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## MINING.

The agitation now going on in the New England States for the introduction of coal, iron and other raw materials free of duty, is likely to result in a radical change in the United States tariff. Whether reciprocity in coal with the United States would benefit our coal mines is a debatable question, some high authorities claiming that by it we should lose our present large trade with Quebec, while reaping no corresponding advantages in direct trade with the New England States. What we really need in this Province is the development of our coal and iron mines. Merely mining the iron and shipping it to the States will result in no lasting benefits. What is wanted is the manufacture of the raw material on the spot. The Londonderry and New Glasgow steel and iron works are demonstrating that iron and steel manufactures, when properly conducted, will pay handsomely here, and there is now great activity in the iron districts in Pictou County. Why should we bolster up the rapidly declining iron trade of the New England States by sending them our coal and iron when we can manufacture here, giving encouragement to the investment of large amounts of capital and furnishing employment to thousands of men? If the New England States succeed in having the tariff on iron and coal removed, it will simply be because they find it necessary in their own interests to do so, not with the slightest wish to benefit us. We can well afford to wish them every success in their efforts, but if they should ask us to reciprocate, we should remember that charity begins at home, and decline to make any change in our present tariff rates. In other words we are perfectly willing to send them our coal and iron if they want them, but we cannot afford to remove the tariff which is the life of our coal trade, and under the fostering influences of which iron and steel works are rapidly springing up.

A despatch from Greenfield Mass. conveys the sad intelligence that Newell Snow died at that place on August 19, aged 73 years. He was born in Franklin County and came to Greenfield in 1872. His estate was valued at from \$200,000 to \$300,000 and the foundation of this snug fortune was laid in Nova Scotia. Some twenty years ago Mr. Snow went to Goldenville, Guysboro County, where he prosecuted gold mining so successfully that he was enabled to retire from active work some time ago.

(From our New York Special.)

Dear Critic:—The growth and prosperity of the Mining Exchange "established a short time ago in Denver, Col.," is being watched with much interest by the eastern public connected with mining industries. So far its success has exceeded their most sanguine expectations and the "Denver Mining Exchange" is now among the permanent exchanges of the country. Its establishment was brought about by a desire on the part of the mine-owners and promoters and also the "practical miners" to place this product, one of the grandest resources of the State of Colorado, in its proper light before the world, as well as for their mutual protections, as the history of mining in the past, and the records of the management of many of the principal mines in Colorado has not been such as would commend them to the mind of an "ardent searcher after truth." Their present membership numbers about one hundred and fifty, the initiation fee being one hundred dollars and the annual dues nominal. Many applications are being made by persons anxious to join, but the committee on admissions are strict in their requirements that the applicant shall be of the "right sort." An exchange building to cost "two hundred thousand dollars" has been decided on, for which bonds are being issued. In addition to mining stocks they deal in the stocks of "Cable Roads, Electric Light, Insurance Companies" and other local industries, and the "official list" of their daily sales would rather astonish some of the older exchanges. It is proposed to erect on the grounds of the Exposition to be held in 1892, probably in New York—a castle composed of specimens of the various mines in Colorado.

None of the Nova Scotia properties which promised so well in the early spring have yet made their appearance in the New York market, and the would-be "investors" are anxiously looking for that "boom in Nova Scotian properties."

Yours, P.

Editor of the Critic:—I believe all the grumbling miners go to you with their troubles, and I dare say among other complaints of their hard lot they have held forth about their sleeping partners—men who have acquired an interest with them in their properties, and who do nothing. These men refuse to prospect, refuse to contribute, and generally are very indignant when called upon to pay their share of renewal or rental fees. If the general public did not object, these men could be cured by being hung, drawn and quartered, or by any other gentle treatment calculated to make them feel ashamed. Joking apart, much trouble is experienced by legitimate miners with drones of this class, and in view of the fact that in a few years all our mining leases will be held on the rental system, calling for an annual payment to secure title, some legislation would be very desirable.

To show how this matter is viewed in the United States, I give an extract from some amendments proposed in the Congress of the Republic to the general mining law. It reads as follows:—

"Upon the failure of any one of several co-owners to contribute his proportion of the expenditures required hereby, the co-owners who have performed the labor or made the improvement may, at the end of the year, give such delinquent co-owner personal notice in writing or notice by publication in the newspaper published nearest the claim, for at least once a week for ninety days, and if at the expiration of ninety days after such notice in writing or by publication such delinquent shall fail or refuse to contribute his proportion of the expenditure required by this section, his interest in the claim shall become the property of his co-owners who have made the required expenditures, upon recording a copy of such notice,