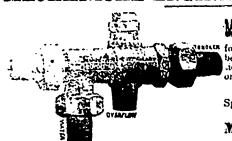
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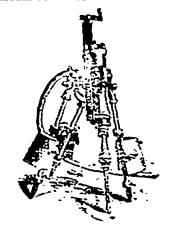
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#### MINING.

There is nothing particularly new to report in regard to our gold mimes beyond the fact that all the districts where mills are running are making good average returns. This is the dull season of the year, and prospectors have generally given up active work until next spring. Some determined individuals still continue at work, and there is little doubt but that their labors, in the long run, will be rewarded with success. We are receiving continual enquiries from abroad in regard to different properties, which is a pretty good indication that our gold mines are now attracting much more attention than formerly, and that capitalists are awakening to the fact that money judiciously invested here will yield large returns.

Only a few gold returns have so far been received at the Mines Office for December. They are as follows:—

District.	Mill.	Qtz. Crushed.	Oza. Gold.
Salmon River	Dusserin		10 <u>1</u> 157
Oldham	O.dham G. M. Co	91	2741
S Uniscke	Withrow	20	35 -
Uniacke	P(@pix	210	40
Lake Gatcha	Oxford	52 <del>1</del>	92 <del>1</del>
Molega	Empress		339

The revenue derived from the Mines Department for 1889 will greatly exceed that of the previous year. There should be a notable increase in the amount of coal royalties and also in gold, while the amount received for prospecting licenses, gold and silver leases and from other sources should swell the total to an amount considerably in excess of the estimates. The returns at the Mines Office prove that the mining industry is making great strides in advance.

Cape Breton's Coal Trade.—The following information, which was prepared for the Herald, was left over last week:—During the year 745,000 tons of coal have been mined in Cape Breton, against 240,000 in 1879. North Sydney and Sydney shipped 460,000 in 1889 (as compared with 140,000 tons in 1879) handled by 2,550 vessels, manned by 24,000 seamen. The Cape Breton coal trade has been marked by a steady increase since 1879. The growth of this important industry, feeding all other branches of commerce, illustrates the great benefit of the national policy, which has made a home market for such a large output of coal, giving employment to our people, and making our coal owners virtually ind-pendent of the New England market and the adverse American tariff which crippled our coal industry so long. Comparing the yearly coal exports since 1878, the result of the present tariff is most satisfactory. In 1879 the coal shipments from all the Cape Breton mines only aggregated 243,200 tons; in 1884, 598,156 tons, and in 1889 they increased to 749.357 tons. The shipm-nts from Sydney and North Sydney were 140,000 in 1879; 299,000 in 1884, and 460,148 tons to December 15th, 1889. The shipping season is not yet over, and the Herald can only give the shipments from the several mines to date, which are as follows:

i	Mines Sydney	Tone
1	0.1	1045.
	Syancy	126,000
- 1	Victoria	87.000
	International	123.000
	Bridgeport	25.000
	ReservoLittle Glace Bay	103.357
' !	Little Glace Bay	73,000
i	1 Port Caledonia	. 103.000
	Gewrie Mines	105,000

At the present time there are nine coal mines in operation in Cape Breton and two more are opening. In connection with these mines directly and indirectly there is an army of from 4,000 to 5,000 persons employed, and a gross population of about 18,000 has settled in and about the various mining localities. About 2,550 vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 450,000 tons, handled our coal shipment this year, with an employment of 24,000 hands. Considering the employment, the commerce and the number of industries affected through the development of the coal trade, the importance of this industry can hardly be over-estimated.—N. Sydney Herald.

The New England iron manufacturers have been urging upon the "Ways and Means Committee" of the United States Senate the necessity of placing Canadian iron ores and soft coals upon the free list. The ground argued briefly recites the fact that the imports from Canada would be offset by the increased export of hard coal to Ontario.

Mesers. Chew Ling Quaw, Koo Kai Lai and Tong Sing Kon, Chinese experts, have arrived in San Francisco, Cal., having been commissioned by the Emperor of China to investigate and report on American methods of working gold-bearing quartz. If they desire to become thoroughly posted in the business they should visit Nova Scotis.

It is reported that Millionaire Ross of Quebec has invested \$130,000 in the blast furnace to be erected by the Graham Fraser company.

Annoise Hill.—The Harding mill in this district is now running, crushing quartz from the various leads.

In the Copper Cliff Mine near Sudbury, Ont., it is said more nickel is