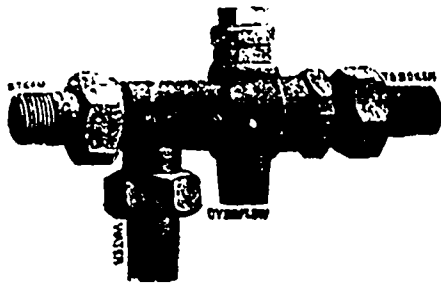


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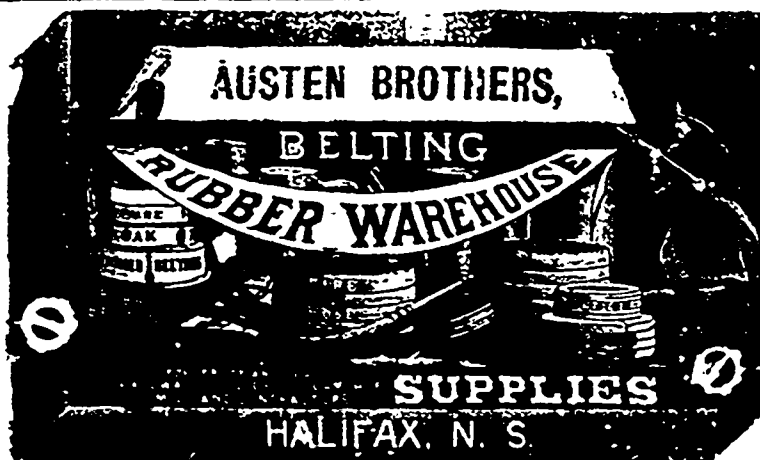
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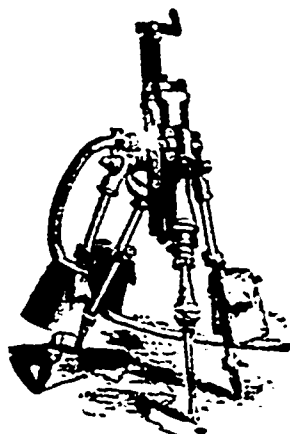
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MINING.

On Monday evening the usual monthly meeting of the Nova Scotia Institute of Natural Science was held in the lecture room of the Art School. The following gentlemen were proposed as members:—W. H. Rogers, late Inspector of Fisheries, Amherst; John E. Hardman, Mining Engineer, Oldham; Rufus Bayers, Halifax; D. W. Robb, Mechanical Engineer, Amherst; B. C. Wilson, Manager Acadia Powder Co., Waverley. The President, Prof. McGregor, reported a long list of leading Scientific and Engineering Societies in all parts of the world who have agreed to complete as far as possible the sets of their transactions already in the Institute's library, or who will exchange from this out. Among them are several of the Government Departments at Washington, Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm Society of Arts, London, G. B.; American Institute of Mining Engineers; the Iron and Steel Institute, London, G. B. The Rev. Dr. Maury read a paper on "Some Observations on the Sea Urchin," in which he pointed out the facilities the rockbound shore of our harbor afforded for observing marine life. He described minutely some parts of the animal, and illustrated them by drawings on the black board. He had observed that the feet appeared to perform nutritive functions as well as aid in locomotion. This fact does not appear to have been noted before.

The next Paper was by Fred. A. Bowman, B.E., on "Potassic Iodide as a Blowpipe Reagent." It was prefaced by a few general remarks on blow-piping. The paper itself dwelt with the use of Potassic Iodide, both as a solution and as dry crystal to produce iodide coatings on small plaster of paris tablets. A set of tablets showing the different colors given by different metals, was exhibited. The author stated that this method had added seven metals to the list of those that can be determined by a dry assay with the blowpipe. A short discussion followed.

Prof. McGregor read two short Papers, the first "On the Density of Dilute Solutions of certain Hydroxides," discussed the phenomena of dilute solutions of hydroxides, which are less in bulk than the original bulk of the water. He illustrated by a chart the variations in bulk that several of these compounds undergo with the variations in strength of the solution. His second Paper dealt with "A Noteworthy Occurrence of Ice Tufts," in a situation in which it was possible to observe accurately the conditions controlling the formation of these beautiful specimens of Nature's art. He showed how the peculiar structure and arrangement of the little columns of ice which constitute an ice tuft may be accounted for, pointing out especially that the upward curvature of these columns is due to the same cause as the downward motion of a glacier. It was too late in the evening for much discussion on this paper, and the Society adjourned.

This Institute is a most valuable Society to have in our midst, and our citizens and the inhabitants of the Province generally should take a pride and interest in it. Many valuable papers on the natural resources of this country have been read before it. The custom is being introduced of prefacing special papers by a short general sketch of the subject, which materially aids those not conversant with the subject to follow the paper intelligently.

The following are the official gold returns so far received at the Mines Office for the month of January:

District.	Mill.	Qtz. Crushed.	Ozs. Gold.
Stornont.....	Rockland	199	109½
Oldham	Oldham G. M. Co	67½	155½
Brookfield.....	Philadelphia G. M. Co.....	326	192
S. Uniack.....	Withrow	30	54½
Moose River.....	Moose River G. M. Co.....	139	18
*Moose River.....	Touquoy.....	244	21
"	" quartz	123	50
Molega	Molega M. Co.....	200	218
Salmon River...	Dufferin.....	650	181
Lake Catcha.....	Oxford.....	94½	103
Sherbrooke.....	P. Colas.....	53	9½
Sherbrooke.....	Miners.....	33	10
Sherbrooke.....	Sherbrooke.....	196	61½
Renfrew.....	Free Claim.....	133	20½
Montague.....	Annapolis	120	362½
Renfrew.....	Empress.....	473	84
Central Rawdon.....	Northrup G. M. Co.....	175	177
Wine Harbor.....	New Eiderado.....	98½	50½
*Surface stuff.			

IRON.—The first carload of iron from the Nictaux mines was shipped over the W. & A. Railway on Saturday last. It was consigned to the Londonderry Iron Company, and is the first instalment of 40,000 tons magnetic ore contracted for by Mr. Leckie to be mined on the Sterns property. It is mined close to the line of the N. S. C. Railway, and is carried by it to Middleton Station, some three or four miles distant, and thence by the W. & A. Railway to Londonderry. Mr. Leckie has secured 10 leases for iron ore property at Turbrook, Annapolis, and the work of developing the great iron deposits of the Annapolis Valley has fairly commenced.

The Local Legislature is now in session, and those interested in gold mining would do well to take time by the forelock and have their arrangements perfected to push the petition of last session asking for an appropriation towards defraying the expenses of a Government Assay Office.

GAYS RIVER.—Messrs. Anderson, Thomeon and McDonald are getting out timber and preparing to conduct extensive mining operations at Gays River.