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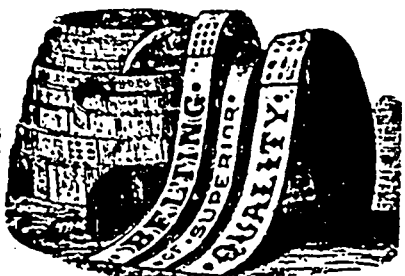
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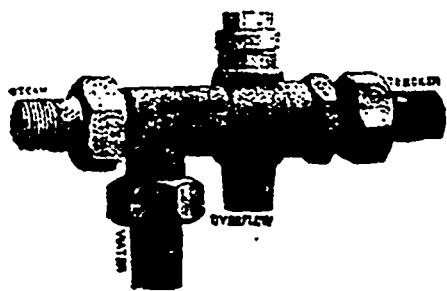
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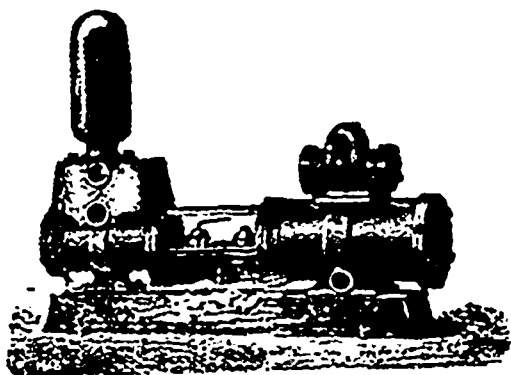
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MINING.

WITBURN.—The returns from the Whiteburn Mining Company for April were 120½ ozs. gold from 120 tons quartz crushed.

Miner will please send his name in confidence to THE CRITIC office, as it is against our rules to publish anonymous communications.

Below will be found a timely letter on the International Exhibition of mining and metallurgy to be opened at London July 2nd next. It is most important that Nova Scotia should be well represented, and the Local Government could in no better way show their interest in mining than by voting a sum towards collecting an exhibition of minerals to be sent to London. If it is to be done it should be done at once, as there is no time to spare

PRINCE'S LODGE.—It is reported that specimens of ore from the Gray areas have been sent to Boston, and that active work in this district may soon be begun.

The Editor of the Critic.

HARRIGAN COVE, N. S.

DEAR SIR,—As you have always shown yourself ready to further the mining interests of the Province, I beg to call your attention to the fact that an International Exhibition of mining and metallurgy will open in London on July 2nd, at which it is most important that Nova Scotia should be well represented. I do not think that those engaged in mining in this Province realize how important it is that Nova Scotia should show up well at such exhibitions. It is not merely necessary to show fine specimens but plenty of them. I do not believe that more than fifty people out of the 4,500,000 visitors to the Colonial Exhibition some few years ago knew that there were any specimens from Nova Scotia, the exhibit being limited to four in a side room. On the other hand the Colony of Queensland showed a large number of specimens and had a small mill at work. The walls of the mill building were covered with plans, sections and sketches relating to the Colonial mines. During the exhibition, stock of Queensland mines was floated on the London market to an amount of about 5,000,000 dollars at a premium of some 4,800,000 dollars more, and in the year following a sum of about 4,000,000 dollars was obtained for gold mines in the same colony. From New Zealand, although her exhibit was far smaller and there was no mill to draw spectators, gold mines were sold in the exhibition year to the value of 2,500,000 dollars. The above statement refers only to gold mines, many coal mines, silver mines, &c, being sold, besides, for instance, from New South Wales three colliery properties for 200,000 dollars. One silver mine (British Broken Hill) 5,000,000 dollars; from Victoria, three gold mines for 1,500,000 dollars; from Queensland, two silver mines 1,700,000 dollars, and many other Colonial mines too numerous to mention. Of course the present exhibition will not have so many visitors, but there will be quite as many if not more of the class who take an interest in mining. If the capitalists of Europe, who have poured their money lately into South Africa to such an extent that the market value of the mining companies floated in London in three years is now 850,000,000 dollars, could be led to turn their attention to mining here there would be good times for everyone connected with or dependent on mining, and the farmers would benefit by having a better market at home. Although gold mining is not the most stable industry, it is the best industry to bring a young country to the front. As the years pass on Nova Scotia must depend more and more on her mineral wealth and the industries connected with it. If individual mine owners do not care to send specimens to advertise their own mines, for the sake of their country they might send some. An organized effort should be made to get a good exhibit, to publish returns, &c. A committee could collect specimens better than individuals, obtain subscriptions for freight charges and rent of area, and endeavor to get a good position in the building.

Shall Nova Scotia, the nearest British colony but one to Great Britain, the richest country in the world for its size as regards mineral wealth, be without a worthy exhibit when committees are being organized in Denver and in other distant lands, not part of the Empire, to send at a great cost the best collection of minerals that can be obtained there.

Yours faithfully,

G. F. MONCKTON.

DESCRIPTION OF THE RAT PORTAGE REDUCTION WORKS.—The buildings of the Lake of the Woods gold and silver reduction works at Rat Portage are fast assuming shape. In fact, the main building is about completed, and the foundations for the engine house, the furnace house and the laboratory are being laid, and they will be rushed along as fast as possible. As the works will, when completed, be one of the institutions of the country, a short description may not be uninteresting.

The works are located just across the bay from the town, on a rocky promontory jutting out into the lake, on the south side of the C. P. R. track, and about 100 yards distant therefrom. The company owns 2½ acres of land, which was purchased from the Hudson's Bay company. The building which is erected on this land is in the main 115 feet long by 106 feet wide and 75 feet high, in all five stories. It stands on a ledge of solid native quartzite granite, and is built of heavy timber and is well put together. The sum of \$2,000 so far has been expended on rock-work alone. This embraces the foundations of the main building, the furnace room and the laboratory. The company intend constructing 150 feet of wharfage to facilitate the handling of home ore, which dockage can be extended to 1,000 feet if necessary, as the site is surrounded by water on three sides. These docks will afford ample storage for the ore to be brought in from the Lake of the Woods district. A switch is to be put in by the C.P.R., and ore beds to accommodate foreign ore will be built. The ore bins will be situated 11 feet above the