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MINING.

Being somewhat sceptical of the report that appeared in the *North Sydney Herald* to the effect that diamonds had been discovered by Mr. L. Boyd, M. E., in the Western Counties, we interviewed him on his return from Waverley, and find that he has been given several specimens of diamonds of the variety known as brown stone and carbonads, which were obtained from the Western Counties, where they are known to exist in large quantities. Diamonds of the first water have not yet been found here, but as the brown stone and carbonads are indications that they exist, Mr. Boyd's identification of the stone may lead to most important results. The variety named above are used with diamond drills, and are otherwise of economical value.

STORMONT DISTRICT—The Stormont District is just now receiving much attention, and many areas are being taken up in the Mines Office. R. A. McNaughton has already secured between three hundred and four hundred areas, and A. B. Cox has lately applied for 74 areas. As will be seen by the official returns from the W. J. Veith Mill, 97 tons qtz. yielded 115½ ozs. This quartz was from the Copeland areas.

WAGAMATOOK—Near Middle River in this district a large number of areas have been secured by Mr. Charles E. Starr, of Malden, Mass., who is represented by Mr. J. A. Pushie, mining expert. Mr. Pushie has been doing considerable prospecting, but the work is not sufficiently advanced for definite comment. Mr. Scranton has also secured areas.

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

District	Mill	Qtz. crushed.	Oz. gold.
Stormont.....	W. J. Veith	97	115½
Sherbrooke.....	Sundry.....	18	2½
Salmon River.....	Dufferin G. M. Co.....	600	159
Oldham	Concord.....	39	32½
†Waverley	Windsor Junction.	30	1½
Caribou, Moose River..	Moose River G. M. Co..	133½	27½
S. Uniscke	Withrow.....	70	58
15 Mile Stream	New Egerton.....	350	180
Leipsigate	Millisigate.....	1½	2
Montague.....	Annands.....	221	368
Malaga.....	Malaga G. M. Co.....	107½	175
do	Parker Douglas.....	72	229½
†Alluvial, etc.			

"NOVA SCOTIA COAL MINING INSTITUTE."—The above society held their first meeting of the winter session on Friday the 13th inst., at the offices of the Acadia Coal Co'y., Stellarton. There were some 22 members present, the greater part hailing from Westville. The President, H. S. Poole, Esq. read a most interesting paper on flameless explosives, and the able manner in which he discussed the matters convinced all that he was well posted on the subject. Afterwards a short discussion on the several merits of Roburite and so called Flameless Powder took place. Time, however, being short it was decided to continue the discussion at the next meeting to take place Saturday, the 12th of December, then also the subject of shot firing will be introduced. The Institute supplies a want long felt and enables managers, overmen and others interested in mining, to periodically meet together and exchange their practical ideas and experience. All wishful to become members are advised to communicate with the Secretary, Chas. Fergie, Esq., Westville, at once.—*Pictou Journal and News.*

An immense amount of work has been done by the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company during the summer, with a view of facilitating the successful operation of their mines and the speedy handling of the output. A number of new buildings of various kinds have been erected, new railway tracks have been laid down and vast quantities of machinery have been added to the plant of the company. The new Bank-head at No 2 Slope, one of the largest and best ever constructed, is about completed and is capable of raising eight boxes at once. In addition to the work above ground a very heavy outlay has been incurred in repairs and improvements in the mines. The expenditure of such a large sum of money in addition to the regular monthly payments for wages, etc., has had a very beneficial effect upon the business of the town.—*Cumberland Leader.*

MOLEGA, QUEENS Co.—The famed gold district of Molega in which the writer spent about 16 months is situated in the county of Queens, about 23 miles from Liverpool, about 20 miles from Bridgewater and about eight miles from Caledonia Corner, and is said to have a population of about 1000 souls, drawn thither within the last three years, and supported by gold mining almost exclusively, there being in the district in the summer of 1890 three fully equipped twenty-stamp mills, one ten stamp mill and another of ten stamps in course of erection, besides hoisting and pumping stations, etc.

The Parker-Douglas Co's mining and milling plant is the best and most extensive, there being three boilers which aggregate 150 horse power, and when in constant use consume 2,400 cords of wood annually, and in addition to their mill gearing, skips, hoists and pumps, they run a golden gate concentrator and a horse power duplex air compressor. These two latter machines were imported from the United States and erected by the Truro Foundry and Machine Company. The Boston Gold Mining Company's ten stamp mill was also designed and erected by this enterprising firm in the fall of 1890. This mill which is built in a most substantial manner throughout, was commenced in September and completed and run-