

## GOLD MINING IN BEAUCE.

At the alluvial gold diggings in the County of Beauce, Province of Quebec, the result of last summer's work, which was carried on but to a limited extent, was so satisfactory that the coming season will, doubtless, be one of unusual activity. The ground now being worked by Messrs. Humphrey and Allan, in St. George Concession, promises to yield gold in large quantities. From the bottom of their shaft, now about 140 ft. in depth, according to the most recent reports received, pay dirt is being raised, although the level is some 8 or 10 ft. above the gravel. Steam-pumps and hoists have been recently erected at the shaft, and work, henceforward, will advance more rapidly. In the spring they will begin to wash up, and the value of the dirt will then be ascertained. That the gravel above the bed-rock carries gold in large quantities there is no reason to doubt, and the opinion expressed by miners of long experience in the placer mines of California, is that this property will prove to be of greater value than its owners dare to hope for. In the St. Charles Concession, the Gilbert River Gold Mining Company are carrying on operations, under the superintendence of Capt. Richards, with a force of 28 miners, and their property has yielded a large amount of gold per man employed. During the months of July, August, September, part of October, and fifteen days in November, of last year, the wash up, according to sworn testimony of superintendent, returned eighteen thousand dollars, the biggest day's work amounting to thirty-two and one-half ounces—equivalent to about \$585. The company have two shafts sunk on this property, this winter's output from which will be washed in the spring.

## NOVA SCOTIA GOLD FIELDS.

The "Mount Uniacke," "Lake Catcha," "Oxford," and the "Salmon River" mines are producing gold in large quantities and at a fair profit—the yield per man varying from three to seven dollars per day. The result of the past year's development has been of such an encouraging nature that the various companies engaged in active operations are erecting modern machinery of the most suitable design for crushing the quartz and abstracting the gold therefrom. In days gone by gold mining in this province was carried on on very primitive principles, and in a great many instances valuable properties were abandoned, after much money had been unprofitably expended through mismanagement, extravagance and absolute want of experience and knowledge on the part of the owners. Many of these properties are now falling into the hands of practical men, and in

almost every case where mining operations have been resumed the work has returned a large percentage of profit. Within the last year some new and important discoveries have been made in different localities in the province—notably the "Millepsigate Gold Field," in Lunenburg County, which derives the name from a lake in the vicinity, on the borders of which gold-bearing quartz has been discovered by Micmac Indians. The existence of gold in the numerous quartz veins distributed through Lunenburg County was made known some twenty years ago, but before any practical development of the lodes had been accomplished mining operations ceased, owing to the causes already hinted at. In this recently discovered Millepsigate district, mining operations were begun a few months ago, by some gentlemen of Bridgewater, N. S., and have been continued up to the present time with encouraging results. A shaft is being sunk at the "Owen" mine, cutting three distinct veins of quartz, measuring five, nine, and fifteen inches in width respectively, and through which coarse free gold is plentifully disseminated. No machinery has, as yet, been erected on this property, but we are informed by a gentleman recently from the mine, that about six tons of selected quartz taken from the shaft had been crushed, and produced no less than within a fraction of one hundred ounces of gold. If the quartz was all as rich as specimens from the mine forwarded to this office and said to be fair average samples, such a result might not unreasonably be expected.

On the opposite side of the lake, about three-quarters of a mile from the "Owen" mine, on a property known as the "Birch Brook," several openings, of about eight feet in depth, have been made at intervals on a lead extending over a distance of some eight hundred feet. The vein shows from two to three feet in width, and free gold is to be seen in all of the pits. Work on this property was suspended last autumn, pending the erection of crushers and other machinery in the spring, when it is expected that mining operations will be vigorously resumed, and it is predicted that as greater depth is reached at "Birch Brook" and the "Owen" mines they will develop into very valuable properties, capable of yielding gold in large quantities at small cost. It is not improbable that the "Millepsigate Gold Field" will rank high among the gold producing districts of the Province of Nova Scotia.

Periodical information concerning the condition of the Nova Scotian Gold Mines will be thankfully received by the publishers of the CANADIAN MINING REVIEW. The names of parties forwarding such information should be attached to their reports.

