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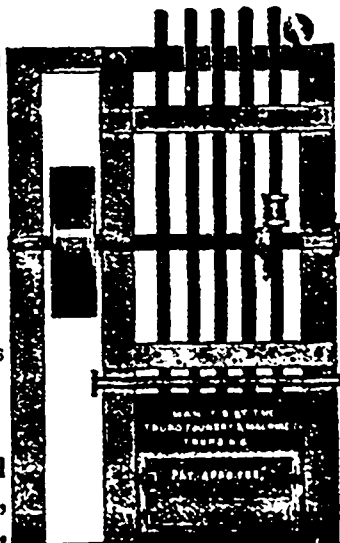
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MINING.

In our last issue "Durham" drew timely attention to the injustice wrought by section 132 of the Mining Act. That it should be repealed or amended goes without saying. An applicant for leases writes out his application, pays the necessary fees and receives the usual receipt therefor. Until the lease has been made out by the Department of Mines he can do nothing further. He perhaps calls several times and is informed that his lease is not ready for execution. Like most men engaged in mining his time is precious and the delay is decidedly exasperating. Finally in the rush of other business he forgets about his lease and the year expires often without its having been made out by the department. When he finally calls he is coolly informed that as he has not complied with the law in executing the lease within the year his right to the property has expired and more than likely he finds that some one else has taken out a lease over the same ground. In practice this section of the act is almost ludicrously unjust, and might be quoted as an example of the height of absurdity. It should be amended say in such a manner that if the applicant for a lease did not call and execute it within three months after being notified by the Commissioner of Mines that it was ready for execution that then his right should be forfeited. As things are at present the Department of Mines is empowered to deprive any one of a valuable property, by simply neglecting to make out the lease during the year. This was never intended by the section, but as it has proved in practice to act most prejudicially we have little doubt that the Commissioner of Mines, who has shown a most commendable disposition to remedy defective legislation, will have the clause amended at the next session of the legislature. In the meantime he should instruct his clerks to make out leases as rapidly as possible and notify applicants by letter when they are ready to be executed. This simple act of courtesy would be duly appreciated by the mining community and would prevent acts of apparent or real injustice, which in the past have caused individuals to believe that the department was not showing them fair play.

To the Editor of the Critic.—The Elmsdale Gold Mining Co. have a property about two miles from Elmsdale Station. They have their new crusher up and in good running order, and have a shaft sunk about 15 feet showing three leads. They intend sinking fifty feet and to then tunnel under a brook to strike eight leads more which are showing on the surface. The quartz is looking well. Their manager, Capt. F. J. Sargent, deserves credit for the neat appearance of the works. The crusher is run by water. The Company is composed of Americans chiefly. What this country wants are more Americans to come over and develop our mines. We wish them every success, and hope there will be millions in it for them.

Yours, &c.

ONE WHO VISITED THE WORKS

Current papers bring us news of another iron company organized to work the Pictou County deposits. This is as it should be, but the organizers of these companies should take the hint we gave lately, and see that some members of the Iron and Steel Institute are brought here next year. Among these members will be not only makers but large users of iron and steel, who might find some of the iron made from our ores specially adapted to their work. The makers might also find the ores themselves suitable for some processes, and be willing to buy in considerable quantities. Enormous quantities of ore for Bessemer pig irons are now imported into England from Spain and other places, and why should not Nova Scotia contribute, when our ores are peculiarly well adapted to that purpose.

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

District.	Mill.	Tons Quartz.	Ozs. Gold.
Sherbrooke.....	Miners.....	221	32
*Salmon River.....	Dufferin Mill.....	550	164
Oldham	Oldham G. M. Co.....	104	35
Caribou.....	M. R. G. M. Co.....	87	37
"	Touquoy.....	449	55
S. Uniacke.....	Withrow	116	177
Lake Catcha.....	Oxford	27	31
15 Mile Stream.....	Egerton G. M. Co	160	88
Stormont.....	Rockland.....	238	188
Tangier	Brunswick M. Co.....	20	63
Brookfield	Philadelphia Co.....	99	125
Kempt.....	Kempt G. M. Co.....	30	60
Renfrew.....	Free Claims.....	24	59
"	Empress.....	180	83
Millipisgate.....	Millipisgate.....	15	15
Central Rawdon	Northrup.....	100	324
Ecum Secum.....	Eureka.....	50	202

*The return from the Dufferin Mine for April were 198 ozs. gold from 520 tons quartz crushed, and for May 252 ozs. gold from 650 tons quartz crushed.

Demerara, June 21, 1889—Gold exports are steadily increasing. They were from June 1st to June 18th 1045 oz, 0 dwt, 12 grs., valued at \$19,074 75, making total to date this year 9,929 oz, 5 dwt, 11 grs., valued at \$185,518.26. Exports to the same date last year were 5,897 oz, 7 dwt, 0 grs., valued at \$107,264.82.

The deepest coal pit in the world is said to be the St. Budre in the Charleroi (Belgium) District. It is 3,084 feet deep.