

## MINING.—Continued.

mining rights from the government, you secure no rights whatever to the surface, but have to make the best bargain you can with the owner, which in many instances costs much more than the mining right. The mining laws as they are now are quite burdensome enough, yet, with the exception of a few clauses which might be amended, we are content to abide by them. What with the cost of the mine; two per cent royalty on the whole amount of gold produced, whether the mine pays or not; seven and a half cents royalty on every ton of coal; heavy duties on all explosives, steel, etc., we use; I think, sir, our burdens are quite heavy enough. Increase them more and not only will many of our people be driven out of the business, but no foreign capital can possibly be induced into it.

The following is a portion of Mr. James A. Fraser's answer:—I notice that in to-day's issue of your paper a writer signing himself "An Old Miner" undertakes to deal with me somewhat personally. I have not by me the official report of what I did say with reference to the number of outstanding leases of mining areas, but if I said that there were "4,000 gold mining areas" in the hands of men who had not fulfilled the conditions of the leases under which they held them, I was incorrect. The facts regarding these areas are these:—During the session of 1885 I asked for a return of the number of gold and coal mining leases then outstanding, the terms of which had not been complied with by the holders, and which covered areas upon which no work, as the law expressly stipulates, had been performed for two years previously. The return was prepared with great care and with much labor by the late deputy commissioner of mines, and was to the effect that the number included 12,000 leases containing gold mining areas and 1,300 coal leases. No areas covered by prospecting licenses, rights of search or leases to work were included. The gold leases comprised in each, with few exceptions, several areas, how many I am not prepared to state, but I know that the total number of areas was considerably over 50,000.

\* \* \* The communication in question is misleading, especially where it seeks to convey the impression that I sought to procure legislation, compelling the worker to pay a yearly rental in addition to his other expenses. Its writer knows, or should know, very well that any such proposition was never made by me. When any person leases a gold mining area he enters into a contract to perform forty days labor upon it annually. Knowing the great hardship, that, in most cases, this entailed, I proposed that, if the holder did not choose to work upon it, he would be permitted to hold his lease good by paying a yearly rental of one or two dollars into the provincial treasury. \* \* \* Regarding the "taking up" of gold mining areas I proposed that prospecting licenses be abolished, and instead that a miner be allowed to go upon unlocated land, stake out an area 1500 feet by 750 feet, which would comprise 30 of the present areas (for which he has to pay under prospecting license \$15 for one year, and if covered by lease \$60, and afterwards 1200 days labor annually), enter into possession thereof, and hold it free from charge for an indefinite period, while seeking for "pay lodes." These propositions do not look like a "revolution in our mining law," whereby "poor but honest men" would be saddled with increased burdens. I am inclined to think that it will be some time before so favorable an offer will be held out to them again. However, selfish men, like "An Old Miner," who had obtained leases of mining areas, but who did not comply with the conditions of them, and who were simply holding them by the mistaken clemency of the mines department, and contrary to the law of the province, pounced upon the proposed legislation and succeeded in defeating it. I would advise "An Old Miner" and his associates, who make it a business to grab up all the mining areas they can, to put their house in order, for they will not always be permitted to hold such areas from year to year in direct violation of the agreement they have entered into with the government of Nova Scotia.

The Sydney Advocate says:—"We understand the boring on the Smith Brook iron property is developing an exceedingly fine deposit of iron. We understand that the Cape Breton companies have sold a considerable amount of coal, to be delivered at Montreal and other points on the St. Lawrence. The prices, owing to keen competition, rule lower than last year. The amount contracted for exceeds that of last year.

From the official returns for the month of March we gather that the Rawdon Gold Mining Co. crushed 550 tons of quartz, which yielded 159½ ounces—and the McNaughton Gold Mining Co., 97 tons of quartz, which yielded 139½ oz. During the months of January and February 75½ tons of quartz were crushed at the Carleton mines, the product being 95 oz. of gold. From 7½ tons of quartz crushed at the Cowan mines, 8½ oz. of gold were extracted.

A miner in Leadville, Col., who can neither read or write, is worth to-day at least \$3,000,000. Four years ago he hadn't a penny except what he earned from day to day as a miner. His name is John L. Morrissey. He is a young man not over 32 or 33. There is said to be in the mine of which he is half owner \$5,000,000 worth of ore in sight. Morrissey cannot even tell the time of day. It is a stock joke among the boys if you ask Morrissey what o'clock it is for him to pull from his fob a \$500 watch and, with a condescending air, tell you to "luk for yerself and then yo'll know I am not lying to yez."

During the past sixteen years there have been produced in Utah from our mines over \$100,000,000 in silver, lead and gold.

## REQUISITION

HALIFAX, 5TH MARCH, 1887.

To ALDERMAN ALEXANDER STEPHEN,

Chairman of Board of City Works.

SIR, The undersigned citizens of Halifax approving of the manner in which you have discharged the duties of alderman for five years past and especially in connection with your services in obtaining improved legislation for the city, and also the attention you have bestowed on all matters connected with the Board of City Works, and feeling it will be for the interests of the citizens that you should be in a position to carry out the various improvements now in course of progress in our city, beg to ask you to accept this requisition tendering you a nomination to the important and responsible office of Chief Magistrate of Halifax; and we hereby pledge ourselves to do all in our power to secure your election.

(The above requisition is signed by a large number of influential and representative citizens.)