## ASBESTOS MINING IN THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

This industry is growing in importance year by year, and, although the output of the mines at present in operation is by no means insignificant, there exist numerous undeveloped properties throughout the district capable of yielding a very large quantity of excellent asbestos. That part of the Province of Quebec known as the Eastern Townships is the only locality in Canada where asbestos mining has as yet been carried on. In the Township of Thetford, the Boston Asbestos Packing Company's and the Johnston mines are the most productive, in fact, with the exception of a limited quantity taken from the Ward mine, near by, these properties made up all of last year's output from that immediate district. At Danville, the Jeffery mines are very rich in mineral, but are not so vigorously worked as those first mentioned. In Broughton, the asbestos that has been mined is of a very superior quality, both as regards texture and length of fibre, and a property in this township, recently purchased by the Chalmers, Spence Co., of New York, will be actively worked during the approaching summer.

Asbestos mining is not followed as is the mining of other mineral deposits—it is not mining, but quarrying, and the peculiar nature of the mineral and its associated rocks renders it unprofitable to proceed with operations during the winter months, the cold and depth of snow in the Eastern Townships being excessive. Labour in the district is plentiful and wages run at about one dollar per day for labourers and \$1.25 to \$1.50 for experienced quarrymen or drillers. The output from the mines above mentioned during the summer of 1883 aggregated about 1,100 tons, about 200 tons of which brought \$50. to \$60, the balance \$75 to \$80 per ton, and a small quantity from another section was sold for \$100 per ton. The Quebec Central Railway affords easy communication to and from the most important mines in operation, they being situated within a few hundred feet of the line and are connected with it by short tramways, over which the output is forwarded to the Q. C. R. cars for transportation.

### A Gold Medal to the Asbestos Company.

A gold medal has been received by the Quebec Asbestos Company, as a first-class prize, for the finest specimen of crude and manufactured goods shown at the late Boston Exhibition. The medal bears several inscriptions and a picture of the Exhibition buildings. The company has its works on St. Charles street, and will, no doubt, earn laurels in

the markets of Europe, through this success. The manufacture of asbestos is steadily increasing.

A London, England, journal contains the following advertisement of one of the largest asbestos goods manufacturing companies in Great Britain:—"Important notice. We now supply, but do not recommend packing, millboards, etc., made from Canadian asbestos, as a second class article, at low prices. Italian asbestos is the best." There appears to be a desire on the part of English manufacturers to cry down the Canadian asbestos, but as the Italians are bidding for the product of the Canadian mines it is not at all improbable that, if exported to that country, it would find its way to England as the best Italian article, and the above announcement, which appeared in the Quebec *Telegraph* of a recent date, is conclusive evidence of the superiority of Canadian asbestos.

## MINING REGULATIONS.

### To govern the disposal of Dominion Mineral Lands other than Coal Lands.

The full text of these Regulations was published in the *Canada Gazette* on the 10th inst. They apply to all Dominion lands containing gold, silver, cinnabar, lead, tin, copper, petroleum, or other mineral deposits of economic value, with the exception of coal. Any person may explore vacant Dominion lands, not appropriated or reserved by Government for other purposes, and may search therein, either by surface or subterranean prospecting, for mineral deposits, with a view to obtaining under the Regulations a mining location for the same, but no mining location or mining claim shall be granted until the discovery of the vein, lode, or deposit of mineral or metal within the limits of the claim. Any person, having discovered a mineral deposit, may obtain a mining location therefor, under the Regulations, and the conditions under which such locations may be held are clearly set forth.

Quartz-mining, Placer-mining, Nature and Size of Claims, Rights and Duties of Miners, Leave of Absence, Administration, Bed-Rock Flumes, Drainage of Mines, and Ditches are all provided for in the Regulations, and the General Provisions thereof embody the Hearing and Decision of Disputes, Forfeiture and miscellaneous clauses defining the power of the local agent.

The patent for a mining or mineral location shall reserve to the Crown, for ever, a royalty of two and a half per cent. on the sales of the product of all mines therein, and returns shall be made by the grantee, sworn to by him, or by his agent or other employé in charge of the mine, at monthly, or