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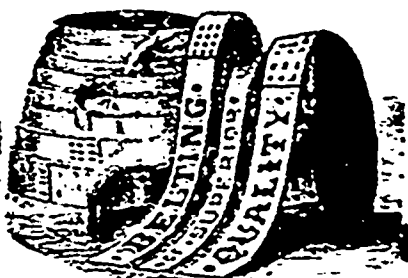
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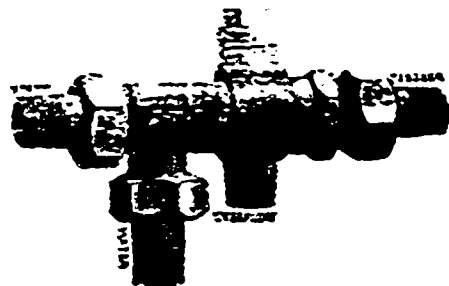
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ETC. ETC.

AUSTEN BROTHERS,

HALIFAX, N. S.

MINING.

As will appear from the following letter the Stephens Manganese Mines have not been sold to a company. The item which appeared in THE CRITIC was condensed from a notice of the Manganese Company which appeared in several of our exchanges:—

TENNY CAPE, MANGANESE MINES, HANTS CO.

To the Editor of the Critic,—

Noticing in your issue of the 20th inst. some remarks referring to the sale of my mine at this place, I should feel obliged if you would, in your next issue, state from whom you received the information, as the same is incorrect and might be injurious to my interest, as I am still prepared to negotiate for the sale of the same when sufficient inducement is offered. I may here say that I have only just returned from the United States or should have replied to this before. I found whilst in Boston a good demand for the ore at increased rates over late sales, and am also pleased to say that the mine never looked better at the deepest points, from which we are now producing ore equal to any that has come from these mines.

I am Sir, yours etc.,

J. W. STEPHENS.

STEWART VALLEY.—Mr. Graham of Brookfield has discovered a coal lead which promises to prove very valuable. He has also found galena and pyrites within a mile of Brookfield and in a good position to be worked. Messrs. Anthony, Ferguson, Andrews and others are now prospecting the large belt of conglomerates containing gold, and have made some very encouraging discoveries.

The Gays River gold district is to be extensively worked. It is reported that the gold bearing ground so far prospected warrants the erection of a fifty stamp mill, which will be put up at once.

A VISIT TO THE MONTAGUE GOLD DISTRICT.—Tuesday was a beautiful day, and THE CRITIC'S representative thoroughly enjoyed the short drive to Montague through the lovely lake region. In his company was a mining expert of large experience, whose visit to the Province will more than likely be productive of much good. They first drove to the Annand Mine, where the crusher was in operation, the ten stamps pounding and pulverizing the hard brittle quartz and freeing the gold which in this mine is known to exist in such large average quantities. Manager McQuarrie drove up soon after our arrival, and with his well known courtesy proceeded to show us over the mill and mine. The mill is of the usual pattern and possesses no new features of special importance. The quartz as it comes from the mine is broken by hand and fed in the same manner to the stamps, automatic feeds and rock breakers not being introduced. After passing over the plates the tailings are finally discharged into the swamp, concentrating machinery not being employed to save any escaping gold, more or less of which is evidently lost. Some of the ore is highly charged with iron or mispickite, and this Mr. McQuarrie roasts to free from arsenic and other refractory substances before passing through the crusher, but by far the larger quantity of ore is free milling, and is fed at once to the mill. On a low table in the retorting room was a large pile of quartz which was accumulating for roasting, and an inspection of this, coupled with Manager McQuarrie's interesting explanations of some of the peculiarities of the ore, was not the least interesting event of the visit. The ore was fairly bristling with free gold in some instances, the gold showing itself in large quantities in the galena. Besides showing us the gold ore the manager also produced some interesting samples, one known as "slicenside" was particularly fine, the quartz being as smooth as glass and the metal burnished, the result of friction and pressure caused by the slipping or faulting of the vein. From the mill westwardly six shafts have been sunk on the leads, and an immense body of ore ground opened up. The pumping and hoisting from all these shafts is done by the same engine that drives the crusher, and the perfect working of all the apparatus proves that no pretence hand has charge of matters here. The deepest shaft is the most westerly, (170 feet,) and only three of the six shafts were being operated at the time of our visit. In the ore ground already opened up there is quantity sufficient to supply a much larger mill for years, and yet there are numbers of good leads that have not been worked at all. A little to the south and west of the mill a shaft has been sunk and timbered in the most substantial manner, a tunnel from which will tap a rich vein which has already yielded thousands of dollars. The famous *Lion* lead is only a short distance from the Annand, both properties being owned by Charles Annand, Esq., (the latter in connection with Messrs. Forsyth and Barry) and managed by Mr. McQuarrie. Here the mill was busily at pounding the quartz, and the mine was being actively worked, but, as we were anxious to visit the Symonds-Kaye property, and the sun was sinking in the west, we thanked Mr. McQuarrie for his kind attentions, and a fifteen minutes drive over rather bad roads, through the old Lawson and other properties, brought us to the other side of the Montague district, where Mr. William Skerry was found just coming out of the Kaye crusher. He is interested with the Messrs. Olander, the brewers, of Dartmouth, in opening up and putting the Kaye mine in good shape and thoroughly refitting the crusher, which now consists of fifteen stamps, only five of which were being operated. A large amount of work has already been done, and three new shafts are being sunk on the leads in what used to be a lake, but which has been drained by a long and deep ditch. As large boulders abound in all directions the carrying out of this work alone must have cost a "pretty penny." At the shaft most distant from the crusher, a very rich strike of gold was lately made at some forty feet from the surface, and the quartz now being raised gives every indication that the lead is a very rich one. It is about two inches in width, and has been sunk upon by another