

A new discovery of silver is now reported to have been made within seventeen miles of the "Rabbit Mountain Mine," which has been styled SILVER MOUNTAIN, and if the description of the location be correct it deserves the title, for we are told that in richness it excels the famous "Rabbit Mountain," and that the lode is sending forth nuggets of black silver weighing sixteen pounds and upwards, while the ore is streaked with silver, native and black.

It is also reported that yet another discovery has been made quite recently within easy distance, by rail, from Port Arthur, and that the ore assays upwards of \$80 in gold, over \$20 in silver, to the ton, and carries free gold.

It is also stated that native mercury has been found in the same district.

Summing up all the general information and actual facts that we have been able to gather from time to time, and from various sources, we cannot but be convinced that the Port Arthur District is destined to develop into one of the richest mining regions in the Dominion. Up to the present time, however, we do not hesitate to say that in our opinion the "Huronian Mine," though not quite so accessible as some of the others, is the most valuable mine that has yet been opened in the district, for the work that has already been accomplished on the lode has been sufficient to prove that, for many years to come, it can be, if carefully managed, a steady producer of ore carrying gold and silver in sufficient quantity to leave a large margin of profit to the shareholders. This company is well organized and controlled by steady-going, practical business men, who are offering no stock for sale and consequently are not desirous of *booming* the property.

### NOVA SCOTIA MINING NOTES.

#### BLUENOSE GOLD MINING COMPANY.

This company, whose property is situated in the Montague district, opened a promising lead last fall, and erected an engine, pump, and other machinery necessary to thoroughly test it. The concentrating mill, which had been burned down, was rebuilt, and experiments were made with a set of Embrey concentrators which solved the problem as to the practicability of re-working Nova Scotia quartz tailings. The workings which have been re-opened by the Bluenose Company are on the site of the old De Wolf Mine, and, after nine months of unsuccessful prospecting and mining, they cleared out the old shaft, eighty feet deep, and sunk it thirty-five feet further, but it is only within the last three months that paying leads have been worked. Of these there are three running parallel and nearly together, one about three inches, another six inches, and a third over eighteen inches wide. Another shaft has since been sunk, and is now about thirty feet deep, and in a third the lead has been struck a short distance from the second. The property is equipped with an eight-stamp mill and a regular series of attachments, quicksilver plates, etc. The Bluenose Mine was visited by a number of the members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, when the lode was showing some handsome nuggets. They were much interested in the company's method of crushing the ore, and expressed themselves highly pleased with what they had seen.

#### COXHEATH COPPER MINING COMPANY.

At this mine, situated near Sidney, Cape Breton, a vein of good ore has been struck in the 190-foot level of shaft No. 2, and, together with the ore already in sight on the 140-foot level, the ability of the mine to permanently keep reduction-works supplied with pay ore is considered settled. The company has adopted the same process for leaching all its ore under 6 per cent. copper as is in profitable use at the Tharsis and Mason & Barry mines in Spain, whose product, in the form of precipitate, is sent to the same market at Swansea, Wales, as the product of the Coxheath mine will be shipped to. The company proposes to erect leaching-works, and is in the market for funds. Up to September 1st, 1884, there had been expended in the enterprise \$141,564.13. July 1st, 1883, the company authorized the issue of \$100,000 first mortgage bonds, bearing 8 per cent. interest. Sixty thousand dollars of these bonds have been placed for cash at par, and the remaining \$40,000 are now to be placed. A stock bonus of 10 shares is to be given with each \$100 bond. Besides the accrued interest on the bonds from July 1st, 1884, the company claims to be able to produce copper at a profit with copper at even a lower price than the present.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING NOTES.

On Sunday morning, 12th Oct., an explosion of gas took place in No. 2 mine, Southfield, in that part of the mine known as the level, and which is being driven for the purpose of connecting No. 2 with No. 1 mine. From what can be gleaned it appears that on the morning in question David Morgan proceeded into the mine and down the slope as far as the entrance of the level, which is covered with a curtain,

when he sat down and awaited the arrival of the fireman, M. J. Price, who arrived shortly afterwards. The fireman was about lighting his safety lamp prior to testing the level for gas when from some cause or another the gas in the level took fire and exploded with considerable violence. Price, Morgan, Macfarland and a Chinaman were knocked down and severely hurt. Dr. Walkem, of East Wellington colliery, and Dr. Davis, Dr. Chinross' assistant, were sent for, by whom the wounds of the unfortunate men were dressed.

