity. A writer, a few years since, compared the state of Ireland and Scotland up to a certain time in their history, and said, in substance, that both countries prospered about alike, until their respective populations had grown to such numbers as farm products and other natural sources of food supply of each country could maintain. When the populations exceeded those limits, a time of want and discontent followed, which was partly relieved by emigration, but still prevailed so much in Ireland as to make it a proverbially unhappy country.

After trying for a time to make "ends meet," Scotland began to make use of its coal and iron, opening up new employments for the people and starting on a course of increasing prosperity. For a long time the paths, as it were, of the two countries have been in widely different directions, and they have occupied different international plans; the one helpful and hopeful, the other despondent and troublesome, kept in such a condition, as he thought, by its limited advantages. Enticing as gold mining is, it goes without saying that the business lacks the stability of some other industries. The deposits are apt to play, "Now you see me and now you don't," and are not to be depended upon like the coal and iron beds which lie to the north and east, convenient to railway and shipping. In those northern counties, in all natural probability, are all the elements of natural wealth which made Scotland prosperous; here lies the great and handy motive power, and to that it is reasonable to conclude, must inevitably come the work of a large area of North American country. There was a time, by the way of illustration, when the gothic farms, (as Bill Nye calls them,) of the hilly regions of New England and Canada fed its inhabitants, but cheap transportation made profitable wheat cultivation, especially, a financial impossibility. In spite of the efforts of state and provincial governments, of the endeavors of business men to stem the tide of emigration, and of the influences of home ties, the great change of population from east to west took place, and along the line of great natural and commercial laws. No

one can escape the evidences that, through railways, telegraphs and telephones, trade and commerce are fast becoming an open book. One person knows about as much as another, margins are being reduced, and profits rest on nicely adjusted balances, and a small thing turns the scale. Coal is fast becoming the leader among the raw material kings, and will soon be of too much importance to be moved. Just as wheat, in a figure, found its way out west, and struck its roots down to congenial food in prairie soil, so many lines of manufacturing work may be expected to come to the coal fields and strike their roots deep to reach the motive power. The northern coal fields may be expected to divide the intervening country with the western fields and the change of base seems to be an inevitable event of the future. In contrasting the shady progress of towns in coal mining districts with other towns which have been built up by the more changeable business of shipbuilding, or of lumbering, such reflections as these noted are apt to come unbidden, but are sure to be found crystalized in the current and hopeful talk of the first mentioned places.—*Truro Daily News.*

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