

Though the cloud no bigger than a man's hand, as we have seen, had arisen, the season of 1863 closed satisfactorily, and most sanguine hopes were entertained for the next season.

During the next year, 1864, the Government issued regulations for the Government of the Gold Fields and appointed Major de Bellefeuille superintendent of the Chaudière District. His duties were for a time merely nominal, but towards the close of the season, some troubles arose in connection with disputed rights, and application was made for police, but no serious disturbance ever took place, though a great many miners had been attracted from various parts of the Province, and some from England. The Glengary men mustered in considerable force, and were energetic and successful, and it is known that a very considerable quantity of gold was taken out during the season, a great portion of which was purchased by Messrs Glover & Fry and the Quebec Bank. Among the Glengary men, McRae appeared to have been the most fortunate as he took one nugget which was exhibited before the Gold Committee of Parliament which weighed 12 oz. 14 dwts. and was purchased by the Quebec Bank. A new feature in mining was also introduced. Hitherto the miners had only dug