

We have to acknowledge with thanks several communications on mining subjects, which will appear when space permits.

**HARRIGAN'S COVE.**—Mr. Archibald has put the crusher in running order on the property in which Mr. S. Sichel is interested in this district, and Mr. Sichel has sent down a manager and men to operate the mine. We understand that the prospects are very bright.

**MOOSE RIVER.**—Mr. D. Touquoy was in town last week with a handsome gold bar weighing 86 ounces. The large and steady returns from this mine speak much louder than words of its sterling value.

Owing to pressure on our columns this week we have been unable to continue the publication of Prof. C. B. P. Seaver's article on the origin and mode of occurrence of gold bearing veins, &c., which will be completed in future issues.

**SALMON RIVER.**—A very rich gold find is reported on a property adjoining the Dufferin Mine in this District. We should like to obtain the particulars.

The discovery of coal is reported one mile from the town of Parrsboro, gold-bearing quartz at Dilligent River, and a manganese mine at Two Islands and Partridge Island—all said to be rich.

**GOLD IN HALIFAX.**—We have on several occasions called attention to the fact that gold-bearing quartz veins underlie this city. Only a few days since some excavators at the south end struck a small lead carrying gold.

The news that Mr. R. G. Leckie, the pushing and popular manager of the Cumberland Coal and Railway Company, had resigned was a genuine surprise. It is to be hoped that the Province is not to lose the benefits of Mr. Leckie's push and experience.

Queens County items condensed from the *Gold Hunter* :—

The North Brookfield Mine yielded on the last clean up 303 ozs. of gold from 156 tons quartz crushed. On the Philadelphia Company's property Mr. Samuel Pierce has opened up a new lead which shows well in gold.

**WHITEBURN.**—The American Company have commenced work, and are putting in a pump and steam-hoisting gear.

**MOLEGA.**—The Nine Boulder lead is looking very good and becoming all the time of more importance. The North lead has been let out to a party of tributors who are meeting with success. The ore from the 140 foot level of the mill lead is steadily improving in quality and quantity.

**MILL VILLAGE.**—Work is progressing at the Mill Village gold mines. They have tunnelled over 60 feet, and report having found several leads. A trial blast put in several days ago gave very promising results. This mine is situated about three and a half miles from Mill Village in the direction of Herring Cove Lake.

Prospectors are anxiously waiting good weather to commence work.

In former issues we have called attention to the fact that the Gold Miners Club had circulated petitions praying for the establishment of an official assay office in Halifax, a prayer in which we heartily join. The petitions have been largely signed throughout the Province, and the favors asked are so reasonable that there can be little doubt but that both the Dominion and Local Governments, to whom the petitions are addressed, will grant the prayer of the petitioners. As we have for some years advocated the establishment of an Official Assay Office in Halifax, we note with pleasure that the movement has taken a most practical form. Mr. J. H. Townsend's able advocacy of the movement, both through the press and by personal appeals, has done much to bring about the present hopeful position of the matter and if it succeeds, as we have no doubt it will, to him will belong no small share of the credit. The movement is of such vital importance to the gold mining industry that we herewith lay the petitions in full before our readers.

*To the Honorable the Executive Council of the Province of Nova Scotia :—*

The Requisition of the undersigned, representing extensive Gold Mining interests in the Province of Nova Scotia,

*Humbly Sheweth,*—That the establishment of an official Assay Office in the City of Halifax for the assay of bullion and the analysis of ores, minerals, mill and furnace products at a low scale of charges, would give a very great stimulus to the mining industry of the Province.

That, the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria and New Zealand are giving great assistance to mineral development within their borders, by granting monies to aid in sinking test shafts and in establishing public sampling and smelting works for test lots upon a large scale.

That many benefits would accrue from the establishment of such an Assay Office, as for instance,—

The stamping of bullion by a properly authorized official would tend to keep it in the country, by making it a merchantable commodity and would thus save our miners much of the expense incident to its exportation.

It would be a protection to mine owners against the theft of gold, as all gold not officially stamped would be looked upon as suspicious and could be more easily traced if offered for sale.

It would aid the Provincial Government in keeping a check on the Royalty paid.

It would encourage pioneer work in mineral development by enabling the owners of small lots of bullion to get full value without being subject to the heavy discount of bankers taking such bullion on a venture, and enabling prospectors to get samples of their findings correctly tested at a rate of charges within their means.

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