The Southfield Mine is a new mine started by the Vancouver Coal Company, about four miles to the south of Nanaimo.

News from the gold mines on Lorne Creek, Skeena River, is very encouraging. Mr. B. W. Washburn, who arrived at Victoria, B.C., from that district on the 16th instant, says that himself and a party of four took from their claim \$3,000 worth of gold in one month. Six or seven claims have been thoroughly worked, and all are doing well, from \$3,000 to \$7,000 being taken out of each claim during the past month. Mr. Washburn has exhibited some nuggets, to the value of \$250, which were coarse pure gold, showing that Lorne Creek is not as worthless as some people predicted it would be. Those claims that have not as yet been properly worked are not doing so well, but still the output is anything but discouraging.

The Indians are still in a troublesome state, but the miners fear no harm from them, as they, the miners, are well armed and prepared to maintain their rights. Mr. Washburn holds the opinion that Lorne Creek abounds in mineral wealth and that a great future is in store for the country thereabouts.

Advices to the *British Colonist*, from Lorne Creek, Skeena River, state that miners are doing well in that region. Forty or fifty men arrived from Victoria during the months of August and September, and a good deal of excitement is felt along the creek. One of the first locators writes that his claim is panning out about an ounce a day to the man. Other creeks in the same region look very favourable and the country will be thoroughly prospected.

For eighteen months the tunnel of the Burns Mountain Mining Company has been steadily progressing and when work was stopped had penetrated 820 feet into the mountain. The object of the tunnel was to strike what is known as the "Luck Cap" ledge from which, in former years, a large amount of gold is said to have been taken by means of a shaft sunk on the ledge for 45 feet, but the shaft had to be abandoned on account of water and the tunnel above referred to was undertaken. A survey just completed shows that the tunnel has reached the distance of the shaft at a depth of 170 feet below. The ledge is said to dip away from the tunnel at 18 feet per hundred, so that, at most, another 50 or 75 feet would decide the question. We would bespeak for this enterprise the attention of those of our fellow citizens interested in one of our great future industries—quartz mining—and wish the Burns Mountain Company that success which energy and perseverance commands.—*British Colonist*.

### GOLD MINING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A valuable paper on the Gold Mines of British Columbia was lately read by the Hon. H. Holbrook at Liverpool, his object being to draw attention to the gold mining industry, more especially, also, to the hydraulic gold washing resources, their great extent, and the profits derived from similar undertakings in California; to the quartz leads and their extent, and to gold mines generally. The chief want of the district is a white population to settle on the lands and white labour on the railroad works. Great advantages are offered to both, as well as to capital for the mining industry. The climate is good and corresponds with that of Kent. Railroad communication is rapidly extending, and British Columbia is now confederated with Canada. Upon the progress of the territory the author waxes eloquent; "The colony was first created by revocation of the crown grant to the Hudson Bay Company on the 3rd of November, 1858, succeeded by a proclamation issued by the Governor, Sir James Douglass, on the 19th November, 1858, providing for the Government of British Columbia, and declaring English law in force in the colony. From 1858, the progress of the country was brilliant, resembling the marvellous career of California and Australia after the discovery of gold in those countries. Thousands upon thousands flocked to these golden shores to improve their condition. The original deposits of gold, however, from which the shallow bars and benches of the Fraser River were fed, were not discovered then, nor indeed have they, in the opinion of many scientific men and experienced miners, been discovered yet. The mines on the Fraser were, therefore, soon exhausted; and being unable to sustain the multitudes flocking to them, were to a great extent deserted." Mining was begun on Fraser River at Hope, a place ninety-six miles from its mouth. The nature of the deposit and the character of the gold were invariably the same; that