

One of the great drawbacks to the value of the Coal fields of this region, except the mines at Sydney belonging to the General Mining Association of London, has been the want of good harbors sufficiently near—a want which has compelled the expenditure of very large sums of money by the Mining Companies there in operation, for the construction of break-waters and artificial harbors, and has determined the International and other Coal Companies of New York upon the construction of a Railroad from Cow Bay to Sydney Harbor, a distance of over 20 miles, at a probable cost of nearly half a million of dollars.

This Railroad being built by an amalgamation of the interests of the different Coal Companies in that section, viz: the International Coal Company of New York, The Block House Mining Company of New York, the Clyde Company of New York, and a Boston Company represented by Mr. Converse and others, will pass through these Bourinot Claims, and add immensely to their value.

The Little Glace Coal Company of Boston, *whose mines with those of the other Companies above named, are contiguous or nearly so to these Claims*, has spent \$80,000 in gold on the construction of an artificial harbor—still quite inadequate—yet after only three years existence, the great profits of the Little Glace Bay Company enabled them to declare a dividend of over 40 per cent. last year.

But apart from the great advantages accruing to these properties by the construction of the Railroad to Sydney and the opening of that magnificent harbor as a place of shipment, the proprietors of these Claims feel they possess still greater advantages in the existence of False Bay Lake (as per plan,) so near to them, which, as Mr.

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