

auriferous iron pyrites. Mr. Poole has also found at Tangier, in quartz veins similar to those containing the gold, small quantities of arsenical pyrites (Mispickel). No other metallic mineral has hitherto, in so far as I am aware, been discovered ; though the analogy of other 'gold regions would suggest the probability that others may occur.

The Hon. Mr. Howe in an official report to the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, thus notices the later history of the Tangier "diggings."

"The discoveries made in 1860, your Excellency is aware, were unimportant. Some hundreds of persons, tempted by rumors of the existence of the precious metal, rushed into the woods near the head waters of the Tangier, ten miles from the sea coast, and proved the existence of gold, it is true, but in quantities so small, and such a distance from the roads and navigation, as to promise no return to the most industrious miner. The facts having been investigated and made public, the excitement subsided, and the people returned to their ordinary pursuits.

"In March this year a man, stooping to drink at a brook, found a piece of gold shining among the pebbles over which the stream flowed. He picked it up, and searching found more. This was about half a mile to the eastward of the debouchment of Tangier River, a stream of no great magnitude, taking its rise not very far from the sources of the Musquodoboit, flowing through a chain of lakes which drain, for many miles on either side, a rugged and wilderness country, and falling into the Atlantic about 40 miles to the eastward of Halifax.

"The locality was most favourable for mining operations, being within half a mile of navigation, and surrounded by a hardy population engaged in the fisheries, whose small craft could readily transport everything that the miners would require.

"Though gold was brought to the capital in small quantities in the spring, and some of it exhibited to the Legislature, nobody was sanguine enough to believe that it could be obtained in sufficient abundance to pay for the labor of industrious men, who could earn from four to six shillings sterling per day at almost any other employment. The feeling of the Legislature evidently was, that what might prove a delusion and a snare ought not to be over-estimated ; and that the Government should proceed with caution, that the people might not be misled.

"It was necessary to make some arrangements, however, as per-