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your expressions of approval of the course pursued by me in the Council during the time I have had the honor of holding a seat there as the representative of Ward Three. I accept this largely signed requisition, tendering me a nomination to the more important and responsible position of Chief Magistrate, fully realizing, the gravity of the duties and responsibilities of the office.

I have taken an active part in promoting and aiding in every way the great improvements effected in our municipal affairs during the past five years, and if elected will aid in furthering the various improvements now in course of progress, as well as those yet to be brought forward, such as improved accommodation for our fire department, a new market house, sewerage extension in various parts of the city, the extension of Queen Street by bridge or otherwise, and the widening of Upper Water Street. It shall be my endeavor to work in unison with the Council for the welfare of our beloved city. The interests of our city demand more than ever a careful, wise and judicious policy, and extreme care is required that no scheme for improvements that has more of private than public interests to serve be engaged in, as the taxpayers have the right to insist that no money be expended that the public generally does not require. The best interests of all render it necessary that a wise, practical economy be closely observed. All the wants of the city shall receive my closest attention, not guarding the interests of any particular class or body, but keeping in view that which is the fundamental principle of good government, viz.: "the greatest good to the greatest number," and by thus acting the best interests of the city will be subserved and its material prosperity increased.

Our city at the present time is in a fair way to become a centre for manufacturing and mechanical industries, and to the end that they may be fostered, we can by judicious expenditure and keeping closely within our appropriations so reduce our taxes that other similar enterprises will be induced to locate with us, thus insuring an increased demand for labor and a consequent increase in our population.

I pledge myself, if elected, to see that all the laws governing the city and its varied interests will be faithfully carried out according to the spirit as well as the letter of the statutes. Again thanking you, gentlemen, for your handsome requisition, and assuring you that if elected all measures pertaining to the welfare of our city and its people will receive my co-operation and cheerful support.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

ALEX. STEPHEN.

## REQUISITION.

H. F. WORRALL, Esq.,

Alderman for Ward Six:

HALIFAX, N. S.

DEAR SIR,—The undersigned Citizens of the City of Halifax are desirous that you place yourself in nomination as a Candidate for the office of "Chief Magistrate" at the ensuing Civic Elections.

Your services as an Alderman of the City for the past two years, your intimate knowledge of the Civic Finances, evidenced by the efficient manner in which you discharged the onerous duties of Chairman of the Committee of Public Accounts, and more than all, your experience as a Merchant, all point to your eminent fitness to discharge the duties of Chief Magistrate of our City, and feeling that the best interests of the same would be subserved by your Election to the Mayoralty, beg to assure you of our support if you consent to become a Candidate.

The above Requisition has been signed by a large number of ratepayers.

GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for your very flattering Requisition and accept it in the spirit in which it is offered, and assure you it shall be my endeavor to do all I can for the advancement of our good City should I be fortunate enough to be elected.

Having given a great deal of time and attention to the condition of Civic Finances, the main features of the platform on which I venture to solicit the suffrage of the Ratepayers of this City, are the following, viz.:

1st. THE EQUALIZATION OF THE SYSTEM OF TAXATION BETWEEN THE CITY AND COUNTY SO THAT THE CITY SHALL NOT BE CALLED UPON TO PAY THIRTEEN-FIFTEENTHS OF THE EXPENSE OF THE COUNTY.

2nd. THE EQUALIZATION OF THE SYSTEM OF TAXATION IN THE CITY, SO THAT THE BUSINESS MEN AND PRODUCERS SHALL NOT BE CALLED UPON TO PAY MORE THAN THEIR JUST PROPORTION.

3rd. THAT ALL LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN CIVIC MATTERS SHALL EMANATE FROM THE CITY COUNCIL AS DIRECT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RATEPAYERS.

4th. A THOROUGH SYSTEM OF RETRENCHMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF CIVIC FUNDS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE COUNCIL.

5th. THAT ALL MEETINGS OF ANY DEPARTMENT OF THE CIVIC SERVICE, AT WHICH THE INITIATION OF ANY SCHEME SHALL BE PROPOSED, SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

All matters proposed for the benefit and welfare of our good city shall receive my warmest support in the future, as they have in the past, consistent with the willingness of the citizens to support the same.

I am, yours respectfully,

H. F. WORRALL.

## TO BE LET.

## "THE BOWER."

HOUSE and Grounds near North-West Arm. This well known and attractive residence, near Maplewood and Pine Hill and the Point Pleasant Park, is open to occupation on a lease for one or more years, FURNISHED.

The property comprises about seven acres of Land, Porter's Lodge, Stables, Coach Houses, &c., and the Dwelling contains ten rooms, besides kitchens, cellars and closets.

## Office Rooms &amp; Apartments.

ALSO,—Office rooms and apartments at 91 Hollis street—1 office on ground floor. Unfurnished apartments for gentlemen on second floor, commanding a fine view of the Harbor.

## Warehouse.

ALSO,—That large and commodious Warehouse, fronting on the east side of Upper Water Street, adjoining north H. M. Ordnance, suitable for a merchant's office and store rooms, or for commission business.

## Livery Stable.

ALSO,—That centrally situated Livery Stable Premises, Nos. 20 and 22 Granville Street, at present occupied by Messrs. Inglis, with Dwelling thereto. Accommodation for 4 horses, besides carriages, cabs, etc.

Apply at the office of

GRAY & McDONALD,  
91 Hollis Street.